

Annual Report

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

2022-2023 Board of Directors

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Emmy Von Der Ahe, Vice President
Kate Candelora, Vice President
Eric Gray, Treasurer
Niru Madduri, Secretary
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Leslie Caldwell
Jeremy Fraser
Paul Ruggeri
Ian West

BELONGING

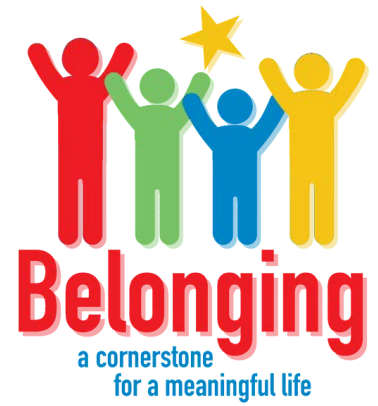
Mission Statement

Club 21 provides the educational tools and resources that enable individuals with Down syndrome to be fully included.

Staff

Nancy Litteken, Executive Director
Iris Barker, Community Liaison
Joy Domingo, Programs Coordinator
Pam Gang, Executive Assistant
Pam Grassedonio, First Call/First Steps Coordinator
Will Hoadley-Brill, Technology/Transition Coordinator
Linda Lohmeyer, Events Coordinator
Joan McLaughlin, Development Coordinator

A Message from the Board President



This past year, Club 21 focused on the idea of belonging and the universal desire we all have to feel secure and supported, with a sense of acceptance, and inclusion, irrespective of our abilities. It has been so rewarding to see how using this lens has changed the perspective of educators, our staff and families as they dream about the possibilities for individuals with Down syndrome. Our staff has also utilized the same lens to update and expand our programs for even greater impact to the individuals and families we serve.



We have big plans to continue to provide programs that will have a meaningful impact, but can not do it without the encouragement and support of our community. The Staff and Board of Club 21 are so very grateful for the generous contributions from all of our donors. I am so proud to be part of this organization and encourage you to join us in supporting this important work!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Peacore". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Matt Peacore

Club 21 Board President



A Message from the Executive Director



2022-2023 was a year of welcoming and educating families and educators and equipping them to build a meaningful life for their child with Down syndrome, all with the lens of what does it mean to “Belong”. Belonging was the focus of many organizations, schools, and workplaces this past year. Fortunately, we had Dr. Erik Carter, from Baylor University to lead us in what “Belonging” really looks like. Not surprisingly, belonging looks the same for people with intellectual disabilities and those who don’t have intellectual disabilities.

The longing for that “magical space” of belonging where one can breathe and find joy and comfort is equal for all. What an amazing privilege it has been to watch educators look through that lens and change cultures in their schools! How exciting it has been to see the lights go on as parents dream of the possibilities for their child!

A big highlight of the year for me was welcoming 67 new babies and the parents who hadn’t had a chance to gather and meet other families of children with Down syndrome because of the pandemic. How gratifying to watch them breathe in the support, love, and magic of Club 21! What joy to say, “Welcome, you belong here and let us help you find your way to belonging in this big complex world”.

YOU as donors, supporters and cheerleaders also belong to this tribe called Club 21. Actually, you keep the doors open, and whisper in our ears, “This is important work, keep going forward, we are **WITH** you”. Those words are music to our ears! **THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS** for being **WITH** us. We are grateful that we **BELONG TOGETHER IN THIS IMPORTANT WORK!**

Nancy Litteken
Club 21 Executive Director



What We Do

Club 21 provides the educational tools and resources that enable individuals with Down syndrome to be fully included. From first diagnosis onward, Club 21 empowers families to identify the needs of their child with Down syndrome and teaches them how to navigate the medical, educational and regional center systems to maximize their child's potential. For that to be a reality, family support, school support, direct educational training and community building are essential. All of our programs and services fall into these four categories. Club 21's ultimate vision is that the individuals with Down syndrome who follow our educational pathway will have opportunities for lifelong learning, independence/interdependence, communities of belonging, meaningful employment, and live self-determined and fulfilling lives. By providing training and resources at every step along this pathway, Club 21 enables families to advocate for and maximize the opportunities and services that are available to their child.

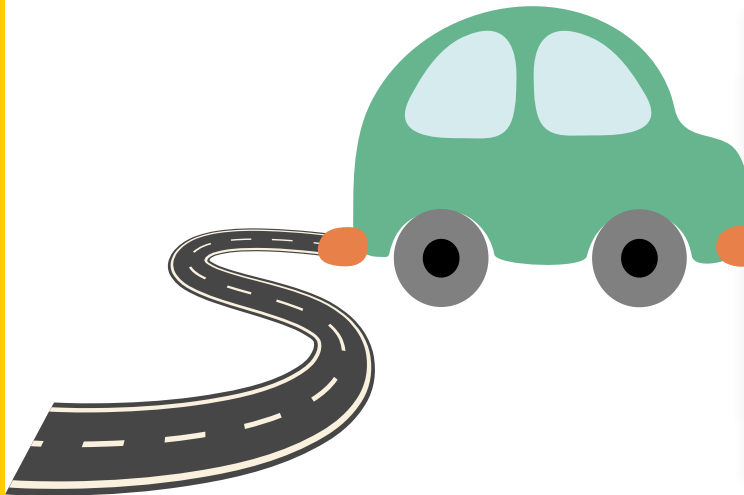




The West Family

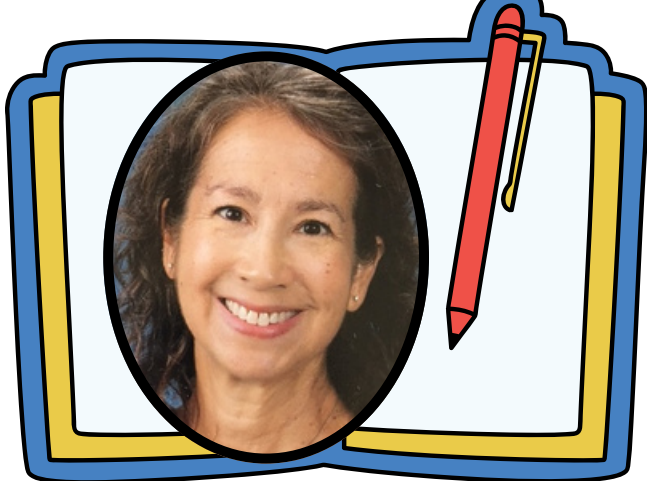
"Our son is a young adult with complex communication needs. When Club 21 gave him the opportunity to participate in a new pilot program, Meaningful Life Learning Circles for transitional age young adults, we jumped at the chance. This program was held on Zoom and was the perfect platform for our son. He was able to focus on the screen and what the lessons were about and felt comfortable without the normal distractions of an in person large group class setting. He would attend the online sessions with his personal assistant and showed all of us how capable he was of communicating and expressing his opinions and understanding, using his iPad or AAC communication device.

This program was a huge success for him and he was able to learn, listen and communicate with his peers. Having this community support opens a door for him to flourish and grow."



The Kulzer-Reyes Family: Why We Drive

Our family found Club 21 Learning and Resource Center eleven years ago after our daughter unexpectedly joined our family with a chromosomal enhancement. We attended our first Second Saturday in early 2013; Amelia was six months old. We immediately felt at home, and we have committed to be present despite the distance for our family. We have driven over 200 miles, 100 miles each way, each second Saturday, except during the shutdown for eleven years. Our teen sibling loves to volunteer at SibShops and carrying things around for the Club 21 team. Our daughter loves being at Club 21 and asks to go all month long. And our youngest loves the energy and love we all get from being there together. Club 21 is our community, and we are so grateful to have found a place where we all belong.



Our Stories

Eileen Weist, Educator

I can do this!! I was introduced to Club 21 through one of my student's parents. She offered to send me to Club 21's Educational Partnership program. After 16 years of teaching,

I still had no experience teaching students with Down syndrome. I was apprehensive and lost in all areas. After my first day with the Educational Partnership program, I left with so much more knowledge and information and IDEAS. I had contacts, I had people to ask questions about what to do in addition to the trainings. Needless to say, I was hooked, I attended almost all of the trainings, and my learning curve was straight up. I still go back to my notes and outlines for answers to questions. My student has made HUGE growth. When she read her first short story, I thought I was going to cry. She has changed my teaching life. She has taught me that all students are capable of learning. We just need to change our delivery and expectations of how to measure understanding.

I believe in the knowledge base I received from Club 21 and their willingness to come alongside educators as well as parents. They are a support, a cheerleader and a wealth of information. Since my first day of training, I have chosen to support Club 21, not only financially, but also by sharing what I learned. I truly encourage all educators to attend their Educational Partnership program, Don't get stuck in the mindset "I can't", get up and learn HOW! Then, together, both you and the student will learn and attain great things.



Pedersen Family



We attended our 1st First Steps gathering when Ace was just 4 months old. We were greeted with so much warmth and love from the moment we entered Nancy's backyard. It was truly an incredible feeling to not only be accepted but also celebrated for the differences that some people fear and the majority of people don't fully understand. For almost 2 years, we have depended on this community. It's been our safe space. We have formed beautiful trusting relationships and are looking forward to watching these babies grow up together.

We've really enjoyed the programs and services so far in our young journey at Club 21, and we're so proud to be part of this community. The Stepping Up program has already provided us with a wealth of knowledge as we gear up for the IEP process and our little Ace's educational future. We depend on and appreciate the open forum during these sessions. Hearing from other parents in similar situations and sharing resources has made this sometimes lonely experience feel enjoyable and exciting! We don't know what we would do without this fearless support system, our club 21 family.



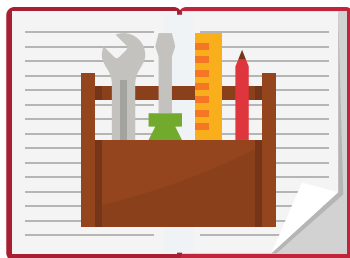
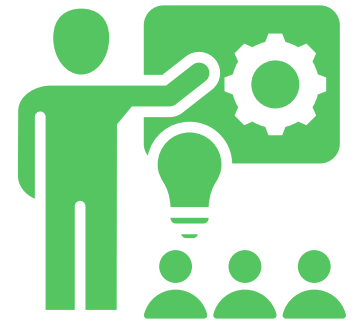
67 new babies and their families connected and began building community in our First Call/First Steps programs

82 students improved on their academic and social skills in our direct educational programming Stepping Up, ECAR, Club FUN and the CREW



85 teens and young adults learned life skills and built communities of belonging in Club Connections, Meaningful Life Circles and Adult Social Groups

221 Parents learned new ways to support and advocate for their child in our Stepping Up, Educational Partnership, Transition 101, and Partners in Transition programs, IEP and Self Determination workshops, and Tools for the Journey conference



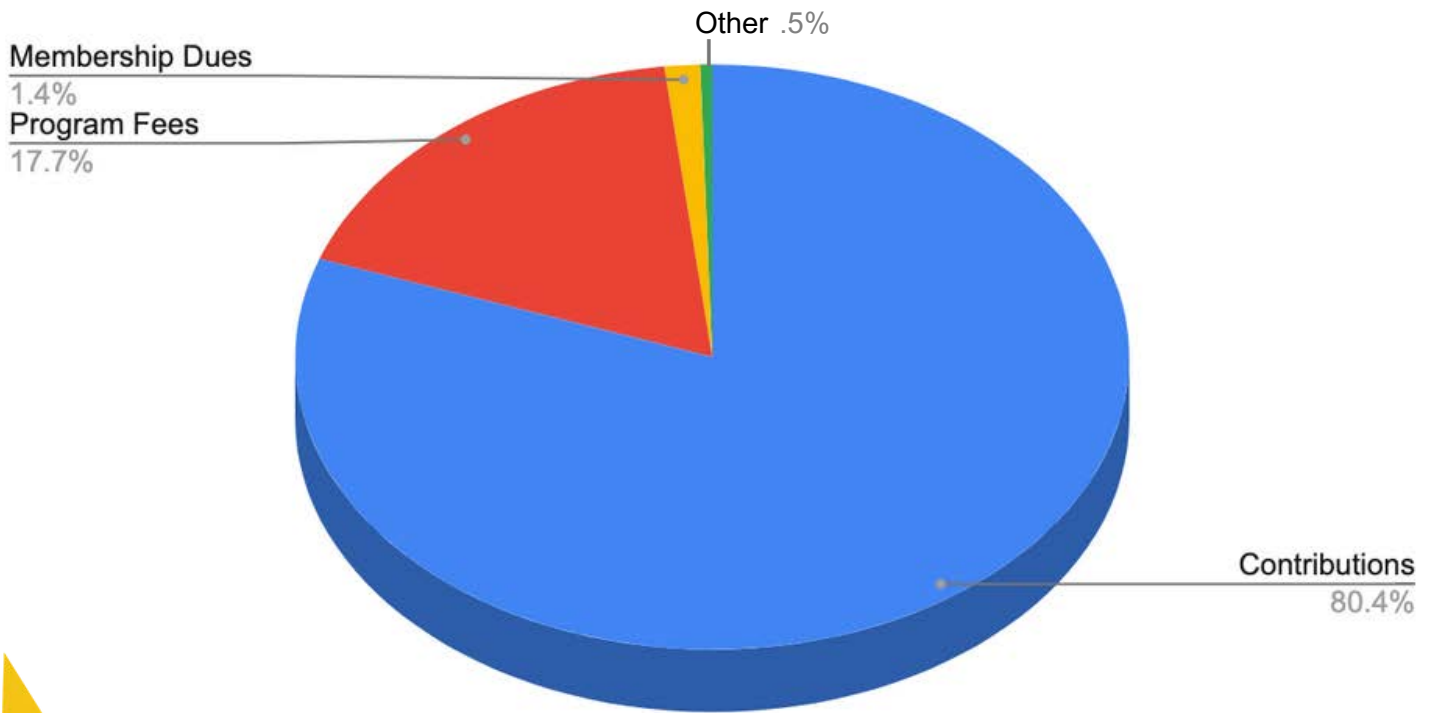
51 teachers received the tools, resources and support they need to provide successful inclusive education for all their students

80 teams with over **1500** family members, friends and supporters participated in our annual Together is Better Walk & Celebration and raised **\$238,000** to support Club 21 programs



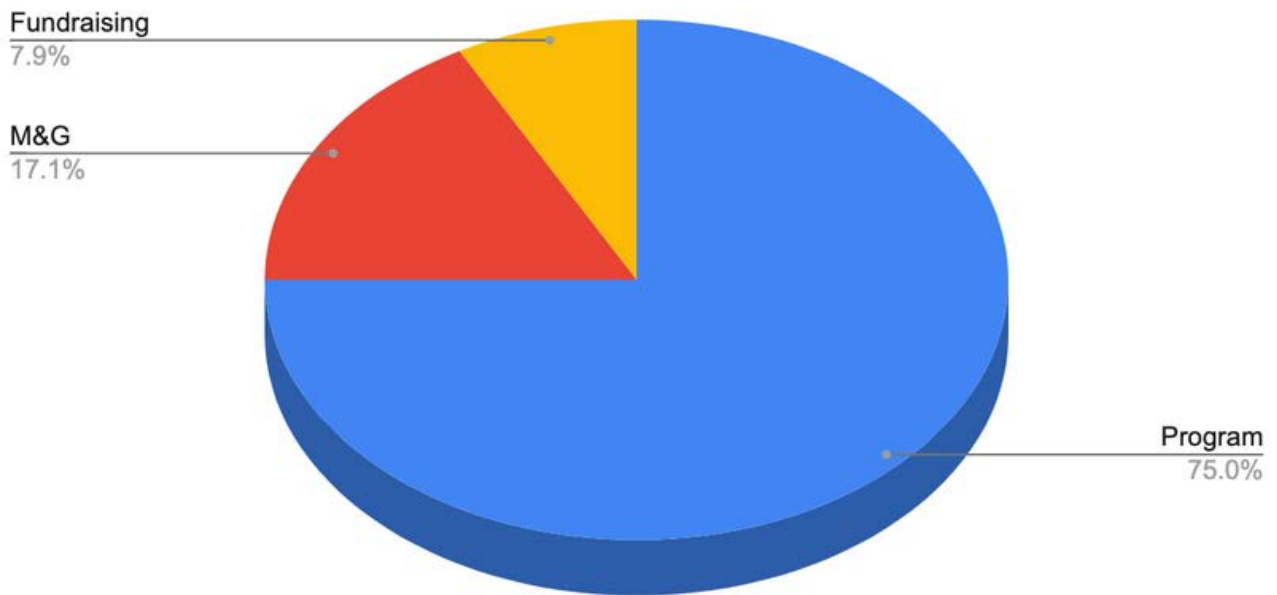
SUPPORT and REVENUES

■ Contributions	\$540,463
■ Program Fees	\$118,988
■ Membership Dues	\$ 9,250
■ Other	\$. 3,110
	<hr/>
	\$671,811



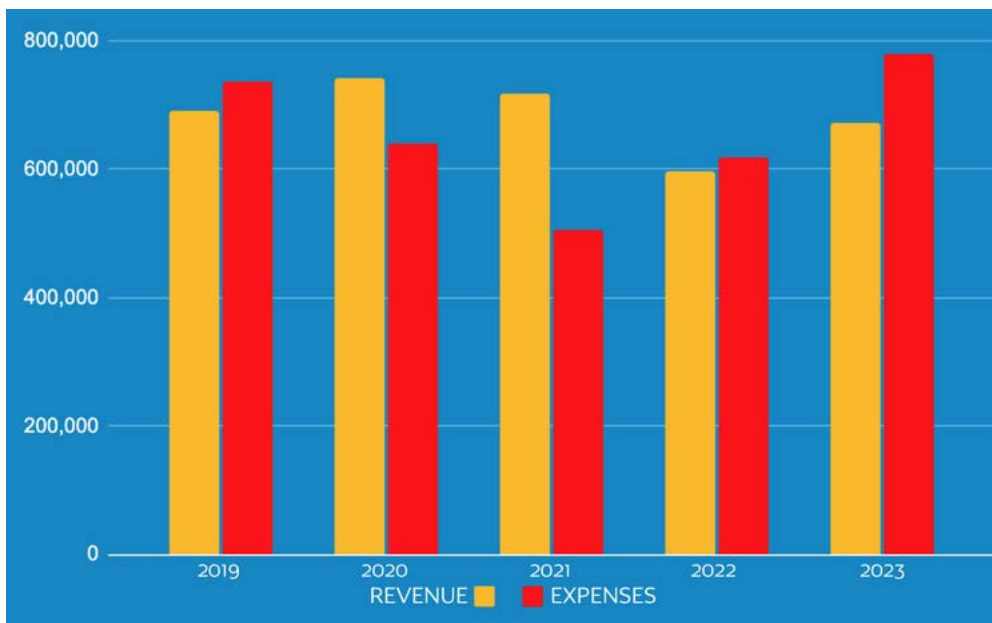
EXPENSES

Program	\$584,970
M&G	\$133,288
Fundraising	\$ 61,703
	<hr/>
	\$779,961



The Board designated net assets for use in securing the Organization's stability and continuity and for the development and growth of programs. At June 30, 2023 and 2022, \$325,000 and \$325,000, respectively, are board-designated for operating reserves for six months of budgeted expenses and \$191,592 and \$255,940, respectively, for program enhancements and development.

5 YEAR OVERVIEW



YEAR	REVENUE	EXPENSES
2019	\$690,410	\$737,568
2020	\$741,888	\$641,225
2021	\$716,933	\$506,352
2022	\$596,001	\$618,649
2023	\$671,811	\$779,961



\$10,000 +

Iron Aiden (Ricin/Locsmandi)
Molly B Golly (Litteken)
Sunkist (Harris)
Team Candelora



\$2,000 +

Team AJ (Lam)
Emilia's Peanuts Gang (Ramirez)
Team Oliva Vittoria (Lemus)
Team Nathan (Gandolfi)
Amazing Grace (Hsu)
The A Team (Gutierrez)



\$5,000 +

Winnie Win Win (Ruggeri)
Rhys's Rockstars (Lynx/Schott)
Tim's Tribute (Borquez)
Chloe's Busy Bees (Walch)
Team Smiles (Delgado/Medow)



\$1,500 +

Nathan Chan (Chan/Su)
James' Pack (Lohmeyer)
Kindred Spirits (Gang)
Team Eden (Camilleri)
Soaring with Enrique (Gonzalez)
Team Zach (West)
Ryan Zadak



\$2,500 +

Team McLaughlin
Everyday MAGIC (Olivarez)
Estelle's Angels (Gray)
Gabrielle AllStars (Caldwell/Murdock)
Team Love (Greer)
Down with Josh (Morente)
Brandon's Brigade (Magarino)
Team Max (Seiner)
BENJpalooza (Kaplan)
Team Change Makers



\$1,000 +

A Tribe for Naima (Guese)
Team Nadia (Duenas)
Club Connections
Mighty Maddox (Calvillo)
Ella's Entourage (Abbondanza)
Kayla (Barker)
Team Elliot (Steadman)
Walk with Faith (Achenta)
Olivia Rose (Hernandez)
Emmanuel (Martinez/Garcia)
Team Jenna (Jimenez/Krawiec)
Team Hectorito (Gonzalez)
Team Cupcakes (Ortega)



\$500 +

Kassie's Spark (Trigonis)
JD's Green Team
Amanda Grace (Grassedonio)
Walk with Joy (Domingo)
Devon's Devoted (Mallari)
Logan's Engine 21 Lovebugs (Tao)
The Homsters (Brown/Hom)
Team Lincoln (Rodriguez)
I Love Lukey (Lee)
Sevi's Smile (Enriquez)
Calie Cats (Jennings)
Grateful But Still Tired



Under \$250

The Boosters (Treadwell)
Brauer Bunch
Team Helen (Aguirre/Terrones)
Team Chiara (Pedersen)
Matt's Magnitude (Von Der Ahe)
Jack Attack (White)
Team Ezra (Cornelison)
Isabella (Khamiseh)
Flintridge Friends (James)
Team Ryder (Shields)

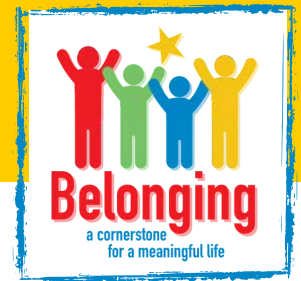


\$250 +

Team Reyes (Kulzer/Reyes)
Mikuni's Mob
Team Levi (Foley)
Travis Tour (Kennedy)
SuperMaya (Vasquez)
Daniel's Dream Team (Ferrer)
Team Teresa (Montano)
Our Future is Bright (Fraser)
Team Agnes (Lambird)

Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Benefactor - \$100,000+

Anonymous



Champion - \$20,000+

Von Der Ahe Foundation



Visionary - \$15,000+

Jamie and Rob Knauss *
Marino Family Charitable Foundation



Advocate - \$10,000+

Anonymous
Anonymous
Jeanne and Rob Case
Pasadena Tournament of Roses Foundation
Elise and Timothy Sloan
The Warburg Pincus Foundation
Thronton S. Glide, Jr. and Katrina D. Glide Foundation



Believer - \$5,000+

Anonymous
Kate and Ryan Candelora
City National Bank
Elizabeth Ricin Locsmandi and Ken Locsmandi *
Ruth and Bill Neelans
Tessa and Kenton Nelson
Chelsea and Richard Olivarez
Caterina Scorsone
Yardley Smith
Sunkist Growers
The Edwards Family Fund
Melissa and Spencer Walch
Sandra and Bruce Wileman
William T. and Susana D. Huston Family Foundation



Developer - \$2,500+

9EDGE Inc.
Anonymous
Colleen and Steve Boyer
Karenn Colby
Concord
Colin Farrell
FILMWORKS/FX
Fulton Management
Nancy Litteken
Patricia Van Der Veer and Darryl Mikuni
Jennifer and Dean Pappas
Linda and Matt Peacore *
Jean Pfaffinger
Linda and Mark Roberts
The Jerry and Shari Seiner Charitable Fund
The Montgomery Clark Family
Caryl and Jim Tyberg
Vanaman German LLP

Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Supporter - \$1,000+

Amazon Smile
Armstrong Garden Centers, Inc.
Gary Barker
Monica and Fred Borquez
Nancy Bulgin
Kurt Cahill
Phyllis and Barry Caldwell
Rebecca Chavez
Andrine Cleaver
Lisa and Randall Cole
Sally and Bob Corlett
Edison International Corporate Giving
Kristin and Fernando Enriquez
Anita Ferry
Sharon and Francis Fiegel
Eric Fulton
Pam and Mark Gang
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Laura and Mike Harbert
Joel Henriod
Cindy Liu and Brad Herberich
Sandee and Paul Hiyake
Jin-Wen Hsu
Beth and Bob Huston
Samantha Knight
Margaret and Abraham Lynx
Niru Madduri
Joan and Patrick McLaughlin
Cheryl and Evan Medow
Metronic
Jacquelyn Millham
Martha Moreira
Cindy Navarrete
Robin Nenninger Nugent
Wendy Parry
Karin and Jonathan Primuth



Supporter - \$1,000+ (cont)

Helen and Bob Schnieders
Carla Lynx and Patrick Schott *
Sempra
Stephanie and Howard Sherwood
SoCalGas Community Investment Fund
Nantalie and Young Song *
Brigitte and Khaldoun Sroujeh
Lori and Ronnie Steadman
The Cramblit Family Foundation
The Walt Disney Corporation
Vicki and David Thompson
Elizabeth and Rob Toms
Jennii Tran
Ilene Weist
Priscilla Wickersham
Shelly and John Wierick
Teresa Wilde *
Carol and Chester Yoshizaki
Katherine and Joel Zadak



Partner - \$500+

Tara and Gaetano Abbondanza
Brigitte and Bob Ammons
Kathleen Andrews
Arcadia Firefighters Association
Laurie and Ron Bahar
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Janice and Mike Bell
David Beringer
Julie Blackshaw
Janet Braun

Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Partner - \$500+ (cont)

Leslie Caldwell *
Laura and Mike Call *
Christa and Brad Camilleri
Breta and Bruce Camilleri
Reid Carolin
Kerry and John Cervenka
James Clark
David Colella
Andrea Colton
Diane and Matthew Corlett
Ann and Don Delaney
Julie and Steve Dolcemaschio
Melinda and Sean Dougherty
Ali and Nick Everett
Prudence Fenton
Nohemi Ferguson
Samantha Gandara
Marisol Martinez and Christian Garcia *
Claire and Roy Grassedonio
Margie and John Green
Renee and Matt Gregg *
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Wendy Jacoby
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Peter Kleinick
Mark Krieger
Lam & Pitt, CPAs, Inc.
Mark LaMalfa
Kathleen and Bryan Lambird *
Suzana Larson
Sara and Erik Larson
Karen and Victor Limongelli



Partner - \$500+ (cont)

Ann Lovell
Nancy MacIntyre
Kristin Candelora McElwee and Tim McElwee
Nora McLaughlin
Loreni Delgado and Zachary Medow
Deborah and Jim Milley
Shawn Monaghan *
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Judy Packard
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Katherine and Jeffrey Price
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Taryn and Kary Reichman
Maryam and Eric Remias
Holly and Paul Ruggeri
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Katie Sieck and Jerry Seiner
Carolyn and Elgin Stamper
The Sierra Madre Rotary Club Charitable Fund
The Wonderful Company Foundation Inc.
Kim Tran
Sheryl Valdez

Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Partner - \$500+ (cont)

Scotti and Steve Van Herpe
Terry and Ian West
Mary and Rick Whiting
Judy and John Wipf
Sara Woolf
Brandis Johnson and Andrew Zerk *



Friend - \$250+

Anonymous
Barbara Ansell
RuthAnn and Roger Aull
Erin and Joe Averette
Judy and Jack Balswick
Judy and Charles Barr
David Blue
Raphael Bob-Waksberg
Karyn and Michael Brownlee
Jessica and Jeffrey Bulgin
Laurie and Kent Candelora
Leslie and Gabriel Castellanos
Sonni Charness
Vera and Joshua Cheek
Kristin Cook
Dan Corlett
Shirley Dostal
Katia and Matthew Dumas
Ruth Duncan
Zak Far
Diane Farr
Claudine Farrell



Friend - \$250+ (cont)

Montana and Grant Frum
Donna Gang
Givinga Foundation, Inc.
Estela and Hector Gonzalez
Angela and Enrique Gonzalez
Mary Goss
Donna Haag *
Janet and Michael Hards
Vera and Jim Headd
Melanie and Chris Holden
Leticia Acosta and Pablo Huerta
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Janet and Bruce Kahn
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Shannon and Daniel Krawiec
Daniel Kreinbring
Kroger
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Julieta and Chris Olivarez
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Helen and Kim Peterson
Mary Jane and Stephen Potter
Sonia Ramirez
Evelyn Acevedo and Francisco Rodriguez
Pat and Doug Rom
Mary Herman and Timothy Rutt
Donna Schedler
Lawrence Schnapp

Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023



Friend - \$250+ (cont)

Justine Sherman
Constance Sherrod
Susan Smith
Roma Swan
Lacey and Sam Tello *
The Clorox Company
Kristing Thorell
Linda and Thomas Tierney
Caroline Treadwell
Fotene and Costa Trigonis
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Pauline Vaissie
Thomas Warne
Lisa Wasson
Natalie Weatherford
Viviana and Ron Welfin
Sally and Tom Wille
Jacqueline and Daniel Zabala
Lynette Ziegenfuss

*Matching Gift

This report includes gifts received between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. We have made every effort to ensure that this report is accurate and complete. If there are any omissions, misspellings or other errors, please accept our sincere apologies and contact the Club 21 Office so that we may correct our records.

The Shine Fund



The Sarah Hinojosa Innovative New Endeavors Fund: A memorial fund (SHINE), established through Club 21 Learning and Resource Center, in the name of Sarah Hinojosa to financially help support individuals with Down syndrome as they embark on their journey toward employment or other creative business endeavors.

“One of the things in life that truly made our beloved Sarah smile and shine was picking up her paycheck and depositing it into her bank account. Sarah’s job gave her an added sense of purpose and increased her self-esteem. Sadly, unemployment for individuals with Down syndrome is extremely high, due in part to the lack of outside support and individualized training often needed to sustain employment. Moreover, opportunities for individuals with Down syndrome to create their own businesses are also lacking. By partnering with Club 21 and its transition programming, we look forward to changing these outcomes, with your help.” The Hinojosa Family.



The Shine Fund Donors



Brigitte and Bob Ammons
Lisa Anand
Ruthann Aull
Heather and Josh Avis
Yudi Bennett
Monica and Fred Borquez
Jan and Lyle Burden
Sonni Charness
Rebecca Chavez
William Coats
Lisa and Randall Cole
Deborah Cornejo
Grace Cox
Marie Monges and Gilbert Cruz
Ronna Del Valle
Hortencia and Julian Delgado
Rachel and Cullen Douglas
Eileen Falvey
Monica Flores
Sherwon Frederick
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Don and Anita Haggstrom
Patricia Hinojosa

Olivia and Aaron Hinojosa
Linda Jacobus
Wendy Jacoby
Tabatha Jones Jolivet
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Sheryl Valdez
Ian and Terry West





Mission Statement:

Club 21 provides the educational tools and resources that enable individuals with Down syndrome to be fully included.

Core Values:

1. Raising Expectations (Vision)
2. Family/Educator Support (Educate)
3. Innovation (Think outside the box)
4. Building Community and Support (We all belong)

Proven Process:

Club 21's Educational Pathway -
we equip and train at every step of the pathway

Our End Goal:

1. Opportunities for Lifelong Learning
2. Independence/Interdependence
3. Communities of Belonging
4. Meaningful Employment

FOLLOW US:



Club 21 Learning and Resource Center

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www.clubtwentyone.org

626-844-1821

Club 21 is a non-profit, 501 (c)(3) organization. Tax ID #26-2887301