



2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Mothers' Club
Family Learning Center

Letter from Our Executive Director

For the first 46 years of our existence, **Mothers' Club Family Learning Center** made the best use of whatever space was available. Our previous shared location at the Orange Grove Friends Meeting House was less than optimal; but our stalwarts, my predecessors, made it work. Using all available space, they hosted parenting workshops in the kitchen, held a toddler class in an outdoor play area, and shared limited office space.

I had the privilege of joining Mothers' Club after we moved into our permanent facility in 2007. Thanks to the generosity of our dedicated supporters and the hard work of our steadfast Board and staff, we now call this beautiful, state-of-the-art, sustainable building home.

Located right in the middle of **Northwest Pasadena**, we are perfectly positioned to serve families with the highest needs in our community. And the needs are great – recent reports have identified Pasadena as a city with one of the **greatest wealth discrepancies in the state of California**. You can take a look at a comparison of demographics for our city on the following pages.

Since moving into our center on North Fair Oaks, we have been working to expand our services to utilize all available time and space while meeting the growing needs of our community. With the opening of our Afternoon Three-Year-Old classroom this year, all five of our Early Childhood Education classrooms are filled during both the morning and afternoon sessions. Our core **Two-Generation Learning Program** is now operating at maximum capacity.

The next phase of our



Hector LaFarga, Jr. and Mary Lois Nevins outside of our center, named in her honor

strategic vision is to enhance our services to utilize our facility during evenings and weekends. This year we have taken great strides towards this goal by adding and enhancing supplemental services. Please read about our current programs and offerings on the adjoining page.

As we look towards the future, we are more confident than ever in **the power of our two-generation learning model**. Mothers' Club's success comes from our unique approach of educating both parent and child simultaneously in order to provide entire families with the skills they need to succeed in school and in life. In the coming year, we will build upon the strength of our past to establish a clear vision for the future.

Hector LaFarga, Jr.
Executive Director

Programs & Activities

Mothers' Club Family Learning Center prepares families living in isolation and poverty to succeed in school and in life through two-generation learning programs. We fulfill our mission by providing free programs to disadvantaged families with children ages 0-5.

Our core **Two-Generation Learning Program** consists of both a Morning Session and an Afternoon Session. Our Morning Session currently serves 67 children and their parents and our Afternoon Session serves 56 children and their parents. Both sessions contain the following components: Early Childhood Education, Parent Education, Adult Education, Mental Health Support, and Leadership Training.



In addition, we partner with Learning Works!, a Pasadena Charter School for disenfranchised youth, to provide a weekly **Teen Parenting Program** on Thursday afternoons. Teen parents who are students at Learning Works! come to Mothers' Club for parenting classes intended to prepare them to meet the challenges of parenting and develop an understanding of their individual responsibility as parents.

One Saturday morning a month, we offer our **Early Readers' Book Club**. The unique program is designed to inspire a love of reading in preschool children and strengthen the literacy skills of English-learning parents. English-speaking volunteers read books aloud to children and families and lead interactive literacy activities. Through peer-to-peer modeling, parents become more comfortable with listening to and reading aloud in English.

We have recently implemented a **Fathers' Support Group** to involve the men of our families in Mothers' Club programming. The group meets for an hour and a half on Thursday evenings for seven-week sessions. Each week focuses on a different parenting topic and fathers participate in group discussion led by our experienced parent educator.

Our Community

Mothers' Club Family Learning Center is located in the center of **Northwest Pasadena** – an often overlooked region within the city of Pasadena located above the 210 freeway. Despite being embedded in the diverse, wealthy, and well-educated city of Pasadena, Northwest Pasadena is plagued by poverty, illiteracy, and low-educational attainment.

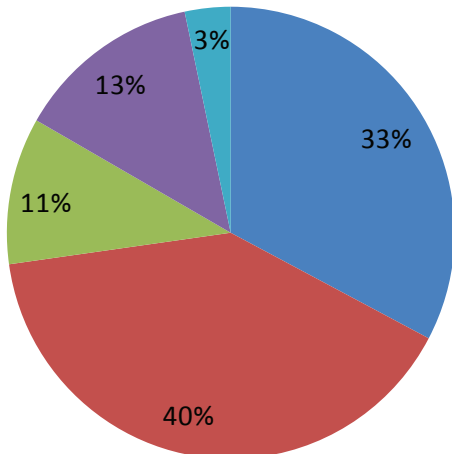
Recent studies have observed that Pasadena has become a city characterized by a widening income gulf, low wages, and high rents. The average income of Pasadena's richest 20 percent of households is 22.4 times greater than the average income of the poorest 20 percent. Based on this measure, **Pasadena trails only San Francisco as the California city with the biggest inequality gap.**

The following data depict the widening differences between the city of Pasadena as a whole and the region known as Northwest Pasadena. Mothers' Club is working every day to address the inequality and provide all families in Pasadena with the chance to improve their lives.

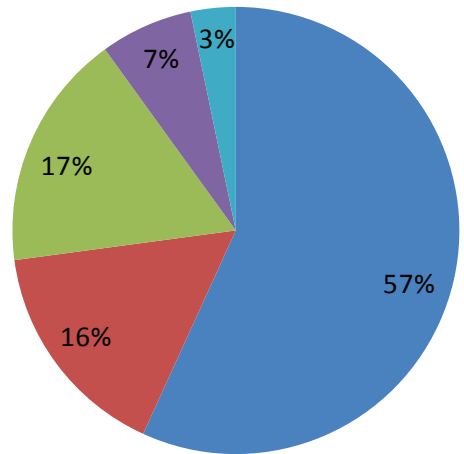
According to the 2008-2012 American Community Survey, families in Northwest Pasadena exhibit the following characteristics:

- **33%** of adults 25 years and older do not have high school diplomas and **22%** have less than a 9th grade education;
- **22%** of families with children under 5 years old live below the federal poverty level;
- **28%** of households have an annual income of less than \$25,000;
- **58%** of the population over 5 years old speaks a language other than English at home.

City of Pasadena



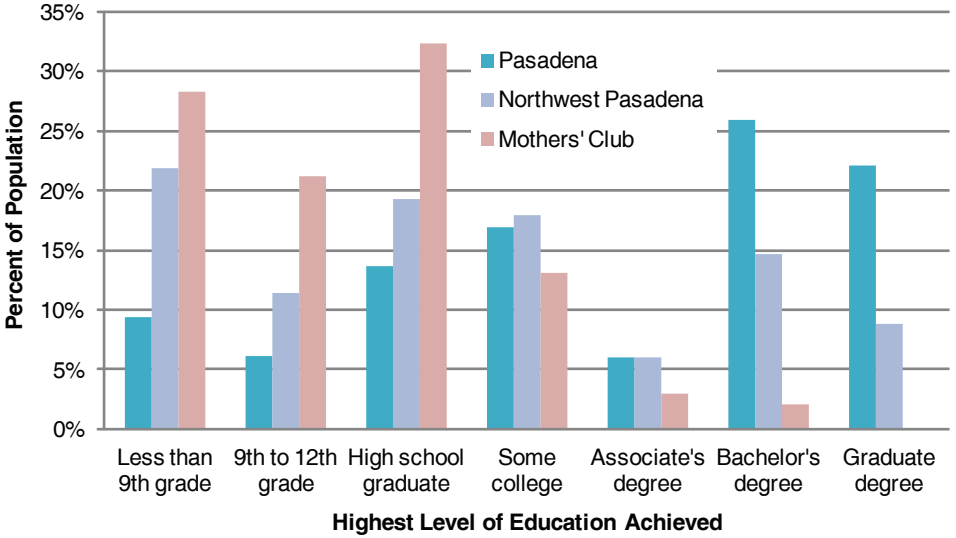
Northwest Pasadena



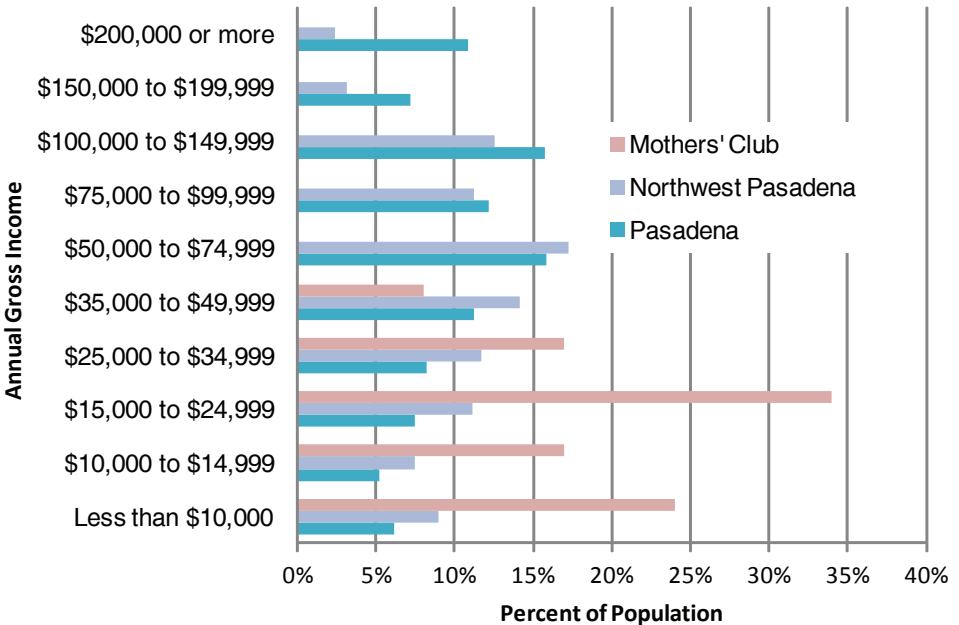
■ Hispanic/Latino ■ White ■ Black/African ■ Asian ■ Other

Northwest Pasadena

Comparison of Educational Attainment



Comparison of Annual Household Income



*Information was collected from the U.S. Census Bureau 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates via www.uscensus.gov

2014 Accomplishments

National Recognition:

We are pleased to announce that our partnership with Pacific Clinics Early Head Start was chosen by the **National Head Start Association (NHSA)** as a featured program of the **Two Generations Together Initiative**. We will gain national recognition when we present alongside Pacific Clinics Early Head Start at the Two Generations Together Institute at NHSA's **2015 Winter Leadership Institute**. As the importance of Early Childhood Education and parent engagement begins to take center-stage in a national dialogue, we look forward to sharing our two-generation learning model and lending our voice to this critical conversation.

2014 Outcomes:

Across our programs, children and parents met or exceeded their learning benchmarks, demonstrating children's readiness for school and parents' ability to support their children's education, as well as their own personal development.

100%

of infants and toddlers demonstrated appropriate developmental growth

97%

of PreK children entering Kindergarten possessed school readiness skills

72%

of adult learners showed gains in their English reading skills

92%

of parents took on a leadership role at Mothers' Club

83%

of parents increased their understanding of appropriate parenting practices

95%

of parents reported reading to their children 3 or more times per week



Leadership & Staff



Hector LaFarga, Jr., *Executive Director*
Silvana Casalegno, *Program Director*
Julie Espinoza, *Director of Education*
Mara Leong-Nichols, *Development Manager*
Sarah Hilbert, *Volunteer Coordinator*
Lara Nassar, *Development Assistant*
Martha Murillo-Spangler, *Office Manager*
Andrea Huicochea, *Data Manager*
Maria Vargas, *Nutrition Coordinator*
Rosa Martinez, *Kitchen Aid*
Juana Cuellar, *Kitchen Aid*
Jose Amezcua, *Maintenance*

Early Childhood Education Teachers

Saharai Alvarez	Heather McGrath
Marina Bendy	Sandra Mora
Judy Bustamante	Margarita Morales
Alejandra Chavez	Daisy Pedraza
Celeste Colerick	Dana Ramage
Maria de la Cruz	Isabel Ramos
Gaby Flores	Nydia Rivero
Martha Hernandez	Josefina Rodriguez
Maria Lozano	Veronica Soto
Micaela Martinez	Ximena Toro



Community Advisors

Carole Babcock	Maria Low Way
Nancy Carlton	Judy McDonald
Joan Cathcart	Mary Anne Mielke
Ann Erdman	Mary Lois Nevins
Jean Fleming	Dr. Dianne Philibosian
Adelaide Hixon	Carmie Rodriguez
Assemblymember	Felicia Williams
Chris Holden	Judith Wilson

Board of Directors

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FINANCIAL POSITION

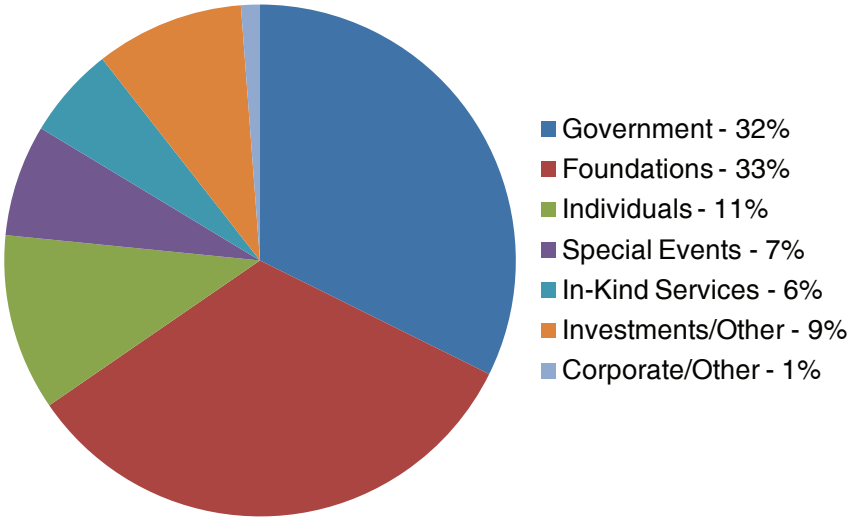
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014

ASSETS	2013-2014
Cash	\$273,692
Investments, at fair value	\$1,538,324
Grant receivables	\$147,357
Prepaid expenses	\$21,317
Other current assets	\$915
Property and equipment, net	\$5,550,640
TOTAL ASSETS	\$7,532,245
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$57,457
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$6,942,491
Temporarily restricted	\$269,534
Temporarily restricted – Capital maintenance reserve	\$100,000
Temporarily restricted – Kujawa staff development	\$39,263
Permanently restricted	\$123,500
Total Net Assets	\$7,474,788
TOTAL LIABILITES AND NET ASSETS	\$7,532,245

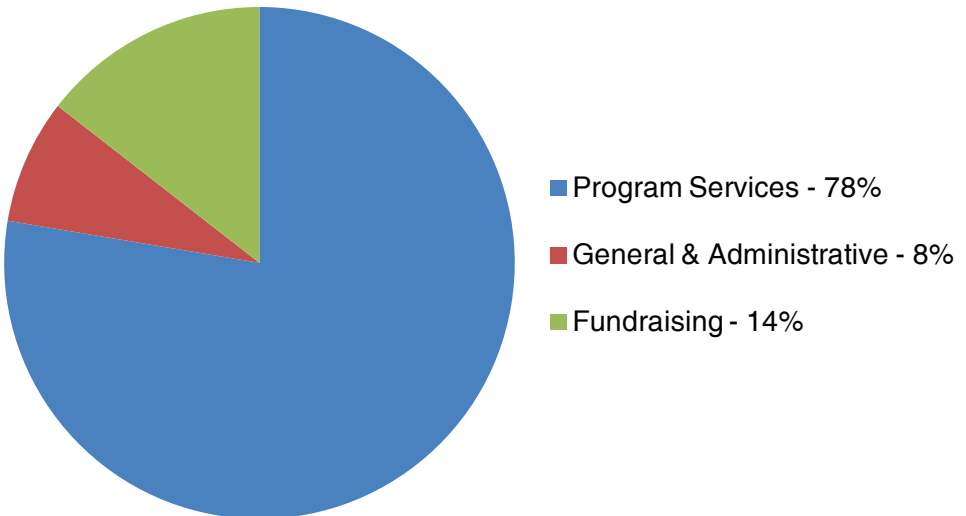
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014

REVENUE: \$1,566,932



EXPENSES: \$1,715,748



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Gifts & Pledges Received July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

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Pacific Clinics – Early Head Start

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We also want to thank the hundreds of individuals who made donations less than \$199 to support our work with families!



Mothers' Club

Family Learning Center

980 N. Fair Oaks Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91103

Office 626.792.2687

Fax 626.793.1832

www.mothersclub.org



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