# Annual Report 2018 - 2019



Social Service + Social Justice = Social Progress



## LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Reflecting on my first year as CEO, I remember coming to Amity Foundation as a six-year-old out of foster care. My parents spent decades struggling with addiction and incarceration. It was 1983 and Amity had one hundred students. Next year we will be serving close to 10,000 women and men, representing thousands of children.

As an Amity-alumni, when spending time with students, I am inspired to provide opportunities for more people. This coming year will show an increase of 139% in service delivery.

Our collaboration with California's criminal justice system reflects our deep commitment to be part of the movement to end mass incarceration, improve public safety and reconcile families.

Amity's involvement with policy change is a cornerstone of our growth which led to this year's opening of the Amity Beacon campus, the first teaching community for former lifers. Additionally, we will soon be opening La Entrada, a campus for formerly incarcerated women.

Our longstanding promise to represent the most vulnerable people continues to include our work with Native American families and our tragically under-served homeless population.

As we grow, we are developing successful strategies for both students and faculty that can be taught, researched and replicated.

We are responding to the climate crisis, by incorporating sustainability and protection measures to safeguard and strengthen our community.

It is the great collective vision and leadership of our organization's Executive Council, on which I am proud to serve, that we are reaching our communities at this scale. I would like to thank Robin, Naya and Rod for their vision and friendship.

In particular, Rod Mullen's demonstration of unwavering dedication as CEO for 35 years and far-reaching presence as President has been most inspirational for me.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our hardworking faculty, community partners, board of directors and, of course, our students.

In Gratitude,

Doug Bond



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### **Amity Foundation Mission**

Amity Foundation is dedicated to the inclusion and habilitation of people marginalized by addiction, trauma, criminality, incarceration, poverty, racism, sexism, homelessness and violence.

We strive to improve health, and promote environmental, social and economic justice.

Amity is committed to research, development, implementation and dissemination of information regarding community building.

### Misión de la Fundación Amistad

La Fundación Amistad se dedica a la inclusión y habilitación de personas marginadas a causa de sus problemas de adicción, experiencias traumáticas, encarcelamiento, pobreza, discriminación racial o sexual, carencia de vivienda, y violencia.

Nos esforzamos por mejorar la salud y promover la justicia ambiental, social y económica.

La Fundación Amistad está entregada a la investigación, desarrollo, ejecución y difusión de información dirigida a construir un sentido comunitario más completo.

# WHO WE ARE



9 Projects • 1 Organization

### WHAT WE DO



9 INITIATIVES • 1 MISSION

## AMISTAD DE LOS ANGELES

Amistad de Los Angeles is part of our reentry and reintegration services. This campus has up to 225 men within 12 months of their parole date who were released from incarceration in California. Our students receive help with vocational services, employment, stipends, transportation and clothing.

Located in downtown Los Angeles, we are looking forward to a massive renovation of the entire building and gardens. Like all of our re-entry services, we consider whole person health via mind, body and spirit. Students receive mental and health services, nutritious meals, mindful meditation, yoga, family-reconciliation services, GED, life skills, job training and of course, substance abuse services.

One highlight of this year is a Netflix documentary made with students from our campus. Filmmaker Kip Anderson ('Cowspiracy' and 'What the Health') and team follows twelve students for 30 days on a 100% plant-based diet along with intensive workshops, teaching yoga, meditation, breath work and other skills. Impressive changes in health and wellbeing are discovered. The documentary, '30 to Life', will be released sometime next year.

### Excerpted letter from a student

Chef Alan,

After arriving at Amity, I found out about nutrition served here daily - plant based and non-GMO foods, limited sugar and gluten products. Vegan and vegetarian welcome in the Amity kitchen. In addition to great food is the fresh juice that is made daily.

When I arrived from [prison] I came with pre-cancerous skin cancer on my left forearm and melanoma cancer on my forehead. While incarcerated I was considered high risk for repeat onsets of skin cancer. Every three months I would visit the hospital dermatology department to be examined for cancer and every three months they would find a new cancer location and do a biopsy, always coming back positive. In the last 10 years I have had cancer twenty one times and chemotherapy twice. This has been a grueling cycle for me.

I can only attribute any changes for me to the great nutrition which includes daily juicing and very little sugar. I truly cannot express my thanks to you and Amity for providing me with tremendous nutrition during my stay here.

### **AMITY BEACON**

Our initiative to roll back mass incarceration and the undoing of the Three Strikes laws in California has led to the release of many former lifers.

We are so proud to announce the opening of our Beacon campus dedicated to men we refer to as mentors. Some of our students served 50 years incarcerated before coming to Beacon, whose goal is to provide the chance to process trauma as well as gain permanent housing, employment, education and health services. Everyday between our campuses we have over 100 mentors.

Our work with former lifers has helped shape policy in California and hopefully will fan out to other states as well. Students at Beacon and Amistad are eligible for an Adult Re-Entry Grant which gives additional subsidies for students leaving those campuses.

Amity has helped over 900 former lifers place into direct services.



### CIRCLE TREE RANCH

Our 60-acre residential campus is located on a ranch between the Catalina and Rincon mountains. It a sanctuary and learning environment for individuals to regain self-reliance, identify strengths and acquire personal mastery over past trauma using our curriculum.

Circle Tree Ranch features plant based, non-GMO meals, juicing, mindfulness meditation, family-reconciliation, exercise, self-examination in a community environment and, of course, substance abuse recovery education.

Circle Tree Ranch is unique in that we offer this journey to parents with young children, pregnant mothers, couples, and families. The option for a student to bring their young children with them has been the only solution for many single parents seeking long-term residential solutions. The true accomplishment of work at this campus involves the inclusion of multiple cultures including tribal nations and different ethnic and religious backgrounds.

Ceremonies and practices are acknowledged as students and faculty celebrate their differences. This approach has made a safe space for people's individual journeys.

Given our expansive space we have been able to host events including Doctors for Social Responsibility, The Yellow Bird Dancers, weddings, large tribal celebrations, the annual Stanford Alumni picnic, and presentations from Dr. Will Tuttle, author of *The World Peace Diet*.

Additionally, we provide vocational on-the-job training in areas such as communications, construction, culinary arts, organic farming & animal husbandry, social entrepreneurism and environmental activism.

The beauty of this large campus enables us to have an organic garden, providing both nutrition and the opportunity to understand and learn sustainable living.



### AMITY ON BROADWAY

In 2018, Amity was awarded a re entry contract for Los Angeles County called STOP (California Specialized Treatment for Optimized Programming) which we refer to as Amity on Broadway. Parolees are returned to their county of commitment to begin reintegration. The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation provides funding to parolees in their first year of release as they transition back into the community.

We are aware that these first months post release are critical in predicting future success. Amity on Broadway provides support for approximately 1500 men and women every year.

We place students with dozens of providers throughout Los Angeles county. Amistad is, in fact, a provider for this project. As part of our in-house research, we administer a student satisfaction survey about their experience with their providers in order to maintain a standards.

# 697 students

We asked 697 students enrolled in our Amity on Broadway and Vista projects about their histories.

# 11,263 yrs

Collectively, they spent a total of 11,263 years incarcerated @ upwards of 81K per year.

# 1062 kids

They had 1062 children between them.

80%

Were men and women of color.

### Dragonfly Village Affordable Housing

We are so pleased to offer permanent supportive housing for individuals and including veterans and their families. Additionally students are provided assistance with education, transportation, resumé writing as well as help with financial literacy.

This following story is from one of our faculty: "Catherine Parks" had served multiple prison terms for drug related offenses in both California and Arizona, beginning when she was 27. When our faculty member met her she was 58.

She had experienced much hatred whether motivated by the fact the she was African American, or an addict or poor or a criminal. She was also the mother of 5 children and 16 grandchildren.

After jumping through bureaucratic hoops and through the diligence of Robert Cannon, Catherine became eligible for housing at Dragonfly. She began working and eventually received an associator's degree in Substance Abuse/Chemical Dependency.

She applied for a first time buyers home and after being rejected the first time due to her criminal history, she was approved and bought a three bedroom home. She moved some of her family in and has been a true force and role model ever since.



### **AMITY AT DRAGONFLY**

Located next to Circle Tree Ranch in Tucson, Amity at Dragonfly offers non-residential support services for homeless individuals and their families. Through a federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, (SAMHSA) students are offered an array of services that teach and foster independence and addiction free lives.

### Dragonfly's resources include:

- Strength-based case management & counseling
- Day & evening classes focused on substance abuse & trauma
- Special topic circles, activities & workshops
- 12 Step meetings
- Adult education such as GED assessment, testing, tutoring & classes
- Transportation services
- Housing and assistance with housing resources & transportation services
- Employment services such as job readiness & vocational training
- Referrals including medical care, parenting, healthcare, childcare, mental health, food & clothing

Upon arrival, students reported very high incidents of traumatic events such as witnessing violence or death, fear of violence, forced sex and being slapped or pushed. Not surprisingly, most of these people scored very high on a scale measuring PTSD.

After participating in these services for a meaningful period of time, students reported improvements in a number of areas such as safety, happiness, physical health and stress. Additionally, they reported reductions in use of alcohol and drugs, interactions with police, and emergency room visits.

# JUST IN REACH

On the streets of Los Angeles, thousands of homeless people are living with untreated mental health issues. On any given day, nearly 50,000 people are living on the street. Encounters with police are constant leading to a revolving door of arrest and release back to skid row to arrest again. Opportunities for the help needed are sadly limited. For some jail is preferable.

Amity has written legislation for the state of California and is receiving housing subsidies through our Just In Reach project.

The Office of Diversion and Reentry, under the Department of Health Services, offers a chance for a combination of permanent housing and appropriate health services tailored to individual needs. The goal is diverting high risk individuals with psychiatric conditions, substance abuse issues and chronic medical problems into the appropriate services.

Students have a caseworker available for the duration of their lives. By providing housing and health services – court costs, policing costs, and emergency room

costs are greatly reduced and public safety is increased, enabling an opportunity to right some wrongs.

JUST IN REACH is a provider for Jail In Reach that serves up to 350 Los Angeles probationers. It is a pay for success initiative that funds based on successful outcomes. In addition to housing and mental health services, it connects people to healthcare, education, job readiness, and employment services.

This year Just In Reach has served over 2300 people with nearly 500 in permanent housing.

A typical story of success is about "Stephen" who was diagnosed with mental and physical illness. He lost his home and turned to crime to feed a drug habit. He was bouncing between homelessness and incarceration for over ten years until he was diverted to Just In Reach in 2016. He has since remained healthy and permanently housed with the Baldwin Village community.

In LA, taxpayers shell out \$600 per person for a day in jail. 70% of people in jail nationwide have not even been convicted of a crime

For \$70 a day, a formerly homeless person can receive housing, proper medication and other necessary services So it's no surprise that once given assistance 90% of people remain off the streets & out of jail

### IN-PRISON SERVICES

Amity has always had an interest in criminal justice reform. Back in the 80's, we designed a pilot project in Tucson with women released from Pima County jail to our campus where they completed our curriculum. Recidivism dropped to just 32% three years post completion.

In 1990, Amity initiated the first Teaching and Therapeutic Community in California at the R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility near San Diego. The outcomes showed that recidivism dropped from 75% to 27%.

The results of the study inspired the Governor and Legislature to expand services to over 12,000 incarcerated men and women.

Today we are in 5 prisons in California and are fortunate to be involved in all aspects of our students' reintegration post release. From June 2018-June 2019, 1665 students successfully completed our curriculum in those prisons and moved on. Our goal in the next year is to have a presence in more prisons and promote citizenship and community.



For \$45K per year people can reintegrate and lead productive lives

Re-entry Services + Housing + Jobs

**Productive Lives** 

Incarceration costs taxpayers upwards of \$81K per person a year



Workforce training & job placement reinforces citizenship & offers a gateway out of corrections



Housing stabilizes lives... & enables many go on to work & school

Re-entry services include substance abuse recovery education, health & mental health care

# VISTA RANCH

Amity's Vista Ranch is our oldest residential community in California, which opened in 1990. Located in Vista, California, a suburb outside of San Diego, Vista accommodates up to 60 men who can live and receive services for up to a year. Much like Amistad is a provider in Los Angeles county, Vista is a preferred provider in San Diego county for parolees coming out of prison needing re entry and substance abuse education services.

The Vista community offers students a structured environment and continued education to support personal growth and change. There are many opportunities for community, ceremony, celebration and hosting family and friends.

More recently, Vista can now accept drug medi-cal which affords us the opportunity to reach more people in need.

These

are our numbers

for our Vista, Beacon,

Amistad, Circle Tree Ranch

campuses and prison projects

for the year 2018-2019

4 306 Discharged

### TOWARDS CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

Amity Foundation is unique for its evidence-based "Extensions" curriculum that was developed and written over a 50 year period by Naya Arbiter. We are grateful for this innovative teaching plan that uses the work of Alice Miller, Carol Gilligan, Virginia Satir, Lawrence Kohlberg and others.

#### Women's Services

Our focus on the needs of women students has been a staple since the early 1980's. We have been able to tailor and evolve our curriculum to meet all women needs, many of whom have experienced severe abuse. Of late, we are interested in using The Danger Assessment questionnaire, a tool that determines the level of danger a woman is in with her intimate partner.

With the increase of violence in and out of prison, we are looking forward to the opening of La Entrada de Los Angeles, a dedicated women's campus.

### **Family Services**

A key element in a student's health is family reconciliation. Our family services helps rebuild the often-eroded roads with family members. We are committed to quarterly two-day intensive workshops as well as bi-weekly family circles.

### **Training**

Continuous training and teaching of faculty is a cornerstone of who Amity is. Throughout the year, teams move around campuses teaching the methodology of the Teaching and Therapeutic Community designed by experienced leaders with many decades of service. Our interviews, trainings and orientations for faculty are inventive and inclusive.

#### Research

We've written two new instruments for in house research. One is a student satisfaction survey for all Amity campuses and our students at other providers for the purposes of fidelity to our model of community as method.

The second is an in-depth analysis of the health of our residential campuses themselves. It allows a detailed lens into the physical environment which is interconnected with and promotes a healthy emotional climate. Our goal is to create and maintain standards of excellence for our Teaching Communities.

Outside of Amity, research includes the Rand Corporation that is studying chronic homelessness and emergency room visits with Just in Reach students; Stanford University is looking statewide at Men's Community Re-entry Projects (MCRP), which includes the men at both Amistad and Vista campuses; and UC Irvine is conducting further research in our prison projects, ensuring our models are effective in building depth and quality into social services.

### LATEST NEWS ON OUR INITIATIVES

#### **Employment Services**

Our vocational and jobs services have grown immensely. There is not a person for whom we can't get a job and training. We ensure that these are jobs in growth sectors that support people with lived experience.

### **Housing Initiatives**

Amity continues to be a part of the growing housing crisis solution breaking ground as part developers for permanent housing in Los Angeles on 67th 68th and 5th streets which will house 500 people.

#### Outreach

Jails, homeless shelters and parole offices are just a few places where we offer our outreach services. Jail in Reach feeds directly into our Just in Reach services and onto the road home.

### Re entry

Education and employment is an essential part of the reintegration process. Amity has been lucky enough to partners with places like Chyssalis, Good Will, the LGBTQ Center, Americorps and the cities and counties of Los Angeles, San Diego and Tucson.

#### **Residential & Homelessness**

Amity's plan to open two more campuses is underway. Riverside and La Entrada will be dedicated to 150 men and 60 women, respectively, completing their last years of incarceration with us rather than in prison where they can bolster their reintegration journey. Additionally, we have funding for a major renovation at the Amistad campus.

### Homelessness, The Chronically Mentally III and Women

In addition to building La Entrada campus, Dragonfly Village has added an intensive outpatient project for our homeless population in Tucson.

#### **De-Incarceration and Policy Work**

Amity has partnered with numerous organizations to help overturn policies that counter our shared commitment to fix system wide problems including Prop 57, Three Strikes laws, Youth Lifer laws like Props 270 and 271. We have helped over 1000 people who received life sentences overthrow cases that are unjust.

### CLIMATE CRISIS

Environmental justice is the intersection between climate change and social justice. Every day we work with people whose histories of early childhood trauma, poverty, violence, racism, and neglect have led to challenging choices and circumstances.

Our climate crisis has exacerbated the inequities and vulnerabilities of the people we support, protect and teach.

Weather events that were once every 20 years are now occurring annually. Rain bombs. Fire tornadoes. Ocean dead zones. Mercury pollution. These compounding extremes affect our students, faculty, campuses and communities. Through closely studying these issues, Amity has crafted a proactive climate crisis policy.

For many years we've collaborated and learned from the Pachamama Alliance which educates people around the world and advocates for the rights of nature.

Most recently, we are sending teams to the Climate Reality Project's intensive training with former Vice President Al Gore and globally respected scientists and communicators to learn about the climate crisis and how to solve this together.

Our ability to implement intelligent, forward thinking strategies is crucial as people embark on healthy lives. Through our collaborations, workshops, outreach and leadership, Amity contributes to solutions for success. Minimizing our impact on the planet through sustainable choices is in line with the responsible social behavior we teach.

This year our team designed a three faceted approach to ensure that our students, campuses and communities are protected. This measure was presented to the European Federation of Therapeutic Communities conference in Greece in 2019 and was adopted unanimously.



# PROFILING PEOPLE & PARTNERSHIPS

Cultivated over the years, Amity has developed valuable relationships with people and organizations. Here are a noteworthy few:

Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation Three Affiliated Tribes (MHA) Also knows as the Three Affiliated Tribes, MHA is located along the Missouri river on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in central North Dakota. Their mission is to provide the Tribe and people, maximum quality service by being responsible, accountable, respectful, and caring while incorporating the traditional values of "our elders and

ancestors". Amity's history of respecting and assisting different cultural ceremonies and practices has made Circle Tree Ranch a preferred provider.

Los Angeles Area Reentry Partnership (LAARP) supports the development and implementation of a competent, relevant reentry system. LAARP has successfully changed policy to significantly move the needle on the complexity of issues in reentry services. Amity is a member of LAARP and we host their events and clinics helping people expunge their records.

Author and creator of the *Better World Shopper* book, app and website, **Dr. Ellis Jones** has researched over 2000

companies to educate consumers interested in using their dollars to vote. He looks at their handling of human rights issues, the environment, animal protection, community involvement and social justice. Dr. Jones gave a priceless three day workshop and training in Los Angeles with our students, faculty and providers. He also has donated over 2000 of his books.

**Toys For Tots San Diego** is an annual activity for our Vista campus. During the month of December, we get toys not only for all our campuses but for many other organizations, cities and counties. Our campus becomes a warehouse where all students

who participate learn shipping and receiving plus attend many different events hosted by the Toys for Tots and marines who are involved.

One of Amity's longtime mentors and friends, Dr. Ysaye Barnwell, came and delivered her training, "Building a Vocal Community: Singing in the African American Tradition" to our California students and faculty. Formerly a member of the acapella ensemble, Sweet Honey in the Rock (1979 - 2013), Dr. Barnwell has performed and taught around the globe from South Africa to the White House. She dedicated this part of her career to teaching about

the Civil Rights movement through song and story. She is an extraordinary musician, songwriter, producer, educator, actor and activist.

The investment philanthropists Alex Chavez, John Wong, and Rob Lyddon founded one of our most valued partners, **Upward Housing**, whose mission is to create turnkey housing facilities for the at-risk homeless community. They acquire, reposition and develop buildings for their operating partners whose main challenge is a lack of capital to acquire properties. Such partners may have the ability to receive government and private program funding but cannot afford to buy buildings. Through their enormous support we acquired

both the Beacon and La Entrada campuses.

Another fruitful Amity partnership is with the **Anti-Recidivism Coalition (ARC)**. Founded by film producer, Scott Budnick, ARC offers formerly incarcerated people support and advocacy to flourish. We have collaborated on state policy work. Alongside ARC, we helped create and design the Ventura Firefighter Training Center, a program that trains incarcerated men

as firefighters to help battle California's frequent blazes. Around 2600 men are ready at any moment to respond to fires. This also provides viable job security post release.

The renowned Japanese filmmaker, journalist and activist **Kaori Sakagami** has collaborated with Amity Foundation for 25 years. This collaboration resulted in three documentary films that continue to be used in universities in Japan. Her film *Lifers: Reaching for Life Beyond the Walls* documented the Amity in-prison Therapeutic Community and inspired the first restorative justice prison in Japan. *Prison Circle*, her latest film documents the Japanese in-prison effort.

Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) has been caring for, supporting and educating people with HIV and AIDS since 1994. Our culinary arts department has joined their circle providing food for their monthly and widely anticipated luncheons for 150-200 people at their POZ Café, allowing people a chance to socialize, a time to have fun and eat healthy without stigma. Our students and faculty volunteer regularly.

Dr John Griffith has been involved with the expansion and enhancement of **Kedren Health**, a multi-faceted primary care and mental health provider. Kedren comes to the Rainmaker building across from Amistad three times a week to meet with students for one on one appointments. This has been invaluable to us. In fact, compared to all of the LA providers with Amity on Broadway, Amistad's students report better health both mentally and physically with far fewer emergency room visits.

Coalition For Responsible Community Development (CRCD) provides access to full time employers as well as advocates for permanent housing and support services for our most vulnerable groups. With Amity staff co-located at work centers, CRCD is a welcomed and valuable partner helping our students get jobs and vocational training.

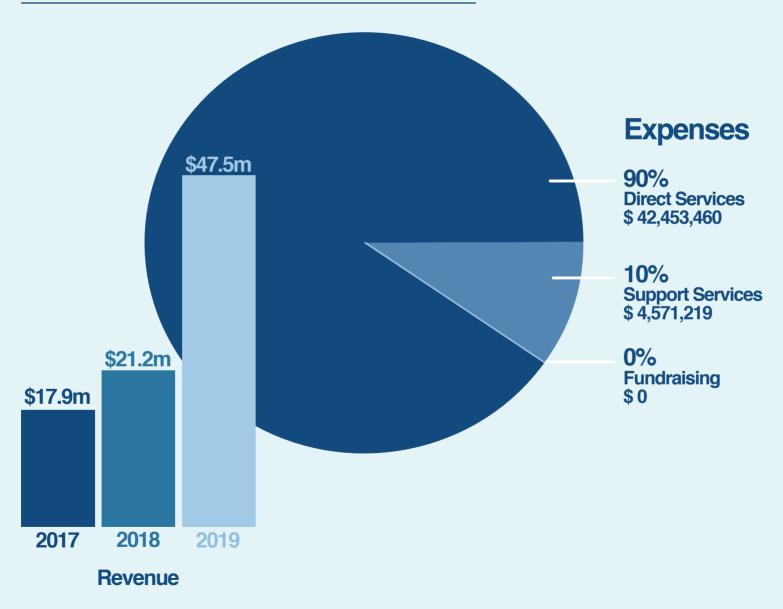
Dr Lynne Magor-Blatch, Executive Officer of the Australasian Therapeutic Community Association provided a training for Amity faculty from California and Arizona. She has successfully and courageously implemented the TC model with indigenous populations, and changed the objective of the Australian government elevating the TC model as the highest possible standard for working with addiction and criminality.

**Dr. Kathleen Yates**, therapist, psychodramatist and teacher, worked with Zero T. Moreno, the father of the science of psychodrama, one of the most effective interventions for dealing with extreme trauma. **Dr. Rowdy Yates** is the Senior Research Fellow of the Scottish Addiction Studies at the University of Stirling, Scotland. He has published widely and serves as the Executive Officer of the European Federation of Therapeutic Communities. Dr. Kathleen Yates and Dr. Rowdy Yates have been to our California and Arizona campuses and provided training on dyslexia, psychodrama and trauma.

**El Salvador** is experiencing an immense crisis of gang violence and heightened fear of retribution for fleeing the country only to be returned by our government and others. Shunned by their families for gang involvement, people have nowhere to turn. Our new partnership in El Salvador, through the State Department with the help of Mark Faucette works with at risk men and women whose circumstances are dire. The disparities in resources require creativity and courage. As this partnership continues, we are sending teams of Amity faculty to help with the process of doing much with very little and begin mending shattered lives.

**5KEYS** is another valued partner whose mission it is to advance social and restorative justice by offering meaningful opportunities and programs for individuals, families and communities which include education, employment, parenting classes, and trauma relief. They have been on-site with Amity for over 5 years. Among other endeavors, they assist our students with literacy needs and attaining their GED's.

# FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2019



### WITH GRATITUDE

Tucson

Apache Tribe Nation

Assistance League of Tucson Child Youth & Families Division CODAC Behavioral Health Compass Affordable Housing, Inc. Cope Community Services Desert Skies United Methodist Church Deseret Industries Dr Will Tuttle Dr. Ysave Barnwell Gila River Indian Tribe Gospel Rescue Mission John D. & Katherine T. MacArthur

Foundation Kaori Sakagami La Frontera

Lynne Magor-Blatch

Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation Tribes Navaio Nation

Nicolosi & Fitch Pascua Yaqui Tribe

Physicians for Social Responsibility Pima County Community College

Pima County DTAP Pima County Jail

Pima County One Stop Pima County Probation & Parole

Primavera Foundation Reverend John Morales Rowdy and Kathleen Yates

Salvation Army

Tanque Verde School District Tohono O'Odham Tribe

Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network UofA SW Institute for Research on Women

San Diego

Aerotek & Lucia Cuadros Cal State San Marco Capalina

Choices in Recovery Detox County of San Diego

Deborah Anderson

Exodus Feeding San Diego

Go Staff & Jessica and Daniel

Healthright 360 Hill Crest Pharmacy Homeless Court Inner Faith

Jared Galeai & Department of

Rehabilitation

Life House Community Treatment Center

Nataly Delacruz & Fresh Creative Foods

New Vista Banking and Steve North County Transit

Optum

Pacific Western Bank Palomar College

Patricia McManigal & Select Staffing

Postal Annex San Diego Probation & Parole

San Diego Round Table Shamrock

Toys for Tots Urban League Vista Community Clinic Western Pacific Bank

Los Angeles

1736 Family Crisis Center A Better Wav LA A New Way of Life ACLU Southern California Acton Rehabilitation Center Advancement Project AFSCME Local 685

All People Community Center Amity Foundation

Ancencia Glendale Anti-Recidivism Coalition

B.R.I.D.G.E.S. **Balance Point** 

Behavorial Health Systems

Beyond Shelter CA FWD

California Drug Counseling California State Assembly Californians for Safety & Justice California Treasury Department

Casa de Familia

CA Dept of Corrections & Rehabilitation

Center 4 Living

Center for Health Justice

Change Lives Chrysalis Circle of Help City of Long Beach City of Los Angeles Clare Foundation

Coalition for Responsible Community

Development

Community Centers Inc.

Community Coalition Community Partners

Community Sycs Dept Family Resource

Ctr

County of Los Angeles Cornerstone Project Dare U 2 Care

Department of Veteran's Affairs Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services

Dr. Fllis Jones Dr. John Griffin Drug Policy Alliance

East Dominguez Community Center

Fast West Bank Epidemic Global

Five Kevs Charter School

Flintridge Center

Foothills Workforce Investment Center

Friends Outside Los Angeles Gesner Johnson Foundation GetBetterFuture.com

Good Shepard Center Goodwill Industries Inland County Goodwill of Southern California

Grandview Foundation Harriet Buhai Center for Family Law

Health Right 360 Hillsman

Homeboys Industries

Homeless Solutions Access Center

Hope for Life Foundation House of Hope

Inner City Law Center Kedren Community Health Center

LA Care

LA County Homeless Strategy D6 Lamp Community Village

Los Angeles Archdiocese Los Angeles City Attorney

LA County DHS

LA County Department of Mental Health Los Angeles County of Public Health LA County Department of Rehabilitation Los Angeles County District Attorney Los Angeles County Office of Education

Los Angeles County Probation

Department

Los Angeles County Public Defender LA County Office of Diversion & Reentry

Los Angeles Family Housing

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

Los Angeles Mission Los Angeles Trade Tech Lovola Law School Managed Career Solutions

Midnight Mission New Beginning New Directions

PATH

Paving the Way Foundation

Phoenix House Pomona College Prototypes Pomona Public Counsel Law Center

Public Defender Mobile Monthly Record

Change Clinic

PV Jobs

Resource for Human Development Roosevelt Community Adult School &

Maxine

Waters Employment Preparation

Center

Salvation Army Bell Shelter Salvation Army Glendale

Salvation Army Los Angeles

San Diego County Scott Budnick SSD Help Center

St. Margaret's Center

St. Vincent de Paul Center - Prisoner

Reentry

Stanford Law Three Strikes Project Tarzana Treatment Center

Telecare Corporation The Eye of the Beholder

The Salvation Army The Salvation Army ARC in Pasadena

Tri-City Mental Health Uncommon Law

United American Indian Involvement United Homeless Healthcare Partnership United Way of Greater Los Angeles

Unity Bridges

University of California, Los Angeles University of Southern California

Upward Housing US Courts

Vera Institute of Justice

Vermont Slauson Economic Development

Violence Prevention Coalition

**VIP Mentors** 

Volunteers of America Weingart Center Association

West LA Community Development Corp

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We would like to thank our Board of Directors for their sincere commitment and work in supporting Amity's mission.

**Doug Bond** 

Jennifer Bond

Don DeVito

**David Huerta** 

**Greg Matthews** 

Rod Mullen President

Robin Rettmer Secretary

Beth Stokes Chairwoman

**Alfred Urbina** 

### The Amity Philosophy

Our philosophy is based on the belief that life is an apprenticeship to the truth. Around every circle of truth a larger circle can grow. The extent to which this circle expands depends upon the force of truth which the individual manifests. Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of our minds. We must press on, for nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

We do not treat friendships delicately, but with the roughest courage, for when they are real, they are the most solid, the most powerful things we know. There are two elements that go into the composition of friendship; one is truth; the other is tenderness. Daily, we weave a tapestry of friendship, each individual becoming a part of the larger whole. No person is an island unto themselves. Each of us must consciously participate in our own evolution, helping ourselves and reaching out to each other. We are our brothers and sisters keeper. We teach by doing and not otherwise. Always our actions speak more clearly and loudly than our words. One teaches who gives, one learns who receives.

As long as we willingly accept ourselves, we will continue to grow and develop our potentialities. We do not know what it is that we can do until we have tried, nor can we guess today the power of tomorrow when we are in the process of building ourselves. What frightens us from self-reliance is a mistaken reverence for our past acts confining us to be true to yesterday's realities. There is no end to nature because every end is a beginning. So let us use all called Fortune and deal with Cause and Effect. In the Will we must work and acquire. Nothing can bring us peace but ourselves. Nothing can bring us peace but the triumph of principle.

#### Almas de Amistad

It is with respect and sadness that we announce our project, Almas de Amistad, has closed its doors. Under the leadership of Mary Stanton and her team, Almas successfully provided a beautiful physical environment and restorative services for women and their children with herstories of homelessness, addiction, violence and incarceration. During its twenty year tenure, Almas received numerous awards and have helped hundreds of women and their families.



Designed & Written by Barry Warne & Claudia Plepler

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