

### Message from the CEO

#### Focus on what's Strong... Learn to bend and not break...

These mottos are the foundation of Valley Oak Children's Services Strength-based services in Butte County.

Our services have been improving the well-being of families in Butte County for over 40 years. We have had our boots on the ground during natural disasters, fires, and a pandemic, helping families navigate through complicated circumstances and improve each family's individual situation by building on their strengths.

If you are a parent, you know that raising children does not come with an instruction manual. When families or caregivers have questions, Valley Oak Children's Services (VOCS) staff will help find the answer. Regardless of income, if you are a working parent or going to school to get a job to support your family, Child Care is a necessity. Without Child Care, trained child care professionals, and safe and healthy places to care for children while parents are working, Butte County's economy would come to a halt. Parents would not be able to work and children would lose out on early childhood education experiences.

I do believe the services VOCS provides helps create happy, healthy families and a vital community. Today's children are a gift we send into the future. They are the decision-makers of tomorrow and will care for us. We want the foundation of this future to be strength-based and positive.

The Impact of our work over the past year is embedded in this report. The amazing people who support our vision of a healthier tomorrow are heroes to me. They don't wear capes but they should. Thank you to our staff, board, and this community that supports what we do and to the families and Child Care Providers that continue to put their trust in us every day.



## **Karen Marlatt**Chief Executive Officer

#### What's Inside

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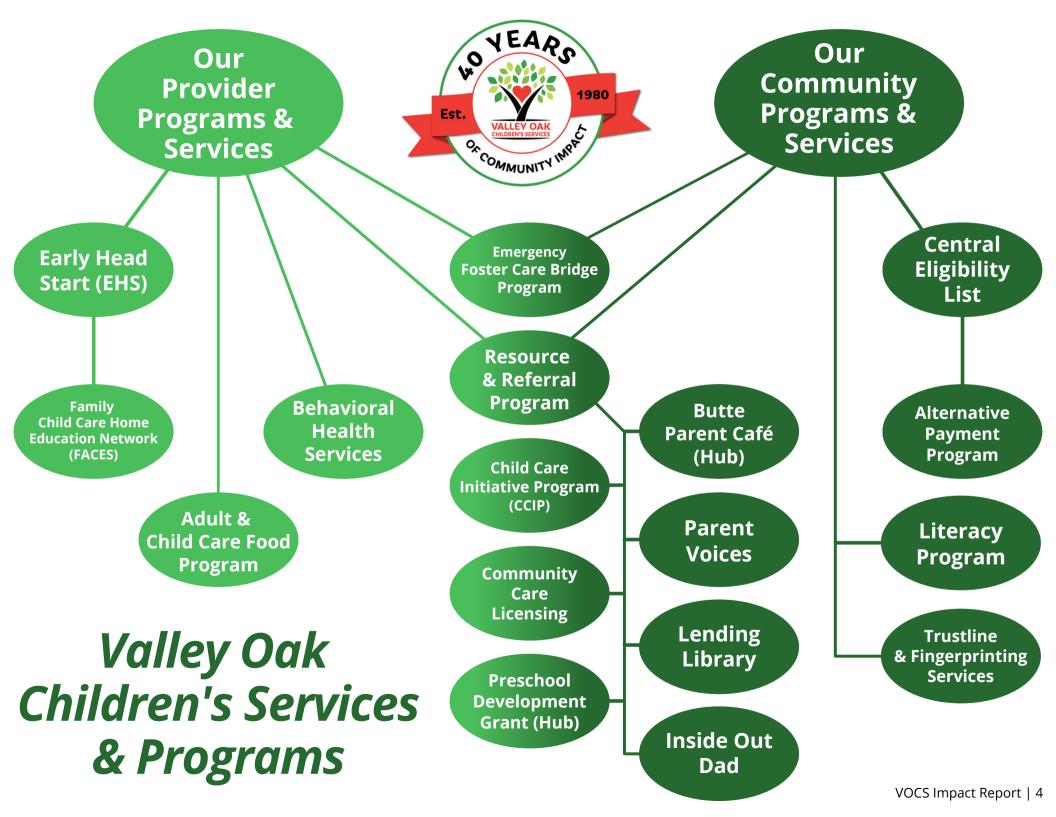


#### **WE'RE ON A MISSION**

Valley Oak Children's Services touches the H.E.A.R.T. of children, families, and our community through Health, Education, Advocacy, Resources, and Training. We are a strength-based organization focusing on what's strong, not what's wrong.

#### Families have questions. We have answers!





### **OUR WORK**

**Our goal at Valley Oak Children's Services (VOCS)** is to have children learning, parents earning, and our community growing!







+7,000

### **Butte County** Children Served

The Children on VOCS Programs and Services are just the beginning of the lives impacted by our agency's work, programs, and services.

"If it wasn't for VOCS, I would not be able to work and provide for my family".

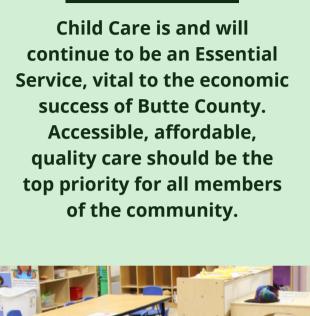


## +\$11 Million

### Given Back to the Community

**Through VOCS Programs and** Services, the money we receive goes directly into the hands of the community we serve; **Helping Families, Child Care** Providers, Businesses, and the **Butte County economy.** 

# The Reality of Child Care



# Average Monthly Cost of Child Care Butte County

<u>Infants</u> (0-1 Years)

\$1,045

<u>Preschool</u> (2-5 Years Old)

\$750

School Age (5-12 Years Old)

\$700



Despite a large fluctuation in Licensed and License Exempt (Family, Friend, & Neighbor) Child Care Businesses, COVID-19 created an even greater need for more Child Care businesses to open or increase their capacity to serve the families with children who still need quality care.

Butte County Child Care Businesses	Pre Covid-19	As of 7/2020	As of 7/2021
Licensed Child Care Centers	43	40	44
Family Child Care Homes	78	69	62
Afterschool & Rec Programs	10	5	18
Family, Friends, & Neighbors	252	290	230
Total	383	404	354

# OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT

Through Valley Oak Children's Services Community based programs and services, we were able to provide:



#### +10,000 Books

& Activity Kits given to members of the community at **no cost through our Literacy Program** 



## 393 Fingerprinting & Trustline Checks

helping families and local businesses ensure they can employ backgroundchecked individuals for the safety of their staff and customers



# \$10,560,785

### **Funds Reimbursed for Child Care**

Paid directly to Child Care Providers, supporting their small businesses & helping families obtain affordable, quality child care that best suits their needs.







# 225 Hours

### Of Virtual Trainings Hosted by VOCS

Provided directly to Child Care Providers, supporting their small businesses, bolstering their skillsets, and keeping their practices and policies up to date.

# OUR PROVIDER IMPACT

Through Valley Oak Children's Services Provider based programs and services, we were able to provide:



#### 866,626 Balanced Meals Served

Through our Adult & Child Care Food Program, keeping children healthy and growing



## 1,680 Provider Supply Deliveries

Ensuring Child Care Providers had the supplies and PPE they needed to remain open throughout COVID-19

# OUR FINANCIAL IMPACT

Without Child Care, there is no economic recovery from not only the COVID-19 Pandemic but all challenges that Butte County has weathered in recent years. As the cost of child care has steadily increased, so have our efforts to ensure that families can obtain quality care. We will continue to grow and adapt our programs and services to meet the needs of our community.

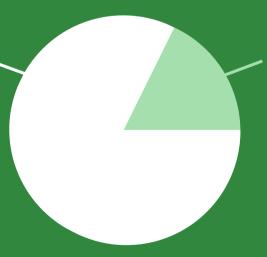






### **How Every Dollar is Spent at VOCS**

82.5¢
Is given back to families, providers, and the communities we serve



17.7¢
Is spent to keep VOCS operating for the communities we serve

#### **OUR SUPPORTERS**

Valley Oak Children's Services could not begin to make an impact in our community without support. We would especially like to thank the following people, groups, and organizations for their assistance:



#### **Supporters**

**Almendra Winery and Distillery** Blue Shield of California **Butte County Library Butte County Public Health CAL Office of Emergency Services CDSS Disaster Services Branch First 5 Butte County** First 5 California InterWest Insurance Services **Italian Cottage Keller Williams Realty LionHeart Safety LLC North Valley Community Foundation Platinum Partners Real Estate Team US Bank** 

#### **Board Members**

**Bruce Thomas - Board President** InterWest Insurance Services

Marisa Bauer- Vice President Platinum Partners Real Estate Team

**Rose Fostine - Secretary** Norfield, Inc.

**Keith Fickert - Treasurer** Fickert Real Estate Team

Sally Mendez - Board Member **US Bank** 

**Derrick McGaugh - Board Member Enloe Medical Center** 



# 2353 Children

Still waiting on the Eligibility List for Child Care

# Top 3 Reasons for Child Care Assistance:



Working



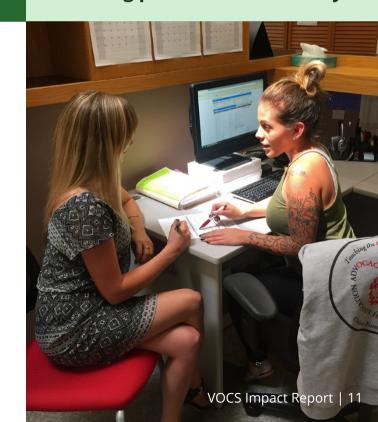
**Going to School/Training** 



Looking for a Job

# THE CONTINUED NEED

Although VOCS strives to reach as many families as possible, there are children still on the Eligibility Waitlist, and still require assistance with Child Care costs. 2353 Children, whose parents and caregivers need agencies like VOCS to work, go to school, and contribute towards making Butte County such an amazing place to raise a family!







### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

Help us to serve the Children and Child Care Providers of Butte County! Here are a few ways you can lend a hand:

#### **Donate**

Make a financial contribution, either one-time or become a recurring sponsor at <a href="Valleyoakchildren.org/donate/">Valleyoakchildren.org/donate/</a>

### **Share**

Follow us on social media, and help spread the word of our programs, events, and services!

@ValleyOakChildren

### **Vote**

When you get to the Ballot Box, Vote For Children! Voting in favor of policies and programs that favor afforable, quality Child Care is one of the many ways you can support the families who need it most!