FORWARD

2020-2021
ANNUAL REPORT

Exceptional Children's Foundation
75 YEARS STRONG

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75th ANNIVERSARY

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Our mission is to provide the highest quality services for children and adults who are challenged with developmental, learning and emotional barriers – empowering them to reach their greatest potential.

TO OUR EXCEPTIONAL FRIENDS & FAMILY:

It is a privilege to proudly report the impact of your investments for our fiscal year 2020-2021—a year in which our organization reached an historic milestone—our 75th anniversary of exceptional service. Standing upon the shoulders of giants, we renewed our resolve and commitment with innovation and agility to advance our mission forward, for the future generations of children and adults challenged with developmental, learning, and emotional barriers.

It is thanks to seven and a half decades of inspired and deeply dedicated Board and staff leadership, and our ever-expanding network of supporters and business and community partners, that Exceptional Children's Foundation has grown from the initial vision of a group of concerned parents into California's most comprehensive provider of services for individuals living with learning and developmental challenges. As ECF has grown, so, too, has our service impact throughout the community, as our programs and supports help thousands each year discover and develop their potential, increase their independence, and live enriched lives.

We have faced and responded to a worldwide pandemic that threatens most dramatically the community of those we serve—their physical and mental health; their ongoing education and training; the advancement of their dreams and very lives. Our resolve and resiliency has allowed us to surmount the unprecedented challenges of our time, as those we serve face and overcome their personal challenges every day. We have innovated and implemented broad adaptations to our model of service delivery—meeting the needs of each individual we serve with the highest quality programs and supports; prioritizing safety, enhancing access, and ensuring their ongoing engagement, empowerment and growth.

Going forward, we will continue to offer remote and physical services, based on individual needs and requirements. We will continue to teach, guide, advocate, and innovate with the same levels of passion and investments of love that have brought us to this milestone moment. We stand well-poised for the future, and the limitless advancement of our founding mission because of your continuing commitment, investment and partnership.

We invite you to read and see further the impact of your investment in this report, and thank you, on behalf of the children and adults whose promise you make possible.

Enthusiastically ***forward*** we go, together as always.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Bowling, Psy.D.
President and CEO

Steven P. Beltran, Esq.
Chair, Board of Directors

THE 2020-2021 ECF
LEGENDS OF IMPACT

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS

ECF proudly honored the first class of Legends of Impact, on whose shoulders we stand to affirm our shared commitment and trajectory toward the future.

BENEFACTOR LEGENDS

Nancy Abell, Esq., and
Leslie B. Abell, Esq.
The Kayne Family
The Fukamaki and Walker Families
Margaret Bundy Scott
Grace Shuler
Share, Inc.
Paul K. Zimmerman

EXECUTIVE LEGENDS

Barbara Cull
Dr. Robert Shushan
Scott D. Bowling, Psy.D.

STAFF LEGENDS

Geoff King
Karen Kato Shokrai

CLIENT LEGENDS

Milton Davis
James Rosenblum
Tammy Brackens
Trent Richards

ECF 75TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATION OF LEGENDS GALA

Under beautiful clear skies atop the Hollywood Park Casino overlooking the SoFi Stadium, more than 300 friends and longtime supporters enjoyed a night of inspiration, fine dining, award-winning Garemani Wines and entertainment at the Exceptional Children's Foundation 75th Anniversary Celebration of Legends Gala on June 24th.

The event honored ECF's community partners, the Los Angeles Rams. Rams Safety Terrell Burgess accepted the award on behalf of the team.

The gala event also paid tribute to the inaugural 2021 ECF Legends of Impact—benefactors, leaders, staff and service recipients who have had an exceptional impact upon ECF's history of service and have illuminated our path toward the future.

"We are thrilled to honor generations of ECF benefactors, staff and clients whose contributions have had a legendary impact on our mission progress," said ECF

President and CEO Scott D. Bowling. "We also are proud to share this special milestone with our business partners, the Los Angeles Rams. Our partnership with the Rams serves as a shining example of how businesses can join forces to strengthen communities with job creation while building a more inclusive society."

KABC7 Eyewitness News co-anchor Marc Brown served as a consummate Master of Ceremonies, noting what a pleasure it was to be a part of the special evening—the first event he returned to emcee live since the pandemic began.

In addition to the inspiring awards ceremonies, guests enjoyed bidding on items in an incredible silent and live auction, helping to raise nearly $1 million for ECF programs, services and client supports.

Capping off the night, actor/comedian Kevin Nealon, best known for *Saturday Night Live*, *Weeds*, and his celebrity hiking online series *HIKING WITH KEVIN*, gave a live performance that left everyone laughing as the gala event came to a close.

"Inclusion is a top priority of the Rams. When we returned home to Los Angeles in 2016, we learned of the impactful work being done by Exceptional Children's Foundation and saw an immediate opportunity to partner and engage their clients in our community work. The Los Angeles Rams are proud to support an organization that provides essential and innovative services to individuals with developmental disabilities."

Molly Higgins
Rams Vice President of Community Affairs and Engagement

Since 2016, the ***Los Angeles Rams*** have partnered with ECF's Pathways to Employment Exceptional Packaging Solutions program in Inglewood, which provides adults with developmental disabilities skills training and paid work experience in packing, assembling and fulfillment contract work for local and regional businesses. The team's charitable donations and fan packs are assembled by ECF participants. The partnership has played a key role in creating jobs for adults with disabilities and raising awareness nationwide. The Rams also support ECF's K-12 non-public special education Kayne Eras School, providing inspirational player visits with students and donations of cleats and equipment for student-athletes.

Celebrating 75 years of transformative impact

1946

A small group of parents create LA's first daycare and training program for children with developmental disabilities – pursuing a belief that their exceptional children deserve more than institutional care. Grace Shuler became the first president of the Exceptional Children's Foundation.

1950s

ECF hires its first executive director, Dr. Robert D. Shushan, who will lead ECF for the next 40 years.

SHARE, a Hollywood women's philanthropic group, officially "adopts" ECF, beginning an outstanding commitment of support that continues today.

ECF expands. New programs include:

- Summer camps and recreational programs offering organized sports, outdoors activities and games
- A Work Activity Center providing adults with developmental disabilities the opportunity to learn job skills and work habits while fulfilling contracts for packaging and assembly from government and community employers
- A Residential Program providing adults with safe and comfortable housing coupled with in-home living skills training and supportive services

1960s

Recognizing that individuals with developmental disabilities have the ability to excel in creating fine art, ECF begins its ***first Art Center Program***. The program gains international recognition, with several art pieces created by ECF clients selected for display at the American Embassy in Paris.

ECF's PAR work program manufactures John F. Kennedy "Flame of Hope" candles.

ECF launches two additional ***Work Activity Centers***, operating as Production and Rehabilitation (PAR) Services.

1970s

ECF becomes a pioneer in the early intervention movement by creating an ***Infant Development Program*** – now called Early Start – with the help of a generous grant from SHARE. Early Start provides support to families with children 0-3 with developmental delays, along with specialized early childhood and parent education.

ECF opens its ***first Developmental Activity Center***, designed to help youths and adults with developmental disabilities acquire daily living skills that help them function more fully as members of the community.

With a team of participants from our Recreation-Youth program, ECF competes in the Third Annual International ***Special Olympics***, held at UCLA.

1980s

ECF Kayne Eras School is founded as the Educational Resource and Services Center (ERAS) by education and human services visionary Barbara Cull. Using a unique interdisciplinary approach, the school is designed to provide a full range of personalized programs and services to K-12 students with special needs.

ECF launches its ***Supported Employment Program***, which works with employers to place adults with developmental disabilities into community jobs.

ECF builds a group home and two apartment complexes to provide housing and independent living skills training for adults.

Board President Dale Fukamaki and his family create the "First Ever" Golf Benefit, ECF's longest-running fundraising event.

ECF's PAR Services receives an annual contract from the General Services Administration to manufacture file folders, a contract that continues to this day.

1990s

Dr. Shushan retires as the President and CEO after 40 years of exceptional leadership.

Scott D. Bowling, Psy.D., joins ECF as President and CEO.

ECF secures an annual contract for janitorial services for Supported Employment clients at the Federal Building in Westwood.

2000s

The ECF Board of Governors inducts its first member, actor Larry Hagman, and others following including co-founder of A&M Records, Jerry Moss; Olympian Rafer Johnson; and SHARE.

ECF acquires first 6-bedroom home in Culver City.

ECF opens ***Art Center program sites*** in San Pedro, Downtown Los Angeles and Culver City.

ECF creates its first ***Residential Intermediate Care Facility*** (ICF) licensed by the Department of Health Services. Two additional ICFs are added later.

The ***Early Start building*** in Adams is dedicated to SHARE.

ECF relocates its headquarters, work programs and Westside Art Center to Culver City.

In 2008, ***ECF expands services through a merger with the Kayne Eras Center***. Kayne Eras provides individualized K-12 educational services, enrichment programs, and therapeutic support for children with special needs.

2010s

ECF strategically sells its building on Washington Blvd. in Culver City to streamline administrative offices, remodel the Kayne Eras School campus, eliminate debt, acquire a new program site in Inglewood, and add to endowment reserves.

Shelley Smith, Esq., becomes ECF's first female Board Chair in 60 years.

ECF acquires a historic landmark building, LAFD Engine House No. 18, to house a new South LA Art Center.

To ***recognize business partners***, ECF establishes an annual signature event, hosting the first Business Partners Luncheon.

The ***Los Angeles Rams*** contract with ECF's Exceptional Packaging Solutions.

In 2019, The ***ECF Kayne Eras Center receives six-year accreditation status*** from the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC).

2020s

The COVID-19 pandemic forces ECF program sites to rapidly transition to remote learning and service provision using technology. All services continue seamlessly.

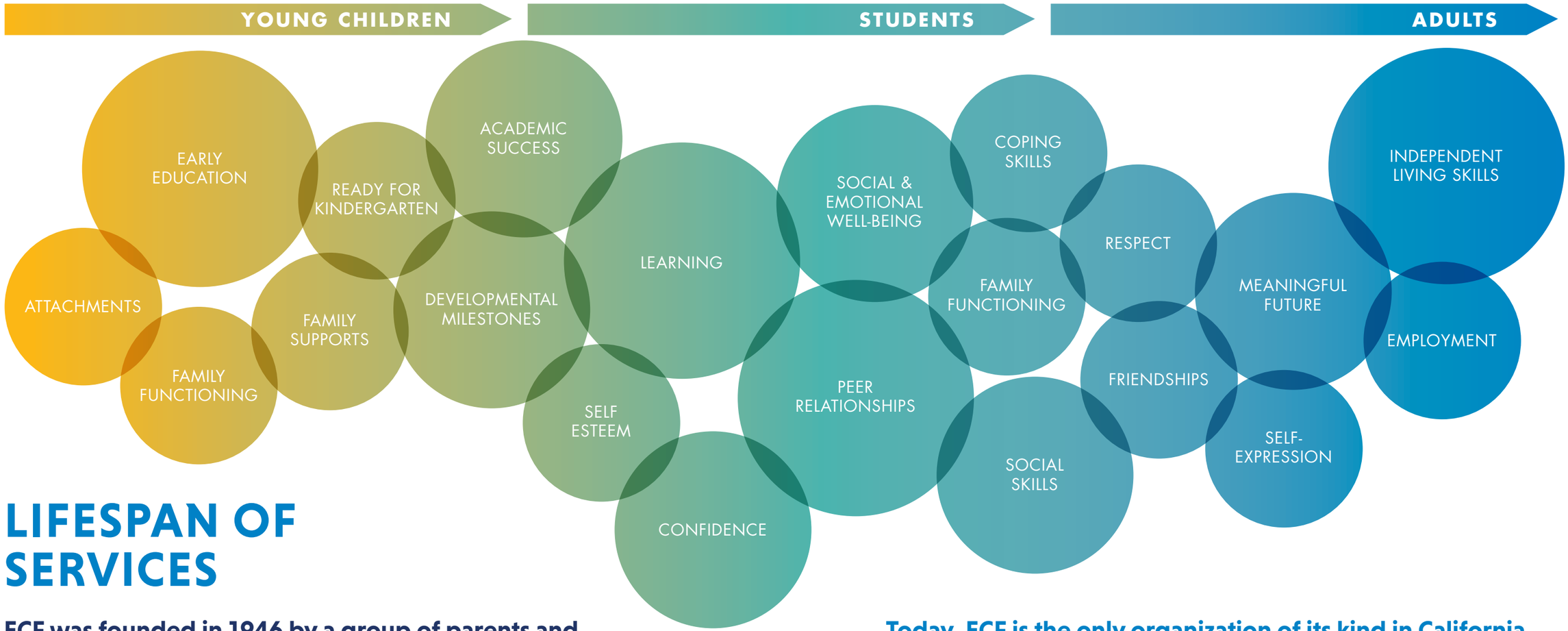
Former ECF board member Kristin Garemani and her husband, Noyan, host the first ***Garemani Wines Golf Benefit*** in La Quinta. Garemani Wines also hosts wine tasting fundraisers benefiting ECF.

In a partnership with ***Kingsbury Uniforms***, ECF produces masks featuring designs by ECF Art Center artists.

ECF celebrates its 75th year of transformative impact.

Forward...

ECF stands well-poised for the future, and the limitless advancement of its founding mission.



LIFESPAN OF SERVICES

ECF was founded in 1946 by a group of parents and community activists who sought to establish a day training program as an alternative to institutional care for individuals with developmental disabilities. Over the past 75 years, ECF's services expanded to meet the changing needs of those we serve, successfully developing and implementing early intervention programs for infants and toddlers, as well as residential, work and day programs for adults.

Today, ECF is the only organization of its kind in California, offering a full continuum of care and lifespan services for children and adults with developmental disabilities and other special needs.

CHILD PROGRAMS

EARLY START

The Early Start program provides early intervention and educational services for children from zero to three years of age who are developmentally delayed or disabled, as well as support for their families. We serve children challenged with autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, speech and language impairments, traumatic brain injuries and many other disabilities or delays.

Our ***Center-Based Services*** offer an inclusive, enrichment-based program for both children with special needs and typically developing children in a warm, family-friendly preschool setting at two licensed centers. We support each child's individual needs in a blended classroom where they learn and play with children with diverse needs and abilities. Much like a traditional preschool, our program provides socialization activities, outdoor play, healthy meals and field trips, along with occupational, physical and speech therapy for children who qualify for individual therapy. With the help of our licensed therapist, we integrate language enriched and functional skill activities into our classroom curriculum.

Educators in our ***Home-Based Services*** provide early childhood education along with parent education in the home on a weekly or monthly basis. After assessing a family's needs, our staff creates a personalized service plan that can include early education, parent education, occupational/speech/physical therapies, medical assessment and medical services.

We also provide ***Speech and Language Therapy*** for children with language processing disorders, hearing loss, language delays, stuttering and voice or articulation disorders. Licensed Speech Therapists help each student learn to communicate more effectively in all areas of their lives.

To help ensure each child's success, our ***Family Support Services*** teach families how to better advocate for their child and how they can participate in the services their child is receiving from ECF. Services include parent support groups, legal aid referrals, one-on-one social work support, immigration assistance, crisis counseling, marriage and family counseling, mental health and medical care and on-site emergency food pantries.

All Early Start services are provided by culturally competent and bilingual staff who can effectively work with families speaking Armenian, Farsi, Russian, and Spanish.

ECF TOY DRIVE DELIVERS HOLIDAY CHEER TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

An outpouring of generosity from donors to the ECF Holiday Toy Drive provided lots of holiday cheer for young children, families and students in our Early Start program and Kayne Eras School. With your support, we safely distributed toys to hundreds of families who otherwise may have had none. Thank you!

ECF also thanks Baby2Baby, The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation and the Los Angeles Fire Department's Spark of Love program for their ongoing generous donations to our children.

STUDENT PROGRAMS

KAYNE ERAS SCHOOL

ECF's nonpublic Kayne Eras School (KES) helps K-12 students develop the social, intellectual, emotional and academic skills they need to learn at their fullest potential. From elementary school to high school and beyond, KES empowers students to explore and achieve, increases their academic and social skills and helps them find joy in learning.

Each classroom is staffed by a credentialed teacher and highly skilled assistant. Our self-contained elementary and middle-school classrooms vary by student need in order to effectively serve students with emotional/behavioral challenges and specific learning disabilities, as well as students with autism spectrum disorder.

High school students work toward earning a high school diploma. Classes follow common core standards for academics, with individualized instruction to meet each student's ability level. Homeroom teachers serve as case managers who communicate with families and members of each student's educational team of teachers, therapists, administrators, service providers and support staff, who collaborate to help students meet graduation requirements and provide transition planning, college readiness and vocational preparation.

KES has long been recognized for its excellent Enrichment program. Enrichment activities help develop the multiple intelligences we all possess and provide opportunities for students to succeed and express themselves both in and outside of the classroom. Activities include performing and visual arts, technology education, financial education, culinary education, vocational training, self-defense, team sports and community service.

The ECF Therapeutic Services program offers a range of interventions and treatments to encourage the healthy development and growth of students and their families. Students receive counseling to help them manage their emotional and psychological challenges so that they can reach their highest academic potential, improve their social relationships and learn to feel good about who they are.

KES provides speech/language and occupational therapy, as well as mental health services to both KES and non-KES students and families. KES holds full accreditation status from the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

ECF LAUNCHES NEW KAYNE ERAS SCHOOL WEBSITE

ECF Kayne Eras School launched its first public website in the fall, www.kayneerasschool.org.

The website was designed to provide information and resources for prospective and enrolled families and the community. The new site features information about school programs and services, remote and on-site learning, staff and teachers; the Parent Teacher Organization; events; activities; news and resources for families.

The launch coincided with the 40th anniversary of the Kayne Eras School, founded by visionary Barbara Cull to provide enriching and individualized K-12 education for children with intellectual, emotional and developmental disabilities.

ADULT PROGRAMS

EMPLOYMENT, ART CENTERS AND RESIDENTIAL

ECF provides an array of programs and services to help adults with special needs reach their personal, residential and employment goals.

ECF believes that every adult who wants to work deserves the opportunity to earn a paycheck. Too often, adults with developmental disabilities face barriers to employment due to lack of experience and specialized training.

Exceptional Works is a continuum of employment services that help adults find employment in the community.

The ***Accelerated Preparation Program*** expedites the time it takes adults with lower-than-average work productivity levels (below 75%) to prepare for more advanced employment training by teaching the work, life and soft skills needed to become employable. Participants complete the program with a broader set of skills and increased self-motivation to accelerate their transition into Work Readiness classes or the Exceptional Training Academy.

Through instruction and group learning in ECF's ***Work Readiness Program***, participants develop the skills needed to conduct a job search and maintain employment, including: understanding different job opportunities, completing applications, writing a resume, interviewing, professional grooming and hygiene, workplace communication, and personal development and growth.

ECF's ***Exceptional Training Academy*** offers vocational training in computer literacy, culinary arts, janitorial services, retail sales and warehouse operations. Upon successful completion of their training, participants will have learned the skills necessary to help them secure meaningful employment with a community employer. Participants also have the option to participate in the Exceptional Packaging Solutions program for up to three hours per day, earning minimum wage.

In our ***College Classroom Program*** and in partnership with educational institutions, ECF staff provide in-class support to adult students, helping them successfully complete vocational training courses. ECF also partners with NTMA Training Centers of Southern California to give adults the opportunity to become ***Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Machinists***, learning how to program, set up and operate CNC machines to produce complex precision parts and tools for the aerospace, military, medical and other industries.

To learn more about ECF Programs, visit > **ECF.NET**

Participants in our ***Exceptional Packaging Solutions*** program gain paid work experience with packaging and assembly contract work. ***Exceptional Employment Solutions*** helps participants prepare for and find community-based employment. Once hired, they can receive ongoing job coaching from ECF to support them in their new role. ECF proudly partners with over 70 local businesses to provide a wide variety of employment opportunities in industries including retail, computer software testing, clerical, warehouse operations, culinary services and janitorial.

Our renowned ***Art Centers Program*** provides fine arts training in a variety of mediums, at five locations throughout Los Angeles. Art produced by ECF adult artists is showcased at our Downtown Art Center Gallery as well as juried art shows and is also available for purchase at www.artecf.org.

The ***Developmental Activity Center*** helps participants strengthen independence, social skills and self-determination, all with respect for each person's ability level. On-site practice is reinforced through community integration experiences including volunteering, trips to grocery stores and cultural events.

Participants in ***Exceptional Community Connections*** enjoy meaningful volunteer opportunities while integrating into the community.

Individual Pathways provides in-depth transitional plans for adults, particularly young adults, to help them access community resources and gain more training and skill development to enter the job market, or engage in community volunteering.

The ***Residential Services Program*** provides housing, life skills training and support for adult clients, ranging from independent living with minimal assistance to fully staffed group homes providing medical care.

ECF'S NTMA TRAINING CENTER PARTNERSHIP GRADUATES SECOND CNC MACHINIST

September 2020 marked a huge milestone for recent CNC Machinist graduate, Colin.

Colin completed NTMA Training Center of Southern California's seven-month training program—becoming our second ECF graduate.

Our exceptional partnership teaches qualifying students shop safety, inspection, quality control, blueprint reading, CNC operation, setting-up and operating equipment such as grinders, mills, lathes, drill presses, and band saws. ECF provides students ongoing in-class support, tutoring, soft skills training, and job development.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SERVICE SITES

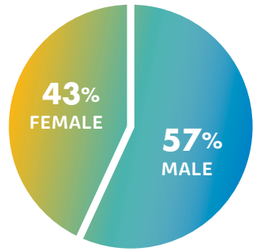
WHERE WE WORK

EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS participants volunteer at sites in the community

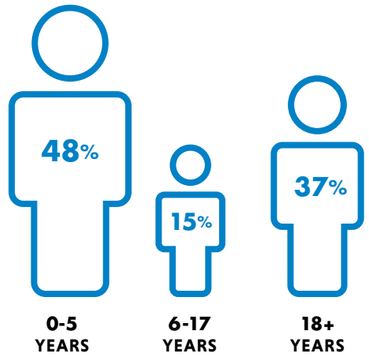
DEMOGRAPHICS

WHO WE SERVE

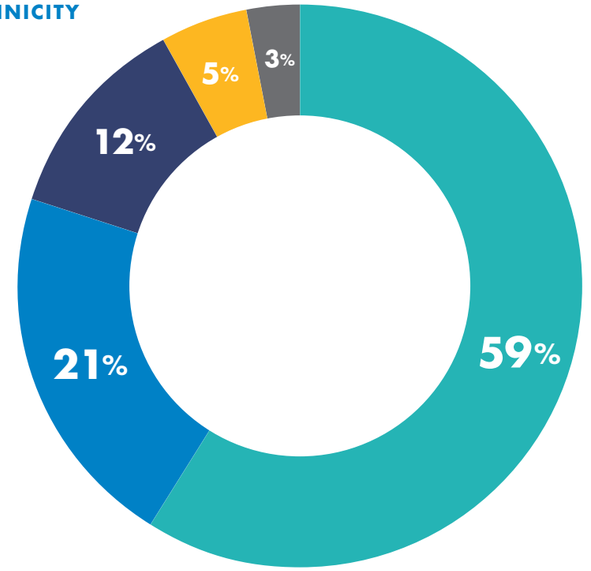
GENDER



AGE



ETHNICITY



- HISPANIC 59%
- AFRICAN AMERICAN 21%
- CAUCASIAN 12%
- NATIVE AMERICAN 5%
- ASIAN 3%

2020-2021 IMPACT AT A GLANCE

ADULT PROGRAMS SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

2020-2021

20,000

Hours of **JOB COACHING** for adults with developmental disabilities working in community jobs

10,632

Hours of virtual and alternative service support and training in **INDIVIDUAL PATHWAYS**

26,000

Hours of warehouse operations/ fulfillment skills, computer literacy, janitorial and culinary training provided to clients in ECF's **EXCEPTIONAL TRAINING ACADEMY**

55,062

Hours of training and work provided to clients through ECF **EXCEPTIONAL PACKAGING SOLUTIONS**

9,986

Hours of **INDEPENDENT LIVING TRAINING** for adults with developmental disabilities living in their own apartments

100%
MINIMUM WAGE OR ABOVE

All clients emplyed through **EXCEPTIONAL WORKS** program earn minimum wage or above

513
PIECES OF ARTWORK

Pieces of artwork **SOLD BY ART CENTERS PROGRAM ARTISTS**

42,978
WELLNESS CHECKS

Number of wellness checks provided for adult programs clients

4,912
HOURS OF CARE

Hours of **HIGHER LEVEL RN/LVN CARE** provided at ECF Residential Services sites

CHILD PROGRAMS SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

2020-2021

11,052

Hours of **SPEECH, OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSICAL THERAPY** for infants and toddlers

304

Hours of **COUNSELING** for parents of children with developmental delays

10,415
HOME VISITS

Number of home visits for families with infants and toddlers with developmental delays

STUDENT PROGRAMS SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

2020-2021

4,984

Hours of **ABA**

3,257

Hours of **SCHOOL-BASED COUNSELING**

1,660

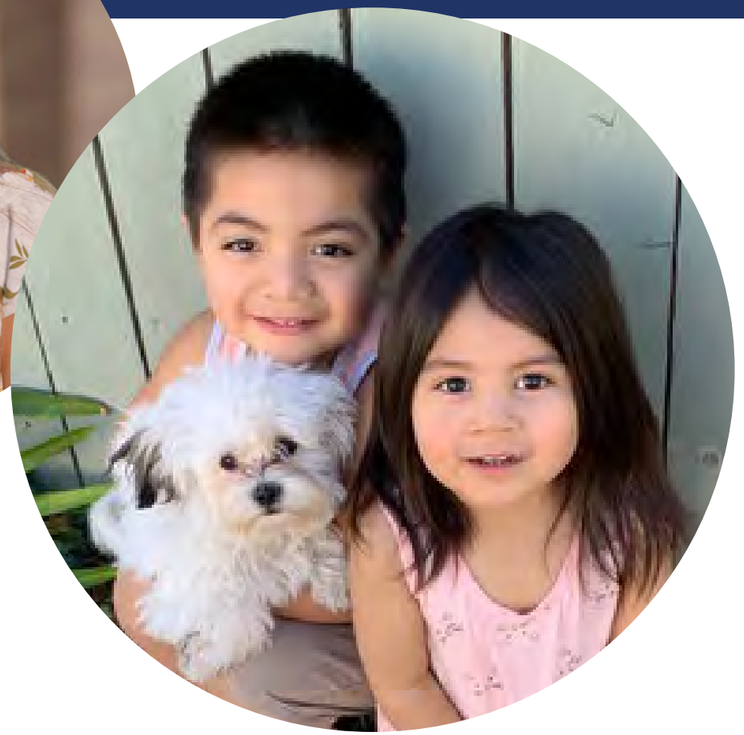
Hours of **SPEECH, OCCUPATIONAL AND PHYSICAL THERAPY** for K-12 students

1,120

Hours of one-on-one and/or classroom **EDUCATIONAL THERAPY**

94
VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Number of students receiving pre/vocation training



ETHAN BAUTISTA

Ethan was a pioneer for his family when he attended ECF's Early Start Program from the time he was 18 months to 3 years old. He was the first of three children in the Bautista family to benefit from the program.

"When Ethan came to our program, he had difficulty with transitions, staying on task, and language," says Gabriela Kayacan, Early Start program manager. "He was very active. And the program really helped him self-regulate."

To deal with his developmental delays, Ethan had speech and occupational therapies. Now 4 years old, he is comfortable going to school and sharing.

"He started playing with other kids, speaking more," says his mother, Krystal Bautista. "He tells me, 'I'm not a little baby anymore. I'm a big boy now!'"

Proud of Ethan's progress, Krystal is happy that her daughter, Abigail, is now attending the program, and looks forward to her youngest child, Nathan, participating soon. She is pleased that all of her children will have the critical skills they need to grow and be successful in school due to the expertise, supports and early education provided at Early Start.

"The staff is wonderful and always communicates with me," Krystal says. "It is a blessing to have their knowledge and support. I can't even express how grateful I am for the services I know will help and benefit my children in the future."

The Bautista family's reaction to Early Start is typical of participants and parents.

"We see families come to us concerned about their child's development and future," program manager Gabriela says. "They're frightened. They're upset. But when they come to ECF, it feels like home. Our program provides a lifeline."

DANIEL CLARK

"Students need somebody saying, 'You can,'" Ms. Walker says. "Here at Kayne Eras School, they're going to hear the words that matter most, which are, 'You're powerful. You're amazing. You're a star.'"

It might be difficult to recognize the polite, articulate and confident young man in the Marine dress uniform as the same boy who was once a struggling, angry and insecure student.

Daniel Clark had behavioral and emotional issues when he began attending Kayne Eras School. "Daniel was Oppositional Defiant. That means, if I said right—he said left," explains Joelene Walker, Daniel's former teacher and principal at KES.

When Daniel made a recent surprise visit to his alma mater to say hello, Ms. Walker says she saw exactly what she always expected. "I always told him that he would surprise *himself* with what he could accomplish—but not me. Daniel had it all in him; he just needed to hear that he could do it, and learn to believe it."

Daniel credits Ms. Walker and the school for changing his life, teaching him leadership skills and introducing him to poetry, literature and music that is now his passion.

"I was in ninth grade when Ms. Walker became my teacher, and she became this huge role model in my life," Daniel says. "She not only helped me grow my personal abilities — she instilled confidence in me."

With help at Kayne Eras School, Daniel began to experience success academically and socially, and was able to transition to public high school. He was nervous going back, afraid that he would be behind in his studies. To Daniel's surprise, he was ahead of many students in his class. He graduated with a 3.5 grade point average.

After high school, Daniel completed military training and plans to serve in the reserves, while he attends college. He has worked at a regional recreation center, where he taught children how to create music videos. Encouraged by his music mentor, he applied to California Institute of the Arts.

"That school has, like, a 23 percent acceptance rate. I got accepted to CalArts, and that was such an unreal experience," Daniel says. "I'm just proud of the person I've become. All I'm doing now is making sure that I keep on becoming a better person than I was yesterday."

SONIA PRADO

The brightly colored stripes in the background of some of Sonia Prado's artwork are like colorful curtains creating a visual performance stage for the people Sonia often paints. Much of the artwork she creates features members of her close-knit family. Others show her passionate devotion to The Spice Girls, her favorite pop music group, or her other favorite obsession- — women's professional wrestling. All are strong and important figures to her — and often she depicts herself with them in her work.

"I'm an artist," Sonia says. "This is my life. I keep it in my dreams."

Sonia has worked at the ECF Art Centers' South L.A. studio since 2015. Her versatile talent includes watercolors, collages, printmaking and ceramics.

In 1968, ECF was one of the first organizations in the country to establish a Fine Arts Training Program for adults with developmental disabilities.

"The Art Centers aren't a place where we're trying to change someone's disability or give them therapy," says Adriane Mota, program director. "It's just a place where people can come, and be themselves, and practice their art. To us, they are not 'clients'— they are artists."

Described by her art instructors as always participating at 300 percent, Sonia registered for nearly every remote learning class over the year, and she never misses class. Her studio practice and commitment have no match, and she loves to show her artwork.

Beaming, Sonia says, "I just want to be a good artist, and keep going!"

"They tell me, 'We're proud of you. Keep up the good work!' That makes my day. I feel something good about myself. My dream job came true."

MAHBOD MOLARABIE

The first thing you notice about Mahbod Molarabie is his big smile.

Mahbod lacked confidence and suffered from anxiety attacks when he first came to ECF's Exceptional Works program. He has difficulties reading and writing.

"Mahbod is a very likable individual, and we've seen his growth and success," says Samson Mulugeta, director of ECF Exceptional Works.

Enrolled in two Exceptional Works programs, Mahbod developed new skills through the computer learning program in the Exceptional Training Academy. The Supported Employment program helped him prepare his resume, learn to dress appropriately and practice for interviews.

Mahbod's dream was to work at Universal Studios. He visits often and knows every inch of the park. Mahbod thought there might be a job there for him, and he worked hard to be ready to present himself as a potential employee. With confidence gained and skills learned at Exceptional Works, one day Mahbod introduced himself to a manager and landed a job interview.

"Then I got a phone call that said, 'Mahbod, we want to hire you.' It made me feel really, really good!" he says excitedly.

Now, Mahbod works as a proud Park Service Patio Host at Universal Studios, where he keeps restaurant patios clean and stocked with supplies for diners and assists customers. ECF's Employment Solutions provides ongoing job coaching to ensure Mahbod's continued success.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS*

2020-2021

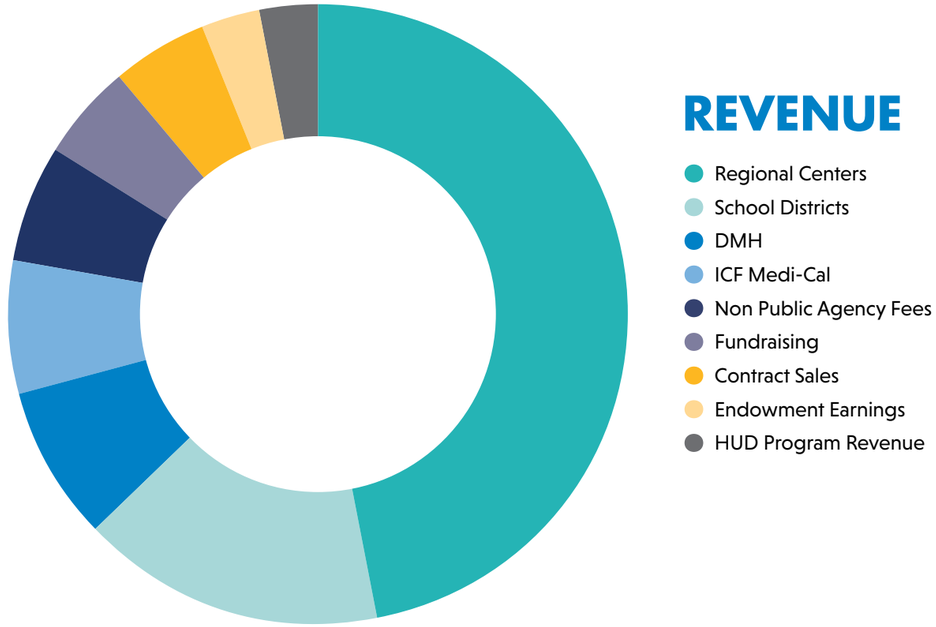
REVENUE

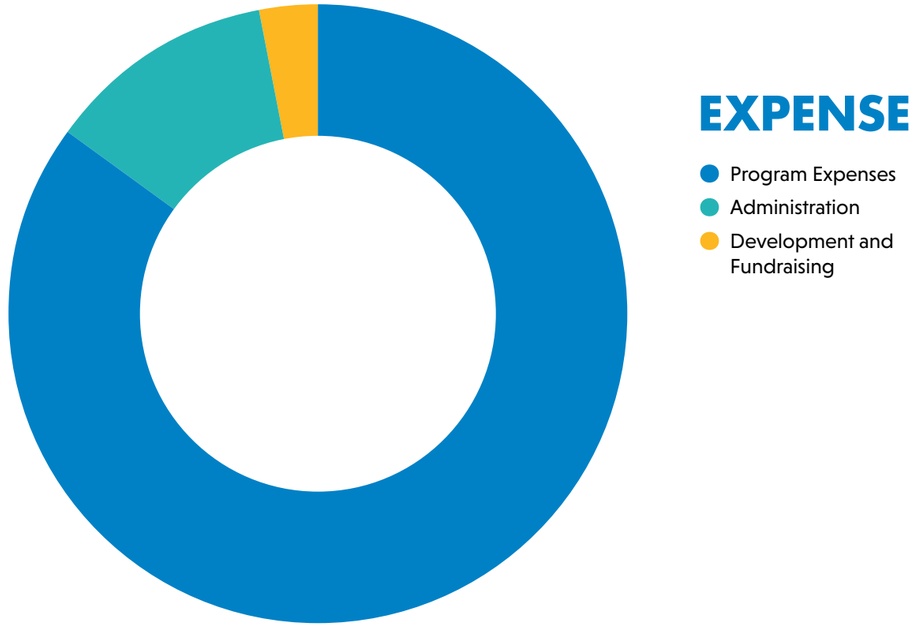
Program and Other Revenue	
Regional Centers - Tuition and Fees	$ 11,637,432
Unified School Districts - Tuition and Fees	4,033,401
DMH Contract	1,832,578
ICF Medi-Cal Fees	2,002,897
Non Public Agency Fees	1,616,706
Contract Sales	1,491,270
Endowment Transfers Authorized	771,996
HUD Program Revenue	748,005
Misc Income	288,099
Sale of Merchandise	24,571
Total Program and Other Revenue	**24,446,955**
Community Support	
Contributions	1,637,354
Total Community Support	**1,637,354**
Total Revenue	**$ 26,084,310**

EXPENSE

Programs	
Early Start	$ 4,074,271
KEC School	3,847,585
Residential Services	2,682,833
Art Centers	2,287,215
Exceptional Employment Solutions (SEP)	2,166,792
Mental Health	1,661,832
Exceptional Works (excluding SEP)	1,400,948
Developmental Activities	1,250,201
Diagnostic and Therapy (NPA)	1,305,296
HUD Properties	707,433
Total Program Expense[1]	**21,384,406**
Administrative	
Administration	2,902,907
Development and Fundraising	797,882
Total Administrative Expense[1]	**3,700,789**
Total Expense[1]	**25,085,195**
Surplus (Deficit) before Interest & Depreciation Expense	**$ 999,114**

[1] Excludes $209K interest and $981K depreciation expense. * Information in Financial Highlights is Unaudited.





$100,000 +

William Randolph Hearst Foundation

QueensCare

The Rose Hills Foundation

SHARE, Inc.

Paul K. Zimmerman

$50,000 - $99,999

Nancy & Leslie Abell

Robert A. Day

Suzanne & Ric Kayne

Helen & Jack Nethercutt

Skylight Foundation

$20,000 - $49,999

Michael J. Connell Foundation

The Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation

Gerald Ducot

George Hoag Family Foundation

Nicholas Family Foundation

The Kenneth T. & Eileen L. Norris Foundation

Lynne & Larry Rabineau

Shelley & Grady Smith

Sony Pictures Entertainment

$15,000 - $19,999

Selma Archerd

Debbie & Mark Attanasio

Alexis Deutsch Adler & Robert Adler

Faros Unlimited Inc.

Kristin & Noyan Garemani

Martha & Bruce Karsh

Los Angeles Rams

New Horizons

Pacific Western Bank

Ellen & Brendan Turner

The Wilson Family

Harry Zimmerman

$10,000 - $14,999

Anonymous

Kathrine & Frank Baxter

The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation

Johnny Carson Foundation

June & Bernie Dodge

Carla & Troy Fenner

The Joanne Marie and Marcel George Foundation

Insperity

The Audrey & Sydney Irmas Charitable Foundation

Jessica & Christian Lander

The Fred and June MacMurray Foundation

Amy & Harold Masor

Malcolm McNeil

Milken Family Foundation

Philip G. Miller

Nancy & Bruce Newberg

James A. Rothstein

Lon V. Smith Foundation

Iris & Michael Smith

U.S. Bank

Douglas Vetter

$5,000 - $9,999

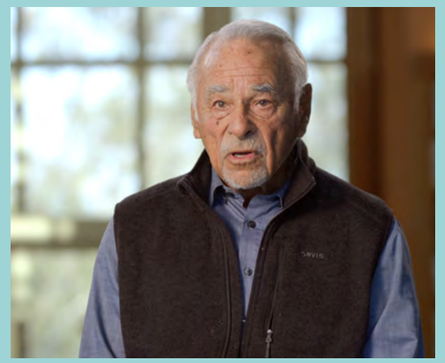
A.N. Abell Auction Co.

Jeff Aidikoff

Anonymous

Armanino LLP

Kathleen & Steven Beltran



"There is a passion that drives everyone at ECF. You can't explain or describe it; but you understand it — you feel it. I am very proud to be involved in this organization."

Paul K. Zimmerman
ECF Board Member

Beverly Hills Rotary Community Foundation

Scott Bowling, Psy.D.

Catherine Brown

Tammy & Lawrence Cane

City National Bank

Eric Diamond

Joan & Gerald Doren

Phyllis & Jim Easton

EH National Bank

The Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation

The Morris A. Hazan Family Foundation

Janet & Thomas Hopkins

Mary & Stephen Kayne

Kimberly Lewis

Scott Litt

Karen & Peter Locke

The Peter and Masha Plotkin Memorial Foundation

Michelle & Anil Ranavat

Stephen Shapiro

Southern California Gas Company

Grace Helen Spearman Charitable Foundation

Elaine Spierer

Jane & Jim Stern

Stockbridge Capital Group LLC

Stone Candles

Tito's Handmade Vodka

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Terri & James Walker

Ralph Walter

Wilson Meany

Carl E. Wynn Foundation

Monty Zimmerman

$1,000 - $4,999

Barbara Abell

Homeyra & Fred Alavi

American Packaging Corporation

Ali Amirteymour

Nancy Aossey

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Cheryl & Robert Baker

Glenn Baker

Bank of America Charitable Foundation

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Bayhurst Foundation

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Catherine Benkaim

Dean Beresford

Bessemer Trust

Big Green IT

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John Brauer

Lili Brenet

Barbara Brown

Pamela Buffett

Terrell Burgess

Donald Cerri

The Charitable Foundation

Kathie & Ray Coen

Christopher Cohick

Shelley & Martin Cooper

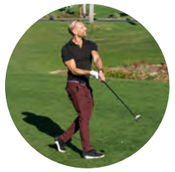
Barry Daily

The Davidow Charitable Fund

Karen Dellosso & Gene Siciliano

Jane Dorian

Moise Emquies



GAREMANI WINES GOLF BENEFIT RAISES FUNDS FOR ECF

A weekend of golf and festivities hosted by Garemani Wines at Mountain View Country Club in La Quinta was an exceptional success, raising much-needed funds to benefit life-changing programs and services of the Exceptional Children's Foundation (ECF) for children and adults with special needs.

More than 80 guests attended the socially distanced event in November, enjoying golf as well as an alfresco dinner at Jillian's. The weekend event was hosted by former ECF board member Kristin Garemani and Garemani Wines.

WEARABLE FINE ART MASKS HIGHLIGHT ECF ART CENTERS ARTISTS

ECF partnered with Kingsbury Uniforms this year to create high quality, fashion-forward face masks featuring original art created by ECF Art Centers' artists.

Long-time ECF supporter and Kingsbury President Catherine Brown conceived of manufacturing the masts to help fund the ECF Art Centers and to offer artists who have developmental disabilities an outlet to share their creative vision and earn income from their art.

DONORS 2020-2021

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Lauren Abell Windom
Judith & Barry Wolstan

"It is really important for us to come together and support the continuing evolution and innovation of ECF's program and services into the future — for the future — of the individuals and families they serve."

Ellen Turner
ECF Board Member

6th Annual
ECF Business Partner Awards

2020 BUSINESS PARTNERS AWARDS RECOGNIZES LEADERS

ECF's 2020 Business Partners Awards were presented virtually in October, featuring a keynote speech by Devan Kumar, General Manager of the Hollywood Park Casino. The event recognizes leaders from dozens of local businesses who partner with ECF to provide adults with developmental disabilities opportunities to join the local workforce, and who contribute to ECF's programs for children and students with special needs.

This year's award honorees were Big Sunday, Microsoft, Pacific Western Bank and Paul K. Zimmerman and Killer Shrimp. In addition, the Steven J. Rose Exceptional Culver City Business award was presented to Colin Diaz, President of the Culver City Chamber of Commerce.

"It has been a privilege to take part in helping ECF secure its mission to provide the highest quality services for children and adults who are challenged with developmental, learning, and emotional barriers — empowering them to reach their greatest potential. This mission affects me every time I read it. It is at the heart of everything we do."

Leslie B. Abell, Esq.
ECF Board Member and Past Chair

Exceptional Children's Foundation is privileged to have highly qualified and deeply committed community leaders serving on its Board of Directors and Board of Governors. In partnership with an experienced Executive Management Team, these individuals give generously of their time and resources to help fulfill the organization's mission.

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" Thank you to everybody that supports me. It cheers me on! I am blessed."

Sonia Prado
ECF Art Centers Artist

DONATE

Exceptional Children's Foundation

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Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 204-3300
info@ecf.net

www.ECF.net

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