

# 2014 Annual Report

## Letter from the Executive Director

Rebekah Children's Services, a fully accredited Mental Health Organization, has been dedicated to caring for our most vulnerable children and youth for over 118 years. Rooted in the Rebekah and Independent Order of Fellows tradition of "Friendship, Love and Truth" we strive for the development of the full person. We are an organization compelled to nurture the hearts and minds of the children and families we are privileged and honored to serve.

Rebekah Children's Services' tenet of growing as a client and family-centered organization is evident across the vast continuum of mental health services that we offer, including Wraparound, Non-Public School, Outpatient, Culinary Academy, Foster Care to Inpatient. Staff at Rebekah Children's Services reflects a rich variety of experiences and traditions. It is precisely because of our strength in diversity that we are able to reach and meet a wide variety of needs in a culturally-sensitive and individualized manner. The inherent compassion, dedication and skill of our staff and volunteers are what define Rebekah Children's Services.

Along with COA accreditation, we adhere to the highest standards of practice in mental health service delivery as we work to fulfill our mission of being "dedicated to promoting the social, emotional and physical well-being of children and families". We remain grateful to serve those who are in need, and accept this responsibility with great humility. As such, we truly look forward to partnering with you to care for our children, youth and families. Along with our Board of Directors, we are tremendously grateful to our community of donors who support Rebekah Children's Services financially and philanthropically. We enthusiastically embrace our future with optimism, pride, and perseverance with the inherent belief that we are stewards of providing hope for those in need.



*Gratefully,*



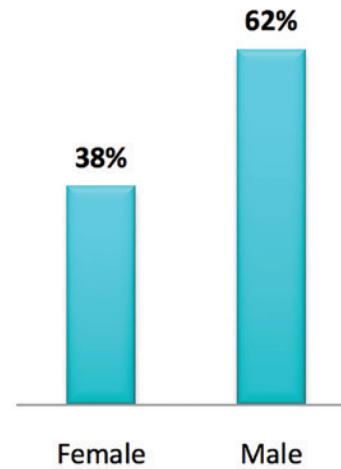
Christophe E. Rebboah, LMFT  
*Executive Director*



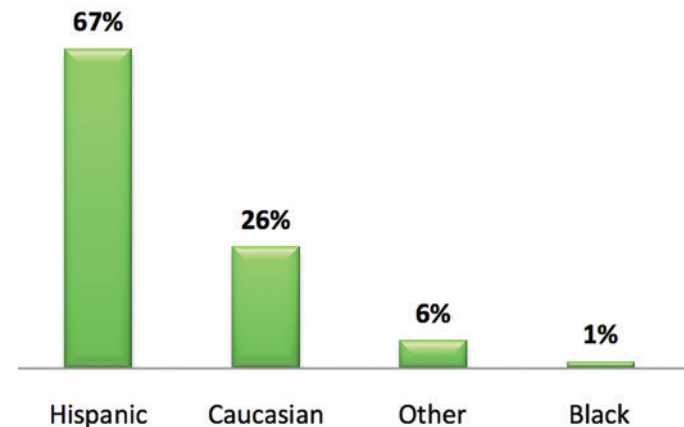
# Statement of Financial Position

## Population Served

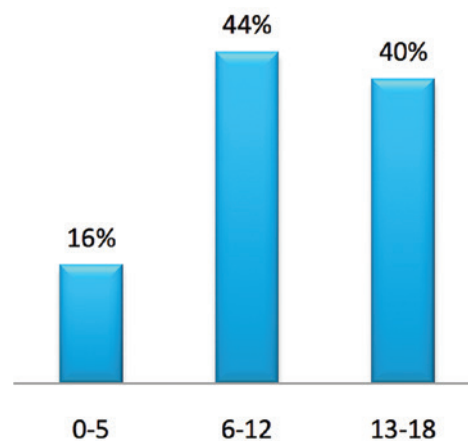
### Gender



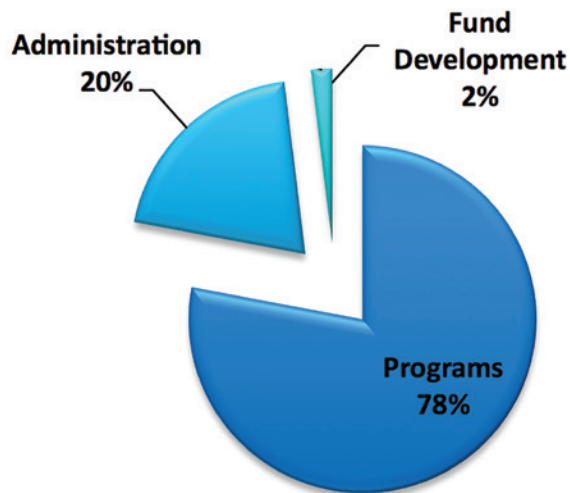
### Ethnicity



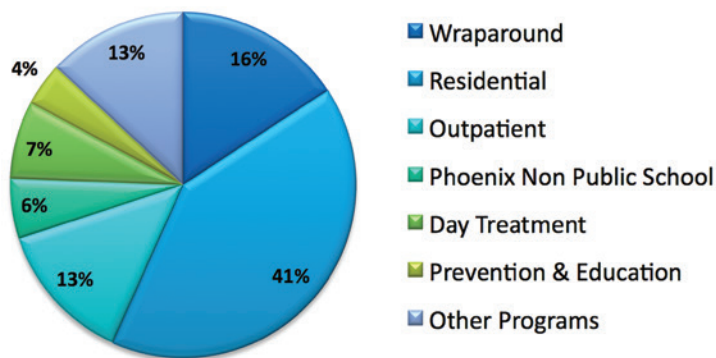
### Age



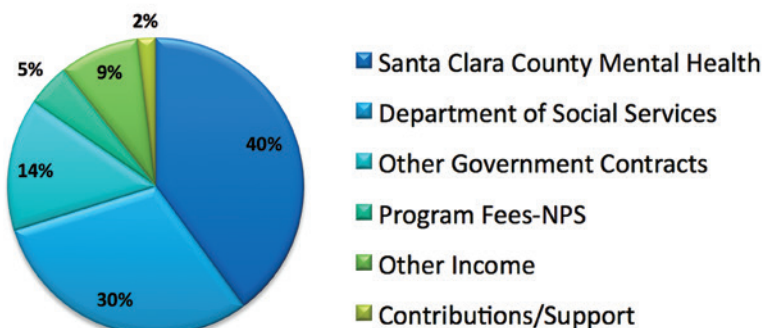
### Audited Expenses



### Program Expenses



### Program Revenue





## Kisha's Story

One of the first questions Chef Carlos asked me was “how do you think you could benefit from this program?” At the time, I said nothing. But when I think about where I was when I first met him, and see where I’m at now, I can barely wrap my head around it. My days used to consist of fights, drugs, and alcohol. I didn’t care about what happened to me or how my actions affected others. All I cared about was burying my pain and making sure people felt the same way I felt: worthless. I nearly dropped out of high school because of my attitude. Then one of my counselors suggested that I should go to a continuation school if I wanted to graduate. During the transition to Mt. Madonna High in Gilroy, my father passed away. I thought this man was invincible and unbreakable. When it got to me that he was actually gone, I realized something. I didn’t want to live like he did: fighting, being angry, and struggling to make ends meet. That’s not much of a life at all. You never enjoy what life has to offer you.

While attending Mt. Madonna, I was introduced to a program: The Culinary Academy at Rebekah Children’s Services. Eventually this program would show me the great opportunities life has to offer. I started the program thinking I was only going to get credits I needed to graduate, but little did I know this would be a crossroad in my life. The Culinary Academy didn’t just show me what I was capable of doing, but also guided me on how to apply these abilities in a positive way. They showed me nothing but love and support the whole way. Because of this program I now have two jobs. I work in the community at First Street Coffee and as a Production Lead for Kneaded Bakery at Rebekah’s Children’s Services. I am currently enrolled at Gavilan College as a full-time student doing 14.5 units, pushing harder than I ever have before.

If Chef Carlos asked me today “how do you think you benefitted from this program?” I would know how to answer. The Culinary Academy has given me a chance with my future. It has changed my life.

Chef Carlos and Kisha



# Community Services

## Foster Care, Adoptions, Wraparound, and Katie A. Services

### **Family Linkage a Foster Care and Adoptions Program**

Over the past year, Family Linkage has continued to be a significant part of creating forever families as we supported several adoptions and once again participated in National Adoption Day. Family Linkage continues to recruit foster parents and support families in developing forever homes for children in need. Family Linkage has been fortunate to have wonderful foster/adoption parents in the program. One of our families provided us with 30 backpacks filled with basic necessities to be given to children who are placed into one of the homes with no personal belongings.

### **Wraparound**

RCS continues to be a program with high fidelity to the Wraparound philosophy and has consistently demonstrated successful outcomes. Wraparound has served over a hundred youth this past year with the majority having been referred by the Juvenile Probation Department and the Department of Family and Children Services. Our outcome measures demonstrate that youth referred to Wraparound experience an increase in functioning within their life domains and a decrease in risk factors.

RCS also continues to provide Wraparound services to youth referred to us via their school districts. The focus of our school based Wraparound program is to assist students to fully benefit from the educational opportunities offered. RCS has worked with over 11 different school districts throughout Santa Clara County and continues to demonstrate high fidelity to the Wraparound philosophy, achieve great outcomes, and significantly improve the lives of students and their families. The average length of service for a student or any other youth referred to Wraparound is less than 9 months.

Our Wraparound Program in Monterey provides community and strengths-based services to children, youth and families in their home, school and community environments. Services are individually tailored and culturally attuned to the needs of those we serve. We remain the sole source Wraparound provider in Monterey County and have recently been awarded the "Katie A." Mental Health Contract to provide Care Coordination to children, youth and families in Monterey.

### **Katie A. Santa Clara County**

In July 2014, RCS was one of four providers awarded a Katie A. contract in Santa Clara County. Over the course of the last fiscal year, the program has been implemented and evolved to include not only care coordination and in home behavior services but also First 5 therapeutic services and home visitation. This inclusion allows us to collaborate with our FIRST 5 program and serve the full age continuum of children. Over the course of FY 15-16 it is hoped that the number of children and families referred to Katie A services will double as more county social workers become familiar with the referral process and the great outcomes that Katie A. services have already achieved.

### **Outpatient Services: Community Counseling Center (Gilroy), Campbell Outpatient Program, FIRST 5, and Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)**

In November 2014, Santa Clara County opened their competitive bidding process for many outpatient mental health services/contracts. As a result, RCS will continue to provide mental health services in both our Campbell and Gilroy clinics, expand TBS services to also include serving those with intellectual delays, and now offer Intensive Outpatient Services to those in need of more acute care than what traditional clinic based outpatient treatment provides.

Our Campbell Outpatient Program continues to thrive and serve more youth than contractually obligated. The outcomes achieved are the result of the skill sets of the program therapists and program leadership. The Community Counseling Center in Gilroy, TBS, and our FIRST 5 program continue to meet the treatment needs of the local community by providing services in the home, community, or office. RCS encourages our staff to meet with children and families in an environment in which they feel safe, open to treatment, and that removes barriers blocking access to services. In an effort to continuously improve services and outcomes, RCS continues to use forums for teaming across departments which supports on-going communication between departments and helps link children and their families to the right services to help them thrive.



## Community Services continued

### **Educational Services**

#### **Culinary Academy**

The Culinary Academy successfully graduated 417 at-risk transition age youth from our 10-week Culinary Arts program. Eight of these graduates applied and were accepted as Apprentices in our social enterprise bakery Kneaded. In addition to gaining experience and training in the hospitality industry, Apprentices prepared Vocational Portfolios and learned to write cover letters and resumes, and prepare for job interviews. Upon completion of the Apprenticeship, seven of these eight Apprentices had transitioned to full-time employment or higher education. In addition, RCS promoted one of the Apprentices to Production Lead, where she currently supervises Apprentices and oversees production for Kneaded. Kneaded is connected to the community through wholesale relationships with local businesses, catering events, and sales through our website at [www.kneaded.com](http://www.kneaded.com).

#### **Non Public School**

The Non Public School continues to provide highly individualized education to students in a therapeutic, strength-based setting to prepare students to transition successfully back to public school settings. In June, a high school student completed his course of study and graduated with his high school diploma. His graduation ceremony was a joyous occasion, and his family, teachers and fellow students celebrated his perseverance in overcoming significant challenges and obstacles to meet this goal. The NPS continues to integrate technology into the classroom to further engage students in learning, most recently with the acquisition of a 3 D printer for the Digital Media Elective.

#### **Prevention and Education**

Prevention and Education is proud to have partnered with Gilroy Unified School District to once again provide services on school campuses throughout the District. Services included drug and alcohol prevention classes, small groups, classroom groups, parenting classes, childcare classes and support groups. This year, RCS reached over 1,800 parents in the community through parenting classes and drug and alcohol awareness and prevention parenting workshops. Graduates of our parenting program continue to lead and facilitate our Parent Support and Leadership Groups, including one designed specifically for Latino fathers. These groups allow parents on-going opportunities to find support and resources, as well as mobilize in an effort to support and improve their children's development in homes, schools and their own communities.

#### **School-Based Mental Health**

Through its contracts with the Santa Clara County Department of Mental Health, RCS continues to provide mental health services on school campuses in Gilroy Unified, Morgan Hill Unified, and Oak Grove School Districts. Our team collaborates and partners with school staff and families to provide comprehensive services to children in school. Services range from prevention services such as parenting classes and classroom behavioral support, to mental health treatment.

#### **Family Resource Center**

In May, RCS was re-awarded the contract with FIRST 5 Santa Clara County to operate the Family Resource Center for South County on-site at RCS. RCS, along with our dedicated volunteers, is proud and excited to partner with FIRST 5 to help parents raise healthy children and promote school readiness through education, information and resources. Our Family Resource Center provides support to our South County families, including developmental screenings, oral language, literacy and school readiness activities, parent education and leadership workshops, health and wellness services, art and enrichment activities.

### **Campus Services**

#### **Hospital Diversion**

This program which opened in October 2012, is the only "Short-Term Residential Based Service" provider in Santa Clara County. The program serves male and female children and youth ages 6-17 years of age. Our voluntary treatment setting provides care for children and youth as a step-down transition from hospitalization in addition to preventing them from being hospitalized. Hospital Diversion provides 24-7 nursing and psychiatric care with rich staffing ratios. Permanency, aftercare and discharge planning begins upon admission and provides families with voice and choice in the creation of their plan of care.

#### **Residential Group Home**

Our RCL-14 Residential Treatment Services provides 24-7 care for youth ages 12-17 years of age. The Services offered in this program are individually tailored to meet the unique cultural and personal needs of our children and youth. The strength based philosophy and approach guide teams with the child, youth and family's voice inherent in the creation of their plan of care.

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## Legacy

### Legacy Rebekah Children's Services Legacy Society

We would like to honor individuals who think so highly of Rebekah Children's Services that they have included our agency in their will or other estate planning. Please consider becoming a member of our Legacy Society so that we may thank you in person now, and keep your memory in perpetuity when you are no longer with us. We honor Legacy Society Members with an annual luncheon, list their names in a beautiful alcove display at the entrance to our main building, include in Annual Report.

These individuals care so deeply about RCS children that they have included Rebekah Children's Services in their Wills and other estate plans or made significant gifts to the Legacy Fund:

Vallie Bishop  
Bill and Rosie Blaettler  
Clark and Arlene Boatright  
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Carmen D. Frank  
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For more information on joining the Legacy Society, contact  
Christophe Rebboah, Executive Director at (408) 846-2106  
[crebboah@rcskids.org](mailto:crebboah@rcskids.org) or  
Lisa Apodaca, Executive Assistant  
(408) 846-2105 [lapodaca@rcskids.org](mailto:lapodaca@rcskids.org)

## Where your Gift is Needed

### Culinary Academy

RCS offers this service at no-cost to clients. Funding is needed for chef coats and hats, textbooks, and cooking and baking equipment and supplies.

### Family Linkage Foster Care & No Cost Adoption Services

Not only does RCS spend enormous energy recruiting Foster Parents, but it also offers them extensive support. Funds are needed for training, respite care, and stipends to caregivers. Support is also needed to assist with No Cost adoptions and follow up support.

### Major Medical Fund

Almost all children living at RCS lack private health insurance. Funds are needed to pay for their medical expenses.

### Non Public School

Many of the children who live at RCS are unable to attend public school due to challenging behavioral and emotional issues. The Non Public School on RCS' campus offers them the critical education, behavioral support, and safe environment they need to succeed in their studies. Funding is needed for school supplies, equipment and field trips.

### Prevention & Education in Gilroy Schools

Funding is needed to pay for prevention curriculum, job training, fitness, health and nutrition activities, childcare for teen parents, and transportation for field trips and social activities.



#### Main Office:

290 IOOF Ave., Gilroy, CA 95020 • 408.846-2100

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