

ANNUAL REPORT /

July 1, 2015—June 30 2016



All children need a childhood. We bring together and strengthen families, cultivating conditions for children to succeed in life.

Westside Children's Center (WCC) is dedicated to breaking the cycles of intergenerational poverty, abuse, and neglect by providing high-quality early education programs, interventions for families at risk of abusing or neglecting their children, foster care and adoption services, and a range of critical, integrated supports, including pediatric health consultations, disability screenings and advocacy, bilingual domestic violence classes, mental health services, and more. Using a dual-generational approach, WCC ensures that children have the skills they need to increase their life choices and lead fulfilling lives.

Early Education

Westside Children's Center's early education programs, which include a California State Preschool, an Early Head Start, and an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership, provide high-quality early education for more than 500 children ages 0 to 5 from very-low-income families at our state-of-the-art early education center, through our network of licensed home-based education providers, and in individual family homes. WCC maintains a low staff-to-child ratio in our inclusive, bilingual classrooms to ensure every child's healthy social-emotional, cognitive, and physical development. Our highly-qualified educators and child development specialists design developmentally appropriate and individualized lessons with a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) and literacy focus, and deepen their skills with regular professional development. Children receive a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snack and spend time exploring in our organic learning garden. Our programs prioritize family engagement and involve parents in their children's learning and growth through volunteer opportunities, parent counseling, and access to our comprehensive services.

Child Welfare

WCC has four contracts with the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to provide intensive Family Preservation, Prevention and Aftercare, and Foster Care and Adoption services to more than 600 families annually. Our highly-trained staff works with families to protect children who have been or who are at risk of being abused or neglected through individual and family counseling, including substance abuse, mental health, and domestic violence psychoeducational counseling; parent-child education; and extensive case management. We also recruit, train, and support loving foster and foster-adoptive parents who create nurturing, educationally rich homes for children of all ages.

Comprehensive Services

WCC provides all children in our programs with an array of vital, integrated supports, including disabilities screenings and special needs advocacy, pediatric and mental health consultations, trauma screening and intervention, vision and hearing screenings, bilingual parenting and child development classes, workforce development and financial literacy, and access to our full-time public health nurses. We also connect families with other organizations in our robust network of community partners, including Venice Family Clinic, St. Joseph Center, Latino Resource Organization, and Miriam's House. WCC's dual-generational approach ensures all children grow up with the foundation to succeed in school and life.



Working Hand in Hand to Change Lives

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