

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2025

DEAR FRIENDS,

In the United States today, there remains two enduring legacies. The first is that this country is a land of opportunity – a place where all children are given equal opportunity to reach their full potential, and every person may live out their dreams. Second is our profound failure to recognize and reconcile the barriers that prevent those opportunities from being available to all.

In the very worst circumstances, the children to whom we have made these promises of hope and opportunity are held back, held down and not afforded the opportunity to succeed.

At Haynes Family of Programs (HFP) and David & Margaret Youth and Family Services (D&M) we continue to face the systemic challenges that perpetuate these inequities head on. It is our unconditional care and our approach that drives us to ensure every child and family we serve is given the best shot at success.

As we continue to expand and provide diverse and unique learning experience for those we serve, we remain steadfastly committed to our vision and values, and we will never stop innovating. Creativity and innovation are unique features of HFP/D&M allowing us to be flexible and responsive to our changing environment and better meet the needs of those we serve.

We are an organization full of gifted and compassionate people and my greatest wish is that in the future, our staff will be able to say they helped to break the cycles of isolation, disconnection, abuse, and neglect that plague so many.

Please take a moment to read our newsletter and enjoy the variety and scope of unique programing that contributes to our client success.

Thank you,

Daniel S. Maydeck President & CEO







JOAN MACY SCHOOL

Our vocational arts programming, offering students hands-on learning opportunities in areas like gardening, construction, automotive, and barbering, has seen incredible growth this past year.

These programs not only engage students in activities they enjoy but also equip them with real-world skills that can lead to meaningful careers.

As students explore their talents and interests, they build confidence, discipline, and a sense of purpose, demonstrating the power of practical education in transforming lives.

AUTOMOTIVE SKILLS













Hands-on experience in the garden teaches responsibility, fosters discipline, and nurtures social-emotional growth.



Construction projects empower students with confidence, teamwork, and real-world experience that will serve them beyond the classroom.



Our Barbering program allows students to explore their interests, encourages professionalism, and opens doors to future career opportunities in a thriving industry.

CONGRATULATIONS, 2025 GRADUATES!

These students have overcome significant challenges, and their success is a direct result of the specialized programs, dedicated staff, and compassionate environment that you help make possible.











RENAISSANCE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

MUSIC, MENTORSHIP, & MOTIVATION

At Renaissance Residential Program, young men ages 12–18 live on campus and receive comprehensive care and support as they work to overcome emotional and behavioral challenges. While academics at Renaissance Community Prep and individualized counseling form the foundation of their progress, it's the engaging, creative programs like music that truly bring their growth to life.

Our music program has become a powerful outlet for self-expression, confidence-building, and skill development. In a fully equipped music room, students are learning how to play instruments, produce their own beats, and write lyrics that tell their stories. From composing original melodies to experimenting with DJ decks, the program offers each participant a chance to discover new talents and dream bigger.

For many of these young men, music is more than just a hobby, it's a lifeline. Several students have even begun DJ training, with aspirations to pursue careers in music production or live entertainment. By providing positive outlets and teaching valuable, real-world skills, this program is helping our youth stay motivated, connected, and inspired on their path to healing and success.





TRANSITIONAL SERVICES

CELEBRATING RESILIENCE AND PROGRESS AT THE COMPASS CLIENT APPRECIATION PARTY

COMPASS programs stand as a beacon of support for young adults ages 18-24 who are transitioning out of foster care. These remarkable individuals face an uphill climb as they navigate the complex path to independence, often without the traditional family safety nets many rely on. That's why our recent Client Appreciation Day was more than just a celebration, it was a recognition of resilience, effort, and hope for the future.

Held at the COMPASS Drop-In Center, this event brought staff and youth together for a day of fun and encouragement. Everyone enjoyed delicious local Mexican food, homemade slushies, painting, games, and prizes, all in the spirit of community and connection. Many also took advantage of our newly renovated outdoor space, where they could relax and socialize with peers, reinforcing the sense of belonging that is so vital during this stage of life.

COMPASS provides a comprehensive support system for these young adults, including transitional and permanent housing, case management, and access to our Education & Employment Specialist who helps them find jobs, internships, or enroll in school. Clients must be working or in school to remain in the program, which can be a challenge when overcoming barriers like transportation issues, paying bills, and learning the life skills needed to live independently.

Client Appreciation Day reminded us all of the power of showing up for young people in meaningful ways. For many in COMPASS, simply having a community that sees and celebrates them is transformative. Through the continued support of our community, we're able to provide the resources, stability, and encouragement these young adults need not only to survive, but to thrive.



















CELEBRATING 100 PLACEMENTS!

Since joining Serenity Foster Care in December 2003, Tami and Eric have exemplified what it means to open not just a home, but a heart, to children in need. Over the past two decades, Tami and Eric have welcomed 100 foster children into their lives, each one unique and deserving of safety, stability, and compassion.

Their journey through foster care has been marked by both immense joy and profound responsibility. With every child they've embraced, they have shown what love in action looks like. Whether offering a safe place for just a few days or guiding a child through years of growth and healing, they've approached each placement with warmth, patience, and an unwavering belief in every child's potential.

Their impact goes far beyond the children they've welcomed into their home; Tami and Eric have also adopted three children, creating a forever family built on deep love and intentional commitment. But for them, foster care has never been about numbers, it's been about relationships.

One story that stands out involves a set of twins they fostered several years ago. Rather than simply acting as temporary caregivers, they saw themselves as partners in a larger process, one that included the children's biological parents. They went above and beyond to establish trust, foster communication, and support the entire family. Their efforts created a pathway for successful reunification, and long after the case closed, the biological parents continued to reach out with updates, proof of the enduring connection forged through compassion and collaboration.

Stories like this remind us that foster care is more than a system, it's a community. When foster parents commit not only to the children in their care but also to the broader circle of birth families, social workers, and support networks, healing becomes possible. Futures begin to change.



At Serenity and David & Margaret, we are proud to support families like Tami and Eric. Their story reflects the very heart of what we aim to do: empower families, uplift children, and make space for second chances. We hope to honor the legacy of love, restoration, and resilience that Tami and Eric continue to build, one child, one family, one life at a time.

SERENITY SOCCER-FEST

Soccer-Fest 2025 was a tremendous success, bringing together community members in support of infants, youth, and families impacted by foster care.

We extend our deepest thanks to the dedicated staff, volunteers, and players who helped bring this event to life.







BLISS ACADEMY

SCHOOL FOR AUTISM AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

BRAVO, BLISS!

Talent is always on display at Bliss Academy! Our annual Talent Show is a heartwarming celebration of creativity and self-expression, giving students a chance to shine in front of family and friends.

Events like this build confidence, highlight individual strengths, and foster a strong sense of community and inclusion for all students.











CONGRATS, GRADUATES & AWARD WINNERS!

The 2024–2025 school year was a remarkable success at Bliss Academy, thanks in large part to the dedication of our educators and the unwavering support of our community.

Congratulations to our graduates for overcoming personal challenges and achieving this major milestone, and to our award winners who earned recognition for their exceptional growth this past year!













PROM PARADISE

Bliss Academy's Hawaiianthemed prom was a vibrant celebration filled with music, dancing, leis, and plenty of sweet treats!

Students had a blast enjoying cake and juice, showing off their moves on the dance floor, and sharing joyful moments with friends and staff. We even saw a few dance battles take place!

For many of our students, events like prom provide important opportunities to build social skills, boost confidence, and create lasting memories in a supportive and inclusive environment.



MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

At Haynes, our Mental Health Services are designed to meet families where they are and help guide them to where they want to be with the support of comprehensive mental health services.

WRAPAROUND: BUILDING STABILITY AND HOPE FOR FAMILIES

Haynes' Wraparound program is a holistic, family-focused service that brings together caregivers, clinicians, and community resources to support youth facing serious emotional and behavioral challenges.

When a young client entered Wraparound in late 2022, she was struggling with aggressive behavior in both her foster home and school. Over time, with the support of our dedicated team, she began developing the tools she needed to thrive like learning how to communicate effectively, regulate her emotions, and express her needs in healthy ways.

The Wraparound team not only supported her emotional growth but also rallied around her extended family to build a strong, stable foundation for her future. When reunification with her parents was no longer possible, the team collaborated with her social worker and relatives to support her transition into the permanent care of her paternal grandmother.

Through counseling, advocacy, and essential material support, both the client and her grandmother flourished. In April 2025, she graduated from the program and now lives in a safe, loving home with a caregiver committed to her long-term well-being.



FULL-SERVICE PARTNERSHIP: SUPPORTING GROWTH THROUGH CONNECTION AND CONFIDENCE

At Haynes, our Full-Service Partnership (FSP) program plays a vital role in supporting youth who are navigating serious emotional and behavioral challenges. The FSP program offers individualized, intensive care that empowers both clients and their families.

One young client's recent progress demonstrates the power of this transformative support. Previously struggling with bullying and behavioral concerns at school, the client often found it difficult to maintain appropriate boundaries, resulting in disciplinary action. But with consistent guidance from our FSP team, things have taken a positive turn.



In just the past month, the client has gone without any school incidents, a major milestone. Even more inspiring, they chose to join the school's softball team, where they're building self-confidence, learning teamwork, and making meaningful social connections. The client has even begun looking forward to upcoming social outings with peers, including trips to Knott's Berry Farm and Disneyland.

Thanks to the dedicated support of our FSP staff, this young person is not only stabilizing but beginning to thrive. With continued care and encouragement, the future looks bright.





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NON-PUBLIC AGENCY SERVICES





This year, STAR Academy, our Non-Public Agency (NPA) through Haynes Family of Programs, had the opportunity to participate in the 2025 COPAA (Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates) Conference. This powerful annual event brings together educators, advocates, and service STAR ACADEMY providers to share tools, insights, and best practices to better support students with specialized needs.

COPAA CONFERENCE

STAR ACADEMY SHINES AT 2025



STAR Academy partners with school districts to support students whose needs aren't fully met in traditional classrooms. From one-on-one academic support and transition services to speech therapy, behavioral intervention, and more, our team provides personalized services tailored to each student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Attending COPAA helps our team stay connected to the broader educational community and ensure we're always growing, learning, and improving the services we provide. With flexible scheduling, credentialed staff, and a student-first approach, STAR Academy continues to be a trusted partner for schools, families, and students across California.