



Lincoln Child Center 130 Years Strong

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2012-2013



Lincoln Child Center
enables vulnerable
and emotionally
troubled children
and their families
to lead independent
and fulfilling lives.





Dear Friends of Lincoln Child Center,

One hundred thirty years ago, Rebecca McWade, Founder of the West Oakland Home, opened her own house for what became the first integrated orphanage in northern California.

This was her response to her community's plight of children in need. Within 5 years, she built what was the West Oakland Home, which housed up to 90 infants and children who had lost one or two parents to childbirth, disease, war or economic pressures. Today, our primary goal is not to only address families' hardships, but to prevent them. Through a range of services we are now providing in homes and in schools, Lincoln is going where the children and youth are, and helping them build skills to stay at home and in school. We are working with our public partners – schools districts, child welfare, mental health and probation departments – to ensure that children have every opportunity to reach their potential in their community. Our dream is to end the cycle of poverty, community violence and mental health problems faced by children and families in the Bay Area.

This year we have had seen many accomplishments. Lincoln was named a Top Workplace by the Bay Area Newsgroup. We added new programs in Contra Costa

County, and expanded our Project Permanence program as well as the HOPE program in Alameda County. Our first Family Resource Center was born, and we secured substantial funding for our CEO Youth and Freedom Schools programs. Our team's hope has always been to respond to effectively meet the needs of children and their families so they can overcome hardships, which left unaddressed turn into bigger problems. Our dedicated staff members have seen amazing results to the services and supports they provide. But it takes a community of people – staff, board, volunteers, and donors – to sustain an organization that can have the lasting impact that we strive towards. Thank you for your continuous support in seeing this happen and making a difference in the lives of the children we serve. Here's to the next 130 years!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Stoner-Mertz'.

Christine Stoner-Mertz, LCSW
President & CEO



Lincoln Child Center's History

The first child ever served by Lincoln Child Center was an infant, wrapped in cloth and laid upon the doorstep of Lincoln's founder, Rebecca McWade. At the time, Ms. McWade did not know she was beginning a legacy of caring for vulnerable children that would last over 130 years. She was simply responding to a need. Soon, word of McWade's kindness spread and more children and families began seeking her help. She recruited like-minded friends and neighbors and The West Oakland Home for Children was born. After outgrowing its original campus, the home moved to its current site in the 1920s and changed its name to the Lincoln Child Center. Out of what once was the region's first volunteer-run, non-sectarian and integrated orphanage grew the Lincoln of today - a community-based, culturally responsive organization providing a range of services focused on improving educational outcomes, keeping families together, and reducing the effects of trauma for children growing up in poor communities.

The following is a timeline of Lincoln's growth and evolution in meeting community needs:

1883: Rebecca McWade makes history by opening her home and creates the first integrated orphanage in Northern California.

1889: The Crocker family donates funds for Ms. McWade to build a new building and opens what becomes the West Oakland Home for Foundling and Orphaned Children.

1919: The West Oakland Home greatly impacted by the influenza epidemic.

1925: The West Oakland Home catches fire and is condemned.

1928: With the help of Mary Crocker and the Bushell family, 7.55 Acres of property is purchased on Lincoln Avenue for \$25,292.50.

1929-1930: Two cottages were completed and the children move into their new home at 4368 Lincoln Avenue.



1934: The Junior Alliance holds its first of what will be many annual fashion shows, the funds of which are directed to the building fund.

1940-1950: The name is changed to the Lincoln Home for Children. The term "emotionally disturbed" is first used and reflects the philosophical change in the population served. Trained social workers are hired. Lincoln is re-organized as a foster care agency and case management becomes an integral part of the services provided to children.

1950-1960: Lincoln Home for Children changes its name to Lincoln Child Center. It opens another residential facility, the Bushell Cottage, and opens its first classroom.



1954: Clayton Nordstrom and James Mann plan a three-day conference for Child Welfare League of America. The Oakland Community Welfare Council cites that “12 percent of Oakland School children need special treatment for special problems” c. 1954. Lincoln responds by opening its first classroom.



1965: Lincoln’s first group home is created.

1966: Lincoln Child Center begins tutoring workshops targeting troubled youth in the Oakland Public Schools. The goal is to bring the students back up to grade level.

1970: Lincoln opens its second group home.

1976: Lincoln opens its 3rd group home in Linnet on Lincoln Campus.

1979: Lincoln’s flower groups sponsor the grand opening of Golden Gate Fields raising funds for Lincoln Child Center.

1981: The Lincoln Foundation is formed and in 1983 the Second Century fund is established.

1990: The middle school is established.



1997: Group homes are closed.

2000: Champlin House residential facility is completed.

2001: Kinship Support Services are created as a response to the growing number of caregivers who voluntarily raise a relative’s children.

2003: The Lincoln Child Center Foundation is dissolved and absorbed by the Lincoln Child Center.

2007: Project Permanence and Alternative Learning Community programs are created to respond to the increased need for community as well as family support.

2010: Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation and School Engagement are new programs created to respond to community need.

2010: Lincoln Child Center leases a large building in West Oakland to house community-based programming.





A CLIENT'S STORY

Susan was financially drowning. She had been raising her 3 grandchildren for 11 years when her daughter could not. Her youngest grandson Alex needed medication for a severe medical condition which costs \$900—more than her car payment. She despaired, “There is no way.” She felt isolated. Then a parent at Alex’s school told her she should contact Lincoln Child Center’s Kinship program.

“The stress level went down tremendously just knowing that there was someone out there who understood. There were times when the grandkids didn’t understand why mom wasn’t there. When they came [to Kinship], they saw they weren’t alone.”

At Kinship, caregivers are able to see if they qualify for a range of program services and often discover that they are also eligible for external support programs that they might not have even known existed. With staff help, Susan realized that Alex’s medications could be covered under her insurance and that she can even drop him off at the Kinship Center when she needs a short break or needs time to go to the doctor herself.

Lincoln has been helping families like Susan’s for 130 years.

We have witnessed many beautiful success stories over the 130 years that we have been serving traumatized youth and struggling families – now in several East Bay counties. There is still much work to be done.

OUR VALUES

INTEGRITY: Demonstrate accountability, transparency, and honesty in all our practices.

COMPASSION: Empathize with the needs of others and create a caring and supportive environment.

RESPECT: Honor all with dignity, regard, and consideration.

EXCELLENCE: Continually stretch toward the highest possible standards.

COURAGE: Take a stand for the values and principles of the Agency in the face of difficulties and challenges.

DIVERSITY: Proactively challenge issues of bias in our practices. Commit to building awareness, promoting understanding, and honoring unique experiences, perspectives, and complexities.



OUR ONGOING PROGRAMS



CEO Youth

Young people between the ages of 14 and 19 who experience challenges with school attendance, and are in foster care or on probation, can learn how to be entrepreneurs and

future leaders. The program connects local business leaders and community resources to the youth so that they see that positive life choices lead to success in school and in achieving their life goals.

Conyes Academy

Conyes Academy is a unique program that provides special education and intensive mental health services to students in grades K-8 who have significant behavioral challenges and are not able to be served in public school settings. Academic instruction and treatment are provided in this certified non-public school by teachers, clinicians, and counseling staff in small classrooms of 10-12 students with a staff to student ratio of 1-3.



Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

Lincoln's Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation is provided to Child Development Centers in under-resourced communities. Our

consultation model consists of mental health professionals partnering with early care and education professionals to promote the social and emotional well-being of young children. 94% of parents with children in the Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program indicate that they have an increased ability to engage with their child's teachers.



EXCEL

This school-based program meets the individualized services that meet the needs of students who have special education and behavioral health issues. EXCEL assists schools in reducing

the number of students requiring nonpublic school placements by providing services to students on school campuses throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Families Together

Through an eight-week workshop and support groups, parents and caregivers with children who may have social, emotional and academic challenges learn together and most importantly...stay together. Families Together has had great success as 70% of the caregivers reported improvement in two identified parenting skills.



Helping Open Pathways to Education (HOPE)



HOPE provides school-based early intervention and prevention mental health services to children, youth, and families and supports school administrators with initiatives that improve school-wide culture. With programs in Alameda and Contra Costa

Counties, HOPE provides intensive services to students whose emotional and behavioral needs are creating obstacles to their success at school. Based on parent reports in Alameda County, 88% of youth showed improvement in academic performance.

Kinship Services

Kinship keeps children with their families by providing services to relatives who are raising another family member's children when the parents are absent and/or unable to raise them. Services



are designed to reduce the need for children to enter the child welfare system, encourage family placements, and support kin families who exit the child welfare system to accept legal guardianship of their relative children.

In 12/13, 100% of Kinship families remained together with the support from Lincoln's Kinship Services.

Oakland Freedom Schools

Young people who attend the Freedom School five-week, cultural enrichment summer program get very excited about reading. The Oakland-based program, which serves academically underserved young people who have been exposed to community violence, also strengthens self-esteem and a sense of community. Freedom School participants, ages 5 to 7, demonstrated gains in positive racial attitudes and problem solving skills. Students ages 8 to 16 had higher scores on attitudes towards African-American culture, and their desire to participate in social action. Student participants in Oakland Freedom Schools, grades 1st -8th, demonstrated over a 1-year increase in instructional reading level over the course of the 5-week program.



Project Permanence

The program focuses on supporting permanently placed foster youth in their transition from group homes or other temporary placements into stable family homes where parents are committed to a life-long permanent relationship. In addition to supporting transitioning youth, Project Permanence also supports foster youth who are at risk of losing their permanent placement. Because of Project Permanence, 85% of clients in Project Permanence remained in permanent placement six months post-discharge.

School Engagement

Families with children who are referred by the Alameda County Superior Court Parent Truancy Program because of their high levels of truancy in elementary and middle schools are helped by the School Engagement program. 70% of clients in School Engagement Program demonstrated improvement in school attendance.



Therapeutic Behavioral Services

TBS is a short-term behavioral mental health service aimed at helping children, youth, parents, caregivers, foster parents, group home staff, and school personnel learn new ways of reducing and managing challenging behaviors. TBS clinicians also develop strategies and skills to increase the kinds of behaviors that will enable children and youth to succeed in their current environment. The services have met with incredible success as 100% of TBS clients have remained stable in current placements or were able to step down to less restrictive levels of care.



For more information visit www.lincolncildcenter.org/programs-and-services.

70% of program participants in Families Together reported improvement in positive parenting skills.

97% of youth in HOPE Program Alameda showed a reduction in disciplinary actions per parent report, and **88%** per teacher report.

100% of youth in HOPE Program Contra Costa showed improvement in daily school attendance.

73% of youth in HOPE Program Contra Costa showed improvement in behavioral and emotional functioning per teacher report.

100% of clients in Therapeutic Behavioral Services who left the program demonstrated an increase in positive, social behaviors.

100% of its clients in Therapeutic Behavioral Services remained stable in current placements or were able to step down to less restrictive levels of care.

In Lincoln's Conyes Academy/Day Treatment program, **66%** of its students showed improvement in academic performance by one or more grade levels.

93% of student participants in Oakland Freedom Schools maintained or gained in instructional reading level and did not experience summer reading loss.

98% of youth in HOPE Program Alameda showed improvement in academic performance per parent report, and 90.5% per teacher report.

120 special education students in EXCEL were provided mental health services and behavioral supports in their mainstream or charter schools, preventing more restrictive educational placements.

70% of clients in School Engagement Program demonstrated improvement in school attendance.

85% of clients in Project Permanence remained in permanent placement six months post-discharge.

Student participants in Oakland Freedom Schools, grades 1st-8th, demonstrated over a **9-month** increase in instructional reading level over the course of the **5 week** program.

96% of Lincoln Child Center's client families reported that they were satisfied with the services they received.



INTENSIVE SERVICES Lincoln's intensive services programs provide stability and treatment to the most vulnerable and behaviorally challenged children and their families. With the philosophy that every child deserves the chance to succeed, Lincoln maintains a policy of taking any child referred to Lincoln whose educational and mental health needs can be met by our programs.

EARLY INTERVENTION We are committed to identifying ways to intervene early. Our school-based mental health programs, wrap-around services, school engagement, and alternative middle school support services focus on stabilizing children and youth in their schools and communities before more intensive services are needed.

PREVENTION IN COMMUNITIES Lincoln's prevention services are the foundation of our continuum of care. We are broadening and deepening services in communities of need to make an impact before families find themselves in crisis.



REVENUE EXPENSES

\$13,801,462

\$13,792,139

Revenue

Program	\$12,606,886
Contributions/special events	\$275,371
Investments	\$671,138
Others	\$248,067

Expenses

Program services	\$11,113,748
Support services	\$2,678,391

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,226,288
Short-term investments	\$4,334,813
Accounts receivable, net	\$2,094,207
Pledge receivable	\$19,098
Prepaid expenses and deposits	\$179,657

Total Current Assets

\$11,854,063

Property and equipment, net	\$484,194
Other assets - split investment agreement	\$807,224
Note Receivable	\$2,800,000
Long-term investments	\$2,810,935

Total Assets

\$18,756,416

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$708,633
Accrued payroll, Payroll taxes & Emp. benefits	\$795,824
Other accrued liabilities	\$237,468
Current portion of notes payable	\$12,302

Total Current Liabilities

\$1,754,227

Long-term Liabilities

Conditional asset retirement obligation	—
Non-current portion of notes payable	\$26,747
Contingent liability	\$2,800,000

Total long-term liabilities

\$2,826,747

Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$9,614,156
Unrestricted - Board designated:	\$709,625
Temporarily restricted:	\$1,040,726
Permanently restricted:	\$2,810,935

Total Net Assets

\$14,175,442

Total Liabilities and Net Assets

\$18,756,416



Thank You

The team at Lincoln Child Center extends our deepest gratitude to the groups, foundations, corporations and individuals who gave donations this past fiscal year 2012-2013. What Lincoln accomplishes each year with these gifts is immeasurable, and we are thankful in equal measure for your generosity. We are achieving great things, and it's thanks to you!

Platinum (\$10,000+)

Alameda County Department of Social Services
 Mr. Kevin Asher
 Bernard E. and Alba Witkin Charitable Foundation
 Children's Support League of East Bay
 Foster Charitable Trust
 Holmgren Charitable Lead Trust
 Kazan, McClain, Abrams, Fernandez, Lyons, Greenwood, Harley
 Morris Stulsaft Foundation
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 Gray, Greer, Shelby & Vaughn, LLC
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 Mr. Brian Goodhue
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 Mr. Mark Ramin
 Recology East Bay
 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Shrago
 Mr. & Mrs. John Stoner
 Vector Capital Corporation
 Mr. George Walsh

In-Kind (Over \$500+)

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 Mr. David de Silva
 East Oakland Pride Elementary
 Good360
 Ms. Sabrina Hinojosa
 LeapFrog Enterprises
 Bobbe J. Lee
 Safeway Inc.
 Wells Fargo Practice Finance
 Zip Realty Inc.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

We believe that all aspects of the child's life – family, culture, community, education, religion, and ethnicity – must be woven into the treatment process in order to have a lasting impact.

DONATE Lincoln Child Center depends on funding from individuals, corporations and foundations to keep its services above a minimum level and to keep its programs fresh and responsive to the changing needs of the children and families we serve. <https://donate.lincolnchildcenter.org/>

VOLUNTEER Lincoln Child Center has volunteer opportunities for both individuals and groups. Most volunteer opportunities take place at our main campus on Lincoln Avenue in Oakland. We also have locations in other areas of Oakland, Hayward, Pittsburg, and Alameda where we are expanding programs and looking for support. <http://lincolnchildcenter.org/volunteer-1>

COME WORK FOR US Our organization is growing and we have job openings all over the East Bay. We want individuals who are dedicated, motivated, and looking for careers that share our commitment and values to becoming positive role models for our children and families. <http://lincolnchildcenter.org/career-opportunities>

SPREAD THE WORD Tell your friends and family about Lincoln Child Center! Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter. Sign up for our newsletter on our website. Also, check our website often for news and events!

**Please don't hesitate to call if you want more information!
(510) 531.3111.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY 2012-2013

Lincoln Child Center is pleased to have Board Members from the community volunteer their time and support in furthering Lincoln's mission and values. Without their commitment and generosity, we would not be able to provide the much needed support to the children and families in the East Bay.

Kevin Asher

David de Figueiredo

Ivan Fujihara (Board Chair)

Diana Netherton (Vice Chair)

Simon Parmett (Secretary)

Cynthia Prince

Steven Roland

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Melanie Shelby (Vice Chair)

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Heather Zona



Entrepreneurship

Financial Literacy

Training

Life Skills

Respite Care

Recreation

Early Intervention

Prevention Services

Tutoring

Special Education

Behavioral
Interventions

Social Services

Crisis Intervention

In-class Support

Counseling



“All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.”

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

Administrative Offices and School Campus

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Pittsburg Campus

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🐦 [Twitter.com/Lincoln1883](https://twitter.com/Lincoln1883)

Lincoln is accredited by the National Council on Accreditation, certified by the California Department of Education and Alameda County Behavioral Healthcare, accredited by the California Alliance for Child and Family Services, and licensed by the State Department of Social Services.

DESIGN AND LAYOUT BY DESIGN ACTION COLLECTIVE

