

THE FUTURE WE BELIEVE IN.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

A clear vision. Fierce determination. Experience and innovation.



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That's what we bring to the table every day as we work to build the future we believe in.

Change has come at a dizzying pace this year, with some of the norms we've long counted on vanishing, practically into thin air. Times like this call for a steady hand, for resilience, and for our very best – and that's exactly what we're delivering week after week, month after month.

From our work to stem the youth mental health crisis, to connect men to healthier communities online and offline, to help women and other survivors heal from trauma, and to improve how workplaces, health care, and the child welfare system respond to violence, we're finding ways to continue our progress.

We have to. So much is on the line.

Our commitment to ending violence for women, children and families is absolute and unwavering, but to build the future we believe in – and create the world we all deserve – we need to do more. And the good news is, Futures Without Violence has long focused on multiple strategies to create a safer, healthier, more prosperous world for everyone.

This year, FUTURES has made important progress in five primary areas:

- Preventing Violence Against Women and Children
- Connecting Men and Boys to Healthier Outcomes
- Improving Quality Health Access at Every Age
- Boosting Economic Opportunity
- Building the Next Generation of Courageous Leadership

We're also making incredible progress toward the grand opening of the Courage Museum, coming in 2027. This one-of-a-kind interactive, immersive learning center will help young people and other visitors envision a world in which violence and hate are not an inevitable part of the human experience, and learn how to act to make that vision reality.

Together, across this work, we've reached more than 20 million people, both in-person and online, in every U.S. state and around the world. And our policy advocacy, in conjunction with advocates and partners, has protected life-saving funding for the domestic violence and sexual assault infrastructure across the United States in a very difficult federal funding environment.

I invite you to read more about how we're advancing progress. Despite today's headwinds, the future we believe in is within reach — and we won't stop until we get there.

Thank you for standing with us and joining us in this work.

With Gratitude,

Esta Soler



THE FUTURE WE BELIEVE IN... ENSURES SAFETY FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN AND US ALL

Domestic and sexual violence affect almost every family, every community, and every sector of our society – but these are problems we can prevent. At FUTURES, we pioneered some of the programs and strategies that helped reduce domestic violence against women by 60% over the past 30 years. That's one of the greatest public health successes in our country's history.

How do we make progress? This year, we've trained more than 14,000 professionals such as doctors, nurses, judges, and athletic coaches to improve responses to violence and abuse. We also worked with advocates, policy makers, and others in every U.S. state and globally to build sustainable community leadership and educate people everywhere about the importance of preventing abuse and creating healthy relationships.

As our world has changed, our strategies have evolved. But we've always known that progress includes ensuring the systems that are supposed to keep us safe function as they should. Sadly, too often that is not the case. Changing systems – building lasting reform – is a major challenge, and one we embrace.

Our **Promising Futures** initiative acts as a program office to 55 child-focused organizations in 28 states and D.C. We convened them in August, mobilizing leaders and survivors of family violence and their communities to strengthen policies and practices so they will do much



more to prevent violence and promote healing. Some 15 million U.S. children are exposed to domestic violence each year, but the systems set up to protect them too often separate children from nonviolent parents, undermining the loving parent-child bond that can help children heal from trauma. We're working to change this by putting survivors at the center of this work and, with their help, leading a powerful movement to rethink what protecting children means. In addition, our trainings and consultations engaged 8,000 professionals this year, who collectively reached 1.6 million people.

We supported advocates, attorneys, judges, social workers, and others through the workshops and technical assistance our **Institute for Leadership in Education Development** (I-LED) offered this year, helping grantees strengthen their training and education programs. The American Bar Association, Center for Justice Innovation, and Esperanza United are among the organizations that have embedded our approaches into their work.

Our Enhancing Judicial Skills in Abuse Later in Life
Cases Institute – a collaboration with the National Council
of Juvenile and Family Court Judges – reached judges
across the country with workshops to help them handle
cases of elder abuse, including domestic violence, sexual
assault, and financial exploitation. And our Building
Collaborative Responses to Human Trafficking project
supported hundreds of professionals at community-based
organizations who serve survivors.

Public policies that meet the moment make all our successes possible, and the **FUTURES Policy Center** had another busy, successful year. At a time when rollbacks to federal funding have become the norm, we brought survivor voices to the halls of Congress to help us stop cuts to vital services, protecting \$1 billion in crucial funding for Violence Against Women Act and Family Violence Prevention and Services Act programs. We continued raising awareness about the policies and funding steams that can prevent and end violence in the United States and worldwide as we worked to secure people's access to health care, enhance women's economic opportunity, protect basic services including food and nutrition support for low-income families, and improve maternal and infant health, youth mental health, and early childhood programs.

Finally, we know that violence is a crisis worldwide, and that girls who are safe, educated, and able to lead drive solutions, strengthen societies, and shape more just, prosperous futures. That's why we continue to **advocate globally to fund responses that protect women and children worldwide.** FUTURES sponsored important discussions on preventing child sexual abuse and violence against women in forums during the United Nations General Assembly and in the halls of Congress. We also co-chaired the Child Partnership coalition with ChildFund International and First Focus on Children to bring together leading child advocacy voices in the fight to ensure child protection is not lost to competing priorities.





THE FUTURE WE BELIEVE IN... ENGAGES BOYS AND MEN IN THE SOLUTIONS

There's a lot of focus these days on boys and young men – a mental health crisis, a generation adrift. At FUTURES, we're working tirelessly to help young men who are struggling and isolated, but we also recognize men as a resource, as powerful allies in the work to build a safer, more successful country.

We bring decades of experience and vast expertise to that work.

It starts with our much-heralded **Coaching Boys Into Men** (CBIM) program, which continues to evolve.

Through it, we train middle and high school coaches to teach young male athletes healthy relationship skills and that violence never equals strength. We engage schools, community groups, teams, and others to help us improve attitudes and support young men in learning to create healthy, respectful relationships. We are now bringing this highly effective program to coaches at the college level.

Our **Team: Changing Minds** initiative, in partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, is addressing our youth mental health crisis by helping the peers and adults young men trust identify signs of mental health



challenges and provide help when it's needed. We made tremendous progress and the responders we trained are on track to reach 1.2 million youth by the end of 2026. We're proud that a University of Pittsburgh study concluded that the "Take Ten" micro-learning modules we created are dramatically improving the confidence of the responders we're training, increasing their knowledge about how to help young men facing mental health challenges and their intent to do so.

As Al and social media algorithms push misogynistic, hypermasculine, and isolating content on young men, we founded the **LinkUp Lab** with our partners at Equimundo to incubate digital solutions and convene partners across tech and gaming industries to advance safety. Its initiatives include tools and trainings to help online moderators who reach over 20+ million users to integrate pro-social, healthy relationship "fitness packs" into their online communities; enhancements that boost connection and healthy communication and curb abusive behavior on major male-dominated video games; and media literacy videos for teens, with tools for adults in their lives, with guidance on sex, appearance, mental health and more.

Launched in January, **CATAPULT: Campus Action** is growing leadership among college campus men to end violence through care, connection, and accountability. It leverages the power of storytelling to create authentic experiences for students to explore how expectations around manhood affect them and their communities. Its virtual and in-person summits have brought together



staff, students, administrators, and advocates from 100+ campuses and organizations across 35 states to share research, best practices, and strategies to engage men in preventing violence. CATAPULT's unique platform helps people share stories, brainstorm ways to strengthen initiatives on their campuses, and connect with peers nationwide to foster safer, more inclusive campus communities. Kicking off in November, its **Unscripted** campaign is inviting young men to write their own stories about what it means to be a man today.







THE FUTURE WE BELIEVE IN... GIVES ALL WOMEN TOOLS FOR ECONOMIC SECURITY

Economic insecurity undermines the well-being of families and communities, and living in poverty significantly increases a person's risk of experiencing and being unable to escape violence. Sexual assault, domestic violence, sexual harassment, and stalking cause real harm to our workplaces and to our economy – so preventing them is an economic as well as a moral imperative.

We're working to do just that. An often-overlooked form of dating violence is **teen economic abuse** – financial control that creates dependency and blocks pathways to safety and well-being. This abuse can disrupt education, employment, and financial stability, even diminishing future earnings. We continue our trailblazing work to build awareness and promote prevention. To further our work, we created resources for teens, and the adults that support them, including parents, and youth-serving professionals, to help them identify and address teen economic abuse. Due to our work, the National Youth Employment Coalition, serving more than 4.3 million out-of-school youth, helped to raise awareness about teen economic abuse.

FUTURES leads **Workplaces Respond to Domestic & Sexual Violence**, a national resource center that provides tools and strategies to make workplaces safer. Workplaces Respond shares resources and best practices to help employers, workers, unions, and advocates prevent and respond to violence

of all kinds. We've conducted training sessions for hundreds of people this year, provided ongoing technical assistance, and created resources including a new sexual harassment toolkit and one focused on supporting survivors of stalking. In November, we joined with the National Domestic Violence Hotline to issue a groundbreaking report on the experiences of survivors in the workplace, with recommendations for reforms.

Our **Promoting Employment Opportunities for Survivors of Trafficking** (PEOST) Training and Technical Assistance Project is improving access to education and employment for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, with an emphasis on survivors of human trafficking. PEOST trained more than 1,000 people this year, building their capacity and helping them support resilience and prepare survivors to succeed in school and work.

To bolster our ongoing work to advance federal and state policies that support women in low-paid work through paid safe family leave, cash assistance, workforce development, and more, we launched the **Center for Economic FUTURES** to reimagine what economic opportunity can look like for low-income workers by creating regional collaboratives to design solutions for economic resilience, co-designing Al tools and digital resources for low-wage workers, amplifying the voices of low-wage workers, and more.



THE FUTURE WE BELIEVE IN... GUARANTEES ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE

To succeed, every society needs a health care system that ensures access to quality, affordable care for everyone. Preventing and helping people heal from violence and abuse is essential to that — and it depends on the kind of health care system we are working to build: one informed about the causes and consequences of violence and trauma, committed to stopping it, and skilled in helping survivors heal. Creating that kind of system is an urgent priority, since violence causes lasting harm to the health and well-being of survivors, their families and communities.

Our much-heralded leadership to improve our health care system continued this year, as we pivoted to meet emerging challenges. In 2025, we trained nearly 3,500 health care providers, including people in every state, provided in-depth technical assistance to hundreds of professionals, and supported 35 grantee organizations to help them improve the health and safety of survivors and promote prevention.

Our National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence continues advancing public health strategies to prevent violence, train providers on how to respond effectively when it occurs, and partner with communitybased programs to improve survivor health and safety. We shared dozens of free resources, toolkits, briefs, posters, safety cards, and more with providers across the country; and worked with community health centers, HIV and perinatal health providers, school-based providers, doulas, and others. We convened experts from across the country to identify ways to increase the capacity of domestic violence programs to meet the health needs of survivors. We partnered with national groups on a project to help providers address behavioral health needs and convened an innovation lab with programs around the country that produced new tools and a "lookbook" of promising practices. And our National Technical Assistance and Training Partnership engaged health centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico this year.

Through the ACEs Aware Family Resilience Network, we continue directing grants to California groups that are pioneering community-led strategies for preventing and healing from trauma, and connecting families exposed to adverse childhood experiences (ACES) to benefits, services and community supports. Led by the UCLA/UCSF ACEs Aware Family Resilience Network (UCAAN), the project directs California's response to ACEs through education, screening, and initiatives in clinical and community settings. Our Project NACES (No More Adverse Childhood Experiences) - a partnership with Lideres Campesinas, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, and Migrant Clinicians Network brought together community-based advocates and health centers to improve access to information and supports for farmworkers and their families.

We lead **Health Partners on IPV + Exploitation**, which is helping the over 17,000 community health centers that serve as safety net providers across the country support survivors of intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and exploitation and to help them build partnerships with domestic violence programs in their communities.

And finally, our **Policy Team** is doing powerful work to protect access to care and to the basic services that make good health possible for lower-income families. We brought survivors and advocates to state and federal lawmakers to share how Medicaid supports their health and safety. We advocated to reduce maternal and infant mortality, increase support for youth mental



health services and early childhood health programs, stop child sexual abuse, and more. In California, we educated opinion leaders about the impacts of cuts to Medicaid and other health programs and worked to improve the state health care system's capacity to meet the needs of adult and child survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.





THE FUTURE WE BELIEVE IN... BUILDS THE NEXT GENERATION OF COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP

To create the future we all dream of, we must educate and inspire the next generation of young people to believe that violence is not inevitable – and that they can do something about it. The Courage Museum and Education Center, scheduled to open in 2027, is designed to do just that. Located on the Main Post of the Presidio National Park in San Francisco, the Courage Museum will put public land to use for a public service: ending violence, and the hate that fuels it.

Generation Courage (Gen C) is the Museum's youth leadership initiative, placing young people at the center of everything we do – as co-designers, storytellers, and community leaders. Through a range of programs, Gen C will help us reach young people to reimagine systems, promote healing, and lead with purpose. This summer, we launched our inaugural Youth Advisory Council, including rising juniors and seniors from the Bay Area, to help shape the Museum's exhibits, Education Center, outreach, and community programs. The Youth Council's experience culminated in a community showcase, guiding visitors through the Museum's galleries and unveiling the prototypes they developed over the course of the program.

As we work toward opening the Museum's doors, we also held several public events this year to amplify inspirational storytelling and advance courageous conversations about what it will take to end violence.

In April, we hosted **an evening discussion with Jake Barton**, founder of the award-winning design firm, Local Projects, and creative director of the Courage Museum. Jake shared a behind-the-scenes look at the design plans and visitor experience for the Courage Museum. He was joined by high school students and educators to highlight their involvement in the design and

prototyping of the accompanying education program, giving a sense of the many ways in which the Courage Museum will immerse visitors in a journey of reflection, learning, and action.

FUTURES also held two **Storyteller Summits** in 2025, featuring several Museum storytellers in conversation with the award-winning directors who curated their films for the Empathy Mirror installation. In May, we held a Storyteller Summit focused on experiences of young men, including storytellers Aswad Thomas, a survivor of gun violence, and Ramon Diaz, Jr., a former college football player who was targeted by his coaches because of his heritage. They were joined by our talented and thoughtful filmmakers, Yoruba Richen and Jon Shenk.

Our October Storyteller Summit featured filmmaker Bing Liu with skateboarder Anthony Shetler, a survivor of childhood abuse, and runner Rosalie Fish, who raises awareness about the plight of missing and murdered indigenous women. The night reminded us of the power of storytelling as a platform for authentic human connection, and the possibilities that exist when we come together to face adversity with courage. Throughout the evening there were shared moments of pain and loss, which grounded us, but they were far outweighed by the strength, conviction, and grace of our storytellers.

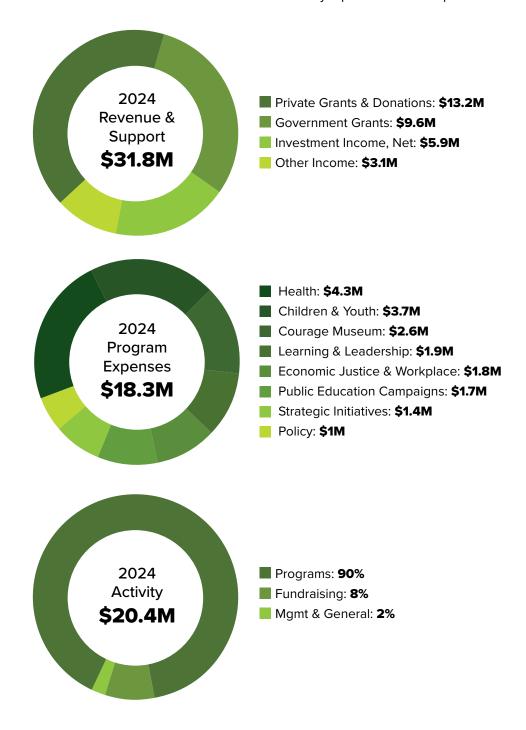
These gatherings offered a rare behind-the-scenes opportunity to learn more about the Empathy Mirror storytellers and the ways their individual experiences with hate, discrimination, and violence will offer unique learning opportunities for Museum visitors. It was a true demonstration of the power of storytelling to open hearts and minds, through active listening and reflective learning – a compelling exercise in empathy building.



A STRONG FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Your investment makes our work possible, and brings us all closer to our shared goals of a future without violence. We thank our thousands of donors and partners around the world who fund our innovative

programs. Our careful stewardship of your support has earned us 4 out of 4 stars from Charity Navigator for more than 10 years and counting, a distinction that only 5 percent of all nonprofits have attained.



Your support powers work that strengthens families, helps communities thrive and opens doorways to healing and possibility."



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