

# Service League of San Mateo County ANNUAL REPORT FY 2021 - 2022



### MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We are honored to have witnessed immense growth and change in the lives of so many individuals and families this past year. Admitting one needs help is not easy, and asking for it is even harder. We

were humbled that when women, men and families asked for help, we were there to lend a hand. Our amazing and dedicated staff provided treatment and services with dignity and respect, and for that I am very proud.

My heart was filled with joy to see so many of you in person at our Donor Appreciation event and our Prayer Luncheon to connect in ways that you can only do in person. We were able to take note of the positive change we create and how powerful we are together. We could not do the work that we do without you. Thank you to our dedicated Board of Directors, staff members, instructors, volunteers and each one of you for your amazing support.

We look forward to providing holiday cards and toys for children of those in custody and our Hope House residents' children this holiday season. We want you to know how much of a difference you make in the lives of others and wish that your holiday season is filled with love and friendship.

With gratitude,

Varenta. Francone

Karen M. Francone, CADC-II, NCAC I Executive Director

"While I was in treatment and then living in transitional housing at the Hope Houses, I learned how to stay clean and sober, to believe in myself and to put my life together. Thanks to the Service League, I'm now living in my own apartment. I'm working and have been sober for 13 years."

- Hope House Graduate





## AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

We served as a lifeline to individuals at the San Mateo County jails by developing, coordinating and delivering **92,758 in-custody and post-release services** both electronically and in-person.

- In-Custody Services: Provided phone message services, digital and printed recreational and law library services, jury-trial clothing and coordination, religious based printed materials and diets, assistance with online visits for families, notary services, writing materials, holiday cards and holiday gifts to children of individuals in custody.
- Programming: Developed and coordinated Hope Inside genderresponsive, anger management and domestic violence groups at San Mateo County jails.
- **Post-Release & Emergency Services:** Provided bus tokens, Clipper cards, food, clothing, hygiene kits with PPE, community information and referrals.

We provided residential Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and co-occurring mental health treatment as well as safe transitional housing to **73 individuals and their infants** at our seven Hope Houses.

- Residential Programming & Services: Provided essential services, programs and educational classes including evidence-based groups, counseling, case management, court coordination, linkages to narcotic replacement therapies and health services, daily exercise, group classes (women's health, nutrition, computer skills and parenting), Stanford University classes, 12-step coursework, weekly alumni groups and reunification with children and family. Coordinated attendance at community events such as: Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk for the American Cancer Society and preparing sandwiches for seniors at Trinity Presbyterian Church.
- Transitional Housing: Increased success rates and prevented homelessness by providing low-cost housing (30 beds), employment preparation and case management to individuals reentering the community from SUD treatment programs, San Mateo County jails or shelters.
- **Capital Improvements:** Invested in upgrades at our seven Hope Houses including security upgrades, fencing, landscaping, paint, flooring, blinds and furniture.
- Safety Protocols: Continued to implement strict safety protocols and operate at a reduced capacity to prevent COVID-19 exposure.







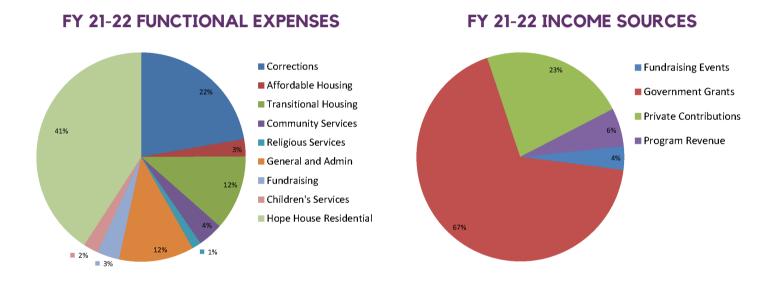


- **175 children** of individuals in custody received gifts during our holiday toy drive. All children under three also received a pair of shoes.
- 3,000 greeting cards and postage stamps were provided to all individuals in custody for the holidays.



#### 36th Annual Prayer Luncheon - May 5th, 2022

After two years, we gathered together to celebrate the National Day of Prayer at Holbrook Palmer Park. Steve Wagstaffe MC'd the event which featured lively music, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Honor Guard and speeches from our Religious & Spiritual Services volunteers. Rev. Mary Frazier (Bread of Life Worship Center), Rev. Henry Toryo Adams (San Mateo Buddhist Temple), Edna Steele (Christian Science Church) and Philippe Poux (Menlo Church) shared positive messages of faith and coming together as a community. Carol Galvin, a Hope House graduate, gave a powerful personal testimony of her life before recovery and her courageous journey to obtaining a full, happy life. Molly Olive, a 30-year volunteer, instructor and mentor for the Service League, was awarded the Bill Lane Ambassador Award. Thanks to generous donations from our supporters and the Michael & Sally Mayer Family Foundation, this event raised funds to benefit the men, women and families who depend on our services. We are elated that so many of you could join us for this special day!



"Service League provided me with so many things I needed when I was in jail and when I got out. I had nobody on my side so their help made a big difference at the worst time of my life. " -Individual in Custody, San Mateo County Jail

#### SERVICE LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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#### DONATE TODAY AT SERVICELEAGUE.ORG

Service League of San Mateo County 727 Middlefield Road Redwood City, CA 94063 (650) 364-4664, info@serviceleague.org





Service League & Hope House staff celebrate the holidays.