



OUR VISION: Healthy families and communities that provide the resources and support for all young people to attain their full potential.

OUR MISSION: Empower families in low-income communities of Los Angeles County to break the cycle of poverty, child abuse, violence, academic failure, and teen pregnancy through outstanding educational, youth development, health and therapeutic services.

WHO BENEFITS: More than 10,000 children, youth and family members annually. Clients are diverse with 67% Latino, 12% African-American, 12% White, 9% Asian/Pacific Islander, mixed race and others. They span the life cycle, from expectant mothers and children before birth and through their early years, to teens, parents of all ages and grandparent caregivers.

WHAT WE DO: We provide comprehensive family-strengthening services in high need communities. Our bilingual, multicultural staff of over 150 offer programs of four major types: Parent Education & Family Development, Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment, Teen Parent Family Services, and Youth Development. Services include home visitation, professional counseling, service coordination (linking families with all needed resources), and a variety of group educational, vocational, social networking, leadership development, and integration of healthy living opportunities.

WHERE WE DO IT: El Nido covers a wide area of Los Angeles County, from the Antelope and San Fernando Valleys to the Harbor. Family centers are located in Pacoima, Mission Hills, South Los Angeles and Compton. Many families are reached at their homes, schools, community centers and the locations of partnering organizations.

BUDGET AND FUNDING SOURCES: El Nido Family Centers is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The annual budget ranges from \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000. Government contracts (federal, state, county, and city) allow us to serve a large population, with vital investments from foundations, corporations and individuals.

OUR LEADERSHIP: Executive Director Liz Herrera, L.C.S.W. has spent her 30-year career with El Nido. Board President Fred Samulon is a retired engineer and former business executive.

OUR SERVICES

PARENT EDUCATION & FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Parenting classes are a first line of defense against potential child abuse/neglect, school failure/dropout, teen pregnancy, and other problems. Skilled facilitators teach parents about bonding and attachment, child development stages, loving discipline methods, promoting school success, and effective interpersonal communication. El Nido's Pacoima FamilySource Center is a one-stop location where low-income San Fernando Valley families with children can turn for help with basic needs, healthcare access, educational attainment, career/leadership development and social supports. Additional home visitation programs reach out to mothers beginning prenatally, preparing them to give children the best start in life, from day one through their early years.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & TREATMENT

El Nido's Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment programs provide comprehensive family strengthening services, responsive to the unique culture of each child and parent/caregiver. Goals are to prevent child abuse/neglect or its recurrence, and to reduce the symptoms of prior maltreatment. Services include intake and assessment, counseling, parent education and support groups, case management, and 24-hour emergency response.

TEEN PARENT FAMILY SERVICES

El Nido has a long-standing commitment to assisting two highly vulnerable populations—teen parents and their babies. Home visits screen for and address risk factors such as inadequate prenatal or well-baby care, child abuse/neglect, environmental hazards, domestic violence, substance abuse, depression, and developmental delay. Our staff educates and encourages teens, promoting healthy lifestyles, optimal birth outcomes, positive parenting, educational attainment, and vocational success.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

El Nido's Pacoima Gang Reduction & Youth Development program is part of a citywide effort to prevent violence by cutting off the supply of new gang members. Young people at risk find positive alternatives through innovative methods that engage their entire families. Delinquency prevention programs in Compton and South L.A. work with youth referred by schools and law enforcement agencies, providing services such as individual, group and family counseling, tutoring/mentoring and constructive youth development opportunities. Goals include preventing subsequent arrests, improving school attendance and academic achievement, enhancing vocational potential and postponing parenting until adulthood. We also provide college scholarships for 15 to 20 clients annually.

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