



Friends and Ministry Partners,

Thank you for your encouragement and support for another year of serving the Christian community in Los Angeles as we help them come alongside children and youth in foster care who need them. At the end of 2020, each of our organizations were still reeling from the massive changes that had happened externally due to the pandemic, and internally, due to our responses to it. As a Coalition, we were able to continue meeting via Zoom in order to remain in relationship and mutually encourage each other. I can confidently say that for most of our member organizations, the storm that was and is the pandemic ended up watering the soil that grew new and creative ways to bear fruit as we cared for vulnerable children and families.

As lockdown began to lift in 2021, we began meeting in person again, to re-imagine what our Info Fair and Ambassador Trainings would look like in-person, post-pandemic. In the past, we had stayed close to South Los Angeles, in familiar areas with some of our partner churches there. This year, we targeted North LA as the location for our Info Fair, held in November of 2021.

We grew by several new members this year, including new leaders within existing member organizations. We welcomed new team members from Care Portal and Olive Crest to join the Coalition, as well as a new organization called Foster The City. Formerly Foster The Bay, they expanded into Los Angeles to continue their work of identifying and supporting prospective foster families. The strength of the Coalition does not lay in one strong organization, but dozens of members who recognize the need to leave our logos and egos at the door as we work together to alleviate the child welfare crisis in this city!

We canvassed North Los Angeles for our Info Fair, and found a church (Restored LA) in the San Fernando Valley. While it was not as heavily attended as we had hoped, we were able to introduce the Coalition to new partners in the area who had tables at our event. Saving Innocence works with victims of human trafficking and Finally Family Homes works with older teens transitioning out of the foster care system. Strong partnerships with other non-profits in the city is central to our success!

Due to a low turnout, we postponed our Ambassador Training, where we train a smaller group of individuals to serve as foster care advocates within their local churches. We firmly believe that the local church is the organization God has chosen to serve their communities, introduce others to Jesus, and stand on behalf of the widow and orphan. We are here to serve and resource them.

As we move into a new year, we have new opportunities to expand our member base, new areas to serve in our city, new people to train as local ambassadors, and new churches to serve and resource as they remember and represent children in the foster care system. Would you pray for us this year? We are asking the Lord to help us grow in three areas: Unified leadership, fruitful and effective events and more key partnerships that will allow for greater impact to the at-risk children each of our organizations serve.

We thank God for your partnership in the gospel, and your generosity towards marginalized children in the foster care system of Los Angeles!

Sincerely,

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