SAN FRANCISCO
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES
SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS
FISCAL YEAR 2017-18
A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As the old sayings go, “the only constant in life is change,” and “hope springs eternal.” This last year has really driven home the validity of both for me.

For our nation, change came in divergent ways. Throughout the year, the President used his position to re-normalize hatred, racism, and bigotry among people who never went away, but were starting to be pushed back. He enacted policies that are inane, inhumane, and have the potential to revert years of growth and progress. But in November the country took a stand: voters across the country elected the most racially diverse and most female group of representatives to US Congress in its 200-year history. The balance of power in Washington is on course to put this President and his administration in check. This gives me hope.

For San Francisco, change came at the top level of local government. 2017 ended with the tragic passing of Mayor Ed Lee, and saw Mayor Mark Farrell proficiently sustain his legacy through the spring and summer. We will end 2018 with Mayor London Breed, the first African American female mayor in the city’s history, who earned her way to City Hall after growing up in public housing, attending public schools, and participating in publically funded programs. The start of Mayor Breed’s tenure comes at a challenging time in our city: income inequality is growing, gentrification is occurring, and poor communities of color are disproportionately bearing the burden of the city’s transitions. Despite a long way to go, it is reassuring that we have a leader who acutely understands the plight of San Francisco residents who are in-need and at-risk, and in her short tenure has already created opportunities for the homeless, the working poor, and the marginalized residents of our city. This gives me hope.

For DCYF, change came in the form of new beginnings, the launch of our 2018-2023 grant cycle. As of August of this year, all of our new grantees are actively providing programs and services in San Francisco, playing a significant role in the social, cultural, and economic vitality of the communities where they serve and operate. We recognize that the viability of these organizations is critical for both DCYF’s goals and the overall sustainability of the communities they serve, so DCYF instituted another change: we created DCYF University, a suite of free organizational and professional development opportunities for our grantees. We are doing more than ever to ensure that everyone, from line staff to directors, receives the professional development they need to thrive in their careers, which will in turn benefit the children, youth, and families in their programs. This gives me hope.

As I considered the changes that are and have been taking place nationally, locally, and for DCYF and our grantees, I had to ask myself: for DCYF, what remains steadfast in the face of change? The answer is quite literally written on our conference room wall: DCYF’s Four Pillars – Strategic Funding, Quality Services, Collaborative Partnerships, and Community Engagement. We are strategic funders at our core, providing financial support for programs and seeking to address inequalities in access and opportunity in the city. We are field builders, ensuring the development and support of high quality programs that promote positive outcomes for the city’s children, youth, and families. We are conveners, ensuring that the nonprofit community, city government, educational institutions, and other stakeholders efficiently use resources and coordinate their services. We are amplifiers of the voices of children, youth, their families and the people who serve them.

My hope, my goal, and the overall objective of DCYF’s work is for our children, youth, and their families to lead lives full of fulfilment and happiness. With that in mind, I pose a question to myself and my team from time to time, and now I pose it to you: what are you doing to make San Francisco a great place to grow up?

In Community,

Maria Su, Psy.D.
Executive Director
OUR MISSION

The Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF) has administered San Francisco’s powerful investments in children, youth, transitional age youth, and their families through the Children and Youth Fund since 1991. With a deep commitment to advancing equity and healing trauma, we bring together government agencies, schools, and community-based organizations to strengthen our communities to lead full lives of opportunity and happiness. Together, we make San Francisco a great place to grow up.

OUR FOUNDATION

Strategic Funding: We promote practice- and research-informed programs, seed innovation and seek to address inequities in access and opportunity.

Quality Services: We provide leadership in developing high quality programs and strong community-based organizations in the interest of promoting positive outcomes.

Engagement with San Francisco’s Communities: We prioritize children, youth, transitional age youth and families’ voices in setting funding priorities and will build our knowledge of and presence in neighborhoods across San Francisco.

Collaborative Partnerships: We commit to working with city stakeholders to help set funding priorities, practices and policies that are based on an equity framework.

OUR VISION

DCYF envisions a strong San Francisco where all children and youth are supported by nurturing families and communities; all children and youth are physically and emotionally healthy; all children and youth are ready to learn and succeed in school; and all youth are ready for college, work and productive adulthood.

*These services represent departmental partnerships so youth served are not tracked by DCYF

FY2017-18 Service Highlights

$117 million invested in children, youth & families

- $31,855,088 K-8 Out of School Time
- $16,826,534 Youth Workforce Development
- $16,202,766 Violence Prevention & Intervention
- $9,126,410 Teen
- $3,091,144 Transitional Age Youth Collaboratives & Innovation
- $6,607,934 Family Support Services*
- $6,201,957 Other Children, Youth, Family & TAY Services*
- $5,375,510 Emotional Well-Being*
- $3,875,058 Black to the Future & Roadmap to Peace*

Program Locations

42,032 youth ages 5-24 served in FY2017-18

58% Ages 5-13

29% Ages 14-17

12% Ages 18-24

*These services represent departmental partnerships so youth served are not tracked by DCYF
MAKING SAN FRANCISCO A GREAT PLACE TO GROW UP

Ages 0-5 & Parents

- 7,994 children aged 0-5 supported through Early Learning Scholarships.
- DCYF’s Nutrition Program served 74,596 lunches, 160,211 snacks, and 115,145 suppers for free to youth 18 and under.
- 9,551 parents served by 26 Family Resource Centers.
- 3,087 children 0-5.
- 79% of surveyed youth agree or strongly agree that they learned how to identify and understand problems affecting their community in their teen program.
- 77% of surveyed parents demonstrated skill improvement following Family Resource Center parent education classes.

Ages 5-13

- 14,715 youth attended K-8 afterschool programs regularly.
- 1,032 transitional age youth (TAY), 21% of whom identified as homeless, accessed specially targeted TAY programs.
- 74,596 snacks served by 26 Family Resource Centers.
- 4479 youth engaged in 62 violence prevention & intervention programs.
- 91% of surveyed youth in K-8 afterschool programs report there is an adult at the program who really cares about them.
- 1,032 transitions to adulthood are facilitated for young adults participating in Young Adult Court.
- 12,720 summer program slots available by DCYF and SFUSD.

Ages 14-17

- 3,087 youth in youth empowerment programs agree or strongly agree that they are better equipped to make positive changes in their community.
- 96% of surveyed justice-involved youth in YWD programs agree or strongly agree that they will be able to find a job on their own after participating in the program.
- 123 mini-grants were awarded to youth-led projects by participants in youth philanthropy programs.
- 92% of surveyed youth in youth empowerment programs agree that they are better equipped to make positive changes in their community.
- 4,884 youth participated in workforce development activities.
- 14,715 snacks served by 26 Family Resource Centers.
- 45% of surveyed youth in youth empowerment programs agree that they are better equipped to make positive changes in their community.

Ages 18-24

- 12,720 slots in free and publicly funded summer programs were made available by DCYF and SFUSD.
- 123 transitions to adulthood are facilitated for young adults participating in Young Adult Court.
- 92% of surveyed youth in youth empowerment programs feel that they are better equipped to make positive changes in their community.
- 4,884 youth participated in workforce development activities.
- 4,479 youth engaged in 62 violence prevention & intervention programs.
- 7,994 youth in youth empowerment programs agree or strongly agree that they are better equipped to make positive changes in their community.
- 91% of surveyed youth in K-8 afterschool programs report there is an adult at the program who really cares about them.

San Francisco’s most vulnerable young adults participated in Young Adult Court, accessing wraparound services, job referrals, case management services and other supports.
“Pacific Islander Youth Alliance (PIYA) has taught them a lot—learning our culture, our language, and certain manners that we teach our kids. I’ve seen a lot of growth with my girls ever since they joined the program because they offer so much. It’s not just checking homework—they’re teaching them about our culture, they’re teaching them about basic life survival skills. It’s a very good program.”

—Faautu, mother of Silorah and Suilolo

“Before I didn’t listen to adults but since the Brown Bombers program, they’ve made me more mature and disciplined. I have a good relationship with my coaches because I listen. It’s good to listen because it’s easier to do what they tell you to do instead of not listening and getting into an argument. I bring it to school, and then, I listen in school.”

—Jayden

“I’m an immigrant and English is my second language. When I first moved here, I felt lonely because it was hard for me to adapt to my new culture. I felt unconfident. I learned a lot from the CYC Newcomer Club, they saw my potential. They encouraged me to challenge myself and try new things. They taught us how to speak in front of a group of people, how to deal with problems with family or friends, and how to make friends. As a result, I’ve become more confident and outgoing.”

—Kiki

“When I first started at the Heat of the Kitchen program, I was hesitant at first. I didn’t know how to cook, I had no experience with cooking whatsoever. When I got into it, I was like this is really fun. I feel at peace. I don’t feel stressed out even at times in my life where I was really upset or depressed, Heat of the Kitchen gave me that sense that I belong somewhere, I am needed somewhere. Even when I put in my small input, that’s still something to them.”

—Naila