

# 2016 SPECIAL Report

**VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

## VIP Board of Directors

Linda Bernstein Rubin  
Board Chair

Lauren C. Bender  
Secretary-Treasurer

Cornelia Funke

Eve Somer Gerber

Birgitta Granberg

Astrid Heppenstall Heger, M.D.

Richard Leweke

Lou Mele

Alison Petrocelli

Deborah Santana

Charon D'Aiello Sandoval

Lyne Scott, M.D.

Allie Weinstein

## VIP Spotlight



We are excited to welcome long-time supporter and Board member, Linda Bernstein Rubin, in her new role as VIP's new Board Chair!

**"As the new Board Chair, I have supported Dr. Astrid Heger and the Violence Intervention Program (VIP) for over 15 years because I have seen both the immense need and life-changing impact their programs have on the lives of so many who have been scarred by abuse and violence, including children, foster youth, families, the elderly, and women who have been sexually exploited."**

— Linda Bernstein Rubin,  
VIP Board Chair

## Caring for Kids, Teens and Families



Each year, VIP learns more and more about the many challenges our clients face due to the abuse, neglect and trauma they have experienced.

After 30 years of working in this field, we know that children need to have a **safe place** to grow and mature; teenagers who are homeless or products of the foster care system are extremely vulnerable to mental health issues, incarceration, and human trafficking; and that parents or caregivers hoping to **break the cycle of abuse** must create a loving and nurturing environment for their children. As our clients begin to face new struggles, VIP continues to **build new, innovative programs** that address these needs head on.

**Because of our supporters, VIP can provide services and resources no other Los Angeles County-based nonprofit or government agency can provide.**

In 2016, we introduced new programs aimed at addressing the unique needs of L.A.'s most vulnerable teens, supporting parents and caregivers in an ever-changing social environment, and helping ensure the youngest victims of trauma not only survive, but also thrive.

It's supporters like you that give VIP the chance to make a lasting change in our clients' lives. This report highlights the work you helped bring to fruition . . . ***Thank you for making a difference!***

### PAGE 2

Our Purpose

### PAGE 3

A Bright Future  
for Kids

### PAGE 4

Giving Teens a  
New Start

### PAGE 5

Serving the  
Whole Family

### PAGE 6

VIP Impact —  
By the Numbers

### PAGE 7

Our Funders and  
Supporters

### PAGE 8

Providing  
Ongoing Hope

## Our Purpose

### Mission Statement

To protect and treat all victims of family violence and sexual assault.

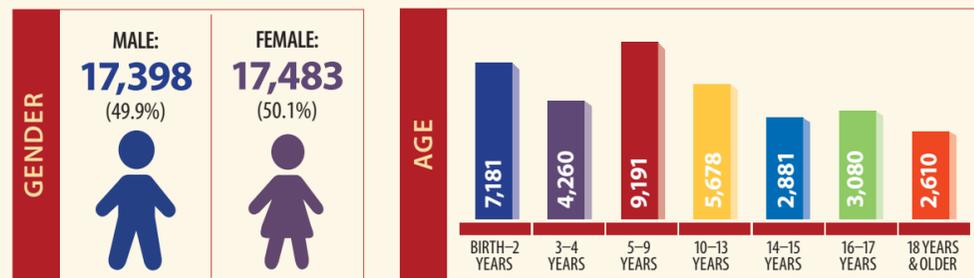
### Impact Statement

Provide better outcomes for victims of abuse, neglect, and sexual assault — and the families that support them — to ensure their long-term success.

### Why We Serve

In 2015, there were over 170,000 Child Safety Investigations in Los Angeles County. More than 85% of those investigations were due to physical, sexual abuse or neglect.\*

Abuse is reported countywide amongst boys and girls in all age groups, but a large percentage is associated with infants and toddlers.



**More than 60% of child abuse cases reported in Los Angeles County are evaluated by the expert staff at VIP.**

Children, teens, and their caregivers are referred to VIP because of our long-standing commitment of going beyond traditional care to help clients become their best selves through innovative programs.

### Our Philosophy

"What do you need?" and "How can we help?" These two questions encapsulate the core of VIP's model of care. Our goal is to build trust with our clients by providing tailored services that meet their individual needs in a safe, caring environment.

Every day in L.A. County, 30 children are removed from their home by children's services. VIP sees 15-20 of those children.



"It's my pleasure to congratulate VIP on another successful year. Constituents in need of your services are encouraged by the possibilities created through VIP, and benefit widely from your attention to detail and diversity. Many thanks to VIP for its high-quality care, compassionate support and dedication to ensuring all children have the resources they need to thrive."

— Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor, First District

\*Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) report, 2015

## A Bright Future for Kids

For children who have experienced trauma, abuse, or neglect, the earlier we can address their emotional wounds, the greater likelihood that we can make a lasting difference in giving them what they need to succeed and ultimately, break the cycle of abuse.

Below are a few highlights from programs that directly impact the lives of our children.

### Birth to 5

Many of the mothers who turn to VIP for help are young, had an unplanned pregnancy and/or were previously exposed to violence and abuse. These factors can make it difficult for them to connect with their young ones, sometimes resulting in perpetuating the cycle of neglect and/or abuse.

**Birth to 5** is an innovative program that provides early intervention to create positive lasting effects for both baby and caregiver. Through therapies that work directly with both the child and caregiver, we are able to offer them the tools to cope with their stress and trauma in healthy ways.

This past year, VIP reached a major milestone by beginning to offer services in two local **Early Education Centers**, allowing us to address the needs of preschoolers and their families.

### FASD Programs

One in 100 children are born with **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)** — affecting more children than Cerebral Palsy, Cystic Fibrosis, Down Syndrome, SIDS, and Spina Bifida combined. Children with FASD can experience developmental delays, learning disabilities, and have difficulty managing their day-to-day lives. Left unaddressed or untreated, many will have issues finding gainful employment, be incarcerated in their lifetimes, and will have ongoing mental health issues.

Our **FASD Programs** are one of the largest in the country, providing diagnosis and treatment to an underserved population of children affected by FASD as well as supporting their caregivers through early education and counseling. Over the last year, the FASD program has continued to grow as **VIP continues to be one of the very few mental health agencies in Southern California providing services to families impacted by FASD.** In 2016, 58 caregivers benefited from FASD interventions at VIP and received the skills and tools needed to work with their child.

### School-based Program

Visiting our offices for mental health services can prove to be challenging for children with limited access to transportation and/or trauma induced stress. VIP launched our **school-based program** in 2010, which offers onsite care directly to students and creates a support system where they need it most — at school. **This past year, the program grew exponentially into 24 elementary, middle and high schools, with several more on the way — the largest number of schools we have been in to date!**

- 2 Early Education Centers
- 13 Elementary
- 4 Middle Schools
- 5 High Schools



VIP is the only 24/7 medical facility for foster care children and provides care for 70% of all foster children in L.A. County.

## Giving Teens a New Start

The teens and young adults we see at VIP are some of our most difficult cases and the challenges they face are multi-faceted and growing.

**Foster Teens & Transitional-Aged Youth** — Many of our teens have been in the foster care system for most of their lives, experiencing severe trauma that results in behaviors caregivers can find difficult to manage.

Once foster teens reach adulthood, there is little support to help them transition out of the system. Many end up on the streets, have issues finding employment or completing school, and/or become victims of trafficking.

**Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)** — Los Angeles County is a major hub for the commercial exploitation of children, with some victims as young as 10 years old. Almost all of these children have previously been in the child welfare system and have a history of abuse or neglect.

**High-risk Youth** — VIP also recognizes the need to provide services to teens discharged from probation, pregnant and parenting teens, and other high-risk youth in the community.

**LGBTQ Foster Youth & Adults** — We know that one in five foster youth in Los Angeles identify as LGBTQ and have their own specific medical, mental health, and advocacy needs. For the LGBTQ community, these services can be difficult to locate and access, particularly in the East Los Angeles region.

Thanks in large part to your generous support, VIP is in the final phases of completing construction of the **Leonard Hill Hope Center**, a new comprehensive service center that will bring together services for high-risk and foster care transitional youth to successfully transition into adulthood. These services will include private and group therapy, tutoring, support to complete high school and prepare for college, life-skills classes, computer classes, and case management. There is no other center like this available to youth in the East Los Angeles region.

The Leonard Hill Hope Center will officially open in September 2017.

### Compassionate Care Through the Adolescent Care and Transition (ACT) Clinic

Last year, VIP opened our Adolescent Care and Transition (ACT) Clinic at the VIP Children's Medical Village, which serves as a medical and special resources home for these highly vulnerable populations. The ACT Clinic offers ongoing medical care and provides access to social workers, therapists and case managers to meet the unique needs of these youth.

In our first full year of providing services, we provided ongoing care to over 750 young adults.

At the end of the year, VIP started a medical unit in the ACT Clinic to address the unique needs of LGBTQ foster youth, including specialized medical care, mental health care, hormone treatment, locating LGBTQ-friendly housing, and legal advocacy. The need for these services are so great that the clinic already has a waiting list for services.

In addition, VIP launched our specialized clinic for commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC). The Succeeding Through Achievement and Resilience

(STAR) Court (a victim-centered court in Los Angeles that supports youth who are survivors of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking) designated the VIP CSEC Clinic as their primary referral site for ongoing medical care and support. Since opening, the CESC Clinic is seeing approximately 100 youth per month.



VIP is the sole-source provider of Youth Placement Stabilization services in L. A. County for children and teens in the foster care system.

## Serving the Whole Family

Most of the families we work with live at or below the poverty line and face significant financial hardships in their day-to-day lives. For many of our caregivers, it is an overwhelming challenge to meet the basic needs of their families.

H.E.A.R.T. (Helping Ease Abuse Related Trauma) is a membership group that works to raise funds for and offer support to the child victims of abuse receiving services at VIP. Comprised of advocates, professionals and philanthropists, our members have created a community dedicated to making a thoughtful impact on the lives of abused children and the caregivers who strive to keep them safe.

Our H.E.A.R.T. members and community-minded Friends of H.E.A.R.T. donate \$1,000 or more every year to support the "essential nonessentials", items that help our children and their families meet their most basic needs that are still so critical on their path to healing. With the support of H.E.A.R.T., VIP clinicians and case managers can ensure that the family unit is strengthened and supported as the client and their family work toward their mental health goals. By providing services that focus on parenting support, emergency relief and unmet needs, VIP can help our clients in an integrated and holistic way.

Here are just a few of the many ways H.E.A.R.T. donations have made a lasting difference in the families we serve.

- \$24** towards a bus pass for Renee to get to her appointments at VIP.
- \$52** to pay for Melissa's college application fees.
- \$80** to help purchase a high school graduation package for Joe.
- \$115** for art classes so that Miranda could have a healthy outlet to express her feelings.
- \$185** to ensure that Abraham has proper glasses to see at school.
- \$230** to help new mom Kristina purchase a safe car seat for her baby.
- \$550** for emergency housing to protect Amelia and her son fleeing a dangerous domestic violence situation.
- \$750** to buy enough beds so Julia and her four children wouldn't be sleeping on the floor.

**H.E.A.R.T.**  
helping ease abuse related trauma

In 2016, H.E.A.R.T. membership grew to over 180 donors and raised more than \$246,000. Thank you H.E.A.R.T. members for all that you do!



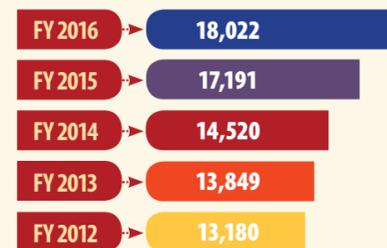
#### H.E.A.R.T. Advisory Board

- Linda Bernstein Rubin
- Eve Somer Gerber
- Patricia Gordon, M.D.
- Astrid Heppenstall Heger, M.D.
- Ali Kay
- Mareva Marciano
- Fran Lasker
- Alison Petrocelli
- Shiva Rose
- Tawny Sanders
- Cio Soler
- Molly Isaksen Sures
- Gillian Wynn

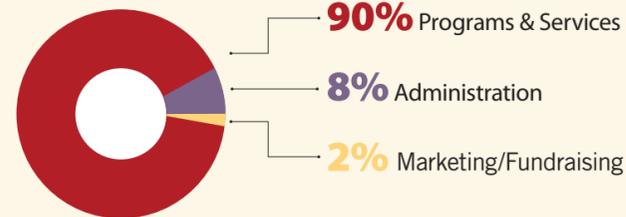
## VIP Impact — By the Numbers

VIP continues to grow in size and scope, impacting a greater number of children, teens, and families with each passing year. 2016 was one of our biggest years yet, seeing more children and families than ever before. Below are a few highlights from 2016 that we're proud to share with you.

### NUMBER OF CLIENT SERVED



### HOW YOUR GIFT IS USED



### OPERATING BUDGET

2016	\$11,329,425
2015	\$8,857,841
2014	\$8,113,762
2013	\$7,079,956
2012	\$7,182,530

- 5,956** clients received mental health services
- 2,116** toys distributed during our Holiday Toy Drive
- 1,300** backpacks collected and distributed to students & siblings
- 391** clients received ongoing mental health Case Management
- 24** Los Angeles schools received VIP's mental health services

### VIP Volunteers have vital roles that impact the children and families we serve every day.



- ▶ **2,265** volunteer hours
- ▶ **150** volunteers
- ▶ **\$62K** savings in staff salaries that gets reinvested into VIP programs.
- ▶ VIP Volunteers helped children from over **70** local schools in 2016!

Volunteers serve as a **Mentor, Tutor, Child Care Provider, Educator**, or provide administrative support.



## Our Funders and Supporters



VIP is grateful for the financial and in-kind support we receive from our partners and friends. We would like to acknowledge the individuals, foundations, government agencies, corporations and community partners who gave \$500 or more during fiscal year 2016.

### Individual Donors

Debbe Adamson  
Page and Lou Adler  
Helen Kim Ahn  
Melissa Akkaway  
Vanessa Alexander  
Cathy Moretti Anderle  
Joyce Arad  
Lovee DuBoef Arum  
Charmaine Bailey  
Lynda Barber  
Rachelle Barrack  
Red Barris  
Lara Baumgarten  
Chris Benarroch  
Claire Benarroch  
Lauren and Kevin Bender  
Daphne Beneke  
Ria Berkus  
Rachel Zoe Berman  
Christine Meleo Bernstein  
Leslie Birnbaum  
Natalie Blake  
Amy Blavin  
Lily Blavin  
Stephanie Bronson  
Shanna Brooks  
Jodi Guber Brufsky  
Jane Buckingham  
Linda Caan  
Frank Campbell  
Dyan Cannon  
Jessica Capshaw  
Kate Capshaw  
Trisha Cardoso  
Elizabeth Chait  
Eddie Chan  
Jenny Chase  
Shelby Chong  
Darcy Cobb  
Linda Collins  
Susan Comisar  
Stephen Cragg  
Maggie Cwiernia  
Ambre Dahan  
Helene Dameris  
Embeth Davidtz  
Catherine DeRidder  
Marissa Devins  
Kitty and Jim Dillavou  
Rebecca Drew  
Carla Du Manoir  
Kristin Eberts  
Lindsey Leweke Edmunds  
Daniel Elperin  
Kristen Engle  
Quinn Ezralow  
Cece and Bill Feiler  
Sue and James Femino  
Leslie and Richard Frank  
Heidi Frey  
Alexandra Fuller  
Cornelia Funke  
Ana Garcia  
Nancy and Sam Gary  
Ryan Gates  
Michele and Jonathan Guthrid  
Eve and Billy Gerber

Anna Getty  
Steven and Sharon Giannotta  
Leslie Gifford  
Elizabeth Giovine  
Mimi Polk Gitlin  
Carrington Goodman  
Patricia Gordon, MD  
Birgitta Granberg  
Helen Graves  
Alexandra Gray  
Brian and Veronica Grazer  
Heidi Frey and  
Robert Greenwald  
Debbie Gruber  
Robin Gruber  
Heidi Haddad  
Kendra Cole Hand  
Julie Harrah  
Kathleen Hartford  
Astrid H. Heger, MD  
Hannah Heidegger  
Jami Heidegger  
Nicoletta Heidegger  
Maya Henry  
Shelli Herman  
Laurie Herz  
Lysa Heslov  
Sydney Holland  
Phyllis Holton  
Molly Hughes  
Angela Janklow  
Jenny Jones  
Nina Montee Karp  
Ali Kay  
Jenni Kayne  
Leah Ketchum  
Jena King  
Blair Kohan  
Janna Kohl  
Larry and Stacey Kohl  
Christina Kompon  
Staci Koondel  
Sonny Kothari  
Stephen Krai  
Judy Laner  
Kristen Langan  
Fran Lasker  
Siena Lasker  
Bianca Levin  
Rick and Sandy Leweke  
Jennifer Cook Lewis  
Leona Lewis  
Maryam Lieberman  
Christine London  
Crystal Lourd  
Karyn Lovegrove  
Frank Lupo  
Paul and Mareva Marciano  
Anna Mardan  
Alyson Marmur  
Tuki Maxon  
Denise McCain-Thamstrom  
Anne McCollum  
Jackie Mckenzie  
Karyn Millet  
Amanda Mills  
Annmarie Mitchell  
Margaret Morgan  
Sarah Moritz

Cheryl Nakao-Miller  
Emina Nazarian  
Laura Neibart  
Candace Nelson  
Andy Nemeth  
Nancy and Bruce Newberg  
Maryam Razavi Newman  
Maureen Nishikawa  
Nina Oberfeld  
Michelle O'Brien  
Carrie Odell  
Clio Olaya  
Allison O'Malley  
Yifat Oren  
Sybil Robson Orr  
Morris Ostin  
Lynn Palmer  
Kelly Sawyer Patricof  
Sammie Kothari Peng  
Greg and Patty Penske  
Alison and Daniel Petrocelli  
Charlie Ramos  
Michelle Richman  
David and Bonnie Rickles  
Angela Rinebold  
Khalehla Rixon  
Jeanne Robinson  
Shiva Rose  
Emily Rosedale-Kousoulis  
Kathleen Rosenbloom  
Fernando and Linda Roth  
Karee Rowen  
Tony and Linda Rubin  
Tawny and Jerry Sanders  
Lee Anne Sanderson  
Charon and David Sandoval  
Amie Satchu  
Leslie Schuster  
Nancy Shachtman  
Shilpah Shah  
Esther Shapiro  
Susan Ursitti Sheinberg  
Alexa Sidas  
Shana Silveri  
Ellen Simmons  
Molly Sims  
Martin and Deena Singer  
Rosa Sinnott  
Susan Smidt  
Jonathan and Sheryl Sokoloff  
Cio Soler  
Abe and Annika Somer  
Karen Sonneborn  
Julia Sorkin  
Karen Spencer  
DeeAnna Staats  
Vera Stasuk  
Catherine Sullivan  
Molly Isaksen Sures  
Louise Tabbiner  
Ali Taekman  
Linda Tatum  
Patricia Tay-Weiss  
Tom and Elaine Techtent  
Pam Theodosakis  
Deanne Tilton-Durfee  
Alice Torre  
Haley Van Oosten

Kirsten Vangness  
John Wagne  
Dana Walden  
Jill Warnick  
Valerie Waters  
Candice Weiner  
Christine Weller  
Loretta Whitesides  
Alexandra Williams  
Shirley Wilson  
Tia Wou  
Cathy Wung Lai  
Brooke Wyard  
Elaine Wynn  
Gillian Wynn  
Kevyn Wynn

### Corporations/Community Partners

360 Sweater  
Acacia Capital Corporation  
The Actors' Gang  
American Medical Women's Association –  
Keck School of Medicine of USC  
Baby2Baby  
Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund  
Beta Theta Pi – Gamma Tau  
Boston Properties  
Christopher Robbin Preschool  
Church of the Adventist Fellowship  
Cuyana  
Dollies Making a Difference  
Equity Office Properties  
Goethe International Charter School  
The Grove  
GUESS, Inc.  
Hell's Belles Car Club – Los Angeles  
Herschel Supply Co.  
Holy Angels Elementary School  
JanSport  
Jenny Chase, Inc.  
Joyful Heart Foundation  
KBKG, Inc.  
Lisa Tunstall Ministries, Inc.  
Los Angeles Clippers  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health –  
Maternal Child & Adolescent Health  
Matches Fashion  
Matisse Footwear  
Microsoft Corporation  
Motor4Toys  
Occidental College Baseball & Softball Teams  
Onward Search  
Playa Vista Moms Group  
Reading is Fundamental  
Robbins Nest Preschool

Sempra Employee Giving Network  
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter, &  
Hampton LLP  
Sketchers  
Sprinkles Cupcakes  
Starz Entertainment  
State Bags  
Stella McCartney America, Inc.  
Stuff 4 Multiples  
USC Keck School of Medicine –  
Department of Orthopedic Surgery  
USC Keck School of Medicine –  
Division of Biokinesiology and  
Physical Therapy  
Valentino  
Wally's  
Your Voice

### Government

Los Angeles County Department of  
Health Services  
Los Angeles County Department of  
Mental Health

### Foundations

Bank of America Charitable  
Foundation  
Corrigan-Walla Foundation  
David Vicker Foundation  
Do A Little Fund  
Elaine P. Wynn and Family  
Foundation  
First 5 L.A.  
Good News Foundation  
In-N-Out Burger Foundation  
Kaiser Foundation Hospitals  
Leonard Hill Charitable Trust  
Lon V. Smith Foundation  
Maurice Marciano Family  
Foundation  
Milagro Foundation  
Morris A. Hazan Foundation  
Orange County Community  
Foundation  
QueensCare  
Ralph M. Parsons Foundation  
Rose Hills Foundation  
The California Endowment  
Motor4Toys  
The Charitable Foundation  
The Charles & Lucille King Family  
Foundation  
Wasserman Foundation  
Wolfson Family Foundation

In coordination with First 5 L.A., the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, VIP opened a new pediatric dental clinic in 2016.

## Providing Ongoing Hope

We've been able to accomplish so much at VIP because of donors like you.

We hope to build on this success in 2017 by continuing to provide medical and mental health services for the benefit of the Los Angeles community as well as continue to improve local, regional and national policies to support children and families impacted by violence and poverty.

VIP is working to expand our life-changing mental health services offered by—

- Supporting The Pediatrics unit at LAC+USC Medical Center
- Adding schools to our school-based program
- Including more opportunities for youth mentoring programs
- Opening the Leonard Hill Hope Center
- Providing more parenting classes and educational opportunities for caregivers
- Increasing medical providers and support services within our ACT, CSEC, and LGBTQ Clinics.

In order to meet the demands of our clients and continue to grow as an organization, we depend on your generous support. Our work is not possible without you.

Together we can make a lasting difference in the lives of children, teenagers, and their families.



### More Ways to Help

- **Become a H.E.A.R.T member at [heartofvip.org](http://heartofvip.org)**
- **Donate stock options**
- **Make a financial contribution at [VIP4Kids.org/donate](http://VIP4Kids.org/donate)**
- **Collect school supplies to support our Back to School Drive**

### Become a VIP Volunteer!

You can help the children and teens we serve as a Mentor, Tutor, Child Care Provider, Educator or Administrative Volunteer.

To learn more about our volunteer opportunities or apply\*, please visit [VIP4Kids.org/getinvolved](http://VIP4Kids.org/getinvolved).



\*VIP Volunteers must meet certain requirements to work with children and teens.

## **IOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

The mission of the Violence Intervention Program is to protect and treat all victims of family violence and sexual assault.



Facebook.com/ViolenceInterventionProgram



@VIP\_4\_Kids



@heartofVIP

1721 Griffin Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90031 ■ (323) 221-4134 ■ [contact@vip-cmhc.org](mailto:contact@vip-cmhc.org) ■ [VIP4Kids.org](http://VIP4Kids.org)