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## Support the Work of the Foundation

# GIVING TUESDAY

Today is Giving Tuesday! Please remember the Leo Buscaglia Foundation and donate today. Your donations help us carry forward the message of Dr. Buscaglia. We can continue to show love to our world.

DONATE

## Letter from the President

**“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.”**

## Leo Buscaglia

Dear Friends,

Leo said many important and wise words in his lifetime, and this quote is a favorite of mine.

We can forget there is power in kindness and compassion, honesty and forgiveness. These are the values Leo lived and hoped to promote through the Buscaglia Foundation.

We are proud to highlight the fifteen California foundations who were our grantees in 2024. Their work – however simple or complex – is making a difference in hundreds of lives and offering hope and renewal.

I hope you will be as generous as possible in making a gift to the Buscaglia Foundation this season. Your generosity helps us help others – exactly as Leo believed.

Thank you and warm wishes this holiday season.



Suzanne Torgeson  
President

## 2024 Grant Recipients

**Charlotte Maxwell Clinic** – Oakland, CA. Charlotte Maxwell Clinic offers low-income women diagnosed with cancer opportunities for improved health outcomes and quality of life by providing free access to compassionate, integrative cancer care. The Clinic received a grant to help support the implementation of their three year strategic plan to grow their clinical impact by serving 260 clients with an annual total of 3,120 appointments.

**Connected Horse** – Rocklin, CA. Founded in 2015, the mission of Connected Horse is to inspire connection, engagement, and emotional healing for people living with early-stage dementia and their loved ones through equine-assisted workshops, programs, and training. Connected Horse received a grant to expand their program to provide 36 In-Person Workshops in six counties during 2024, ultimately impacting at least 216 people.

**Down for Dance** – Newport Beach, CA. Down for Dance's mission is to empower individuals of all abilities to build a stronger sense of self through dance and the arts. To achieve this mission Down for Dance offers a variety of low-cost, subsidized dance classes as well as yoga and art classes, both in

person and online. Down for Dance received a grant to expand access to classes for students that cannot afford to participate. Funds will be used to help reach 200 people with disabilities aged seven and up.

**Fostering Youth Independence** – Santa Clarita, CA. At Fostering Youth Independence, education is the key to breaking cycles of poverty and abuse and unlocking doors to expanded economic opportunities. Their focus is to equip foster youth to complete a post-secondary education and become successful, independent adults. Fostering Youth Independence gives each foster youth in their program a caring adult volunteer “Ally” to provide encouragement, guidance and assistance with obtaining the resources they need.

**The Healing WELL** – San Francisco, CA. Healing WELL works with residents of the Tenderloin district to promote the values of Wellness, Empowerment, Liberation and Love by offering free daily sessions in meditation, yoga and 12-step support groups to an average of 160 low-income people each month. The grant from the Buscaglia Foundation supports their newly revamped Leadership Program which includes grocery gift cards for participants.

**Hollywood PAL** – Hollywood, CA. Hollywood PAL received a grant to increase the number of people they serve in their tutoring and mentoring program from 200 to over 400 youth in their free and safe after-school academic and life enrichment programs.

**HomeMore Project, Inc.** – Los Angeles, CA. The mission of the HomeMore Project is to address homelessness by building transparent and genuine relationships while focusing on providing realistic yet innovative solutions to an ongoing crisis. Their grant funds the delivery of hard-shell backpacks to 50 individuals experiencing homelessness in the Long Beach Area. The backpacks include a sleeping bag, poncho, radio, flashlight, and other practical items including a solar panel with a battery pack and USB charging port, and an informational brochure listing over 15 partner services in Long Beach, California.

**Kids Chance of California** – Sacramento, CA. Kids Chance of California provides needs-based educational scholarships to the children of California workers who have been fatally or seriously injured on the job. Due to strong corporate support, Kids Chance is able to allocate 100% of funds raised directly to student scholarships. Funds are sent to the school for disbursement and may be used for tuition, fees, housing costs, books and supplies. They served 37 students last year and gave just over \$400,000 in scholarships.

**Los Angeles Youth Orchestra** – Encino, CA. The mission of the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra is to advance the future of culture by developing and nurturing a passion for music in young musicians that lasts a lifetime through the study and performance of classical and contemporary music. Ten of their 112 students are currently on scholarship.

**Parentis Foundation** – Laguna Hills, CA. The mission of the Parentis Foundation is to elevate children's literacy through the mentorship of older

adults. The grant helps support expanding their program to 11 sites, train 165 senior volunteer tutors, mentor 400 at-risk students, deliver 565 book kits, and host more than 14,000 reading sessions.

**Redlands Educational Partnership** – Redlands, CA. The Redlands Educational Partnership serves 24 Redlands Unified School District schools and approximately 22,000 students. They received a grant to support six programs including: T.A.G.S. (Technology, Arts, School Gardens and Science), Grants for Schools, Evening of Appreciation, RESCUE the Instruments, Arts Alive!, and AAA Academy which encompasses both summer, after school, and safety programs.

**Santa Monica History Museum** – Santa Monica, CA. The mission of the Santa Monica History Museum is to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of Santa Monica for generations to come. Their grant helped supplement the cost of hosting free school tours that immerse students from underserved communities in the diverse history of their city.

**SoCal Adaptive Sports** – Indio, CA. SoCal Adaptive Sports provides youth and adults with disabilities opportunities to participate in sports, physical fitness, recreation, and social programs. Their grant will help provide coaches and services to approximately 150 unique athletes per month.

**URBAN TXT: Teens Exploring Technology** – Los Angeles, CA. URBAN TXT received a grant to support their Summer Coding Leadership Academy, an 8-10 week leadership, computer science, and entrepreneurship program that teaches 60 youth coding, graphic and app design. Using technology as their tool, URBAN TXT encourages inner city Black and Latino teens to become catalysts of change by solving community problems through technological innovation.

**We Are Brave Together** – Los Angeles, CA. We Are Brave Together provides respite, community, and resources for mothers caring for children of any age with disabilities, unique needs, or other medical or mental health challenges. The grant will help support a mothers' retreat in San Diego.

*Share Some Good News Today!*

Please help us spread the news about the amazing work of the grant recipients! Share our posts with your friends and family. Liking, commenting, sharing increases our reach to readers.

The world needs lots of good news so let's share the accomplishments of the Leo Buscaglia Foundation and its grant recipients.



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