HOPE STREET MARGOLIS FAMILY CENTER

California Hospital Medical Center Foundation
A Dignity Health Member

2025 Impact Report

Educating Children
Strengthening Families
Transforming Communities



Message from leadership

As we reflect on a year of profound impact, we are filled with gratitude and hope. The resilient children and families at the heart of Hope Street Margolis Family Center continue to inspire us—and none of what we accomplish would be possible without your steadfast support.

This past year reaffirmed what we have always believed: when we invest in children and families, we lift up our whole community. The ripple effects are visible everywhere—in stable, healthy homes, in children ready to grow and learn, and in families equipped with the tools and confidence to shape their own futures.

Looking ahead, we see extraordinary opportunity. The need for whole-child, family-centered care is more urgent than ever, and we will meet that need with compassion, innovation and excellence. With your continued partnership, we will reach more families and help more kids develop into strong, kind, healthy adults who give back and create an even brighter future for us all.

Thank you for believing in the power of this work, and for investing in our community. Because of you, hope is not just our name, it is our promise.

With deep appreciation,



Vickie Kropenske RN, PHN, MSN

DIRECTOR
Hope Street Margolis Family Center



Brian Smolskis

PRESIDENT
California Hospital Medical Center

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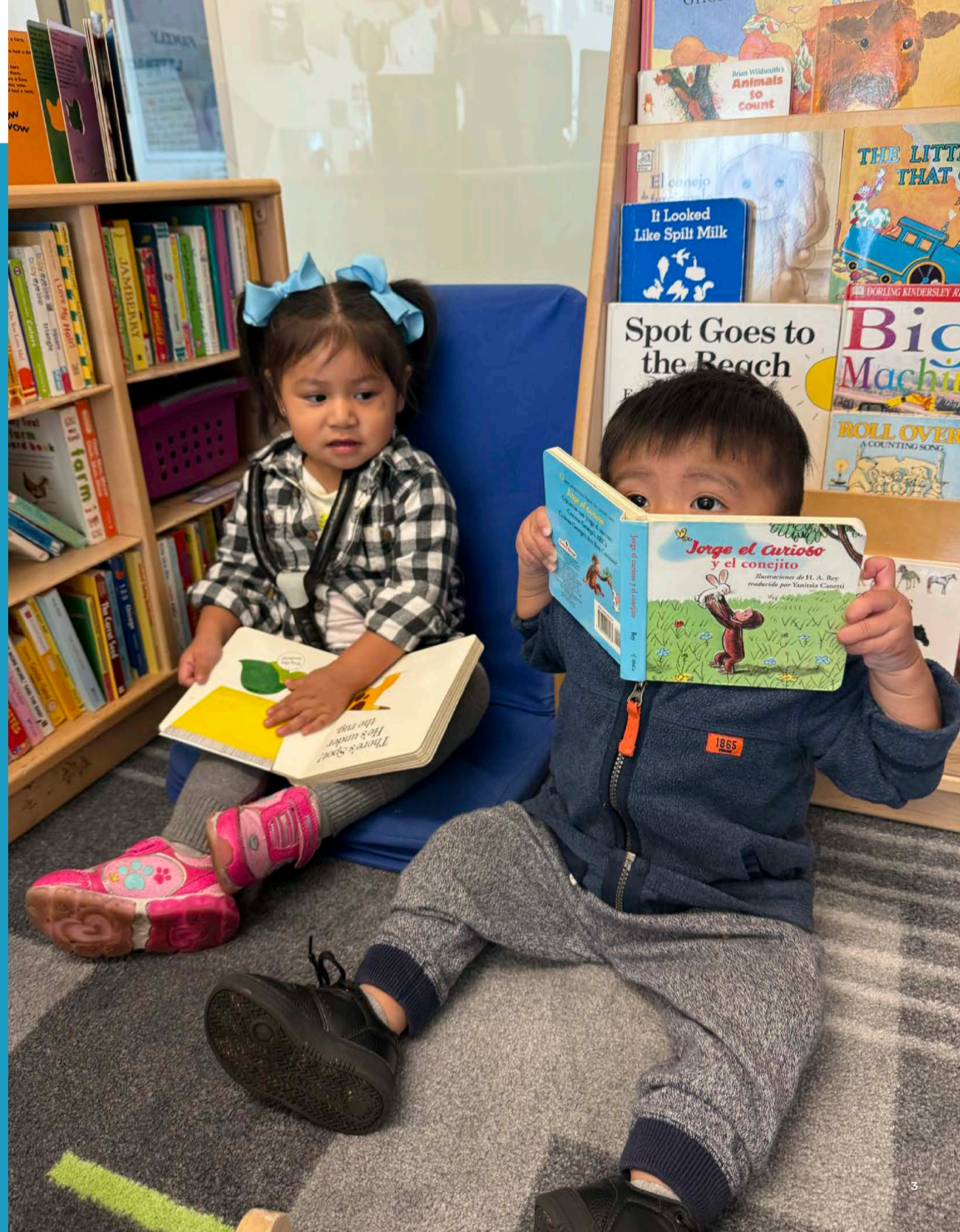
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The community we serve



48.1%
of individuals have public health coverage (Medicare and Medi-Cal)

41.3%
of households make less than $35,000 a year

42.7%
of families receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash assistance income or food stamps

34.7%
of families with children under 5 years old live below the federal poverty line

51.2%
of all children experiencing homelessness within Los Angeles County reside within our community

35.5%
of pregnant women live below the poverty line

Over
32%
of families with children are experiencing food insecurity

Source: 2023 Hope Street Margolis Family Center Community Needs Assessment



Our impact

Health and family support

9,647
in-person home visits, including care coordination, parenting support and child development services were provided to 469 young families.

24,043
hours of therapeutic mental health and child welfare services provided to 585 children and their families.

99%
of infants and toddlers received on-time immunizations and well-child care services.

93,155
nutritious meals served by the hospital to children.

Early care and education for children

517,500
hours of early care and education were provided to 230 infants, toddlers and preschoolers.

6,105
books were distributed to families along with corresponding learning materials.

Youth center

25,678
hours of academic support, science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) and recreation and wellness programming were provided to over 383 school-aged students.

Training a new generation

2,502
clinical hours completed by nursing students, family medicine residents and social work interns.

29
nursing students, social work interns, and residents completed their training at Hope Street as part of their public health and community well-being curriculum.

Myrra Lee College Support Fund

33
students have received nearly $100,000 total in support to stay in college (books, rental assistance, medical bills, food and other living expenses).

31
students are enrolled in college.

6
alumni now work at California Hospital Medical Center.



Supporting our community through 2025



Champions for Children breaks fundraising record

The 2025 Champions for Children Dinner achieved an unprecedented fundraising milestone, raising over $500,000 for Hope Street Margolis Family Center's After-School and Summer of Science programs, benefiting more than 350 children and families in Los Angeles.

A highlight of the evening was a video profile of alumnus Rodrigo Sanchez, who grew up at Hope Street and went on to serve as a hotshot wildland firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service—including battling the Eaton Fire for 14 days in January 2025.

Sanchez attributes Hope Street's After-School program, mentorship and educational resources as foundational to his career dedicated to protecting communities and saving lives.

Watch Rodrigo's inspiring story by scanning the QR code.



Summer of Science

Last summer, 120 children from downtown, south, and central Los Angeles explored the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) through Hope Street's Summer of Science program, made possible entirely through private philanthropy.

Over seven weeks, kids ages 8–18 engaged in hands-on learning that brought science to life. Students designed protective devices for water balloon drop experiments, built marshmallow towers to test engineering concepts, explored ecosystems, and participated in a supervised pig dissection led by volunteer physicians and staff from California Hospital Medical Center. Field trips to the Aquarium of the Pacific, the Los Angeles Zoo, and Tanaka Farms deepened their understanding of wildlife biology, sustainability and agriculture.

The program also fostered creativity through art, music and projects like tie-dye design, demonstrating how science and self-expression intersect. Along the way, students strengthened problem-solving, teamwork and critical-thinking skills while building confidence and meaningful friendships.

Because of generous donor support, young people gained access to enriching educational experiences that inspire curiosity today and help prepare them to become tomorrow's innovators, leaders and changemakers.

PARTNER PROFILE

Gather For Good

FEEDING FAMILIES, BUILDING HOPE

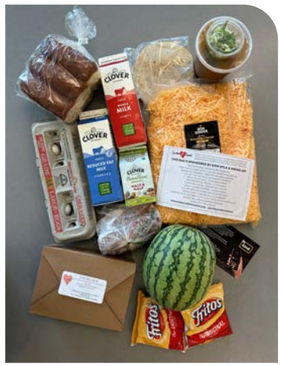
When Los Angeles faced a convergence of crises, including devastating wildfires, economic uncertainty and heightened immigration enforcement, Steph Chen and Sherry Mandell were ready to act.

As co-founders of Gather For Good, a collective uniting chefs, farmers, bakers, purveyors, and food and beverage professionals around a common purpose, they had spent years building the relationships and community trust needed to respond when their neighbors needed help most.

Founded in 2017, Gather For Good began as a grassroots effort to channel the food community's collective energy into meaningful action. What started as fundraising bake sales and community events evolved into something much larger: a nimble food relief network capable of mobilizing resources quickly during times of crisis.



Sherry Mandell and Steph Chen, center.





"We started bringing together chefs, farmers, distributors, and anyone in food and beverage who wanted to do something with their energy," said Chen. "Over time, we realized we could create a much bigger impact together than any of us could alone."

As families across Southern California struggled with displacement, job losses and food insecurity, Gather For Good leveraged its extensive network to source and distribute chef-prepared meals, fresh produce, dairy products, and pantry staples. At the height of their relief efforts, the organization supported between 400 and 900 families per week across Los Angeles County.

"The fires showed us that we could activate in a different way," Chen said. "We needed to use our talents to make meals, feed people at scale, and respond quickly when families needed support."

Their relationship with Hope Street Margolis Family Center grew through longtime friend and collaborator Michelle Lainez, owner of Chef Michelle & Company and a Hope Street Advisory Board member. What began as occasional donations of surplus food soon developed into a deeper partnership focused on supporting Hope Street families experiencing hardship.

That partnership became especially important during the summer of 2025, when many families were losing access to school-based meal programs. Gather For Good stepped in immediately, providing weekly food distributions throughout the summer. By fall 2025, the organization established a dedicated monthly program for Hope Street families, delivering between 100 and 160 bags of food during every distribution.

Each bag is thoughtfully curated to feed an entire family and often includes chef-prepared meals, fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, eggs, proteins and pantry staples.

"We pride ourselves in making highly curated bags," said Mandell. "The produce we give is what Michelin-star chefs buy themselves. When you're struggling, knowing that someone thought carefully about what you're eating, that's love. That's care."

That belief in dignity guides everything Gather For Good does.

"There are people out there who care about you. Look for the helpers. You will find them," Mandell added.

Through their partnership with Hope Street, those helpers continue to show up each month, offering families not only healthy meals, but also hope, dignity and the reassurance that they are not alone.

DONOR PROFILE

Michelle Lainez

A RECIPE FOR COMMUNITY



For Michelle Lainez, food is about more than what appears on a plate. It is about community, opportunity and helping people reach their full potential. That belief guides her work as owner of Chef Michelle & Company and her long-standing commitment to Hope Street Margolis Family Center.

A first-generation Salvadoran American raised in Southern California, Lainez originally planned to pursue immigration and humanitarian law before discovering her passion for the culinary arts. She attended culinary school, worked her way into leadership roles, and eventually became an executive chef in San Francisco before launching her own catering company. Along the way, she never lost sight of her commitment to social justice and community engagement.

Today, Chef Michelle & Company is approaching its 10th anniversary in 2027, employing a team of professionals while remaining deeply rooted in service. Lainez mentors aspiring culinary professionals, supports local high school culinary programs, and volunteers her time helping students develop job readiness skills, including resume writing and interview preparation. For her, success means creating opportunities for others.

That same philosophy led her to Hope Street more than a decade ago, when a caterer canceled just days before Hope Street's flagship center groundbreaking celebration. Ramona Quinn, a friend and fellow Hope Street Advisory Board member, called Lainez in a panic. Lainez quickly rallied her network, secured donated food and supplies, and helped provide meals for hundreds of attendees. The experience sparked a connection that has grown into years of volunteerism, philanthropy and board service.

"What I love about Hope Street is that it is a zero-waste concept for human beings," Lainez says. "We're giving young people the opportunity to dream bigger and the tools to help them get there."

The phrase reflects a value that has shaped Lainez's life and career. As a longtime supporter of Food Forward, an organization dedicated to reducing food waste and increasing access to fresh produce, she has spent years advocating against waste in all forms. To Lainez, wasted potential is just as troubling as wasted food.

She sees Hope Street as opening doors for children and families who may not otherwise have access to the same opportunities as their peers.

"When you give people support, opportunity, and exposure to new experiences, their minds open up," she says. "Sometimes all they need is someone to help open that door."

As a donor, advisor, volunteer and advocate, Lainez continues to open those doors every day. Her message to others is simple: invest in young people.

"Even a small gift can make a difference," she says. "Why wouldn't we want to support thoughtful, capable, caring members of our community?"

Through her generosity and leadership, Lainez reminds us that when we invest in people, there is no such thing as wasted potential.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Khyrsten Marquez

Hope Street's impact extends far beyond its walls, as evidenced by this remarkable alumna who once participated in our services and has now grown into an accomplished professional giving back to her community in meaningful ways.

Some stories come full circle in the most beautiful ways. For Khyrsten Marquez, Hope Street wasn't just a place she grew up—it's a place she keeps coming back to.

Marquez was nine years old when she first enrolled at Hope Street Margolis Family Center. Her mom had waited for the new flagship location to open before signing her up, and on the very first day, Marquez was there. Growing up in a single-parent household, Hope Street quickly became what she describes as "a second home."



Now 22, Marquez recently graduated from UC Riverside with a bachelor's degree in art—and she's not done yet. She's been accepted into a two-year radiology program at Los Angeles City College, a path sparked, in part, by a Hope Street field trip during her high school years. "They brought us to a building to teach us about ultrasound," she recalls, "That's what got me interested." True to her nature, Marquez is already thinking ahead: "Radiology is going to pay for all my art stuff."

In the meantime, she's back at Hope Street as a teacher's assistant, helping lead art programming.

Hope Street's impact on Marquez's journey has been profound and wide-ranging. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, as she navigated her senior year of high school, Hope Street staff stepped in where others couldn't. "The teachers at my school kind of left it up to us," she says. "But Hope Street helped me with my college essays, my FAFSA, letters of recommendation—everything. My mom had never gone to college, so having that support meant she could focus on providing for our family."

She also credits CHMC Foundation's Myrra Lee College Support Fund with helping her cross the finish line at UC Riverside, covering senior expenses including cap and gown, art supplies, and rent when her financial aid ran out.

Beyond academics, Hope Street helped Marquez discover her voice as an artist—an identity she carried all the way through college. Inspired by Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, and drawn to emotionally expressive works in painting and sculpture, she often told classmates and professors about Hope Street. "We were exposed to everything—poetry, art, outdoor experiences. People would ask, 'Where did you learn all this?' and I'd always say Hope Street."

One memory stands out: a ropes course field trip that pushed her far outside her comfort zone. "They told us, if you were able to do this and you were scared, you can do anything. That's always stuck with me."

As for the future, Marquez envisions herself as a radiologic technologist by day and an artist and gallery owner by her own design. And through it all, she hopes to stay connected to Hope Street—whether by working nearby, donating, or simply carrying its lessons forward.

A continuum of whole-child and whole-family programs

Hope Street Margolis Family Center extends CHMC's vision of keeping our community happy, healthy and whole. The center offers a continuum of programs that advance health equity across the lifespan. Programs are delivered by a multidisciplinary team of professionals.

Early Care and Education offer whole-child and whole-family care through home and center-based services that support young children's early growth, development and school readiness.

Family Childcare Network provides young children with high-quality early care and education within a home setting. With Hope Street's support, the network has become an incubator for small family-owned businesses.

Family Literacy serves parents and children concurrently. While parents attend English as a Second Language and job readiness classes, their young children receive comprehensive early care and education. This dual-generation model enables parents to more successfully pursue their education and career goals.

Child Welfare, Wraparound and Mental Health programs provide therapeutic clinical interventions for children and families impacted by community and family violence and other trauma. Services are provided through clinics, school sites and within the home.

Strengthening Community by serving as a resource and partner for grassroots organizations. Hope Street's facilities and outdoor recreation areas provide a gathering space for community events and meetings while our staff is available to provide support and guidance.

Youth Center provides comprehensive after-school support for students of all ages, offering academic assistance, health and wellness activities, sports, arts, and the annual Summer of Science program. High school students also receive college prep and career development guidance, preparing them for future success.



How funds are raised*



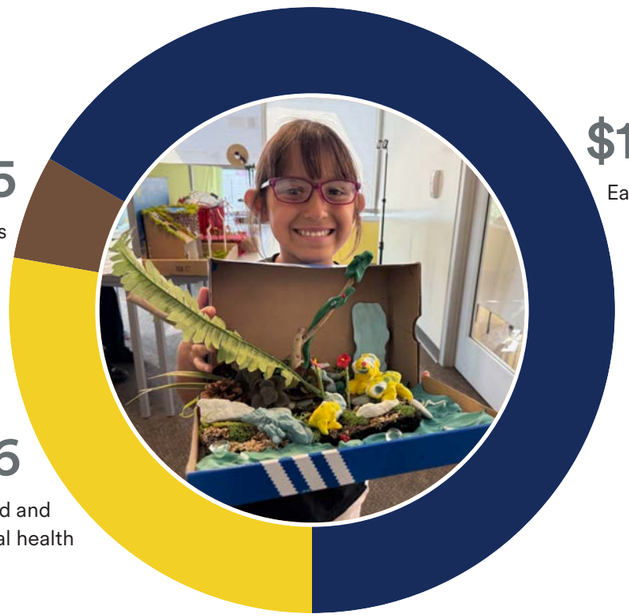
$16,171,356
Government grants and contracts

$647,351
Individual gifts

$274,504
Foundation and corporate grants

Where the funds go*

**Information source: Hope Street FY25 unaudited budget to actual.*



$921,855
Youth services

$11,378,750
Early care and education

$4,792,606
Child welfare, wraparound and mental health

Los Angeles County Board of Community Advisors (CommonSpirit Health)

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Family Child Care Network/ Partnership

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Mercy
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Angelica
Linda Iglesias *VICE PRESIDENT*
Margolis

Community Members

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Maria Velazquez
Dolores Hernandez
Adamaris Sanchez

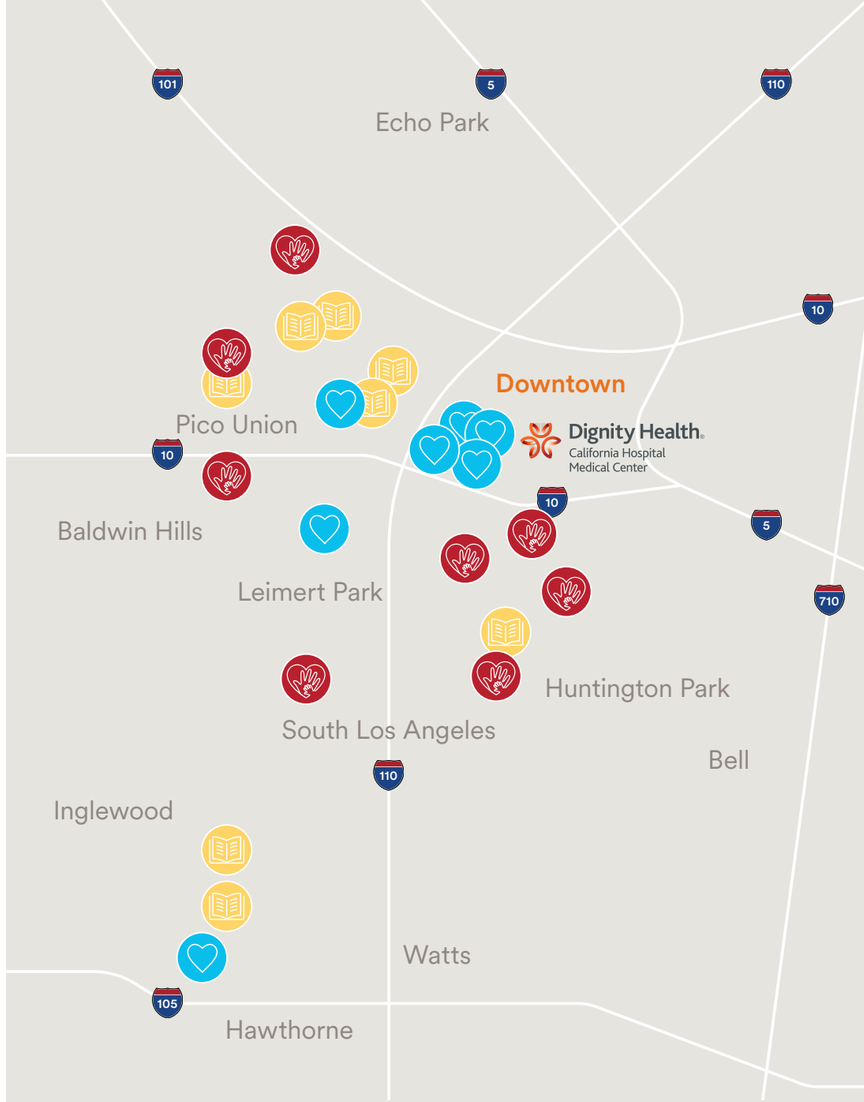
**Fiscal year 2025 board members.*

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Where we provide services in Los Angeles

Sites including the Margolis Family Center, Early Care and Education Centers and Child Welfare and Behavioral Health services

School-based sites

Family Childcare Network homes

5,000 Children and family members served

30 Community partners

145 Staff

7 Locations

8 Family childcare homes

About us

Mission

Educating children, strengthening families and transforming communities

History

Dignity Health – California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) believes community health extends beyond medical care, investing in services that empower families. In 1992, CHMC partnered with UCLA to establish Hope Street Margolis Family Center. Today, Hope Street provides educational, early childhood, social and healthcare access for low-income working families in downtown, central and south Los Angeles—advancing health equity through innovative care. As a nonprofit hospital within CommonSpirit Health's network of 2,200 care sites across 24 states, CHMC remains dedicated to local community well-being.

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HopeStreetFamilyCenter.org

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Thank you!

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