Reflecting back on the 2021 year, our organization has gone through so many changes and updates; our programs have seen many successes, and some uncertainties; our staff, like most people-facing organizations, have felt the weight of the pandemic on their shoulders. We are tired. We are thankful. We are knowledgeable. We are resilient - as an agency and as a community. In the past quarter alone, our agency raised thousands of dollars that turned into direct resources for the community. We served more families and children than ever before at our staple community-wide events, all thanks to the strength and perseverance of our team, and the support of our donors and sponsors. In addition to our successful end-of-year community-wide events, our agency regained several new contracts due to the hard work and time we have put into our programs. We worked hard to renew our Child Care Coordination services contract, and expand those services to more guardians. Because of our diligence, flexibility, and patience, our team was awarded yet again the Project Homekey initiative from the City of West Sacramento. The results of the work YCCA does on paper proves our agency’s impact in the community, but the stories and passion behind those numbers come from the hearts of our staff. Our team has worked together: we’ve argued, we’ve questioned, we’ve laughed, we’ve cried, and we’ve succeeded together this past year. All in all, our team has worked together to improve the lives of those families, youth, and children that YCCA serves.
Serving primary caregivers of children from pregnancy to age 3, the Healthy Families Yolo County program aims to improve the infant-parent relationship by enhancing skills, promoting healthy child development, and supporting bonding in a safe home environment. The program serves Yolo County’s most vulnerable mothers and provides practical support for accessing basic needs and community resources as well as activities to build parenting skills.

Over the course of 2021, the Healthy Families Yolo County team supported 145 families with unprecedented levels of stressors including homeless pregnant participants, rampant food and housing insecurity, higher rates of depression and anxiety, and difficult family situations exacerbated by the pandemic. While there were endless challenges, we celebrated many successes including and numerous goals achieved by our participants. Some of those goals included: starting a small business, gaining U.S. citizenship, getting mental health counseling, securing safe affordable housing, going back to college, securing childcare in order to return to work, starting nursing school, and buying their first home!

As we look towards 2022, HFYC is also preparing to expand once again with the launch of Welcome Baby, in partnership with CommuniCare Health Centers and First 5 Yolo, to support even more Yolo County parents.

YCCA-CCCS is contracted with Yolo County Health and Human Services agency to provide subsidized child care for families who are receiving cash aid services through CalWorks. Families who are interested in receiving childcare, request it from their Welfare to Work worker with the county. The worker, upon approval of cash aid, sends a referral to YCCA-CCCS for childcare enrollment. YCCA-CCCS enrolls these families and providers and pays the providers directly for the childcare services approved and provided to the families.

The CCCS program serves any family who resides in Yolo County. The majority of the families enrolled live in West Sacramento, Woodland, and Davis, and some families in the surrounding areas in Yolo County.

Last quarter, we were preparing and distributing a satisfaction survey. This quarter, we received the feedback, and the results were great as always. Our staff and clients are all happy with the services we provide. We continue to serve our clients with the utmost dedication to ensure they have stable and reliable childcare.
Within YCCA’s housing programs, we manage several programs that focus on rental assistance, homelessness prevention, and case management for those who are homeless and are in need of housing services. We partner with several other community organizations, as well as the City of West Sacramento and Yolo County, to provide these services.

The housing program continues to help a large number of clients with their housing needs. On the prevention side, the SIEMER family stability program for households with school-aged children is consistently serving around 20 families and supporting them in achieving a multitude of positive goals. The California Covid-19 Rent Relief Program is still in full swing: our team continues to help an average of 20 clients per week with their applications to receive rent and utility assistance. To-date, the YCCA team has assisted 189 households with their applications. With the process often taking several weeks, sometimes a couple of months, to complete, 73 households have already received their rent relief payments from the State of California, and the majority of the remainder have been approved to receive funding. Furthermore, with regard to eviction prevention, the housing program continues to process funding requests for first and last month’s rent, security deposits, emergency stays at motels, etc. The direct client assistance in 2021 totaled more than $65,000 in housing assistance!

The YCCA Housing Program oversees Project Homekey and Project Roomkey, providing clients with intensive case management. The overall goal of these two programs is to prepare clients to live independently, and secure permanent housing for them. This is all possible because of our five on-site staff at the Project Homekey motel, who have been incredibly busy assisting clients with procuring documents, and completing housing applications to obtain emergency housing vouchers.

The permanent supportive housing units at 1801 West Capitol Avenue are now at full occupancy. YCCA staff worked closely with Mercy Housing and the City of West Sacramento to help fill the property, accomplishing a long-time goal. The completion of this project was a testimony to the hard work of our housing team. Many of the clients who moved into 1801 were able to use their housing vouchers, and some were clients from the Project Homekey program. These clients graduating from their temporary housing in the motels not only brought joy and an accomplished feeling to our staff, but also allowed for more room at the motels to provide more support to new clients.
The Building & Strengthening Protective Factors (BSPF) program implements the six protective factors and safety actions to support and assist parents with stabilizing their children in home placement or returning their children to the home after living in a foster/resource home. The Parent Support Specialists use their knowledge of the (NPP) Nurturing Parenting Program Curriculum and their experience with protective factors and safety actions to advocate for the children through interpersonal connections with the parents, in-home redirection, coaching and resource support.

The purpose of the In-Home Safety Program is to provide services to parents, legal guardians and caretakers referred by Child Welfare Services that build and strengthen protective factors ensuring child safety, permanency, and well-being. Services which will also support caretakers in improving their protective capacities and skills allowing them to recognize safety concerns that create danger in the home.

The impact to the community is that by providing services and support to caregivers in need, we are supporting the well-being of youth as well as permanency.

Due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic, our team has become creative in how we support our families as in person meetings are sometimes not available. We have been able to meet with families through Zoom when needed to prevent the need to cancel sessions with families. In the past quarter, the

The Child Abuse Prevention Council met once last quarter with the purpose of determining a plan for Child Abuse Prevention Month, in April 2022. The council determined that rather than developing new materials or hosting any events, the goal of this year’s CAP month will be to continue to promote the Strong Families Yolo website, while simultaneously bringing essential awareness to the CAPC and its resources to the County’s schools and partners.

The CAPC will develop a robust communications plan that includes a social media plan, presentation and partner outreach plan leading up and through the month of April. After April, the council will create an annual plan to ensure the momentum of the information for child abuse prevention resources is not lost.

The Yolo Family Strengthening Network (YFSN) is a group of Yolo County family-serving organizations and agencies dedicated to strengthening families and preventing child abuse and neglect. In mid-October YCCA filled the vacant Coordinator position in charge of the YFSN. A YFSN Meeting was held on November 16, 2021. The new YFSN Chair, Marisa Green from Yolo County Child Welfare Services, was introduced in the November meeting and in December Isaac Blackstock from Yolo County Housing volunteered as Co-Chair. Together, they met in late December with the Coordinator to schedule all the 2022 YFSN Meetings. Additionally, they created a survey to learn how to best serve the goals of the individual organizations in coordination with YFSN’s purpose. Continuously throughout the quarter, YCCA worked in tandem with the YFSN Listserv and sent emails every week with resources, trainings, events, and other materials related to child abuse prevention and strengthening families education. YCCA’s coordinator reached out to various Yolo County school districts and successfully added two school district student services directors to the YFSN.
**Family Support Programs**

**Program Updates**

**Family Support - Yolo County Community Health Initiative (CHI) / OERU**

Medi-Cal is a health insurance program that is offered in California to individuals and families with a federal poverty level (FPL) under 138%. This program helps individuals pay for their medical expenses, which also gives them the opportunity to maintain good health. During January 1st – December 31st, 2021, we served roughly 170 individuals and families with Medi-Cal application assistance. Of the 170 applicants, 90 have been approved, and 45 applicants have pending applications.

**Covered California Engagement:**

Covered CA is a federal program for those individuals who do not qualify through Medi-Cal or who are not offered health insurance through their employers. For those who are offered health insurance through their employer, but more than 9.87% of their total income is considered to receive it, they can apply for a federal program subsidy through Covered CA. Covered CA helps those individuals who are above 138% FPL (Federal Poverty Level) and are US citizen/resident/etc. with finding a health plan that fits their needs. During January 1st – December 31st, 2021, we assisted 30 applicants with successfully applying to Covered CA. About 75% of those applicants have enrolled into a Kaiser Health plan.

“Through our Family Resource Center and Support Programs, we connect hundreds of English, Spanish, Farsi, and Russian speaking families to available community services. Every year we assist several thousand individuals with health insurance, food subsidies, and more.”

“I recently helped a mother of four who was going through divorce needed help renewing her coverage with Covered California. She entered our FRC looking stressed and worried about making sure she had her coverage for the upcoming 2022 school year for her and her four children. I was able to walk her through the process and make any changes to her application to ensure her coverage was renewed. She was so appreciative, and almost cried for the service she experienced when she found out it was free. I was able to provide support, comfort, and hope for her that things will get better this year.”

**CalFresh**

CalFresh is a food and nutrition assistance program for low income families living in California. Formerly known as Food stamps, this program provides families with monthly benefits to assist with purchasing nutritious and fresh food. During January 1st – December 31st, 2021, we assisted 159 individuals with CalFresh applications and renewals. In addition, we assisted 80 individuals with navigation assistance, submitting documents, change of address, phone numbers, income, and adding a family member to their CalFresh enrollment. During this time frame, 62 were approved for CalFresh benefits.
PROGRAM UPDATES

COVID-19 VACCINE OUTREACH
From March 1st – December 31st, the Family Resource Center has been implementing the COVID-19 Vaccination Outreach Program, specifically focusing on the West Sacramento 95605 zip code. Throughout the months, YCCA has attended and provided outreach at several community events to promote vaccine information and clinics. In addition to event outreach, the FRC team trained several volunteers to bring flyers and information to homes in the 95605 area code, and developed social media content for the YCCA social media platform. As the County’s vaccine guidelines adapted to the current federal guidelines, YCCA continued to provide the most up to date information to clients, social media followers, and staff. Overall, we helped provide information on vaccines and boosters, information about the COVID-19 virus, information on masking guidelines, testing, and how to make a vaccine or booster appointment through MyTurn.

THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM
YCCA has been hosting a weekly food distribution since 2005, and now we host distributions at three different sites (West Sacramento Family Resource Center, Clarksburg, and West Gateway Place Apartments). Our largest distribution is held at YCCA’s Family Resource Center,

VOLUNTARY TAX INCOME ASSISTANCE (VITA)
VITA, or Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, is a program that YCCA has led in the West Sacramento area for years, alongside many of our partners. VITA provides free tax assistance to clients that meet income guidelines of less than $60,000 annually. Due to COVID-19, this past year has shifted the way we assist clients in preparing their taxes, like most other services. The silver lining of these adjustments, including drop offs, Zoom meetings, email coordinations, is that our team was able to complete more taxes for individuals than ever before! In the 2021 year,
HELP ME GROW
HMGY offers free and confidential developmental screenings to families with children, from birth to age 5-years old. The results of the screenings offer families a quick snapshot of their child’s current development status and are used to bridge families to community resources that strengthen and address their individual needs. Help Me Grow Yolo County provides resources, referrals, and follow-up to all children and their families.

Help Me Grow Yolo County is like an instant camera because it offers families snapshots of their children’s current development. We use ASQs to find where children are developmentally in their communication skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, problem solving skills, social-emotional skills, and personal social skills. We also administer the PHQ9 and the SEEK questionnaire to find any other areas we may be able to assist a family in. Depending on the results of our screenings we will bridge connections to other services in the area that can assist the family and child(ren).

and for the fiscal year (07/01/21-12/17/21) we have provided 167 screenings. Through the last year we have learned that families are resilient, and that Covid-19 brought a need for more services. We have noticed that one of the developmental areas in which children are scoring lower on is fine-motor skills.

This year we have started curating kits to help with this developmental area. The kits including child scissors that have a spring in that assist with cutting, puzzles, crayons, colorings more, playdough, and more. These kits have motivated families to take the screenings. The kits have served a dual purpose; addressed a developmental need and served as an incentive.

NURTURING PARENT PROGRAM (NPP) IMPACT PROGRAM
The NPP/IMPACT Program is an early learning quality improvement initiative that provides coaching for a variety of childcare providers Friend Family Neighbor and Family Child Care Home (FFN and FCCH.) Coaching includes a combination of the Nurturing Parenting Program, Family Engagement Labs and Quality Counts California Coaching.

This quarter, we were able be a part of a presentation by Children’s Home Society on licensing requirements for FFN participants in the program.
WORKFORCE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA)

WIOA supports youth, 16-24 years old, with barriers to employment and places them in a 300 hour paid work experience. Barriers include, Foster, Homeless, Documented disability, Pregnant or parenting, high school dropouts and justice system experience. Youth are supported throughout placement and provided with assistance towards employment and/or educational goals.

Additionally, we have 12 youth that are in follow-up until June 2022. 6 of these enrolled participants reside in West Sacramento, while the remaining 4 are in Davis. On the business side of the program, we have been able to connect with a number of new businesses that are interested in working with us including; Communicare and Yolocares in Davis as well as Fiery Ginger Farm in West Sacramento. We also placed one youth at a new worksite in Davis, Spork Food Hub.

Our program has recently been awarded a small grant from the Teichert Foundation, allowing our program to begin increasing its capacity to serve individuals who do not meet the WIOA qualifications. This grant is the first of hopefully many to enable this program to work with local schools and organization to better prepare all youth for the workforce. With this grant, we were able to begin outreach to some of our untapped partners, including Yolo High School in West Sacramento, and King High School in Davis. We anticipate our enrollment to continue to be slower, due to the pandemic, but because of our increase and updated outreach efforts, we have still enrolled more youth than last year’s 2020-2021 program year.
QUARTER SUMMARY
The past quarter’s fundraising efforts were focused heavily around our end-of-year holiday community events. With the increase in referrals and clients throughout YCCA’s programs over the course of 2021, we anticipated more families and children than ever needing access to our holiday events. Overall, we were able to gain several new large donors, many new individual donors, and as expected, served more families and children than ever before! Along with the increase in numbers, YCCA was able to showcase the hard work we do throughout the media and community.

All of our donors are the reason YCCA is able to serve as many families as we do. Every day we want to shout from the rooftops our gratitude for every single one of them. This quarter, we would like to highlight our partners who have been involved with our community, and by financially supporting YCCA.

Hawkins Home Loans
Hawkins Home Loans has been a long supporter of YCCA, and this year, the organization worked in partnership with their community to bring funds and in-kind donations to our organization. They rallied the community and their partners together to host a new toy drive for YCCA’s toy distribution, and were able to secure funds to donate to the event as well. A true show of our community working together to brighten the lives of children in need!

Davis Senior High School: Community Club
The Davis Senior High School Community Club is an example of youth taking action in their community! This group came to us asking if they could gather up toys from their entire high school for our toy distribution. The group organized, promoted, and gathered up more than 100 toys from students looking to make a difference. This relationship has lasting effects in our community thanks to the passion of our community’s youth!

Lyon Real Estate
The local Lyon Real Estate team truly brought the holiday spirit to our toy distribution year! The team worked together to host a toy drive and brought in several bags and boxes of toys for children in need. As realtors, these individuals know the value of bringing families joy in times of uncertainty, and this year they brought that passion to YCCA families!

FUNDRAISING AND PARTNERSHIPS
As we end the holiday season, we are working to secure annual grants for various programs, and preparing for our Big Day of Giving efforts. In addition, our team is working diligently to secure partnerships for the 2022 community events.
COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS
This past quarter, YCCA has continued to work on our strategic communications plan, and following, will develop an updated communications and fundraising plan for the next three years. Our goal is to have these plans, as well as a website update completed by mid-year.

Past Quarter Events

This was YCCA’s 16th annual Community Giveaway Day. We worked in tandem with our neighbors, local business and community leaders, and local elected officials to hand out around 2,000 new winter coats to children and Thanksgiving meals to more than 700 families, along with hundreds of blankets to families in need.

This event used to be a part of our Community Giveaway Day, but with the number growing every year, we created a separate community celebration! We worked with several partners and local elected officials to provide 963 children new holiday toys for the season! Additionally, we partnered with United Way California to provide 400 cars with $100 in holiday cash.

This year, YCCA will be hosting our annual Homeless Resource Fair at our Project Homekey location. This fair provides essential resources and survival items, along with hot food for our homeless clients in West Sacramento. The event is made possible thanks to the YCCA housing team, Mercy Coalition, the City of West Sacramento, and our various partners.

Big Day of Giving is Thursday, May 5, 2022! Last year, we raised more funds than ever before, totalling to over $12,000 to unrestricted funds. This year, we will be solidifying partnerships and matches to ensure we take full advantage of all donations received, bringing more funds to programs, staff trainings, and essential resources for families at YCCA.

SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE PRESENCE

Facebook: 2,312 Followers
Instagram: 700 Followers
Twitter: 444 Followers
LinkedIn: 76 Followers