

Hillsides Facts

Our history

Hillsides was founded 103 years ago by a compassionate young Deaconess of the Episcopal Church, Evelyn Wile. In 1913, she opened a home in Highland Park for 13 neglected and abandoned children. Wile rejected the typical institutional model of care and instead envisioned a campus of cottages where children could enjoy a country-like environment with plenty of sunshine, fresh air, and open space. Her dream came true in 1918 when she moved the children to two cottages on 17 acres in the San Rafael hills of Pasadena, the site of Hillsides residential treatment services to this day. There, Wile built more residential cottages and oversaw the construction of an administration building.

For the next 40 years, Hillsides remained a safe haven where children came first. In the 1960s, Hillsides shifted from long-term custodial care to become a therapeutic residential center providing specialized care to vulnerable youth. In the following decades, Hillsides grew to 12 on-campus buildings and three off-campus satellite homes. In 1982 it opened the on-campus school, Hillsides Education Center. The same year, Hillsides created a program of community-based services, Family Resource Centers. In 2015, Hillsides launched Youth Moving On, a highly regarded transitional living program for young adults leaving the foster care system. Today, Hillsides serves more than 6,200 children, youth, and families in Los Angeles County at 26 sites.

Our vision

We create lasting change in the lives of all at-risk children and youth we serve.

Our mission

We provide high quality care, advocacy, and innovative services that promote safe, permanent environments where young people can thrive.

Number of staff

450

Operating budget

\$33 million

Our programs

Hillsides provides a comprehensive array of programs throughout its 26 locations, including school-based mental health offices, in the Greater Los Angeles area and San Gabriel Valley. Our four core programs:

- **Family Resource Centers** offer numerous community-based programs and services that provide parenting classes, mental health support, and additional crucial resources for vulnerable children and families throughout Los Angeles County, including the San Gabriel Valley and Pasadena.
- **Residential Treatment Services** provide a safe and stable environment where children and youths, who cannot live at home, suffered trauma, or have severe emotional or behavioral challenges, can thrive.
- **Education Center**, a therapeutic residential and day school, offers individualized education for students with social-emotional, learning and/or behavior challenges for children in kindergarten through 12th grade.
- **Youth Moving On**, with support from The Everychild Foundation, provides former foster youth affordable quality housing and numerous support services to help them become responsible, self-sufficient adults.



Hillsides

Bienvenidos Facts

Historical Background

Bienvenidos was founded in 1986 in Los Angeles to serve the growing number of abused and neglected infants and toddlers in Los Angeles County. Throughout its history, the organization has served primarily the Latino Communities in East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley. Bienvenidos first opened in order to provide emergency shelter for abused children, but the agency's board and staff soon recognized the tremendous need for compassionate, safe homes in which these children could heal, and so began to recruit, train and supervise foster families. For the next ten years, Bienvenidos developed and implemented additional abuse prevention and intervention services, and in 1994, also began providing family planning services. In 2000, the organization began providing mental health for children from birth to 21 years of age, and also opened a primary health clinic in East Los Angeles. In July, 2013, Bienvenidos Foster Family Agency became Foster Care & Adoptions, having achieved licensure as a certified adoption agency. Always striving for excellence, Bienvenidos achieved its national accreditation in January, 2015 through the Joint Commission on Accreditation.

Over the past eight years, the board and staff leadership of Bienvenidos has successfully transitioned the agency from a founder-led, grassroots nonprofit to a mission-driven community-based organization with strength in all areas, from program design, delivery, and assessment to community engagement, collaboration, and effective development of community, volunteer and financial resources.

Our vision

Our vision is of a society in which every family can provide a loving, healthy and secure home where children can grow and thrive.

Our mission

Bienvenidos is a compassionate community of care dedicated to healing children, strengthening families and transforming communities.

Number of staff

150

Operating budget

\$16 million

Existing Programs and Services

Bienvenidos serves approximately 7,000 children and adults each year, operating out of nine locations in East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley. The agency has three major program and service divisions that operate holistically, rather than in isolation:

- **Community Services** is a comprehensive system of services offering prevention, intervention, and treatment of child abuse and neglect.
- **Foster Care + Adoption** provides foster care services to children and siblings who cannot remain at home with their birth parents. Managing a multi-county network of foster homes, we specialize in caring for young children and sibling groups. We also provide free training and on-going support to resource families so they can in turn provide a safe, stable, supportive and loving environment to the children placed in their homes.
- **Mental Health Services** offer support to children and families in the communities of East Los Angeles, the San Gabriel Valley, and surrounding Los Angeles County, who are faced with trauma or other crises, using evidenced-based methods that are proven effective to address their needs.



Bienvenidos