

**20
24**

Annual Report

A Year of Hope

A photograph of a smiling woman with glasses holding a young child in a denim jacket outdoors. The woman is wearing a black hoodie and has a tattoo on her arm. The child is wearing a denim jacket and a pink bow. They are standing on a grassy area with trees and a parking lot in the background.

**UPWARD
BOUND
HOUSE**

MISSION & INSPIRATION

“Together, We Build Futures Beyond Crisis”

At Upward Bound House (UBH), we believe every child deserves a safe place to call home—and every parent deserves the dignity of providing it. Our mission is not only to eliminate homelessness among families with children, but to build a future where stability, opportunity, and hope are within reach for every household we serve.

In 2024, we deepened that commitment, expanding our programs, partnerships, and services to meet the evolving needs of families across Los Angeles. From housing and mental health support to job readiness and childcare, UBH offers the resources families need to not just survive—but to thrive.

Through your generosity and partnership, we’ve helped hundreds of families exit homelessness, strengthen their foundations, and look toward brighter futures with confidence and resilience.

As we begin 2025, we do so with gratitude—and with an even greater sense of urgency. In January 2025, as devastating fires swept through parts of our region, families already on the brink faced sudden displacement. Thanks to your continued support, UBH is prepared to meet this moment with the care, resources, and rapid response needed to uplift those affected.

This work is only possible because of you. Thank you for being part of this movement—and for standing with us in the work of restoring dignity, rebuilding lives, and ensuring every child has a place to call home.



DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

As I reflect on 2024, I'm filled with deep gratitude for all we accomplished together—and for the extraordinary strength of the families we serve.

This past year marked a time of growth, renewal, and powerful momentum for Upward Bound House. With your support, we expanded our services, strengthened our infrastructure, and deepened our reach across Los Angeles—ensuring that more families had access to the resources they need to achieve lasting housing stability.

A cornerstone achievement was the renovation of Family Place, one of our longest-standing interim housing programs. This transformation went far beyond bricks and paint. With a trauma-informed redesign, we created a true healing space—a place where families can rest, recover, and begin to rebuild their lives with dignity and support.

We also advanced our work through strong community partnerships—collaborating with schools, corporate allies, and service providers to deliver wraparound care that includes mental health services, financial literacy, childcare, and more. These alliances helped us support families more holistically and effectively than ever before.

Now, as we step into 2025, we are reminded that the path to stability is not always linear. In early January, the fires that swept through parts of our region placed even greater strain on already vulnerable families. Yet, because of you—our dedicated community—we are equipped to respond with compassion, urgency, and impact.

Our mission is not just to house families, but to uplift them—through every chapter of their journey.

On behalf of our staff, board, and the families we serve: thank you. Your belief in this work fuels every breakthrough, every new beginning, and every child's chance at a brighter future.



Christine Mirasy-Glasco

President & CEO Upward Bound House

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Mirasy-Glasco".



Cindy Maroun

Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Maroun".

OUR IMPACT

Since our inception, we have helped 3,132 families transition from homelessness to permanent housing with 88% of families remaining stably housed for more than one year after placement.

In 2024...



199

FAMILIES MOVED INTO
PERMANENT HOUSING



855

CHILDREN HAD A
PLACE TO CALL HOME



81

ADULTS INCREASED THEIR INCOME
THROUGH EMPLOYMENT



88%

OF FAMILIES REMAINED HOUSED
FOR ONE YEAR AFTER MOVING
INTO HOUSING

3,132

FAMILIES

transitioned from homelessness
into permanent housing
since our inception



OUR APPROACH

At UBH, we are committed to reducing the number of unhoused families with minor children who are hungry and living on the streets of Los Angeles. Our goal is to help these families access essential resources and transition into stable, permanent housing. We believe that every family, no matter their circumstances, deserves the opportunity to achieve self-sufficiency.

Through our comprehensive programs across the Westside, South Bay, and South LA, we provide crucial support. This includes five emergency shelters, multiple rapid re-housing initiatives, and four transitional housing sites—three of which are specifically designed for pregnant and parenting youth. With these resources, we are making a lasting impact, helping families rebuild their lives and remain stably housed.

88%

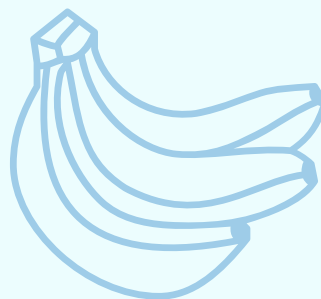
of families remain stably housed for more than one year after placement.

400+

families served annually

Basic Services

Food and Shelter



Individualized Services

Case Management; Employment Services;
Nutrition & Emotional Wellness

Housing Stability

Permanent Affordable Housing; Long Term
Sustainability Services



Community Connections

Community Resources; Childcare

MR. KELLY'S Journey to Stability and a Promising Tomorrow

Isaac Kelly's journey to stability began when he was referred to UBH by the Work Source Center after experiencing homelessness with his children. As a resilient survivor of life's challenges, Mr. Kelly faced the overwhelming task of providing for his family without a stable place to call home.

He recalls that the most difficult aspects of homelessness were the financial strain and the lack of basic necessities. The cost of motel rooms and the inability to store food made it difficult to provide for his children. UBH stepped in to support Mr. Kelly's family by securing permanent housing and providing essential household items, including beds, a stove, and a refrigerator.

For Mr. Kelly, overcoming the barriers of feeding his children and providing consistent shelter were monumental achievements. Securing a stable home not only allowed him to meet these basic needs but also restored a sense of normalcy and hope for his family.

Mr. Kelly shares that UBH's support has given him renewed confidence as a father and enabled him to strengthen his family bonds. The stability provided through UBH has made his family happier and allowed him to focus on building a brighter future.



Looking ahead, Mr. Kelly's ultimate goal is to become a homeowner. He dreams of creating a legacy of stability for his children and future generations, ensuring that they always have a safe and secure place to call home.

Mr. Kelly speaks highly of UBH staff, describing them as compassionate and dedicated, consistently going above and beyond to assist families in need. He emphasizes that the most impactful service UBH provided was permanent housing, which gave his family a foundation to rebuild their lives. He believes UBH's work is essential to the community, offering critical resources that transform lives.

Outside of his personal goals, Mr. Kelly is passionate about spending quality time with his children and engaging in meaningful activities. He also gives back by volunteering with his church, ministering to people experiencing homelessness and those in prison. One of his favorite family traditions is preparing and sharing nightly dinners, creating cherished memories together.

**“Keep looking for resources—they are out there.
And never give up hope!”**

- Mr. Kelly

FROM CRISIS TO HOPE:

Giselle's Journey

In February 2024, Giselle Martinez faced the unimaginable. After suddenly losing her job and the support of her family, she found herself homeless—with nowhere to turn and a young daughter to protect. Each night spent in her car reminded her of a painful chapter from her own childhood, when she too had experienced homelessness at just seven years old. Determined not to repeat that cycle, Giselle sought help.

Her path forward began with a visit to DPSS, where she was referred to Safe Place for Youth (SPY). There, she met with a case manager who walked her through the available options, ultimately connecting her to Upward Bound House.

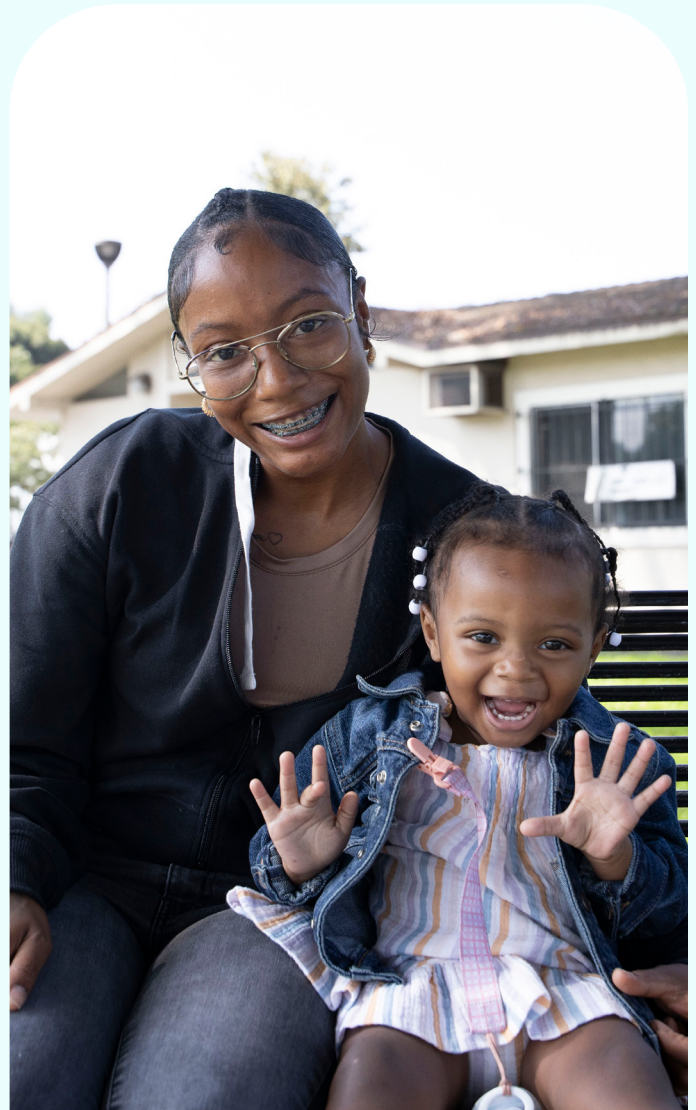
By June 2024, Giselle and her daughter moved into our supportive housing program. “I finally felt like we were safe,” Giselle shared. “This was the beginning of something better.”

In her first few months at Upward Bound House, Giselle immersed herself in the resources offered—everything from one-on-one case management to trauma-informed parenting workshops. “The parenting classes have helped me understand how to be more present and responsive,” she said. “I grew up in a toxic environment, and I want to break that cycle for my daughter.”

While her journey is still unfolding, Giselle is thriving. She remains committed to rebuilding her life, supported every step of the way by her care team. Her courage, combined with the comprehensive services at UBH, is paving the way for lasting change—not just for her, but for her daughter and future generations to come.

“Upward Bound House gave me more than shelter—it gave me the hope and tools to start over.”

-Giselle Martinez





“As a proud partner to Upward Bound House since 1999, School on Wheels has provided nearly 10,000 hours of in-person tutoring and mentoring to almost 400 students—an extraordinary gift of time, care, and consistency. School on Wheels has not only provided the tools children need to succeed in school, like backpacks and school supplies, but our dedicated volunteer tutors have also provided 1-1 support to help their students grow and believe in their potential. We are proud to stand alongside such a dedicated organization in the fight for educational equity.”

— Charles Evans,
Executive Director of School on Wheels

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHT: School on Wheels

HONORING 26 YEARS OF IMPACT: A TRIBUTE TO OUR PARTNERS AT SCHOOL ON WHEELS

At Upward Bound House, we know that housing is just the beginning—true stability comes when families have the support they need to rebuild every aspect of their lives, especially their children's education. That's why our partnership with School on Wheels has been nothing short of transformative.

Founded in 1993 by retired schoolteacher Agnes Stevens, School on Wheels was built on the belief that every child deserves access to a quality education, no matter their circumstances. For over 26 years, they have stood beside us in our mission—providing 10,000 hours of in-person tutoring and provided 1-1 tutoring to almost 400 students in our programs, many of whom are navigating the trauma of homelessness.



school on wheels



Their incredible team of volunteers and staff have helped countless students improve their assessment scores—often by a full grade level or more. But their impact goes far beyond academics. They offer consistency, compassion, and a sense of normalcy—powerful antidotes to the instability that too often defines our families' journeys.

In Los Angeles, homeless children face some of the steepest educational barriers in the nation, falling behind due to frequent school changes, limited access to resources, and the daily stress of housing insecurity. Thanks to School on Wheels, our children are not just catching up—they're finding their footing and imagining new possibilities for their future.

We are deeply grateful for this enduring partnership, and for the unwavering dedication School on Wheels continues to show to our community. Together, we are building more than better report cards—we are building brighter futures.

Thank you, School on Wheels, for helping us change the trajectory of so many young lives.



2024 HIGHLIGHTS

A year of momentum, generosity, and meaningful impact. From joyful traditions to powerful partnerships, 2024 brought our mission to life in extraordinary ways—fostering community, dignity, and lasting change for the families we serve.



HOME RUN FOR KIDS:

In November, our annual Home Run for Kids 5K united nearly 600 participants for a day filled with purpose, play, and community spirit. Families, school teams, and even a few furry friends laced up to raise critical funds for Upward Bound House. With a DJ, emcee, and exciting entertainment, the event was both festive and impactful—helping further our mission of ending family homelessness.

ADOPT A FAMILY:

December's Adopt A Family was a heartfelt reminder of the power of giving. Through the generosity of donors and community partners, every family in our shelters experienced a holiday season filled with joy, dignity, and hope. Personalized gifts and thoughtful acts of kindness helped create cherished memories for families who might otherwise go without during this time of year.



CORPORATE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS:

This year, our corporate partners went above and beyond—volunteering their time, talent, and resources at our shelters and UBH farm site. From beautification projects to family-focused events, their commitment continues to uplift our families and strengthen our community. Together, we are building partnerships that inspire action and create real, lasting change.



LOOKING AHEAD

Partnering to Break the Cycle of Family Homelessness

As we continue advancing our 3-Year Strategic Plan, our commitment remains clear and urgent: to disrupt the cycle of intergenerational homelessness among families with children. Every day, we confront the devastating effects of poverty, racial inequity, housing shortages, and limited access to opportunity—barriers that keep families from building the stable lives they deserve.

Even after families transition into permanent housing, many remain on the brink—facing limited resources, ongoing trauma, and few supports to help them maintain stability. Housing alone is not enough.

Your partnership is powering this progress. Thanks to your support, we're pursuing bold, compassionate solutions that address both the housing crisis and the human needs behind it.

To our donors, partners, and champions: thank you. Your generosity fuels our ability to innovate, to grow, and to meet families' evolving needs with compassion and courage.

Because of you, we're not just providing housing—we're helping families build a future.

We are deeply grateful to be on this journey together and look forward to what we can accomplish—side by side—in the year ahead.



Cal-AIM Partnership: Advancing Housing Stability and Wellness

At Upward Bound House, we know housing is just the beginning. Through our partnership with California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (Cal-AIM), we're delivering whole-family support that bridges housing and healthcare—keeping families stably housed and on the path to long-term well-being.

Our Cal-AIM Community Supports include:

- **Housing Deposits & Sustaining Services:** Covering move-in costs like security deposits and first month's rent.
- **Habitability & Life Skills:** Coaching families on budgeting, nutrition, and healthcare access to promote independence.
- **Housing Navigation:** Guiding families through housing placement and linking them to critical health and social services.

Our family-centered approach ensures continuous care through Medi-Cal-covered services, so families don't have to choose between health and housing.

By integrating housing and health, we're shifting from crisis response to lasting wellness—with measurable outcomes like reduced ER visits, improved medication use, and increased housing retention. Together with Cal-AIM, we're not just placing families in homes—we're helping them thrive.

Thriving Families: A Transformative Model for Long-Term Stability

Launched last year, Thriving Families was created in direct response to a troubling pattern we were seeing: families exiting our programs into permanent housing, only to find themselves at risk of falling back into crisis once time-limited subsidies ran out.

This innovative pilot extends tenancy support and wraparound services for 12 to 18 months beyond traditional rental assistance—bridging the critical gap between short-term intervention and true long-term stability. Families enrolled in the program receive access to:

- Mental health services to heal from trauma and build emotional resilience
- Parenting support to strengthen family bonds and reduce stress
- Financial coaching to increase household income and savings
- Ongoing case management to help navigate systems, set goals, and stay on track

Early results are promising: participating families report improved financial stability, higher rates of school attendance for their children, and stronger emotional well-being. Most importantly, they are remaining housed—and gaining the confidence to move forward with hope.

With continued investment and collaboration, we are working to scale Thriving Families to serve more households and share its learnings across the sector.



A New Hub for Hope in South LA

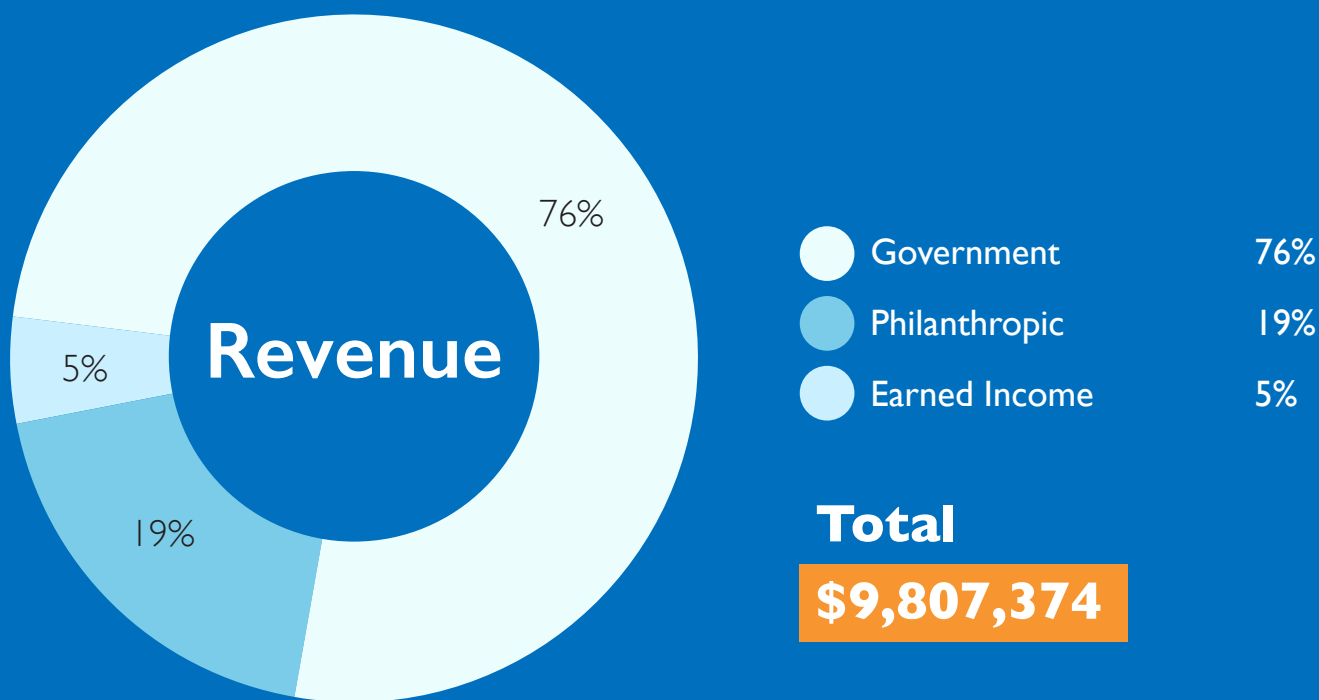
South Los Angeles is home to many of the families we serve—and remains one of the regions hardest hit by family homelessness. In 2024, we expanded our footprint with several new program sites, and we're now preparing to launch our most ambitious initiative yet: a comprehensive Family Resource Hub in South LA.

This hub will provide:

- A childcare center to help parents pursue employment or education
- A wellness and mental health clinic to support holistic family healing
- A job readiness and resource center
- Wraparound services that meet families where they are—physically, emotionally, and economically

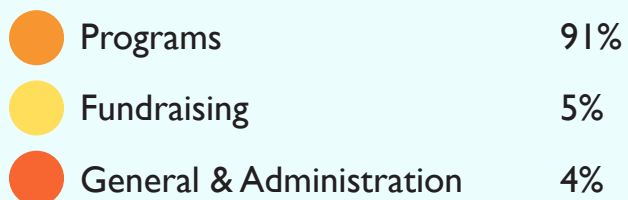
2024 FINANCIALS

Our revenue streams include public government contracts and private philanthropic support from a wide range of individual donors, foundations, nonprofits, and corporations as well as earned revenue from investments and service fees.



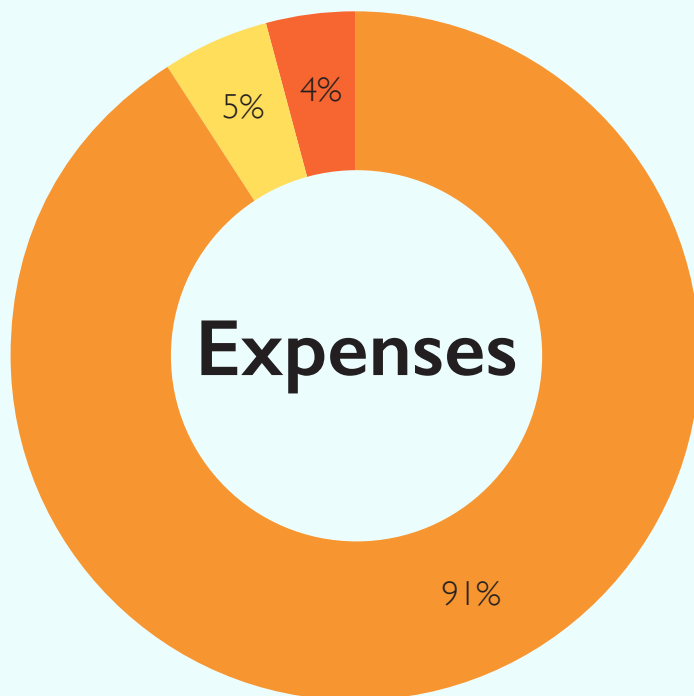
In 2024, we increased program spending by

13%



Total

\$9,764,852



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2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

We extend our deepest gratitude to our generous major donors whose support fuels our mission. Their philanthropic investments have a profound impact on the lives of countless families, enabling us to provide essential resources and create lasting change for unhoused families in our community.

\$100,000+

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\$25,000 - \$99,999

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Frankie's Bikinis
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Nancy Owens Household
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Household
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S&P
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TIDES Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,999

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Antje Olivie Household
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Household
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Realtors
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Ramanda Luper Household
Records-Johnston Family
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Matthew and Isabel Lewis
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The Prakash Korn Fund
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Bhatia Family Foundation
The Wonderful Company -
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TOMS
Total Administrative Services
Coporation (TASC)
Victoria Rosenfield Household
Vistex, Inc.
Wes Larmore Household
Zenshi

\$500 - \$999

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Ashley Douglas Household
Bee Campbell Household
Brittany Hartmire Household
Caolionn O'Connell
Household
Caroline Stanley Household
Dennis and Madeleine Durkin
Household
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Your time helps us advance our mission



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