At Illumination Foundation, we believe that every person has an intrinsic right to home, health, and dignity. Our mission is to disrupt the cycle of homelessness in Southern California by providing a comprehensive safety net of client-centered services for the most vulnerable individuals, families, and children in Orange, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties. Illumination Foundation goes beyond just housing people who are experiencing homelessness—from street to home, we provide a full continuum of care and resources to bring people the support they need.

In 2021, we continued to grow and serve more clients. We expanded our housing and healthcare services to meet the evolving needs of our clients. We hired more talented, passionate, and mission-driven staff. We made a positive impact on the lives of the most vulnerable in the community.

At last count there are more than 75,000 individuals who are homeless or unstably housed in the four counties where we provide services, and through everything, Illumination Foundation remains on the frontlines to ensure we protect the safety and health of our clients and employees.

Below is a snapshot of the impact Illumination Foundation has had on disrupting the cycle of homelessness, and the extra mile we continue to go for those affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We couldn’t do it without the ongoing generosity of our supporters. We are a stronger organization because of you.
Our Mission
Disrupting the cycle of homelessness.

Guiding Principles

- Integrity
- Humility
- Sustainable Compassion
- Quest for Knowledge & Critical Thinking
- Client-Centered Care
- Innovation
- Advocacy
- Stewardship & Compliance
In 2021, we served 4,362 clients, providing shelter, health care, counseling, connections to social services, housing, and hope.

- **395,715** Safe bednights were provided
- **4,362** People were served by Illumination Foundation in 2021
- **787** Homeless clients received recuperative care services
- **243** Children and parents were served in our Family Emergency Shelters
- **655** Individuals were housed
- **477** Families were housed

“I can't say enough about the organization, and the work that they do is amazing. I myself can't imagine how bad off I'd be had I not received the help that I have been given by them. They're truly a Godsend, and I'm so thankful for the organization and the work that they do. They are amazing.” — Roger, Recuperative Care Client
2021 Highlights

New Facilities

Illumination Foundation opened eight new facilities in four counties in 2021.

Fullerton Navigation Center and Recuperative Care *(pictured right)* is a 150-bed facility in Fullerton that houses a navigation center, recuperative care, and the Illumination Foundation Medical Group (IFMG) all under one roof. Due to COVID-19, the ribbon cutting was held in April 2021.

Long Beach Hotel is a 102-unit Project Homekey property operating out of a hotel in Long Beach. The hotel was converted into interim housing for those experiencing homelessness. Opened March 2021.

Royal Pagoda Hotel is a 35-bed Project Roomkey site operating out of a hotel in Los Angeles. Opened June 2021.

Victorville Interim Shelter is a 92-bed interim shelter in Victorville. Opened June 2021.

Plumeria House Family Emergency Shelter *(pictured left)* is a six-bedroom house located in Anaheim for families experiencing homelessness that have children with a disability or chronic illness. The 2,111-square-foot house located on a 7,706-square-foot lot is wheelchair accessible. Accommodations include a refurbished kitchen, three ADA-compliant wheelchair ramps, a landscaped garden area with seating, a courtyard, and a remodeled garage that is used as a classroom, play area, and staff office. Opened September 2021.

Riverside Recuperative Care is a 50-bed recuperative care center in Riverside that serves individuals experiencing homelessness who have been recently discharged from a hospital emergency room with an acute medical condition. Opened July 2021.

“I have had nothing but good experiences with Illumination Foundation. They are always responsive to my needs and available on a moment’s notice. The entire staff is courteous and compassionate to my life and always there to help me through. They are the greatest. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.”

—Robert, Recuperative Care Client
New Facilities  Illumination Foundation opened eight new facilities in four counties in 2021.

Unity House is a 20-bed women-only recuperative care center operating out of St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton. Opened October 2021.

Olive View Recuperative Care (pictured left) is a 50-bed facility in Sylmar. The Olive View Recuperative Care is part of the County of Los Angeles Restorative Care Village on the Olive View-UCLA Medical Center campus. Opened November 2021.

“I was so overjoyed by Illumination Foundation opening a home for parents of children with disabilities. Parents with children that have special needs need extra love and care. Being a client myself and struggling with some past injuries and disabilities, I know how hard it can be to find acceptance and inclusion in your everyday life. What a beautiful symbol and story about those with the heart of acceptance, inclusion, and diversity at the core of homeless families. Thank you for standing out above the rest! For finding the heart and compassion needed to go the extra mile for these families.”

— Anonymous Client from Gilbert House
Success Story: Regina & Leileen

Regina and her granddaughter Leileen, 14, recently found themselves living in a motel where Regina was scrambling for services to keep themselves afloat. When a friend who worked in social services told her about Illumination Foundation, it was a huge relief. Regina and Leileen had their motel costs covered and soon moved into Illumination Foundation’s newest Family Emergency Shelter, Plumeria House in Anaheim. Plumeria House is designed specifically for children who have a chronic illness or a physical disability.

Leileen was diagnosed with leukemia at the age of 2 and suffers from neurotoxicity from the immense toll chemotherapy has taken on her body. Her first childhood friends were nurses and doctors working around the clock supporting her as she was in and out of countless rounds of chemo, and it was in the hospital halls that she learned to ride a bike. Regina was always there for Leileen, never leaving her side except for her job as a bus driver, even through the pandemic. When Regina lost her home due to a divorce, they found themselves desperate. “I didn’t know where I was going or what I was going to do. It doesn’t matter if you have a job, when a crisis hits, it hits.”

Illumination Foundation’s goal is to get families off the streets and into a safe place where they are able to work on their goals with their case manager and work towards finding permanent placement with a housing navigator. Without Plumeria House and the other Family Emergency Shelters, Regina and so many others like her would still be on the streets or living in motels.

Today, Regina and Leileen are on the journey to being housed. With the many services Illumination Foundation offers, from financial literacy classes and learning how to budget to meeting with licensed therapists one-on-one, Illumination Foundation’s goal is to support our clients and find sustainable solutions no matter their situation. “I am so thankful for Illumination Foundation because I had no idea where I was going,” Regina says, “I know that this is just my stepping stone.”
Illumination Foundation volunteers make a difference in the lives of the individuals and families that we serve. Volunteers allow us to extend our reach and resources to meet the needs of our clients. They are passionate in their desire to help people experiencing homelessness, and they are committed to our mission.

Our volunteers provide joy to our clients and provide a helping hand to our staff. We have one-time volunteers and ongoing volunteers who have served our clients for years. Illumination Foundation benefits from skills-based volunteering which allows us to leverage the specialized skills and talents of individuals to help build and sustain our capacity to help disrupt the cycle of homelessness.

In 2021, we had 456 unique volunteers who contributed 7,067 volunteer hours for a value of $241,243.

"I am so honored to support Illumination Foundation and their goal to end homelessness. They encourage their clients to achieve their dreams. Working with the children, seeing their joy, and hearing their laughter, reinforces my participation." —Volunteer

"I am a local pediatrician, and I was looking for a way to connect and serve housing-insecure children in our community. For the last two years, I have been participating in a monthly after-school program teaching children about health called Mini-Med School. During COVID, we began holding remote weekly reading sessions with children in the family emergency shelters. While I find my work as a pediatrician rewarding, my reading sessions with the children at Illumination Foundation have been the most fulfilling part of each week. I am thankful for the opportunity to mentor and build lasting relationships with the staff and children and look forward to continuing my service." —Dr. Kennedy, Virtual Literacy and Mini-Med School Volunteer

Ways To Engage:

Donate  Volunteer  Educate  Advocate
2021 Financials

Revenue Growth

Donation & Grant Types
- Government Contracts – 69%
- Recuperative Care – 20%
- Special Events – 2%
- Foundations 4%
- Corporations – 2%
- Individual Donors – 2%
- Other – 1%

How Funds Are Spent
- Programs & Services – 92%
- Management & General – 6%
- Fundraising – 2%
Thank you to our Board of Directors, corporate partners, foundations, academic partners, healthcare professionals, clubs, and organizations who are a constant source of support and advocacy for the most vulnerable in our community. They have kindly donated their time, talents, and resources through donations, grants, volunteering, in-kind donations, and community engagement.