



2017 ANNUAL REPORT





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Cover photo:

Bresee Middle School students on their way to a field trip.

PHOTO CREDIT: Michael Weschler



LETTER FROM THE ED

Dear Friends:

There is a beautiful work of art entitled “La Gran Marcha” that hangs on my office wall for all to see. The painting captures a day in 2006 when more than one million Angelenos marched in downtown L.A. for immigration reform. There’s a young immigrant girl in the forefront wearing a t-shirt that says **“Don’t deport, love.”** One of the demonstrators holds a sign that reads: “We fight to keep the American Dream alive in the heart of her people.” And, if you look closely, you can see Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Archbishop Oscar Romero, and even a few Bresee staff scattered among the masses.

Adrian Navarette labored over this project for six months in 2013. He wanted to show our young people how long it takes to create a grand piece of art, and he wanted them to know that art can be used as a tool for social justice.

All these years later, our youth and families must still fight for basic civil rights. And yet when I look at this painting – a great work created with great care – it reminds me that our commitment to social justice is a long-term proposition and even in the face of hostility, we can model our love for this community by doing our work in a way that honors their dreams and potential. Please join me in celebrating all that we have accomplished together in 2017. **With your continued partnership, we will continue to do great work, with great care.**

peace,



Seth Eklund
Executive Director

Seth Eklund poses in
Bresee’s new Teen
Tech Center.

PHOTO CREDIT:
Michael Weschler



“La Gran Marcha” by Adrian Navarette.

NEW AT BRESEE IN 2017



An Exciting Partnership with L.A.'s Newest Soccer Club

In 2017, Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC) formed its first official community partnership with Bresee as sponsor of Bresee's LAFC Youth Leadership Program. Twenty-nine LAFC Youth Leaders completed work readiness training in the summer of 2017 before conducting soccer and character development classes for 232 students at six local elementary and middle schools.



The Best Buy Teen Tech Center Turns One!

In its first full year of operation, Bresee's Tech Center worked with an exciting array of partners to help young adults develop a passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) learning. First year partners included the Best Buy Geek Squad Academy, The Grammy Foundation, Girls Who Code, Upright Citizens Brigade, EveryoneOn, and CyberSeniors. The Teen Tech Center is also a proud member of The Clubhouse Network, a global community founded 25 years ago in collaboration with the MIT Media Lab.



Bresee Hires Its First Director of Evaluation and Learning

With an investment from the W.M. Keck Foundation, Bresee welcomed Cynthia Cortez as the new Director of Evaluation and Learning in October of 2017. Cynthia is a native Angeleno with a master's degree in social research methodology from UCLA, and a fierce commitment to improving programs that serve low-income communities. She will play a critical role in the implementation and success of the new strategic plan.

PHOTO CREDIT:
Michael Weschler

BRESEE: OUR COMMUNITY

992 youth
1,876 adults

2,868 served

28 partners
including schools,
nonprofits, and
city agencies

1,656 hours of
service provided
by our 106
volunteers



BRESEE FAMILY SERVICES

Bresee's Central Los Angeles/Koreatown community is one where working families struggle to cover expenses and live one emergency away from financial crisis. Bresee's Wilshire FamilySource Center offers a suite of free, onsite resources to help families weather crises and build their personal financial assets through **ESL and computer literacy classes, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and financial coaching, immigration legal services, and emergency rental, transportation, and food assistance.**



"The only real thing we leave with our children is their education." – Eloisa

PHOTO CREDIT: Carissa Woo

Eloisa, Ephrain, Steven and Axel S.

Eloisa and Ephrain S. have partnered with Bresee for over six years to prepare their children for the future. Steven, their oldest son, graduated from Bowdoin College in June 2018 with help from a Bresee scholarship. Axel, their youngest, completed a paid high school internship with the LAFC Youth Leadership Program. Last year Axel and his mother also took Bresee financial literacy classes and began earning a savings match through Individual Development Accounts.

In April 2017, crisis struck. Ephrain was in a serious car accident and unable

to work. Eloisa took on additional hours at her part-time job but couldn't cover the family's living expenses and medical bills. Determined not to disrupt Steven's college experience, they approached Bresee and received 2 months of emergency support. As the family regains stability, Steven and Axel understand their parents' sacrifice.

As Axel heads off to college with support from a Bresee scholarship he shared, "I really love my family, because we have trust in each other," he says. "I want to one day tell them, Don't worry about it. I've got this."



Bresee Impact

\$1.26 million

in increased aggregate family
income for our clients

38 adults

earned English as a Second
Language certificates

260 adults

filed taxes for free
through VITA

A parent consults
with her Family
Advocate.

PHOTO CREDIT:
Michael Weschler



Bresee Impact

\$81,755

total college scholarships awarded to students

100%

of seniors in college access program enrolled in college

\$54,665

total income earned by high school interns

98%

of Tech Center open lab participants reported learning at least 1 new application/technology

High school interns hold a discussion during a self-reflection activity.

PHOTO CREDIT:
Michael Weschler



BRESEE YOUTH SERVICES

Community-based organizations like Bresee can play an important, complementary role in combatting inequities in our education system. Bresee **athletic programs** provide teams and leagues so that local youth can remain active and build character. The **middle school program** provides enrichment activities and helps students with homework and study skills so they enter high school in good standing, while the **college access, internship, and Tech Center programs** orient young adults toward the future and increase their preparedness for college and the workforce.



PHOTO CREDIT: Carissa Woo

Jonathan G.

At age 15, Jonathan G.'s proudest accomplishment is a handwritten letter penned by a fan who discovered his music on SoundCloud. Jonathan's track, "Mixed Emotions," is about loving a parent who is caught in an abusive relationship. Raised in similar circumstances, Jonathan's song moved his first fan.

Two years ago, Jonathan had no outlet for his emotions. His mother was concerned about how he spent his time after school, and asked Bresee staff to take her son under their wing. At Bresee, Jonathan

signed up for sound- and video-editing workshops in the Teen Tech Center, learning to use Garage Band and Avid Pro Tools software.

Since then, Jonathan has self-produced two albums. He is a frequent visitor during the Tech Center's open lab hours, and uses the sound booth, camera equipment, and computers to record songs and make music videos. Finishing his freshman year in June 2018, he is working toward his dream of producing music for other artists.

GANG PREVENTION

There are 13 active gangs in the City of Los Angeles' Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) Olympic Zone, where Bresee is located, and the majority recruit new members in their early teens. To interrupt this cycle, the City hones in on youth who exhibit nine risk factors strongly correlated with gang involvement (e.g. antisocial tendencies, guilt neutralization, weak parental supervision).

Bresee uses these risk factors, as the Olympic Zone's primary prevention provider, to identify 10-15 year olds eligible for the program. Youth enroll with their families and engage in family coaching, individual mentorship, and youth group activities to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors (e.g. social connections, self-regulation, close relationships with caring adults).



PHOTO CREDIT: *Carissa Woo*

Chelsy M.

Chelsy is a former gang prevention client and recent high school intern for the GRYD team. She came to Bresee as the result of her mother's intensive effort to keep her from joining a local crew. Co-enrolled in the gang prevention and middle school programs, she quickly blossomed, discovering a passion for dance and community service.

In 2016, Chelsy's family lost their home and belongings to a house fire. After living with relatives for several months, the family secured an apartment through a partner agency, but still lacked basic furniture and household amenities. Bresee's Family Services team leveraged funds from the California Community Foundation to help the family purchase

kitchenware and kitchen, living room, and bedroom furniture, providing dignity and additional stability in a time of crisis.

In the 2017-18 school year, Chelsy worked as a paid youth intern with the GRYD team, bringing personal insight and passion to her work. In fall, she launched and facilitated Self Me/Self Love, a girls group focused on building self-esteem and confidence. In spring semester, she led a Zumba class for GRYD youth and Bresee staff. In the fall of 2018, Chelsy will attend California State University – Channel Islands, and her GRYD family couldn't be prouder of her journey and growth.



Bresee Impact

137
youth enrolled



Chelsy M. talks
about women
leaders with her
Self Me/Self Love
group.

PHOTO CREDIT:
Michael Weschler

DOING GREAT WORK WITH GREAT CARE: BRESEE'S FUTURE

This is the spirit that our leadership and Board embraced when developing a new strategic plan to guide Bresee into its next chapter. The plan comes on the heels of six straight years of program, budget, and staffing growth. Since 2012, Bresee has increased the number of clients served from 1,500 to nearly 3,000, while the budget has grown from \$1.5 to \$3 million and our staff from 25 to more than 50. Now, as we look forward, we recognize that Bresee is not called on to expand its services further, but rather to deepen the impact of our existing programs by investing in staff development, program and curriculum design, and the systems that support our organization.

In the 2017-18 school year, Bresee embarked on a new strategic planning process. Led by facilitators from the Executive Service Corps, the strategic planning committee gathered feedback from clients, staff, financial supporters, and other key stakeholders, revisited and updated Bresee's vision and mission, and crafted a plan that will steer our organization toward greater impact in the community.

Renewed Mission

Bresee battles poverty by empowering youth and families in Los Angeles with the skills, resources, and relationships necessary to thrive.

Renewed Vision

A diverse community of Angelenos working together to break down barriers and lead fulfilling lives.

2018-2021 Goals

To fulfill our mission, Bresee will invest in the following strategies over the next three years.

1

Foster an exceptional employee culture.

2

Strengthen program impact through evaluation and learning.

3

Build capacity for high-performing resource development.

4

Improve the infrastructure of the existing facility and explore expanding the Bresee campus.

5

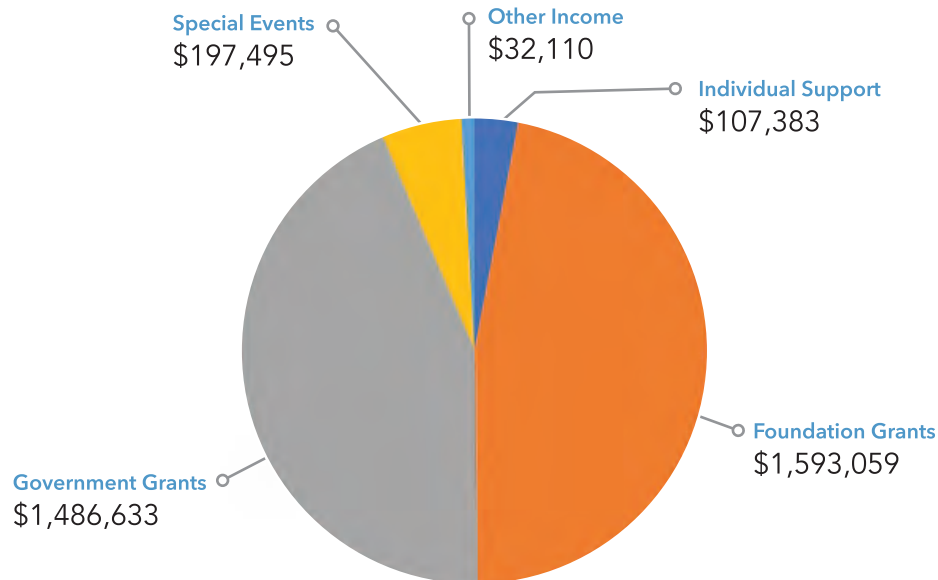
Sustain and grow a strong, diverse volunteer leadership team.



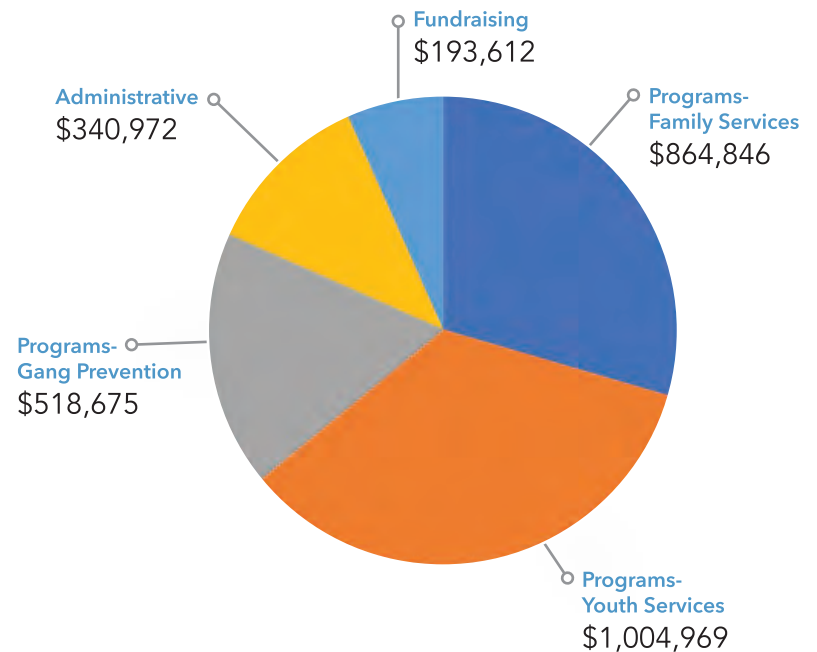
PHOTO CREDIT:
Michael Weschler

YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK

INCOME \$3,416,680



EXPENSES \$2,986,915



HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Launched an English for Success pilot in the middle school program
- ▶ Received a \$300,000 multi-year investment to advance evaluation and learning
- ▶ Improved Bresee's financial resilience by growing operating reserve to \$250,000

ALL OF US AT BRESEE THANK YOU!

Your support creates new possibilities
for youth and families in our Los
Angeles community.

\$250,000+

City of Los Angeles - FamilySource
Centers
City of Los Angeles - GRYP
W.M. Keck Foundation

\$100,000 to \$250,000

Annenberg Foundation
The Ballmer Group
Bank of America
Best Buy Foundation and The
Clubhouse Network
The Eisner Foundation
Los Angeles Unified School District
- ASES

\$50,000 to \$99,999

California Community Foundation
Delta Air Lines
Nazarene Compassionate Ministries
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
The Rose Hills Foundation

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Camino Nuevo Charter Academy
Dwight Stuart Youth Fund
Chay and Kim Lapin
QueensCare
The Ahmanson Foundation
The Green Foundation
Gordon L. and Julia P. Tuthill Family
Foundation
United Way of Greater Los Angeles

\$10,000 to \$24,999

AMC Cares Charitable Fund
The Carol and James Collins
Foundation

Catholic Charities - WIOA
County of Los Angeles - Board of
Supervisors
Fox Entertainment Group, Inc.
The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris
Foundation
LA County Arts Commission
LA84 Foundation
LAFC Sports, LLC.
Steve Lipp
Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation
Miiko and Tim Martin
Anonymous
Skylight Foundation
Southern California Edison
Variety Foundation

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Bank of the West
Craig and JoAnn Beatty
Bergen County's United Way
Callie D. McGrath Foundation
Dana Casella and Seth Eklund
Frank and Miki Chen
Evim Foundation
The Fanny & Svante Knistrom
Foundation
Goodwin Family Memorial Trust
Koreatown Youth and Community
Center
KPMG
Los Angeles Trial Lawyers' Charities
Network for Good
Bryan and Lani Sapanza
Southern California Grantmakers
U.S. Bank

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Beverly Hills/Greater Los Angeles
Association of REALTORS
The California Endowment
City of Los Angeles - Prop K
Comerica Bank
Aleesa Daley
Ashley Evans and David Gutierrez
Lesley K. Foster
Robert Goldstein
Hill & Piibe Immigration Attorneys
Jerrilyn Iwata and Michael Lee
David Krumholtz
Rob Longnecker
NLS Lighting
Optimus Property Management
Brodie Seagrave
United Talent Agency
Anonymous
Whittier Trust Philanthropic Services
Dale Young Jr.

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Darrin and Kay Blakeman
Edward and Nila Cainglit
Care 1st Health Plan
Carl E. Wynn Foundation
Americo Casella
David Caspe
Matt Casper and Ted Dorsey
Dave and Karen Corbin
Darrell Cross and Kara Petreccia
Richard J. Davis
Linda Desenclos
Althea and Malik Ducard
First Citizens Bank

Lilianna Granda
Tara Hannaford
Heather Janoff
Vince B. Kates
Peter Kim
Amber Koslofsky
Michael Lahoud
Rick Lam
Greg and Rozanna Leo
Lions Gate Entertainment Inc.
Neman Enterprises
Gordon Newell
Pacific City Bank
Schaffer Family Fund C/O Fidelity
Charitable Fund
Jordan Scovel
Anna Solis
Christina and Steve Streit
Target Corporation
Truist
Marion Peter Wasek
Brandon Yu

\$500 to \$999

Arroyo Insurance Services
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Bernard Kotkin & Co
Bob Bradley
Kurt Brown
Wayne Chuen
The Community Foundation of Middle
Tennessee
Katie and Patrick Cowan
Anthony and Helena Cummings
Dana and Steven Vredenburgh
June Diane Raphael and Paul Scheer

Graham Ferrier
Michelle Hollis
Yane Hsu
Carolyn Hume
Dr. Melina Jampolis
Brian Kannry
Tony Kitchener
Adrian and Jess Koehler
Kristin Konig
Cheyne and Ryan McClellan
Panos Mellis
Netflix
Bryan Niederhelm
Jason and Kandi Olive
Miguel Palos
Abigail Ramirez
Zoe Regan
Dan Reines
Anthony Russo
Majid Safaie
Amy Schumer
Jeffrey Serota
Tiffany Siart and Jango Circus
Joellyn Siraganian
Jeffrey and Jenny Storey
Sasha Thomson
Mark and Wendy Valdez

\$250 to \$499

Rosemarie Ashamalla
Eddie Bader
Ashley Beglarian
George Boyd
Andrae L. Brown
Scott Campbell
Jessica Chaffin

Brian and Ruth Eklund
 Karis Eklund
 Judson Feder
 Ashley Fontanetta
 Jennifer Franz
 Joey Furutani
 Pablo Garcia
 Guy Guenther
 Katherine Jumbe
 Billy Keane
 Jo Ann Krupin
 Larry Lee
 Susan Leonard
 Jonathan Levine
 John and Maria McGinnis
 Craig Melicher and Fabiola Wong
 Paul Modiano
 Hajnal Molnar-Szakacs
 Andrew Morovati
 National Parks Conservation Association
 Angelo Nicodemo
 Ramon Pack III
 Paul Phillips
 Brian Raab
 Angie Ransom
 Johnathan C. Rastello
 Cesar and Lupe Sanchez
 David Sherman
 Sam Strasser
 Heather Stroud
 Gary Taglyan
 Anne Tremblay
 US Service Center
 Ryan Villarin
 Cris and Jeanne Windoffer
 Wonderful Giving
 Ziggedy, Inc.

\$100 to \$250

Laura Aka
 Alchemy Consulting Group, LLC
 Allen & Allen Semiotics, Inc.
 Monica Alvarez
 Ralph Alvy
 Bob Antonucci
 Armine and John Balian
 Kerry Armstrong
 Jenier Aron
 Vladimir Ballesteros
 Jennifer Barlett
 Dean Beresford

Melissa Bernstein
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 Chuck Broslawsky
 Mihail Chiabury
 Gerardo Cisneros
 Rachel Davenport
 Ray Doudstar
 Isela and Reymundo Duarte
 Michael Frankel
 Amy Ghosh
 Evan Goldberg
 Lindy Gomez
 Xavier Gomez
 William Gurr
 Robert Gutierrez
 Lennon Guzman
 Adrienne Hahn
 Maria Hamar
 Christopher Hargrove
 Rob Huebel
 Christine Iso
 It's a Doozy!
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 Hannah Kauffman-Skloff
 Brandon Keener
 Andrew Kim
 Judy Kim
 Josh King
 Jessi Klein
 Cassandra Krause-Morrison
 Joan and Lonnie Langdon
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 Becky Morales
 Carolyn Newman
 Lani Nishiyama
 Eileen O'Byrne
 Alice Olson
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 Brittne Pak
 Al and Lauren Persico
 Lauren Pomerantz
 Daniel Rabin
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 David E. Rizzo

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 Ross Stores, Inc.
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 Jon Schroeder
 Guilliame Serina
 Piunik Shabani
 Bob Shockey
 Christin Smith
 Nancy Soto
 Rebecca Stone
 Garrett Strommen
 Geoffrey Stults
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 Helene Terris
 Adam Tesler
 Suzanne Thune
 John Torres and Joanna Cheng-Torres
 Andrew Ulmer
 Thomas Urquilla
 Yesenia Vasquez
 Tracie Verlinde
 Kulap Vilaysack
 Morgan Vukovic
 Jenson Wayne
 Lisa Williams
 Sandro Winkworth

Up to \$99

Janice Adea
 Andres Alvarez
 Amazon Smile
 Cara Amenta
 Megan Amram
 April Bain
 Gary and Linda Beatty
 Justin Carbajal
 Lizette Carbajal
 Redonna Carpenter-Woods
 Carol Champion
 Christine Chang
 Kathleen and Robert Chillison
 Jessica Clair
 Richard Cockerill
 Erica Copeland
 Carmen Crane
 Jamie Denbo
 Emiliana Dore
 Cle Duvall
 Elise Flashman
 Cristina Gallegos
 Jason Gardner

Nora Gilbert
 Rebecca Gleason
 Daniel Gonzales
 Graphics to Go
 Gail Guenther
 Samantha Hanks
 Andrew Heffernan
 Jim Herr
 Susan Hill
 Dina Houston
 Ani Jinian
 Jensen Karp
 John Kotick
 Rae Lamothe
 Duke Larry
 Allison Mannos
 Bethany and Daniel McWhirter
 Dikran Melkonian
 Doris Mendez
 Michael Navarre
 Chris Nelson
 Kristen Nerad
 Robert and Sandra Neumann
 Jen Marie O'Connor
 David G. Orozco
 Sarah Orozco
 Talia Osteen
 Lea Palmieri
 Lauren Palmigiano
 Ashley Pinney
 Drew Pokorny
 Daniel Roberts
 Diana Rodriguez Moran
 Andy Christopher Rodriguez
 Lizzeth Henao Rosales
 Jean Rosario
 Marisa Rumola
 Adam Sachs
 Majed Sayess
 Danielle Schneider
 Travis Schuld
 Richard Schwartz
 Sabrina Shadi
 Elizabeth Smith
 Thea Smolinski
 David Soloway
 State of California - Employment
 Development Department
 Elizabeth Swenson
 United Way of Greater Philadelphia &
 Southern New Jersey

Michael Vander
 Morgan Walsh

IN-KIND

Aquarium of the Pacific
 Autry Museum
 Chinese Theatres LLC
 Chocolatorium, Inc.
 Discovery Cube Los Angeles
 Disneyland Resort - The Walt Disney
 Company
 El Pollo Loco
 Fresh Brothers Pizza
 Gelson's
 Gjelina
 Hollywood Wax Museum
 In-N-Out Burger
 LA Kings Hockey Club
 Lagunitas Brewing Company
 Landmark Theatres
 Laugh Factory
 Lemonlight Media
 Los Angeles Clippers Foundation
 Los Angeles Galaxy Foundation
 Los Angeles Lakers Community
 Relations
 Los Angeles Rams
 NBCUniversal Foundation
 Oriental Trading Company
 Pacific Battleship Center
 PRP Wine International
 San Francisco Opera
 Six Flags Magic Mountain
 SoulCycle Charity
 Sprinkles Cupcake
 SusieCakes La Brea
 The Huntington Library and Gardens
 The Line Hotel
 The Road Theatre Company
 Whole Foods Market
 Wyland World Wide

Make a difference today!

donate.bresee.org

VOLUNTEERS

In 2017, 88 community members and 12 volunteer groups contributed 1,656 hours of volunteer service to Bresee's programs, advisory council, and Board of Directors. Volunteers play a crucial role in our success by forging powerful relationships with youth and families and championing our work in the community. We are encouraged by the depth of our community's commitment, and grateful for your support.

A special thank you to: 6SC; Adaptek; Delta; FoxGives; International Association of Microsoft Channel Partners SoCal; Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC); Los Angeles Mayor's Office; Loyola Marymount University men's soccer team; University of California – Riverside men's soccer team; University of California – Los Angeles' Center for Community Learning; University of Southern California's women's soccer team; Upright Citizen's Brigade; World Edge Tech.

Anna R.

It's not easy being funny, and it's not easy to learn a new language. Yet for the English language learners in Bresee's new, volunteer-led improv comedy class, the joy of making others laugh eased the challenges of communicating in English. The class would not have been possible, however, without Anna R., a comedian and coordinator for the LA Diversity Program at Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB).

A native of Los Angeles and bi-lingual English and Spanish speaker, Anna leaned on her own background in arts education, and her professional experience with UCB to create a safe,

creative environment for all students, combining focus games, miming, and scene work with tips and micro-lessons on the English language. Her goal, she said, was to activate students' confidence, and her greatest accomplishment was seeing the same students show up week after week, striving to improve their craft.

Through exploration comes confidence. – Anna

Anna and her co-conspirators.

PHOTO CREDIT:
Michael Weschler



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