### The Julia Burke Foundation NEWSLETTER 2022



#### Trust In Education

By Budd Mackenzie, Founder

Trust in Education (TIE) is a recent and very grateful beneficiary of The Julia Burke Foundation's generosity. TIE is a grassroots, non-profit, people-to-people organization located in Lafayette, California. It was founded in 2003 with a straightforward goal to raise funds to build a school in Afghanistan.

Almost two decades later, TIE has also funded a school for girls, supplied 300 farmers with 22,000 fruit trees, paid for the construction of four wells, two bridges, one dam, playground equipment for five schools, soccer programs for girls and boys, and made 8,000 solar cookers that were distributed to 3,000 Afghan refugee families. TIE also provided equipment for and maintained eight computer libraries and created two sponsorship programs: one for street children and one for

Several years ago, we began

creating computer libraries, rooms containing desks, chairs and computers loaded with educational software. One thousand Khan Academy math videos were translated into Dari, one of Afghanistan's principle languages. English language lessons were added to the hard drives because English has been the money language in Afghanistan. Those who could read, write, and converse in English had more job opportunities and made more money.

The Foundation's recent donation made it possible to increase the number of libraries from eight to ten. When the additional two are completed by the

end of August, we expect over 1,000 Afghan girls to be using them daily. The absentee rate in the libraries has been averaging 2%.

This February, the Taliban decided to not offer classes to girls above the sixth grade. Our libraries became extremely important to girls wanting to learn beyond the sixth grade. The libraries also enable the girls to get out of the house and socialize, something that is becoming increasingly more difficult and dangerous to do under Taliban rule.

The family and street children sponsorship programs are zero sum

of what a sponsor donates goes to the child or family they have chosen to sponsor. Ten families are being sponsored from the Foundation's grant, bringing the total families sponsored as of August 8th to 79, with two on the waiting list.

On my second of 20 trips to Afghanistan, a village leader reached into his pocket and withdrew a stack of business cards given to him by people working for the US military,

State Department, and charitable organizations. He said, "Every one of these people came to my house and never came back. I thought you would do the same". I told him I would keep coming as long as I was able. I didn't know then that organizations like The Julia Burke Foundation would come forward and make that possible. Even though I can't go back right now, we employ 18 Afghans who are continuing the work, without interference or oversight by the Taliban, and we thank The Julia Burke Foundation for helping to make this happen. For more information, please visit www.trustineducation.org



#### National Speech & Debate Association

By Nicole Wanzer-Serrano, Director of Development and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

It has never been more urgent in our world to have an informed and vocal citizenry. Time and time again, speech and debate has been proven to provide young people with access to the essential life skills of critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. By inspiring and providing access to speech and debate, The Julia Burke Foundation is strengthening our democracy and global society. Because of The Foundation's generosity, schools had access to free weekend tournaments, 22 free online afterschool

NSDA ONLINE
Springboard series
free scrimmages presented by
The Julia Burke Foundation

scrimmages, free online webinars with experts, and financial assistance to attend the National Tournament. The National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA) is so thankful for The Julia Burke Foundation's generous support to unlock every student's potential through speech and debate.

The free online Springboard Series, presented by The Julia Burke Foundation, provided all schools with the opportunity to compete in free after-school scrimmages and free weekend tournaments offering the full spectrum of speech and debate events. At a time when school budgets are tighter than ever, the free Springboard Series provides unprecedented access to young people. Many of our school participants described this as the backbone of their competition experience. Over 300 unique schools and over 2,500 students participated in these after-school scrimmages.

The Springboard Series also included two free weekend tournaments, the latter of which was the National Tournament's free online Last Chance Qualifier. A coach from Colorado commented on what this experience meant to students who had struggled to access speech and debate opportunities during the year, writing "It is difficult to find the words to actually express our gratitude for this experience. I am not sure we would have been able to provide him with this opportunity if entry fees were required. As a rural school, finding the funds to continue this amazing program is difficult. Your generosity has given us a huge gift to share with very deserving students."

For more information, please visit www.speechanddebate.org

# THE JULIA BURKE FOUNDATION

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

Marilyn Burke President

Jerry Burke Vice President, Treasurer & Secretary

#### HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

Donald Burke

Robert Burke

Timothy Campion

Jonathan Cowperthwait

Michelle Johns

Melissa Knievel Lowder

Roberta Murphy

Richard Watson

Eric Zampol

#### STAFF

Joy Johnson Executive Director

Amy Stoneham Chief Financial Officer

Karen Stockton Publications Editor

Nicole Tutela Creative Director

#### CONTACT

Mailing address: 11278 Los Alamitos Blvd., STE 189, Los Alamitos, CA 90720 408-209-2803

Main Office: Kailua Kona, HI 808-960-1705

Info@JuliaBurkeFoundation.org
JuliaBurkeFoundation.org



#### Contents



Arm of Care	4
Bay Area Urban Debate League (BAUDL)	8
Awards for Debate	8
Bluegrass Debate Coalition (BDC)	8
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch	3
DAY 4 HOPE	11
Defy Ventures	5
Equal Justice Initiative	5
GEAR Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	4
Generations In Jazz Foundation	11
Homeboy Industries	6
Julia People	3
LA Madera Elementary	7



LA Metropolitan Debate League (LAMDL)	9
Monument Crisis Center1	C
National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA)	1
Parker School	6
Students Rising Above (SRA)	7
Trinity Center1	C
Trust In Education	1
USAHello	5
Washington Urban Debate League (WUDL)S	9

#### Letter from the President

Hi Everyone!

What a delight it is for Jerry and I to see the amazing work of our Foundation grantees! They are truly bright lights in our troubled world. I hope you will enjoy reading about them in this newsletter, and lend one or more of them your support however you can, including publicizing their services to those who may benefit from them.

Though we will not be holding the Walk and Reunion this December, we sincerely hope our paths cross with many of you individually in the coming year!

Wishing health and hope to you and your loved ones,





Marilyn Burke President







#### Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch

By Tammy Noteboom, Vice President, Communications

Children in residential treatment at Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Minot, ND, will have a new space designed specifically to meet their complex needs. A gift from The Julia Burke Foundation to the Ranch's Healing Spaces Capital Campaign will help the Ranch replace two nearly 50-year-old cottages that provide shelter for children. Zurcher Cottage, a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF), is designed to provide best-in-class care and treatment for the youngest and highest needs boys and girls served at the Ranch.

Children who will live, learn, and heal in this new space will work to overcome challenges related to conduct disorder, autism spectrum disorders, personality disorders, depression, anxiety, chemical dependency, and sexual responsibility, as well as issues related to trauma, abuse, and neglect. Thanks to the generous support of The Julia Burke Foundation, the Ranch will create a healing space where we can wrap our precious children in the love and care they need to become their best selves.

At Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, we help the most troubled, complex,

and amazing kids by providing exceptional psychiatric therapy and trauma-informed care; we look kids in the eye, walk with them, and help them become their best selves. Our mission is to help atrisk children and their families succeed. For more information, please visit www.DakotaRanch.org





#### Julia People

We are humbled that Julia's friends have chose to honor her memory in so many wonderful ways. From sporting Julia tees and onesies to naming their children after Julia, we love to see so much participation!





- 1 Lincoln Lowder
- 2 Fiona and Ryder Kalams
- 3 Joy and Mark Johnson
- 4 Gio and Anna Zampol
- 5 Eric Zampol









Top: Team member Charlotte, with Prototypes Bottom: Irrigation Test Field

#### Gear Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology By Prof. Amos Winter

The Global Engineering and Research (GEAR) Lab at MIT had a productive spring and summer of 2022, driven by generous support from The Julia Burke Foundation! With travel restrictions continuing to open up, our team was able to conduct a number of field activities to test and validate our technologies, including three major initiatives sponsored by The Foundation: desalination, irrigation, and prosthetics.

In February 2022 we tested our first timevariant, solar-powered desalination system that consumes energy directly in sync with the sun. Throughout the spring semester this technology was upgraded to create a stand-alone field pilot that would operate remotely for long periods of time. GEAR Lab researchers installed this newest prototype at the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility in Alamogordo, NM in July 2022, and the system has run successfully for many days, sending back data of its results. This new prototype and the data it will generate are integral to our upcoming field pilot in the Navajo Nation and other parts of the American Southwest, our efforts to create disaster response water purifiers that can be airshipped anywhere in the world, and the eventual commercialization of our technology.

Our irrigation team had two major advancements this past spring. Toro, our partner for production of low-power drip irrigation emitters, made its first run of pre-production prototypes. Our drip emitters cut pumping power by roughly 50%, lower the cost of a solar-powered drip irrigation system by about 40%, require less than half the plastic to make, reduce the cost of materials in the drip irrigation line by about 20%, and have shown less sensitivity to clogging compared to competing

products. In short, they are best in class in every performance category and will help poor off-grid farmers adopt productivity-enhancing and watersaving irrigation technology. The second major advancement in our irrigation program this spring was the installation of an irrigation, sensing, and control system on a local farm in Concord, MA. The soil moisture sensing system is an integral part of our overall solar-powered irrigation program, aimed at enabling small farmers to irrigate efficiently and effectively to grow more crops and reduce water consumption using renewable energy. This controller technology will be tested in Jordan, Morocco, and Kenya this fall.

This past March our prosthetics team tested the first run of individually customized feet with Hanger Clinic, the largest provider of prosthetic feet in the US. The updated foot design is a major advancement on our previous feet, incorporating features like a split toe to aid walking performance, and having a contoured shape to fit within a cosmetic foot shell. Hanger's goal is to create a reasonably priced line of our feet that are truly customized to each individual. We will refine this design over the remainder of this year and plan to do an upgraded field test early next year. We have begun the last big push to commercialize the developing world version of our prosthetic foot. In March, our team traveled to India and Switzerland to meet with the two largest providers of prosthetic feet in the developing world. We have designed our foot to integrate with both of their fitting standards, as well as the common international standard that is used in wealthy countries so our foot can be commercialized globally. For more information, please visit www.gear.mit.edu

#### Arm Of Care

By Angie Kavert, Director of Outreach & Administration

ARM of Care in Walnut Creek, California, uses the creative arts to restore and empower those who have been commercially and sexually exploited and those at risk of exploitation. We are grateful for the impact that The Julia Burke Foundation has on our work.

Thank you to The Julia Burke Foundation for allowing us to host Creative Arts training with some of our team and partner agencies. We were able to educate and inspire other professionals working in the field of human trafficking prevention in the valuable use of the expressive and creative arts for themselves and those they

With support from The Foundation, we taught vulnerable women the signs of healthy and unhealthy relationships with the One Love curriculum. Many of those we serve have not been taught about what to look for in relationships with other people. Through this educational program, they learned to define what they want and how to discern if someone is healthy for them. Thank you to The Julia Burke Foundation for your continued compassion and support.

For more information, please visit www.armofcare.org



#### Defy Ventures

By Andrew Glazier, President & CEO

Willie had a tough start in life. Orphaned by the age of nine, he bounced from home to home, never feeling like he belonged. Without the right support, Willie started to act out, which he remembers being addressed in one of two ways - he was either beaten, or thrown out "like an unwanted dog." By the age of 18, Willie had dropped out of school and begun a 10-year prison sentence. During his incarceration, Willie learned to train dogs through a dog-training program. In 2019, as he looked forward to the end of his sentence, he joined the Defy Ventures program, a personal development, career readiness, and entrepreneurship program for inmates funded by The Julia Burke Foundation.

Through the Defy Ventures program, Willie began a journey of self-discovery, learning the skills of running a business and developing a business concept. Inspired by the challenges of his past, Willie developed a dog training business called Clarity Dog Training, with the goal of

reducing the number of dogs who end up in shelters due to unwanted behavior. As part of the Defy program, a business pitch competition is held inside the prison – Willie won first prize!

Thanks to ongoing support from The Julie Burke Foundation, Defy operates as an Inside-Outside program, with programming that continues support for the Defy program graduates after they return home.

In the spring of 2022, Willie came home. Upon his release, he was able to immediately connect with Defy Ventures post-release program staff in Northern California, who were excited to help him find success in reentry. Willie put his entrepreneurial mindset to work and quickly secured two jobs - one on his own, and another with support from the Defy NorCal team. Willie also received a Chromebook from Defy, as well as his prize winnings of \$500 from his 2019 pitch competition victory. He is now preparing for a career as an electrician.



When asked what he valued most about the Defy program, Willie said "I learned from Defy that I have the power to change my future." Willie's future looks bright indeed!For more information, visit www.defyventures.org

#### USAHello By Sarah Ivory, US President

From the time that Russian forces entered Ukraine near the end of February 2022, so many people have perished that there is no official count. We know that among the tens of thousands killed, at least 5,000 people -including more than 350 children—were civilians. Many more are left grappling with the loss of loved ones who joined the military response. With support from The Julia Burke Foundation, USAHello has been able to respond to the needs of those fleeing this violence and finding refuge here in the United States.

When safety is on the line, people need practical, trustworthy information in a format they can understand. Unfortunately, the Internet filled with rampant misinformation. Whether intentional disinformation, or simply a bad translation (estimates put Google's translation automated Ukrainian at 30-40% accurate), unreliable information during times of crisis is dangerous.

USAHello is dismantling information access barriers to ensure that Ukrainians coming into the United States can find the information and tools they need. The Information

Center for Ukrainians shares critical information about migration pathways services for Ukrainians and helps newcomers navigate dayto-day life with high-quality translations on over 40 topics, from enrolling children in school, to getting a driver's license, or finding a job.



This year, The Foundation's support was instrumental in allowing our organization to launch a Ukrainian version of our app, FindHello. This app connects our newest neighbors to thousands of services -English classes, social and legal services, healthcare and more - in 250+ communities across the country. Thank you to The Julia Burke Foundation for your continued support.

For more information, please visit www.usahello.org

#### Equal Justice Initiative

By Jacqueline Jones-Peace, Senior Attorney & Director of Development

Over the past year, with support from The Julia Burke Foundation, the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) has continued its work fighting to end mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, challenging racial and economic injustice, and protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society. EJI has continued to provide direct representation to condemned men and women on Alabama's death row, and we have won parole, pardon, new and reduced sentences, and other relief for nearly a dozen clients this year. We have also continued to provide specialized re-entry assistance to formerly incarcerated people, and, through advocacy and litigation, have directly challenged the unconstitutional conditions of confinement in jails and prisons throughout Alabama, which has the most overcrowded and violent prisons in the nation.

EJI has maintained its advocacy efforts to support our incarcerated clients who remain vulnerable to the devastating and continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including growing isolation and despair after having been denied full access to critical legal services and family visits for nearly two years. At the same time, we are receiving an increasing number of reports from staff, prisoners, and their families about abusive corrections officers in Alabama prisons. Those reports included one officer who has now been arrested and criminally charged with assaulting an inmate who died a few days later.

With the generous support of The Julia Burke Foundation, EJI continues to support communities to help advance reform conversations that are taking place across the country. For more information, visit www.eji.org





#### Homeboy Industries

By Alison Lass, Manager, Global Homeboy Network & Media Relations

Homeboy Industries is the largest gang rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world, serving more than 8,000 people every year who seek to change the arc of their lives. For over 34 years, the organization has offered an "exit ramp" for those stuck in the cycle of violence and incarceration, helping people develop the strength and skills to transform their lives and become contributing members of our community. Through its flagship, paid 18-month re-entry program, Homeboy Industries serves nearly 500 individuals each year, seeking to address the complex issues of gang involvement, recidivism, unemployment, and trauma, through comprehensive wraparound services workforce training in its 11 social enterprises. Its healing-centric program is anchored by a culture of kinship and exquisite mutuality where those on the margins are cherished, not judged.

Homeboy Industries' clients face numerous obstacles and are no strangers to housing insecurity; nearly 75% of its clients are people without housing. With the support of The Julia Burke Foundation, Homeboy Industries has embarked on a transformative project to build a five story, 160-bed transitional housing development, which will be located adjacent to its

social service agency. Homeboy Industries is in the process of obtaining cityowned land and hopes to break ground on the project in late 2023.

Homeboy Industries' Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Vozzo, says, "we're grateful to The Julia Burke Foundation for making it possible for us to take on a transformative project for our community. Providing a safe, affordable housing solution for our clients has always been a missing piece of our



program. With this project, we will now truly be a one-stop destination for so many seeking to change their lives."

Homeboy Industries' housing project was featured in Los Angeles Magazine as its latest effort to continue to stand with those on the margins and transform our community for the better.

For more information, please visit www.homeboyindustries.org

#### Parker School

By Melinda R. Mizuno, Advancement Director

In August 2021, no one could predict how the COVID-19 pandemic would impact the 2021-22 school year. But at Parker School, in Waimea, Hawaii, debate students knew that their high school careers in competitive debate would continue, thanks to a commitment from The Julia Burke Foundation.

"We were pretty sure that the pandemic would continue to impact our ability to travel to the U.S. mainland," said Parker School debate teacher and coach Don Pogreba. "So, we used this pause in travel opportunities to bring in some of the nation's top debate coaches to work with our students to ensure their skills would continue to grow."

Twenty-nine students in grades 9 through 12 had 40 hours of class instruction with these coaches, which was a tremendous addition to Parker's limited staff resources. The results from the investment were impressive: students broke into elimination rounds at Tournament of Champions qualifying tournaments in public forum debate for the first time in program history.

At the Hawaii State League Qualifying Debate Tournament in February, Parker had an absolutely dominating win. And in June, three students competed at the National Tournament of Champions in Lexington, Kentucky and were thrilled by the opportunity. "Debating in-person for the first time at the national tournament was a terrifying yet exhilarating privilege," explained Genevieve, grade 11. "... I was surprised by how well my experience and skill carried me through—even though I've only ever competed online. I met all kinds of debaters just like me from all over the United States. The part I loved most is that they all shared the same passion for complex thinking and problem solving." For more information, please visit www.parkerschoolhawaii.org



#### La Madera Elementary

By Heather Payne, Parent

Last year, with generous support from The Julia Burke Foundation, La Madera Elementary in Lake Forest, California, transformed their campus into an environment where the needs of all children can be met, both on the playground and in the classroom. In 2021, The Foundation generously donated three classroom sets of flexible seating to the La Madera Elementary Kindergarten Program. One teacher writes,

This important update to our classrooms has allowed us to create a learning environment that is inclusive and caters to the needs of all learners. Kids need to move!! The flexible seating has allowed for rocking, standing, bouncing, leaning, and wobbling which has helped the children focus and process new information. It also has fostered student empowerment by allowing students some choice and control over their work environment. We love that we can easily reconfigure the furniture depending on our daily schedule. We can set up for group work or quickly create more space for music and movement or a visit from our Big Buddy partner classes. This generous gift has created happy, kid-friendly, and engaging classrooms that will serve our kindergartners for years to come. We are so grateful!! Thank you for caring about our school and our students!

Starting last year, the playground also took on a new role. Not only is it a place of recreation, it is now also a place of refuge and universal appeal. The Julia Burke Foundation granted this school accessible play equipment in the hopes of setting an example for what a universally designed







playground can look like. Universally designed playgrounds seek to provide environments usable by all people. Equipment donated included an adjustable-height basketball hoop, a unity rocker, unity dome and cocoon chairs, all of which allow students to enjoy the playground regardless of their preferences or physical abilities. There is something for everyone! The school's principal, Jennifer Gass commented, "Our students love playing on the unity rocker and on and around the unity dome. While some students love to climb the dome, many like to play the instruments around the outside of it as well. The cocoon chairs are especially popular and I often find students just relaxing in the chairs enjoying a quiet break."

A playground should be a welcome environment to all who play there, and The Julia Burke Foundation helped to make that dream for inclusion a reality. Thank you to the Julia Burke Foundation for creating a positive impact on the lives of the children at La Madera Elementary!

For more information, please visit www.svusd. org/schools/elementary-a-l/la-madera

#### Students Rising Above By Sarah Fahey, Interim Director of Development

A recent study by the Center for Collegiate Mental Health at Penn State showed that 85% of the nearly 50,000 college students surveyed reported that COVID-19 negatively impacted at least one aspect of their lives. One-third of students reported seeking mental health services as a direct result of COVID-19.

With generous support from The Julia Burke Foundation, Students Rising About (SRA) is thrilled to now offer no-cost therapy to every single SRA student, staff member, and recent alum through Talkspace, a digital mental health service connecting members to thousands of dedicated



providers through a secure, HIPAAcompliant platform. In our most recent quarterly report, 36 new users were added, and 134 video calls occurred. SRA's approach is unique in its holistic nature, providing students with financial literacy training, socio-emotional support, healthcare navigation, workforce preparedness, academic mentorship, and financial support. We are grateful to The Julia Burke Foundation for their incredible partnership to continue our holistic approach for supporting students.

For more information, visit www.studentsrisingabove.org



#### Bluegrass Debate Coalition

By Katie Humphries, Program Coordinator

Inspired by the innovation of online debate as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bluegrass Debate Coalition (BDC) was founded in 2020 by University of Kentucky debate coaches and alumni. Historically, the state of Kentucky debate was amongst the most competitive in the nation, with hundreds of Speech and Debate teams. Today, only a handful remain. The BDC seeks to bring debate back to the bluegrass, by aiding students, parents, and teachers across Kentucky to participate in the powerful and impactful activity.

From 2021 to 2022, with support from The Julia Burke Foundation, the BDC has assisted over 150 schools in debate, helping to bring dozens of schools across Kentucky into the world of Speech and Debate. From September to May, the BDC hosted 20+ after-school learning courses, working with over one hundred students in elementary, middle, and high school across the Commonwealth. In addition to classes, the BDC provided debate training for coaches and teachers, distributed originally sourced learning materials, and hosted guest lecture events featuring esteemed University of Kentucky faculty.

The BDC made history in 2022 by hosting several first ever in-person events. These events included the BDC's Regional Championship on March 12th, the Youth Leadership Conference on May 7th, as well as the one-week Intro to Debate & Public Speaking summer camp, hosted at the University of Kentucky. The events totaled 100+ participants collectively, receiving positive feedback from parents and students. Additionally, the BDC hosted and participated in over 20 events throughout the year, from educational webinars, to tournaments, to conferences. Our impact in the 2021-22 year both in terms of what we were able to accomplish, and the positive support we've received from members of our community and the Julia Burke Foundation – demonstrates that our goal of expanding Kentucky debate opportunities is not only bold and aspiring but also successful.

For more information, please visit www.bluegrassdebate.org

#### Bay Area Urban Debate League

By Jonah Feldman, Executive Director

During the past academic year, the Bay Area Urban Debate League (BAUDL) has successfully used funding from The Julia Burke Foundation to support the development and growth of debate teams in Oakland, San Francisco, Emeryville, and Richmond. Our most successful schools, including Oakland Tech, Skyline High, Emery High, and the June Jordan School for Equity were able to expand their teams to regularly include fifty students at weekly practices and thirty students at the six tournaments we held throughout the year. Some of our schools are still recovering from heavy COVID-related disruptions to their student populations and campus life, but with support from BAUDL, were able to lay foundations for future success. The teams from Fremont, John O'Connell, Richmond High, and McClymonds are rebuilding, and with students attending BAUDL summer programming, they will start the 22/23 academic year in a great place for success.

This year, with additional coaching support made possible with funding from The Julia Burke Foundation, BAUDL students achieved success at competitions outside our league, on the nationally competitive debate circuit. At a competition that included teams from schools all throughout California, students from BAUDL schools finished 2nd in divisions for both less experienced and more experienced debaters. With additional intensive instruction for these advanced students over the summer, at a camp held at the University of California, Berkeley, we are confident they will return to school next year in a great position to succeed and expand their academic achievements through participation in debate education activities.

For more information, please visit www.baudl.org



#### The Julia Burke Awards For Debate



DANIEL KATARI The College Preparatory High School 2022 Recipient, Oakland, CA Attending: The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL



**MARGARET JONES** Tournament of Champions Julia Burke Award Recipient From: New Trier High School, Winnetka, IL Charity of Choice: Missouri Abortion Foundation



**KATHLEEN ROCK** American Debate Association 2022 Recipient School: US Naval Academy Charity of Choice: DC Urban Debate League, Washington, DC

#### Washington Urban Debate League

By David Trigaux, Director of Programming and Development

The 2021-2022 debate season was defined by schools and students figuring out how to safely return from the COVID-19 pandemic. Many schools struggled with attendance and engagement, while students struggled to balance mental health challenges and the return to in-person learning.

Through all these struggles, WUDL thrived, thanks to the support of The Julia Burke Foundation. We took teams to new competitive heights at the high school level, and defended the UDL Middle School National Championship once again (4 years in a row)! New teams attended regional tournaments for the first time (BASIS DC, CMIT, Frederick Douglas, and Phelps), while others made their long-awaited return to travel competition (Banneker High School).

BASIS DC was a first-year program last year and won our Sweepstakes Cup for Best Team this year. They have three Varsity teams, ranging from 8th grade to a junior-senior partnership and hordes of other up and coming debaters. They went to their first regional competitions as a school, taking



home a number of Octo, Quarter, and Semi-Finalist trophies across regional JV tournaments, and have our Coach of the Year. CMIT North is also a second-year team, and while they haven't quite won as many trophies as BASIS has, they only debuted in November, so per tournament, they've been every bit as successful, competing in every division. Phelps, DC's vocational school, is one of WUDL's oldest teams, this year, the team has doubled in size, and the competitive success has started to come, including at the regional level.

Only 3 out of our 8 High School National

Qualifiers had ever debated in person, so we had to re-teach folks how to debate in a classroom. We'll have even fewer students next year with that in-person experience, and we look forward to the challenge. And finally, this year we welcomed a new Program Coordinator, Dr. Omar Price. Dr. Price coached our most successful school in league history (DuVal High School), and will now bring his talents to supporting the WUDL Travel Program and schools across the metro area.

For more information, please visit: www.urbandebatewashingtondc.org



#### Los Angeles Metropolitan Debate League By Michael Cirelli, Executive Director

This was a memorable and exciting year for the Los Angeles Metropolitan Debate League (LAMDL). With support from The Julia Burke Foundation, we moved to in-person programming and tournaments, hosted two successful public debates, and our annual Summer Debate Institute. Additionally, we launched a Policy Pathways Career Prep Program, that enlisted lawyers, businesspeople and television executives to help LAMDL students and alumni explore career opportunities that are well suited for debaters.

Most notably though, this year our organization made history! For the

first time ever, LAMDL had a team advance to the prestigious Tournament of Champions. Our team from Harbor Teachers Preparatory Academy won their second bid at the UC Berkeley Invitational to make it to the TOC. This team was also the first team from LAMDL to win the Urban Debate National Championship. To top it off, for the 2nd year straight, NAUDL awarded one of our debaters, Andrew Subinsubing, the National Debater of the Year. For more information, please visit www.lamdl.org



#### Monument Crisis Center

By Alexa Gambero, Development Director

Monument Crisis Center is a family resource center that serves lowincome families, youth, seniors, and individuals in Contra Costa County, CA. We offer safety-net services to our clients that include grocery distributions of fresh produce, dairy, meat, and pantry staples, youth programs, senior services, health and wellness services, and a comprehensive resource and referral program. For 19 years, Monument Crisis Center based our operations in Concord, CA, before moving to 1990 Market Street in 2014. And then in 2020, we were able to purchase the building we operate from, giving us increased control over improvement projects we hope to complete.

This year, The Julia Burke Foundation granted us funding for the installation of solar panels on our building. This project is vital to our goal of serving our community and our commitment to reducing our environmental impact. The utilization of solar energy at our nonprofit ensures that we can apply more of our funding to programs that address the urgent needs within our community.

As a nonprofit family resource center, we strive to provide reliable services to our community. The benefits of solar power for our organization go beyond finances. The sustainability of solar energy ensures that we will have consistent and efficient power, which will minimize interruptions to our services and allow us to provide consistently to our clients in a safe and secure environment. Generous support from The Julia Burke Foundation has allowed our organization to build the capacity of our client services by decreasing our overhead costs, directing funds to client programs instead of dispersing them to the overhead cost of electrical bills. Additionally, we are now modeling an eco-friendly approach for our community. This grant invests in our organization's future, reduces our carbon footprint, and provides a learning tool for our clients and their families.

For more information, visit monumenterisiscenter.org

#### Trinity Center

By Pamela Arend McGrath, Development Director

If the bottom dropped out of your support system at the very same time you entered adulthood, what would you do?

If you never had a stable home life, and you are now facing life as a young adult, or maybe even a young parent, what would you do?

The goal of the Transitional Aged Youth Program at Trinity Center is to ensure that vulnerable, at-risk young adults who lack support systems can avoid identifying as "homeless" or "helpless" or "hopeless." Once that identity takes root, it becomes extremely difficult to feel connected, capable, or confident, all of which one needs in order to manage and sustain a healthy lifestyle and plan a bright future.

Navigating young adulthood is difficult enough without also having to learn to navigate the complex system of public benefits that are designed to help but can ultimately become major barriers to access. Trinity Center provides whole person care, starting with essential services such as meals, showers, and laundry. Once essential needs are met, we offer advocacy, mentorship, guidance and encouragement with the goal of helping young adults achieve self-confidence, self-determination, and healthy, sustainable community connections.

Trinity Center is excited about a major upcoming project that will not only create community, but will also become an impactful way to inform our community about the unique needs of young adults caught in the devastation of homelessness.

The PurposeTrinity the Center Transitional Youth Program Public Mural Project is to spread awareness through public art about homelessness impacts young adults in Contra Costa County, CA. The project will represent the challenges and struggles of some of our young members as the artist will design piece symbolizing keepsakes, mantras, or possessions that bring comfort to each of them during chaotic times.

This emerging generation deserves every opportunity to become all they can be. We clearly see the need in the increased numbers Transitional Aged Youth intakes, which are now averaging 17



Mural Artist Tay at Designated Mural Wall

per month. We continue to be a doorway to opportunity, providing essential safety-net services and a pathway forward for vulnerable populations. Thanks to the support of The Julia Burke Foundation, we continue to advocate for those who are seeking housing, financial stability, and wellness. We continue to invite you to join us in our mission to uphold the values of dignity, respect, inclusion, equity, and vibrancy of life for all.

For more information, please visit https://www.trinitycenterwc.org

#### Day 4 Hope By Grier Ferguson, Director at Church of Redeemer

On July 23rd, with support from the Julia Burke Foundation, Church of the Redeemer in downtown Sarasota Florida served 250 children at Day 4 Hope. Day 4 Hope is a series of events held in southwest Florida led by the local nonprofit Hope 4 Communities. Hope 4 Communities stated mission is to: "ensure that all children who are homeless and in need are prepared for school by initiating Days 4 Hope and coaching faithbased organizations to develop relationships with children and families."

At Redeemer's Day 4 Hope, children and their family members started their visit to Redeemer's campus with warm welcomes and a delicious hot meal. Then they received a wide variety of

services to prepare them for the new school year ahead, including a medical, dental, vision, and hearing exams; haircuts; and photo sessions. As they continued through the Day 4 Hope event, each child received a backpack filled with school supplies. Their parents or guardians received groceries to prepare healthy meals at home as well as gift cards to help cover costs of clothing and food. Over 150 volunteers, including many Redeemer parishioners, spent the day helping at the event. With leftover funds from the congregation's contributions to Day 4 Hope, Redeemer will help Southwest Florida-based nonprofit Hope 4 Communities serve additional area students and their families.

2022 was a record year for attendance as many families feel the continuing pressures of COVID and inflation. Reverend Charleston Wilson, Rector at Church of Redeemer, remarked that he was "blown away with the day's success" this year. Pam Hawn, Executive Director of Hope 4 Communities, remarked that "Your events were AWESOME! Families were blessed and I believe volunteers were too."

2022 marked the third year the Julia Burke Foundation has supported families living in poverty in southwest Florida prepare for the school year through contributing to Day 4 Hope. Additional information on Hope 4 Communities may be found at: www.hope4c.us





#### Generations In Jazz Foundation By Barbara Williams, Board Member

Generations in Jazz (GIJF) continues to expand our outreach activities and commitment to music education thanks to generous support from The Julia Burke Foundation. This summer, GIJF completed a successful annual summer camp with the largest student population ever in attendance, and



offered scholarships to students who couldn't otherwise afford to attend.

This coming year is especially exciting, as through a generous grant from The Foundation, retired music educator and founder of The Lafayette Summer Music Jazz Workshop Bob Athayde will be embarking on new adventures. As reported in The Mercury News,

Rather than winding down, [Athayde is] getting set to mark his post-retirement career by launching a new educational initiative. With support from The Julia Burke Foundation, he'll be consulting with schools that can make use of his programbuilding insights.

At a meeting with The Julia Burke Foundation, "They asked, 'What are you going to do after Stanley?' and I said 'Help schools and teachers in need.' 'Who funds that?' 'Nobody.' 'We'll fund it.' Since the pandemic happened all the music programs are in need. I can go anywhere in the U.S. and work with them."

This includes working with music educators and rehearsing music ensembles from fourth through twelfth grade. Currently, no mentoring program exists for retired music educators to support current music educators in the United States, so The Julia Burke Foundation came up with a solution. Thank you to The Foundation for your continued support. For more information, please visit www.gijf.org

11278 Los Alamitos Blvd. Suite 189, Los Alamitos, CA 90720 www.JuliaBurkeFoundation.org

#### Memorial Walk & Reunion Postponed

Dear friends,

Because of health considerations, especially for our high risk family and friends, and ourselves, we are sad to announce that the largely indoor Annual Walk and Reunion normally held in December in honor of Julia's birthday, has been cancelled for this year.

We greatly miss sharing this event with "the Julia people" and look forward to resuming this wonderful and heartwarming event next year.

With our very best wishes for everyone,

Marilyn and Jerry Burke

www.JuliaBurkeFoundation.org









## Over 23,000 Californians are currently waiting for a life-saving organ transplant.



Donate Life California saves lives by creating opportunities for all Californians to sign up on the official state organ, eye and tissue donor registry.

Julia called this "A no-brainer!"

Sign up online To become an organ donor today! www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org



# Let's Stay In Touch!

Please take a moment to update us with your address when you move.



Contact: Joy Johnson at

Joy Johnson@JuliaBurkeFoundation.org