



SPECIALTY FAMILY FOUNDATION

2018 IMPACT REPORT



MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends,

In our mission to alleviate poverty conditions, every so often we ask ourselves, “What words define us and this moment?” 2018 was such a year and we have organized our Impact Report around some of the words of our moment - collaboration, exploration, and innovation. We hope that you also resonate with these words and see how valuable your partnership is to us through a mutual caring for what they represent.

At Specialty Family Foundation, so much of what we do is born from the belief that the sum is greater than the individual parts. More can be done together than separately through **Collaboration**. Without exception, our biggest and proudest successes from 2018 and in previous years came in collaboration with our partners and stakeholders. Our gratitude to each of you comes with a heightened purpose for us, “For where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them.” (Matthew 18:20)

When we link up arms together with our partners we have the courage to go places and try things that have yet to be tackled or tried. We learn the most in **Exploration** of new areas and new behaviors. We believe and take to heart in the phrase, “There’s only one way to find out!” We are so grateful to so many of you that have joined us in exploring new places to bring our resources and investments.

Finally, more than ever, as we collaborate and explore new challenges together, we are asking ourselves and our grantees to think outside of the box for new ideas to solve our collective intractable challenges. We ask ourselves and our partners to **Innovate**. We believe in the power and necessity of the entrepreneurial spirit and so much of our philanthropic investing can be explained by our search for positively disruptive solutions.

Thank you for your friendship in this work.

Deborah Estes, Chair

Joseph Womac, President





BY THE NUMBERS

Specialty Family Foundation focuses on vulnerable, impoverished people, especially children, with a care for the people surrounding them within Los Angeles County.

9%

increase in enrollment from the start of SFF's investment in partner Catholic schools at a time when nationally and locally enrollment in schools is declining

167

families with children received services through grantees providing residential substance use treatment

9

Blended Learning schools delivering individualized learning plans to students

221,683

adults received services through homeless programs

838,000

meals served to individuals and families by grantees providing food security

1,171

unduplicated homeless youth received care and support services

356

low-income students received program scholarships to attend Catholic schools, totaling \$419,000 in awards





COLLABORATION

Faith-Based Family Advocacy Project



With grant support from SFF, *Partners for Children South L.A.* (PCSLA), in partnership with local Catholic Parishes, implemented the **Faith-Based Family & Early Childhood Advocacy Project**. Using PCSLA's Early Childhood System of Care, Parish families with children from birth to 5 years have access to quality services from PCSLA's eight partner agencies, as well as enhanced care coordination from the Project Manager/Family Advocate.

Through long-term case management/relationship development, the Family Advocate seeks to increase family participation in the Parish community and school, with a goal to increase the number of children accessing services; social services, health, early childhood and parent education, and Catholic education. *Since the launch of this project in September 2018, 15 families have been provided with support in accessing 33 services.*

Collaborative Investments in 2018

- National Catholic Education Funders affinity group to publish the Catholic School Choice national marketing research study with significant input and support by SFF.
- Local Convening of Catholic Education Funders' Leadership Innovation Team (LIT).
- Core Funder for the LA County Center for Strategic Partnerships
- Joint Agency Convening to address substance use among homeless populations on the Westside led by UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs.
- Catholic Schools Collaborative building impactful partnerships and programs on behalf of Catholic elementary schools serving low-income communities in Los Angeles.





EXPLORATION

Safe Place for Youth Housing Initiative

There are approximately 243 documented homeless youth on the Westside each night. The lack of available housing programs for transitional youth and young adults in West Los Angeles has been the greatest challenge in helping young people achieve stability. To combat this, **Safe Place for Youth** (SPY) has launched several interim housing programs.

With grant support from Specialty Family Foundation, SPY hired a Housing Program Manager to establish and oversee new housing resources for their youth, including rapid re-housing, crisis, bridge and transitional housing that were either inaccessible to young people or unresponsive to their needs. This being the Foundation's first ever Poverty and Community Intervention (PCI) programmatic grant, it is an opportunity for us to learn as we strategically look ahead toward new exploration opportunities across all program areas.

Impactful Investments in 2018

- *Homeboy Industries to provide executive leadership training to current employees who were former clients, consistent with their mission of promoting from within.*
- *Brittingham Social Enterprise Lab at the USC Marshall School of Business to conduct a Social Venture Competition for solutions on combating the issue of homelessness in Los Angeles.*
- *Archdiocese of Los Angeles Catholic Schools Marketing and Media Campaign; Infinite Value, Limitless Possibilities*





INNOVATION

Replicating, Studying 21st Century Personalized Learning Model

2018 was a landmark year for Specialty Family Foundation's investment in personalized learning models (AKA "Blended Learning"). Specialty Family Foundation was an inaugural funder to assist inner-city Catholic schools in converting to these 21st Century data-rich, growth-catalyzing approaches. From 2013-15, as a pioneer investor in the space, SFF helped build a cohort of three award-winning schools with the nationally celebrated blended learning network, **Seton Education Partners**. Following on these successes, SFF worked with Loyola Marymount University (LMU) to help found the **iDEAL Institute** in 2015 with a goal of creating local capacity for studying and scaling these proven approaches that aim to personalize nearly every aspect of the learning experience to each child's learning level and style. To date, SFF has worked with its partners to convert more than eight schools into Blended Learning schools, with more on the way. In 2018, with our partners at the *iDEAL Institute*, SFF was proud to assist in adding St. Raphael and Blessed Sacrament schools in joining the ranks of schools that have converted to these models, with Guardian Angel School's grant approved to begin in 2019. Perhaps most exciting: It's working! Check out the Phase 2 Third Party Evaluation Report released on this work in September 2018!



Innovative Investments in 2018

- *Director of STEM Curriculum at the Los Angeles Archdiocese Department of Catholic Schools*
- *Financial Bookkeeping Pilot in 4 low-income serving schools in the LA Archdiocese*
- *CodeRevKids delivers weekly computer coding lessons to 1st – 8th graders at eight low income serving Catholic schools*
- *St. Patrick Catholic Elementary School implemented a Dual Language Immersion curriculum*
- *San Gabriel Pastoral Region Catholic Schools Initiative focuses on increasing enrollment, access and quality in 7 low incoming serving schools*
- *St. Odilia 2nd graders are learning how to program robots through participation in the USC Viterbi School of Engineering BOTS program.*

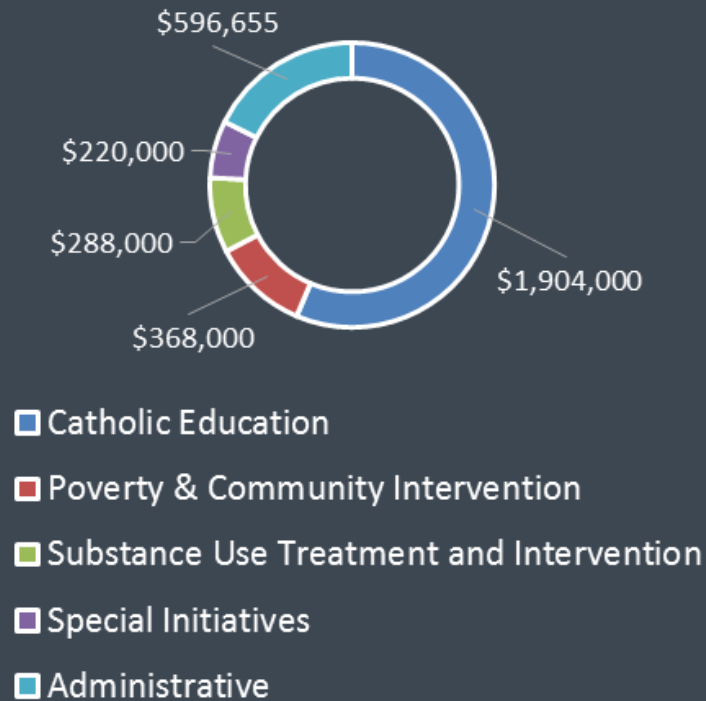




FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

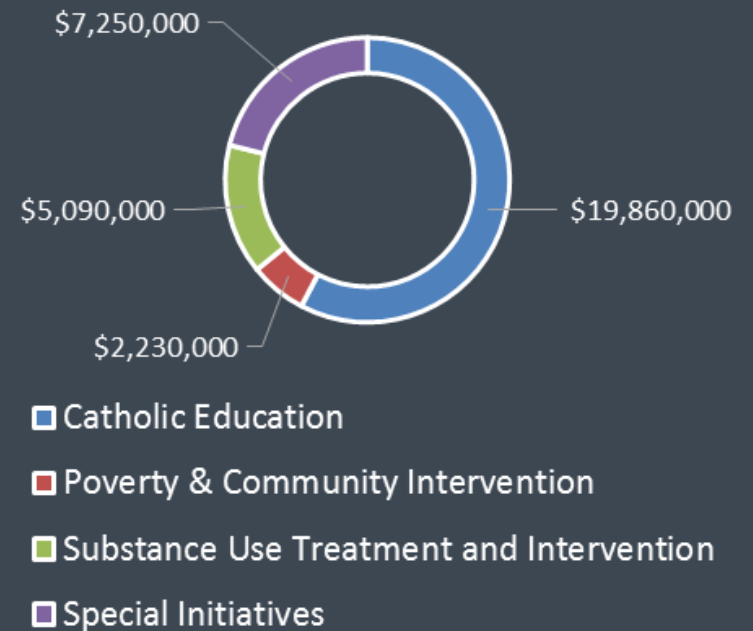
Foundation Expenditures 2018

\$3,412,655



Total Historical Giving by Program Area 2006 - 2018

\$ 34,420,000





2018 GRANTMAKING

A Place Called Home

American College of the Roman Catholic
Church of the United States

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Art Trek, Inc.

California Community Foundation

Cardinals Award Dinner

Catholic Education Foundation

Catholic Schools Collaborative

Club 21 Learning & Resource Center

Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking

Dolores Mission School

Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research
Foundation

Fulfillment Fund

Guardian Angel School

Harvest Home Inc.

Hire Heroes USA

Holy Name of Jesus School

Homeboy Industries

Immaculate Conception School

Junipero Serra High School

Los Angeles Philharmonic Association

Los Angeles Regional Foodbank

Los Angeles Waterkeeper

Loyola Marymount University

National Center for Family Philanthropy

Nativity School

Partnership for Children South L.A.

Resurrection Catholic School

Safe Place for Youth

Saints Peter and Paul School

San Gabriel Pastoral Region

Skirball Cultural Center

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Council of
Los Angeles

Southern California Grantmakers

St. Vincent Senior Citizen Nutrition
Program, Inc.

St. Francis Center

St. Genevieve High School

St. Joseph Center

St. Michael's School

St. Monica High School

St. Patrick Catholic School

Step Up On Second, Inc.

SurfAid International

The Association of Catholic Student
Councils

The Family Giving Tree

The Midnight Mission

The People Concern

The Riordan Programs

Transfiguration Catholic School

Tulane University

University of Southern California

Venice Family Clinic

Verbum Dei High School

Western Center on Law and Poverty

Westside Food Bank

