

# 2025 ESC Report to the Community

This past year has been one of tremendous disruption and uncertainty for our region. Nonprofit leaders – who are already working tirelessly to serve the people who rely on them – face new challenges every day.

These pressures are driven by many factors – including the wildfire disaster, inflation, cuts in federal funding, attacks on immigrant rights, and the increasing demand for nonprofit's services amid rising community need.

Throughout our 45-year history, ESC has stepped up to *Do Our Part*, helping nonprofits become stronger and more resilient. And this year has been no exception. Through our unique model – and as a nonprofit ourselves – ESC is evolving, creating new programs, services, and approaches to stay ahead of this rapidly changing and disruptive landscape.

ESC's leadership has also changed, heralding the beginning of a brand-new chapter for our organization. Julia Fischer and Erin Tanenbaum, who previously served as ESC's Vice President, Client Services and Vice President, Operations, respectively, became our new Co-Presidents and Co-CEOs. Julia and Erin bring a wealth of complementary knowledge, expertise, and experience to their co-leadership roles.

We are deeply grateful to our remarkable volunteer consultants, funders, nonprofit clients, staff and board for your commitment to ESC - particularly during these extraordinary times. We look forward to our continuing partnerships, and forging new ones, as we move forward together with strength, resilience, and confidence into our future.

With gratitude,

Eric L. Moore, 2025 Board Chair Julia Fischer, Co-President and Co-CEO Erin Tanenbaum, Co-President and Co-CEO

Min Stenenbaum\_



#### A BELOVED LEADER RETIRES

After 12 years as ESC's President and CEO, David Factor made the decision to retire. David has been a transformational leader for ESC. His commitment to strengthening communities solidified ESC's position as a critical resource and trusted partner for nonprofits in Southern California.

David will continue to support ESC as President Emeritus through March 2026.

# **ESC's Exciting New Co-Leadership**

This year, ESC selected two extraordinary leaders to guide our organization. Working as a team, Julia Fischer and Erin Tanenbaum guide our mission, strategic direction, financial sustainability, and values-driven culture in a dynamic new co-leadership model.

**Julia Fischer, Psy.D., Co-President and Co-CEO,** brings over 20 years of experience helping mission-driven organizations sharpen their strategy, strengthen their teams, and scale their impact.

Prior to being selected as Co-President and Co-CEO, Julia served as ESC's Vice President, Client Services, where she consistently expanded earned revenue, deepened program design, and forged new partnerships with nonprofits ranging from grassroots groups to \$600 million organizations.

Julia brings to ESC experience in leadership roles at a performing arts organization, a university design institute, as an Adjunct Professor of Organizational Psychology, as well as a portfolio of consulting and executive coaching clients.

**Erin Tanenbaum, Co-President and Co-CEO,** has spent over two decades working in nonprofit management and philanthropy. With a depth of experience and expertise

spanning a wide range of roles, she helped individuals, corporations, and funders become stewards of change.

Prior to being selected as Co-President and Co-CEO, Erin served as ESC's Vice President, Operations, overseeing daily operations, human resources, fund development, and communications.

Erin's leadership is grounded in service and shaped by a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities

nonprofit professionals face. Notably, she previously served as Executive Director at Southern California Leadership Network (SCLN) and has held high-level positions at many organizations, including the Venice Family Clinic, California Community Foundation, and Southern California Grantmakers.

Left to right: Erin Tanenbaum and Julia Fischer

#### **2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Christopher Lee, Secretary

Gregory Morrison, Vice Chair and Treasurer

Eric Moore, Chair

Danielle Benoit-Timmons Ruth Sessler Bernstein Samona Caldwell William Flumenbaum Will Ford Laurie Goldberg Michael Goldberg Abner Goldstine\* Shani Fregia Harrold Jacky Holler Leslie Johnson Al Lavery Diego Lemus Robert Sainz Laura Survant Ex Officio Julia Fischer, Co-President and Co-CEO Erin Tanenbaum, Co-President and Co-CEO David Factor, President Emeritus Asbiorn Melo, Chair, Consultants' Advisory Council

\* In Memoriam, Board Service 2006-2025

#### STAFF

Julia Fischer, Co-President and Co-CEO Erin Tanenbaum, Co-President and Co-CEO David Factor, President Emeritus Susan Afriat, Training Manager Katiuska Alicea de Leon. Senior Coordinator, Client Services Teaa Bradley, Senior Executive Administrator and Board Liaison Susan Dunn, Senior Advisor, Communications Stephen Gutwillia, Senior Advisor, Special Projects Di Lam, Interim Director, Development Janet Levine, Project Manager, Client Services Meghan Maloney, Director, Volunteers and Cohort Programs Michael Marquez, Administrator, Salesforce and IT Larry McCormick, Bookkeeper and Associate, Client Services DW Parker, Coordinator, Volunteers and Cohort Programs Jane Wright, Manager, Development and Communications

# **Building Resilience**

At ESC, we deeply value building lasting relationships with the nonprofits we serve – reflected by our 10-year partnership with **Achievable Health**. Achievable Health provides comprehensive, high-quality healthcare with a focus on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as education for healthcare professionals on how to care for this population.

As Carmen Ibarra, CEO of Achievable Health shared, in our healthcare system, "fewer than 40% of medical practices have accessible equipment and typically, brief visits don't meet complex needs." Achievable Health is closing these critical gaps.

Over the years, Carmen and her team have worked with ESC on many engagements — most recently a Strategic Planning project. She said that ESC's ongoing support has offered a steady partnership during some of the most challenging times her organization has faced.

As a federally qualified health center, Achievable Health relies on government grants for nearly 25% of its revenue. Ongoing threats to funding have put their essential work at risk. ESC's guidance has helped Carmen navigate her organization through uncertainty and continue to fulfill their mission.



"There are a lot of challenges that we're facing, certainly in the nonprofit sector and especially in healthcare. In moments when I feel isolated and overwhelmed, ESC has become a lifeline for me."

— Carmen Ibarra, CEO, Achievable Health



To hear Carmen in her own words, please visit: escsc.org/stories/AchievableHealth



#### THANK YOU TO OUR

## **Generous Supporters!**

# FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

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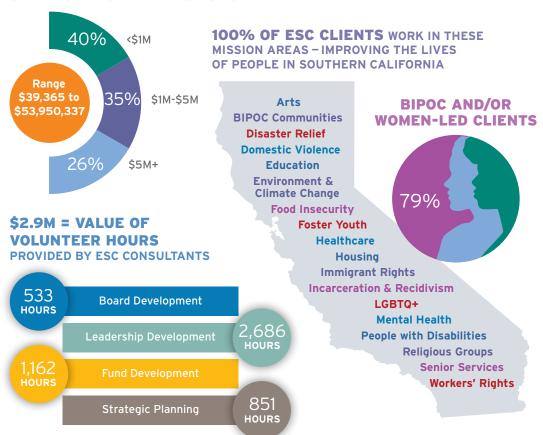
Doris Factor Endowment Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles Harold Brown Foundation WHH Foundation

Contributors (Up to \$4.999)

Bank of America Foundation
City National Bank
Durfee Foundation
Seeley W. Mudd Foundation
Uptown Gay & Lesbian Alliance, Inc.

## **2024 Impact At-A-Glance**

#### **CLIENTS BY OPERATING BUDGET**



#### **INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

Visionaries (\$50,000 and above)

Anonymous

#### Leaders (\$20,000-\$49,999)

David and Kathleen Blenko Abner\* and Roslyn Goldstine Scott Weiner and Kimberly Harris

#### Ambassadors (\$10,000-\$19,999)

Ruth Sessler Bernstein Steve and Anne Factor Irwin and Helgard Field Laurie Goldberg Greg and Maureen Morrison David and Claudia Zuercher

#### Advocates (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Michael and Jane Goldberg Norm Payson Robert Ronus Mary Trigg

#### Allies (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Margaret Black and John Ptak J. Lee Braly William Burnside James and Jacqueline Castillo John and Linda Coleman Bernice Conn Lynn Dines and Asbjorn Melo David and Holly Factor Gerald\* and Lorraine Factor Ruth Feiler William and Trish Flumenbaum Mark and Sharon Friedman Beverly Froelich Jacky Holler Leslie and David Horowitz Leslie Johnson John and Jamie Krakowski Al Lavery and Nina Leong Susan Leonard Chuck and Peggy Lindahl Michael Linsk

\* In Memoriam



# Weathering Change

California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) is a leading force in stormwater management throughout the state of California. Through policy, public education, infrastructure development, and the cultivation of critical

networks, CASQA works to protect one of our most essential and threatened natural resources – clean water.

Karen Cowan, Executive Director of CASQA, began working with ESC in 2021 at a pivotal point in her organization's evolution. Through her participation in our Executive Directors Leadership Institute (EDLI), Karen identified critical areas for organizational growth – with an emphasis on the board of directors.

By working with a team of ESC consultants who possessed a diverse range of knowledge and skillsets, CASQA was supported and guided through a major shift from a "managing board" – primarily involved with day-to-day operations – to a "governing board," focused on big-picture strategy and oversight.

Working in close partnership, Karen and CASQA's board are now better positioned to meet the opportunities and challenges facing CASQA and forge a solid course for the future.



"ESC is one of the best investments I've made for my organization. They truly helped take us to the next level."

Karen Cowan, Executive Director,
 California Stormwater Quality Association



To hear Karen in her own words, please visit: escsc.org/stories/CASQA



Latimer and Bari Lorenz
Eric and Katrice Moore
Edward and Deena Nahmias
Lizbeth and Matthew Nevarez
Nancy and William Sacks
Fred and Marta Samulon
Janet Schulman
Harris and Linda Sperling
Jill and Donald Spuehler
Roberta and Howard Suber
Laura Survant
Diana and Robert Walker
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Friends (Up to \$999)

Susan Afriat Judith Bain Danielle Benoit-Timmons Linda and Marty Blank Teaa Bradlev Bennett Brown Anne Bunney Karen Buxbaum and Ron Kwok Samona Caldwell Linda Camras Scott and Nancy Choate Megan and Terry Cooper Rachel Davenport Eric and Chris DeWeese Agapito Diaz and Estela Bensimon Susan Dunn Jim and Roxie Esterle Reina Factor Richard and Amy Fass Sammy Feuerlicht Julia Fischer and Aaron Baum Mary Fitzpatrick Susan Flaming Will and Amanda Ford Laura Fuhrman Shani Fregia and Jeffery Harrold Jeff Henderson Joan Herman Doug Herzog

Michael and Sherri Hirschfeld

# What We're Seeing, What We're Doing

Nonprofit organizations across our region are being stretched thin. Amid shrinking financial support, they must rapidly scale their services while maintaining sustainable operations.

In direct response, ESC provided pro bono coaching in Spring 2025 as an immediate intervention.

ESC is now deepening our support by introducing new services designed to strengthen nonprofit resilience, adaptability, and long-term sustainability:

Scenario Planning and Financial Contingency Planning
 Preparing for uncertainty by developing 'what if' scenarios and financial contingency plans to build stability.

#### Leadership Transition Coaching

Assessing the current leader's role, supporting incoming leadership, and shaping effective hiring and recruitment practices.

■ Fund Development Coaching

Practical guidance to help fund development staff and volunteers work more effectively to ensure long-term organizational sustainability.

**■** Governance Training

Working with boards to clarify roles, strengthen governance culture and systems, and partner productively with Executive Directors/CEOs.



Jenna Hunter Cathy Kaiser Marty and Jill Lasker Christopher Lee Diego Lemus Elizabeth Leung Janet Levine Renée Martinez Larry and Renee McCormick Judy and Ron Milestone Polly and Scott Nelson Beatrice Nemlaha John and Patti O'Keefe Felicity Palmer Teri Paul Yvette and Frank Reiner Gail Rollman Robert Sainz Robb and Donna Scoular Madonna Shannon Steven Solton Mel and Patty Takata Erin Tanenbaum and Todd Flora Sandy Tauber-Rosen and Robert Rosen Richard and Agnes Thaler Gene and Judith Tuch Sally Vasen Alter and Anthony Alter David Viar Kathy and Michael Walsh Lauree Weaver Lois Weinsaft Beverly Weise Phil and Cecily Young Jennifer Zeller

#### **Legacy Giving**

Learn more about including ESC in your planned giving! Contact Erin Tanenbaum at etanenbaum@escsc.org

Jim and Madeline Zimring



escsc.org/legacy-giving

# Consultant Spotlight EXPERTISE MEETS PURPOSE

When Yesmean Rihbany joined ESC as a volunteer consultant in 2016, she was working as a professional consultant – a successful career that she continues today. With years of experience guiding leaders through system change, organizational restructuring, and workforce development, she brings deep expertise to her role at ESC.

Yesmean states that having an outside partner, like ESC, can make all the difference for organizations. For example, she works closely with our nonprofit clients to develop highly effective accountability models and new frameworks that transform how clients approach their work.

These new ways of thinking can help clarify roles and strengthen communication – breaking down silos, reducing burnout, and enhancing how teams collaborate.

Yesmean reflects that being a part of ESC's consultant community is "immensely rewarding" for her personally, offering thought partnership and connection with people who share her dedication to helping others.



"I look around the room and I'm amazed at the talent, generosity, and humility of ESC's consultants. Everyone here could be doing a hundred things with their time, but they choose to give back in this way. It's inspiring."

— Yesmean Rihbany, ESC Consultant

## **VOLUNTEER CONSULTANTS**

Susan Afriat Judy Bain Barry Bar-El Bonnie Barnes Natalia Baudin Hedy Belttary Linda Blank David Blenko Ashok Boghani J. Lee Bralv Benjamin Breslauer Karén Buxbaum Linda Camras Betsv Cheek Scott Choate\* John Coleman Bernice Conn Clarence Daniels Rachel Davenport Nickie de Verninas Eric DeWeese Agapito Diaz Lynn Dines Gail Doi Jim Esterle\* Roxie Esterle James Evans Richard Fass Carol Fern Sammy Feuerlicht Mona Field Mary Fitzpatrick Susan Flaming Gwen Flynn Joyce Fried Mark Friedman\* Beverly Froelich Laura Fuhrman Kathryn Girard Daniel Goodstein Thyonne Gordon Mićah Greenberg Jeanne Hartley Jeff Henderson Joan Herman Michael Hirschfeld Leslie Horowitz Leon Janks Dale Johnston Cathy Kaiser\* Mariétte Keshishian Tim Kittleson John Krakowski Betty LaMarr

# **Building Emerging Leaders**

Estimates suggest that up to 75% of U.S. nonprofit leaders are planning to leave their positions in the next five to ten years\*. Sector-wide burnout, demographic shifts, and natural turnover are all contributing to this trend.

As a result, developing strong, capable leaders is more critical than ever. This year, in partnership with longtime partner **Dwight Stuart Youth Fund**, ESC launched a new custom cohort tailored to mid-career nonprofit professionals who represent the next generation of leaders.

ESC's custom cohorts are developed in partnership with funders and designed around sector needs and funder priorities. Our 2025 cohort included nine participants in roles ranging from coordinators to directors. Together, they focused on topics such as people management, priority setting, managing up and across, and delegation.

These cohorts are safe, structured spaces where nonprofit professionals learn, collaborate, and grow together.



"This cohort helped me to reflect on my leadership style and clarify the type of leader I want to be."

— Bethanee Bryant, Program and Partnership Manager, PLUS ME Project

### 2025 Dwight Stuart Youth Fund - Emerging Leaders Cohort

Left to right: Justin Tindall (It Gets Better), Angelica Sandoval (HEAR Center), Michael Arellano (BUILD), Bethanee Bryant (PLUS ME Project), Alanna Araujo (Las Fotos Project), Alexis Reyes (EntreNous Community Empowerment), Jan Victor Andasan (Legacy LA), Jerica Finley Orozco (Asian Youth Center), Lizette Zarate (USC McMorrow Neighborhood Academic Initiative)

\*Building Movement Project

Marty Lasker Al Lavery Peggy Lénnon Susan Leonard Elizabeth Leuna Janet Levine Michael Linsk Latimer Lorenz James Lott Brenda Lynch Renée Mártinez\* Ann McMullan Asbiorn Melo\* Judy Milestone\* Francine Moskowitz Mark Nay Polly Nelson Beatrice Nemlaha Susan Nero Howard Parmet Teri Paul Yvette Reiner Yesmean Rihbany Gail Rollman Nancy Sacks Prakash Sakraney\* Fred Samulon Janet Schulman Jorge Sciupac Cliff Scott Madonna Shannon Mark Slavkin Ellen Sloan Harris Sperling Barry Steinberg Wavne Sticknev Mark Strunin Roberta Suber Mel Takata Ricardo Tejada Richard Thaler Beth Thomas David Tillipman Richard Tom Mary Trigg Gené Tuch Sally Vasen Alter David Viar Linda Wah Eileen Walker Lauree Weaver Lois Weinsaft **Beverly Weise** Jeff Wolfe Phil Young Jim Zimring

\*Serves on Consultants' Advisory Council

## Clients Served in 2024, by Mission



A Window Between Worlds\* California Nature Art Museum Neighborhood Music School Association\* Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts San Pedro Waterfront Arts District\* Self Help Graphics & Art

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

California Children's Academy\* California Stormwater Quality Association\* Catalyst California Community Corporation of Santa Monica\* Corazon\* **Executive Service** Corps - US\* Friends of the Los Angeles River Garment Worker Center\* **GEPI Gender Equity** Policy Institute InnerCity Struggle Jericho Road Pasadena\* Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California

Miry's List\* NewGround: A Muslim-Jewish Partnership for Change\* Our Big Kitchen Los Angeles\* **Restaurant Opportunities** Center United Southern California Crossroads\* Southern California Grantmakers\* Strenath United\*

#### **EDUCATION**

Academy for Jewish Religion California\* Andrés v María Cárdenas Family Foundation\* California Dance Institute\* CARS (College Access, Readiness & Success) College Access Plan College Match\* FXP\* Friends of Girls Academic Leadership Academy Hands for Hope\* HelpGuide\* Los Angeles Leadership Academy\* SIATech Schools USC Center for Enrollment Research, Policy and Practice (USC CAC program)

USC McMorrow Neighborhood Academic Initiative\* Wildwoods\*



Achievable Health\* Center for Health Care Rights **HEAR Center\*** Norooz Clinic Foundation\* Pasadena Ronald McDonald House\* Providence Home & Community Care\* Providence TrinityCare Hospice Foundation\*



\*tovbA Beauty Bus Foundation\* California Women's Law Center The Campbell Center\* CASA of Los Angeles\* Center for the Pacific Asian Family\* The Center in Hollywood\* Connections for Children\* Eastmont Community Center\* For The Child FosterAll\* Friendship Foundation\*

Homeboy Industries Hope House for the Multiple-Handicapped\* International Institute of Los Angeles\* Jewish Free Loan Association\* Los Angeles Worker Center Network\* The Masket Foundation\* ONEgeneration\* OPICA Adult Day Care and Caregiver Support Center\* Partners for Pediatric Vision\* Public Interest Law Project Richstone Family Center\* Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California\* Ronald McDonald House Southern California -Inland Empire Seed House Project\* Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine SHARE!\*

Southern California

St. Barnabas Senior

Su Casa - Ending

Services\*

Counseling Center\*

St. Margaret's Center\*

Domestic Violence\*

Glendale Fire Foundation

Topa Institute Wage Justice Center WISE & Healthy Aging



#### RELIGIOUS

B'nai David-Judea Congregation\* The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles\* Sinai Temple Temple Israel of Hollywood\*



#### YOUTH

Boys and Girls Club of Los Angeles Harbor Brave Trails\* Business of Student Success (BOSS) C5LA Carousel Ranch\* The Children's Collective\* **EntreNous Community** Empowerment (formerly EntreNous Youth Empowerment Services, Inc.)\* Heart of Los Angeles, Inc. (HOLA)\* Las Fotos Project\* Mar Vista Family Center\* MOSTe\* The Paratum Scholars United Friends of the Children Variety Boys & Girls Club\*

## **Financial Statements**

## **Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2024**

## **Assets**

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,167,342
Accounts Receivable	109,250
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	20,497
Investments	1,968,386
Software, Net of Accumulated	
Depreciation of \$58,782	56,709
Right of Use Assets - Operating	30,470
Total Assets	\$3,352,654

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** 

abilities and Net Assets	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$87,225
Deferred Revenue	214,804
Operating Leases	27,498
Total Liabilities	329,527
tal Net Assets	3,023,127

## **Statement of Activities**

**Year Ending December 31st** 

<b>2023</b> \$840,694 2,826,936
2.826.936
10,800
438,002
278,671
4,395,103
\$3,679,197
360,388
256,607
4,296,192
98,911
2,172,863
\$2,271,774

Complete financial statements, with the unqualified report of our auditors, CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP, are available from the offices of ESC.



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