

Harmony Project

Arts & Culture

Los Angeles, CA

\$300,000

Founded in 2001, Harmony Project nurtures the artistic expression and social-emotional development of underserved K-12 students by providing tuition-free music education. Through the study, practice, and performance of music, the organization reaches nearly 3,850 students annually at 43 sites throughout Los Angeles County. Students participate in after-school lessons in instrumental, percussion, vocal, or music production tracks, and commit to Saturday orchestra rehearsals and master classes, culminating in performances each semester. Harmony Project's holistic approach includes wraparound services such as case management, mental health referrals, college counseling, and basic needs support to ensure students succeed both in and out of the classroom. A Keck Foundation grant will support Harmony Project's efforts to expand its programming in South Los Angeles by adding three new sites to create a K-12 continuum. Funding will also help reinstate programming for students from Eliot Arts Magnet Academy, which was destroyed by the Eaton Fire. Over the two-year grant period, more than 600 students will be served, including 250 directly impacted by the fire. Exposing students to sequential musical experiences can increase school engagement, bolster academic achievement, and build social-emotional and interpersonal skills.

Project Angel Food*Civic and Community**Los Angeles, CA**\$500,000*

Project Angel Food provides home-delivered medically tailored meals at no cost to low-income individuals with life threatening illnesses throughout Los Angeles County. Over the past five years, they have doubled their annual production of meals from 650,000 to over 1.5 million and are now serving 5,200 unduplicated clients each year. Their kitchen was not designed to handle that volume of meals and is bursting at the seams with their parking lot being used as an overflow refrigerated storage area. With an aging population, and an estimated 28,000 people post hospitalization who meet the agency's criteria for enrollment, the need to expand is clear. In response, Project Angel Food has embarked on a two-phase capital campaign to create a 30,000-square-foot campus to dramatically increase meal production capacity, enhance their services, and increase the number of clients served annually. The first phase involves complete renovation of their existing facility to build a much larger kitchen and expand food storage, packing, and dispatch areas. A Keck grant will support the second phase that involves constructing a new two-story facility on an adjacent property. The building will house client intake and nutrition services, a demonstration kitchen, space for volunteers, and offices for staff. Providing healthy meals can help reduce hospital admissions and home visits by a dedicated care team can combat isolation.

Together California*Civic & Community**Palmdale, CA**\$500,000*

Founded in 2022, Together California, a village for brothers and sisters, is pioneering a model of foster care in the Antelope Valley, with a mission that prioritizes keeping siblings in foster care together. In a system where nearly half of foster youth with siblings are separated, this model offers an innovative alternative. Together California provides a stable, family-like environment that emphasizes a sense of community and comprehensive support for birth families, resource parents and foster children. The aim is to minimize placement disruptions and provide a stable path to permanency. The village will feature 12 single-family homes, each staffed by full-time, professionally trained resource parents. Each home will be licensed to care for up to six children. The site will also include two studio apartments for transition-age youth or birth parents in need of temporary housing, and a 7,000-square-foot community center for the Antelope Valley community. Together California's program staff will be on site to coordinate enriching programs and support the resource parents. The Keck Foundation grant will support the construction of this innovative campus. Once complete, the village will offer a long-term home for up to 74 children and youth at any one time.

Two Bit Circus Foundation*Precollegiate Education**Los Angeles, CA**\$125,000*

Two Bit Circus Foundation was founded in 2004 to provide hands-on STEAM education to youth. They provide K-12 Title I schools with materials and makerspaces, create engaging lessons, and train educators to deliver the curriculum. In 2024, Two Bit Circus served 4,000 students and trained 3,540 educators. With the loss of their rental facility and the move to a much smaller temporary space, Two Bit Circus had to scale back their onsite programming and suspend its materials subscription program for schools. The organization has purchased a 13,000-square-foot warehouse to serve as a Community Hub for STEAM education. Located in South Los Angeles, the hub will serve as a resource for communities lacking access to engaging STEAM learning opportunities. The building will feature a large makerspace for children and families, training rooms, staff offices, and space for storing and distributing materials to schools. This new permanent home has ample space to host at least 100 workshops and provide up to 50 schools annually with new makerspaces and training for their teachers.

Un Mundo de Amigos Preschool*Early Childhood**Long Beach, CA**\$300,000*

Founded in 2009, Un Mundo de Amigos Preschool (Un Mundo) provides high-quality early childhood education in Long Beach, with a focus on dual-language instruction, inclusive classrooms, and early intervention. The organization currently serves 160 toddlers and preschoolers at two locations. Un Mundo is now launching a third site in West Long Beach, a community where nearly 40% of children under five live in poverty and access to early learning opportunities remains limited. Despite recent increases in state-subsidized childcare, only one in five eligible children are enrolled, and families often face long waits for essential developmental therapies. The new site will feature three classrooms, including one dedicated to occupational, physical, and speech therapy for children with developmental delays. A nature playground and outdoor classroom will promote inclusive play, exploration, and social development. A Keck Foundation grant will support renovations for this new preschool campus. Once open, it will serve an additional 52 children, ages 2–5, expanding access to early education and laying the foundation for kindergarten readiness.

Venice Family Clinic*Health Care**Inglewood, CA**\$275,000*

Venice Family Clinic (the Clinic) is a Federally Qualified Health Center operating 21 sites in the West Los Angeles and South Bay communities. The organization is expanding its services by establishing the Inglewood Crenshaw Children and Family Center in the city of Inglewood. Children and families in this community face a multitude of health disparities. Decades of underinvestment have resulted in high levels of poverty, neighborhood violence, and chronic stress. Compared to the rest of Los Angeles, Inglewood has limited access to high quality early childhood education, green space, fresh food, and health care. To address the need for comprehensive care in Inglewood and its surrounding neighborhoods, the Clinic is remodeling a 16,000 square-foot building purchased in 2022 to house the new center. In addition to primary and specialty care, families will have access to Early Head Start services, doulas, infant mental health therapy, playgroups, care coordination, and vocational training. Once renovations are completed, the health facility will serve approximately 4,000 patients annually. Construction is underway. A Keck grant will support the buildout of the health clinic. By bringing together a range of services that support the whole family at one location, the Clinic aims to demonstrate how an integrated model of care focused on prevention and early intervention can improve school readiness, health outcomes and enhance community well-being.
