



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT





Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services has been providing free mental health, substance use and suicide prevention services for over 75 years. Didi Hirsch is dedicated to serving communities where stigma or poverty limits access. Its Suicide Prevention Center is the nation's first and provides crisis services, grief counseling, training and research nationwide.

#### **Adult Services**

- Clinic and field-based services
- Integrated healthcare
- Crisis residential treatment
- Transition age youth/older adult
- Wellness Centers

#### **Suicide Prevention Services**

- 24/7 bilingual Crisis Line
- Crisis chat and text
- Bereavement support & therapy
- Attempt survivor support groups
- Disaster Distress Helpline
- Community education/outreach
- School/first responder training
- Suicide Response Team

#### **Child & Family Services**

- Family-focused treatment
- Birth-to-Five program
- School-based therapy
- Military families support
- Trauma-focused treatment

#### **Substance Use Disorder Services**

- Substance use treatment
- Adolescent treatment & prevention
- Mother/child residential treatment
- Homeless outreach
- Assessment, linkage and referrals



Dear Friends,

Didi Hirsch looks at the big picture. The whole person. The whole family. So does this Annual Report.

We treat individuals across the lifespan, beginning with a special Zero to Five program for at-risk families with young children. In collaboration with partners, we also provide Integrated Care—focusing on mental illness, substance use and other illnesses. Integrated care also includes suicide prevention; about nine out of ten people who die by suicide have a mental illness.

Half of all mental health disorders emerge by the age of 14, but it generally takes seven or more years to receive help. Genetics and Adverse Childhood Experiences, which include growing up in a home or community with alcoholism, violence, emotional abuse and child abuse, can have a lasting impact on brain development, behavior and health. Sleep disturbances, depression, substance use and smoking are just some of the problems that are more common among individuals who have experienced multiple traumas early in life. The earlier they receive help, the better.

Azariah's family did just that. When Azariah started having serious behavior problems in pre-school, his grandmother and mother brought him to our Taper Center, where he underwent treatment for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder. Now doing well, he graduated from Didi Hirsch's program. But if he starts to struggle again, his family will bring him back, just as we would do with other illnesses that wax and wane with stress.

About half of all adults with serious mental illness will have a substance use disorder at some point in their lives. After Adele was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, out of shame and denial, she turned to alcohol rather than treatment and ended up homeless and hopeless. She would not be here today but for the kindness of a stranger who helped her find her way to Via Avanta—our residential treatment program for women with mental illness and substance use disorders.

Adults with serious mental illness die up to 25 years younger than other adults. After depression and a divorce sent his life into a tailspin, John could easily have become a statistic. For four years, he received no medical care for his heart disease, diabetes and other illnesses. The doctor in our driveway changed all that. Two years ago, John enrolled in Didi Hirsch's integrated care program and began seeing a doctor in Westside Family Medical Center's mobile clinic. Since then, he has had 31 appointments with his primary care doctor and several specialists.

The worst outcome possible for someone with a mental illness is suicide. After Miguel lost his 20-year-old son to suicide, he couldn't imagine ever laughing again. One of our Suicide Prevention Center's bereavement support groups helped him find a way forward. With one of our therapists, he co-facilitates the same group for parents just beginning their journey. Helping others is a powerful antidote to grief.

Every year, your support helps thousands of Azariahs, Adeles, Johns and Miguels. We are grateful to them for sharing their stories. We are grateful to you for helping those stories have a happy ending.

With gratitude,



KITA S. CURRY, PhD  
PRESIDENT/CEO

photo credit: Rocco Ceselin







***At 5 years old, Azariah faced negative labels and an uncertain future — until Didi Hirsch therapists got to the root of his learning disability.***

High energy is common in young children, but Azariah's actions went beyond that. "He couldn't control himself," says Ivonna Wilburn, his mother. He was disruptive in class and had trouble absorbing information.

His grandmother, Gevonne Wilburn, was also worried and frustrated that his disruptiveness was affecting his ability to learn. And she was concerned for his physical safety, as it was hard to keep him from darting toward traffic on their walks to and from school.

After someone at the preschool recommended counseling, Azariah got the help he needed through Didi Hirsch's S. Mark Taper Foundation Center, near their home in South Los Angeles. Therapists diagnosed Azariah as having attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), which afflicts more than 6 million children in the U.S. His twin sister, Azriel, does not have the condition, which is almost three times more likely to afflict boys.

At the Center, Azariah's lack of focus quickly became apparent. "He ran around opening doors and couldn't fol-

low directions," Gevonne recalls. A team committed to every facet of his wellbeing provided "wraparound" support. A psychiatrist prescribed medications, while counselors allowed him to express himself. He learned to listen and follow instructions.

Didi Hirsch's early childhood program serves families who are at risk due to homelessness, domestic violence, substance use and other issues. Therapists based at school sites work closely with teachers, school psychologists and other personnel to help children overcome mental health challenges and stay on track to reach their full potential.

In a little over a year, Azariah, now about to turn 7, "graduated" from the Didi Hirsch program, and his future looks bright. He's now in a smaller class, with more one-on-one attention. He likes math and sometimes even tells other kids in class to behave.

"He still has good days and bad days, but the program helped him tremendously," Ivonna says. "The Didi Hirsch staff got him on the right track."

Nationally, only 1 in 4 youth with severe depression received consistent treatment last year.

**78% of Didi Hirsch's child clients showed significant improvement in functioning by the end of treatment.**





***John Alexander lost both his parents by age 6 — his father to a morphine overdose, his mother to suicide.***

Years later, he had a family of his own, but the early losses continued to haunt him. His struggles with post-traumatic stress disorder, suicidal thoughts, depression and anxiety have been lifelong. But it wasn't until he got divorced that his life went into a tailspin.

A Didi Hirsch client for many years, John was diligent about handling his mental health conditions with therapy and medication. But his physical health problems were more difficult to address.

As he got older, he developed heart disease, diabetes and osteoarthritis, which made it difficult for him to get a job. Facing homelessness and struggling with thoughts of suicide, he was too depressed to do anything about his health and didn't see a doctor for four years.

That all changed when he enrolled in Didi Hirsch's integrated health care program. Through one of our partnerships, Didi Hirsch's clients can see doctors in the Westside Family Health Center's

mobile clinic, which regularly visits our Sepulveda driveway. Over the past two years, John has had 31 appointments with his primary care doctor and several specialists. He is feeling so much better that he no longer needs a walker to get around.

His mental health challenges haven't gone away and he sometimes still thinks about suicide. "I told my therapist it's like a garden," John says. "Things pop up, and you weed them. But it's always going to need attention, or else it'll get unbearable again."

He is grateful for the care he received from Didi Hirsch, which he says "basically saved my life." He repays the support by helping others, teaching Spanish to a group of clients at Didi Hirsch Sepulveda's Wellness Center.

"I encourage everyone I see to have hope," John says. "I tell them it's not about where you've been but about where you're going."

Preventable diseases shorten the lives of people with serious mental illness by 25 years on average.

**57% of Didi Hirsch clients who received integrated care services had fewer emergency room visits afterwards.**





***Adele Hare woke up among strangers,  
and then another stranger saved her life.***

Diagnosed with bipolar disorder, Adele struggled with suicidal impulses at an early age. But she hid those thoughts, fearing the stigma and feeling at fault.

Originally from Maryland, she moved as often as she could to escape her problems — and depended on alcohol to forget them. She ended up on the Hollywood streets, never knowing where she would sleep each night. After two years of homelessness, at 9:30 one night, she decided to die there.

“I came out of a walking blackout after drinking all day with people I didn’t know,” she says. Her shoes were missing, as were items from her purse, including her ID. “I had lost all hope and didn’t know what else to do,” she says. So she decided to run up an exit ramp into traffic.

Her salvation came in the form of a fast-thinking driver who swerved to miss her before stopping to pull her out of harm’s way. He also helped find a facility that could take her, which put her on the path to Didi Hirsch’s Via Avanta residential center — and recovery.

Tears welling up in her eyes, Adele likens her arrival at Via Avanta to “Dorothy making it to the Emerald City after her perilous trip through Oz.”

Of course, like Dorothy, Adele still faced a number of challenges. But she finally had the support she needed to activate her inner strength. Via Avanta also provided her with a sense of safety, which, she says, “I hadn’t felt in a very long time.”

While still residing at Via Avanta, she started working at a Cheesecake Factory — which was also a journey, as she had to change buses three times to get there. But she was always on time. “Prior to getting sober, I lived across the street from the café where I worked but I was still late every day,” she says.

Adele has returned to Via Avanta in a professional capacity, as food service manager, and she also has her own online jewelry business. Her personal life has rebounded as well, and she is engaged to be married. “I don’t know where I would be if it wasn’t for Didi Hirsch,” she says. “I’m so grateful I was able to get the treatment I needed.”

**1 in 8 people with serious mental illness were homeless at least once in a one-year period.**

**70% of clients reported improved functioning after leaving Didi Hirsch’s Crisis Residential Treatment programs.**





***Miguel Serricchio decided that the best way to honor his late son's memory was to help others cope with the grief of being left behind.***

Even though Miguel's daughter once worked for Didi Hirsch as a therapist, he did not understand the organization's scope until his 20-year-old son, Alex, died by suicide. "The week it happened, three people called me and said, 'You've got to contact Didi Hirsch.'" His daughter was one of them.

Miguel and his wife started attending the eight-week Survivors After Suicide support group. "It was probably the hardest thing we've ever done as a couple," Miguel says.

While challenging and emotionally fraught, Miguel found the process so rewarding that he continued with an individual therapist. Eager to share such support with others, he then trained to volunteer as a peer grief counselor.

Today he uses his bilingual skills to facilitate sessions in Spanish as well as English. In doing so, he helps some survivors overcome a crucial barrier to coping with loss. "If there's a stigma about

suicide in the Hispanic culture, then it's doubled if you're also a male," Miguel says.

When he can, he also writes for Didi Hirsch's "Survivors After Suicide" newsletter. Miguel is modest about his writing ability, but recalls when it led to a personal breakthrough. After writing a letter he wished Alex could have read, Miguel was asked to put himself in his son's place to compose a response.

Sitting at Alex's desk for inspiration, Miguel opened a drawer. "I saw a little notebook that he had taken from my office," he recalls. "Inside was a note Alex had left that said, 'I love you,' with 'love' drawn as a heart." That, Miguel felt, was Alex's response to his own letter.

Alex died three years ago, but his legacy lives on in his father's dedication to helping others. "He was the individual who helped everyone," Miguel says of his son.

The support, he confesses, flows both ways. "This helps me at least as much as I help others."

More than 5.3 million people in the U.S. have been intimately affected by a suicidal loss.

**100% of our suicide loss survivors would recommend our services.**





Ribbon cutting at our Grand Opening: (L-R) Didi Hirsch President/CEO Kita S. Curry, PhD, LA City Councilmember Paul Koretz, SAMHSA Suicide Prevention Chief Richard McKeon, PhD, LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Everychild Foundation President Jacqueline Caster, and Didi Hirsch Board Chair Christopher J. Harrer.

## ***Suicide Prevention Center's new location enhances outreach and national impact***

Didi Hirsch celebrated the 60th anniversary of its Suicide Prevention Center by moving into a new standalone building in Century City. The larger facility allows Didi Hirsch to expand and increase services, enhancing regional outreach and national impact.

Launched in 1958, Didi Hirsch's Suicide Prevention Center is the first and most comprehensive in the nation and a model for other organizations. It offers a continuum of care for people who are contemplating suicide, coping with the aftermath of an attempt and/or grieving a suicide loss.

The new building was purchased and renovated with support from a capital campaign that had raised more than \$16 million toward a \$20 million goal by the end of 2018. The new building enables Didi Hirsch to offer individual and family therapy services and to nearly double the number of

people who answer the 24/7 multilingual Crisis Line. Growth was critical to meet rising demand, as calls have quadrupled over the past decade.

The Center also trains more than 10,000 students, teachers, faith-based groups, business people and first responders each year to recognize and respond to suicide's warning signs. It is also developing certified training for mental health professionals to build a larger network of therapists who know how to aid people in a suicidal crisis. The new Center also offers suicide bereavement support groups for teens.

The new location at 10277 W. Olympic Boulevard features a prominent sign boldly declaring the Suicide Prevention Center's name and purpose—the only one of its kind in California and probably the nation. The sign helps further Didi Hirsch's mission to erase stigma by pointing people in despair toward healing and hope.



The Nickoll family (Patty, John, Leigh and David) gather outside the Daniel Nickoll Training Academy.



Todd and Jon Rubin join their mother, Board Member Nancy Rubin, in our Child & Family Therapy Suite.



Board Member Melissa Rivers visits our Suicide Crisis Line call center.



Linda Carpenter and Richard Ross view a display of his photography in the hallways of our new building.



"Our building is the only one in California, and probably the nation, with a sign on it that says *Suicide Prevention Center*. It's time suicide is up front and center, just like other health issues," says Didi Hirsch President/CEO Dr. Kita S. Curry.



# ERASING *the* STIGMA

## LEADERSHIP AWARDS



*“When I asked everyone in the audience who knew someone who had attempted or died by suicide to stand, almost everyone did. That shows what an incredible impact our honorees and presenters are making in the world!” — Didi Hirsch President/CEO Kita S. Curry, PhD*

## ***Donors set new record for Didi Hirsch at 22nd Annual Erasing the Stigma Awards***

The 2018 Erasing the Stigma Leadership Awards honored singer/songwriter Rick Springfield, actor Oliver Platt, former L.A. Charger Joseph Barksdale and Lady Gaga’s Born This Way Foundation. The evening’s 640 guests raised \$721,413 to support Didi Hirsch’s mental health and substance use services for low-income families in Southern California and its suicide prevention services, which reach nationwide.

Springfield received the Beatrice Stern Media Award for his work as a mental health advocate who frequently speaks about his depression and suicide attempt as a teen. Platt garnered a Leadership Award for his sensitive portrayal of a psychiatrist on NBC’s *Chicago Med*. Barksdale, who tackles the stigma of mental illness through

honest talks about his struggles with depression and suicidal thoughts, received a Mental Health Ambassador Award.

The Born This Way Foundation was also recognized with a Leadership Award for its work educating youth about the stigma of mental illness and advocating against bullying and teen suicide. Cynthia Germanotta, who co-founded the foundation with her pop star daughter, Lady Gaga, accepted the award.

Board Member Laura Ornest chaired the event, held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. In addition to marking the Suicide Prevention Center’s 60th anniversary, the proceedings launched a capital campaign to relocate to a new building with greater capacity to meet the growing need for services.



Taryn Bird presents a Leadership Award to Born This Way Foundation co-founder Cynthia Germanotta, mother of Lady Gaga.



Presenter Nick Gehlfuss and Board Member/Event Chair Laura Ornest flank actor Oliver Platt, who received a Leadership Award.



NFL offensive lineman Joe Barksdale received the Mental Health Ambassador award for his work tackling the stigma of mental illness.



Soap opera star Doug Davidson presented the Beatrice Stern Media Award to his pal, musician/actor Rick Springfield.



On the red carpet: (L-R) Board Chair Christopher J. Harrer, Tiffany Harrer, PsyD, Kita S. Curry, PhD, Board Secretary Charlotte W. Fletcher, PhD, and Jeremy Fletcher.



Comedian Wendy Liebman brought humor and heart to the event as emcee for the second time since 2015.



*Alive & Running 5K for Suicide Prevention speeds past goal while supporting survivors of loss and attempts*

With 2,400 participants, the 20th annual Alive & Running Walk/Run for Suicide Prevention achieved a personal best by raising \$448,846. Comedy director Dennis Dugan acted as emcee, with dance star Derek Hough speaking and Youtube music sensation Alex Boyé performing. Power 106 FM and *Los Angeles* magazine served as media partners.

Voice actress Julianne Grossman-Deme, a suicide attempt survivor, announced the names of runners and teams as they crossed the finish line. Board Members and Event Co-Chairs Andrew Rubin and Pamela Kluft presented the Corporate Hero Award to First Republic Bank; the Heroes of Hope Award to Lyda Eddington, Mary Halligan,

Cynthia Kolodny, April Kubachka, Greg Santilli and Laurie Woodrow; and the Media Hero Award to Power 106 and its affiliates KDAY and KWHY-TV. The 2018 Alive & Running event came just months after the suicides of fashion designer Kate Spade and celebrity chef Anthony Bourdain, which — along with an alarming study showing that suicide has risen 28 percent since 1999 — spurred an unprecedented number of calls to Didi Hirsch’s Suicide Prevention Crisis Line. Proceeds from the event keep the 24/7 Crisis Line running, send staffers to help at the scene of a suicide, bolster training for students and first responders, and fund support groups for people who have attempted suicide or are grieving a loss.



Guest speaker Derek Hough (middle) poses with Event Co-Chairs Andrew Rubin and Pamela Kluft.



Serving as Emcee for his second time, director Dennis Dugan warms up the crowd.

ALIVE&RUNNING

5K Walk/Run for Suicide Prevention

Thanks to our Top Teams!

| Team Name       | Team Captain          | Raised   |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Team Fletcher   | Charlotte W. Fletcher | \$33,090 |
| SPC LifeForce   | Shawn Silverstein     | \$30,640 |
| Chairman’s Mayo | Andrew E. Rubin       | \$20,621 |
| Team Beth       | Pamela Kluft          | \$17,983 |
| Team Andy       | Susan Hoffman Hyman   | \$12,668 |
| #RememberAaron  | Sherry Yanagisawa     | \$12,290 |
| The Scooty Fund | Kasey Taylor          | \$10,035 |
| LightHopeLife   | Michael Rexford       | \$10,000 |
| Brothers & Sons | Kim Kowsky            | \$8,583  |
| Team Julian     | Julia Asea-Boyle      | \$7,533  |



The Heroes of Hope recipients pose with their awards.



Power 106 provided an interactive photo mosaic wall made with Instagram posts tagged #aliveandrunning.



Alex Boyé kicks off the event with a riveting performance of his suicide prevention anthem “Bend Don’t Break.”



The Los Angeles Fire Department marched in step across the finish line.



# Christopher J. Harrer, Chair of the Board of Directors



Dear Friends,

Each hour of every day, Didi Hirsch helps improve—and often save—lives in communities throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Meanwhile, our Crisis Line reaches nationwide. In every initiative, the impact achieved by our dedicated staff and volunteers under Kita Curry’s leadership is profound.

With therapists at 10 centers, nearly 100 schools and community settings including Skid Row, Didi Hirsch is a crucial part of society’s safety net. We also strive to stop that net from fraying as budget cutbacks eat away at vital services for the most vulnerable among us. Most of the children and adults we help live at or below the poverty line. We serve diverse constituencies as well. More than 75 percent of people turning to us are people of color. Also, while addiction and mental health

issues know no age, almost half of those we aid are under 25. Research shows that, the earlier the intervention, the better the outcomes.

Everyone at Didi Hirsch is committed to better outcomes in the form of happier lives free of stigma. A particular area of effectiveness has been our approach to integrated health care. Didi Hirsch’s strategy includes reducing the risk of premature death by offering interdisciplinary care for the body alongside our mental health services. We accomplish this by offering on-site medical services as well as by providing health coaches and wellness groups. We also do it with the help of grants from organizations like Saint John’s Health Center Foundation and Cedars Sinai Behavioral Health Initiative and through partnerships with providers such as Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center and the Westside Family Health Center.

As a result, we were able to triple the number of health screenings for clients in 2018. In addition, we connected 100 percent of clients in need of a primary care provider with one. Further, 57 percent of our clients reduced their number of emergency room visits.

Finally, as this is the 60th anniversary of Didi Hirsch’s pioneering suicide prevention services, I want to discuss the terrific step forward we took in 2018. A few years earlier, knowing that the Suicide Prevention Center had outgrown the space it shared with other programs, my fellow board members and I secured tax-exempt financing to launch a capital campaign aimed at moving it to a standalone location. The daunting process included finding the ideal building with a central location and enough capacity for staff and the 200 volunteers who diligently staff our crisis line.

This initiative has enabled us to expand our range of services to include individual and family therapy and support groups for teens touched by suicide. We are also developing certified training for mental health professionals to better prepare them for working with people undergoing a suicidal crisis.

Thank you to the Board and all donors who made this capital campaign such a rousing success. I also applaud the staff and volunteers who make Didi Hirsch an excellent resource for those in need. Together, at the Suicide Prevention Center’s prominent new location in West Los Angeles and elsewhere, we are erasing the stigma.

Warmly,

Christopher J. Harrer  
Chair, Board of Directors

# DIDI HIRSCH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## New Board Members Nancy Rubin & Melissa Rivers



**Melissa Rivers** is an author, entertainment journalist, award-winning producer and suicide prevention advocate. Author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Book of Joan: Tales of Mirth, Mischief, and Manipulation*, Melissa starred opposite her mother for four seasons of WE TV’s hit series, *Joan & Melissa: Joan Knows Best?* She also served as the Executive Producer and Co-Host of E!’s *Fashion Police*. She has been passionate about raising awareness about suicide, especially among youth and college students, since her father, television producer Edgar Rosenberg, died by suicide in 1987. She also serves on the Board of the Entertainment Industries Council.



**Nancy Hirsch Rubin** is a public servant and global champion for human rights, women’s rights, mental health, and social justice. She served as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights during the Clinton Administration and was a Presidential appointee on the Council for Community Solutions to advance changes for cities’ most urgent needs. She was a Senior Advisor to the State Department for the UN Human Rights Council in the Obama White House, and worked in the Carter Administration. She was the first chair of the National Mental Health Awareness Campaign. She helped fund the effort to make our agency a federally designated community mental health organization, which was renamed after her mother.





# Financial Summary

|   | FY 17-18            | FY 16-17            |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Government Contracts                    | \$40,761,387        | \$40,652,810        |
| Contributions and Grants                | 1,993,778           | 3,244,461           |
| United Way                              | 53,658              | 55,036              |
| Special Events                          | 509,161             | 696,746             |
| Patient Fees                            | 122,590             | 131,798             |
| Donated Goods and Services              | 599,610             | 598,694             |
| Other                                   | 38,186              | 38,616              |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>                    | <b>\$44,078,370</b> | <b>\$45,418,161</b> |
|   |                     |                     |
| Personnel                               | \$33,497,408        | \$32,971,247        |
| Operating Expenses                      | 5,538,076           | 4,196,914           |
| Occupancy                               | 3,181,598           | 3,040,091           |
| Depreciation                            | 1,504,773           | 1,756,716           |
| Donated Goods and Services              | 599,610             | 598,694             |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                   | <b>\$44,321,465</b> | <b>\$42,563,662</b> |
|   |                     |                     |
| <b>Excess of Revenue over Expenses</b>  | <b>(\$243,095)</b>  | <b>\$2,854,499</b>  |
|   |                     |                     |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents               | \$3,436,687         | \$5,489,665         |
| Accounts Receivable/Prepaid             | 7,406,758           | 3,799,410           |
| Pledges Receiveable                     | 2,402,400           | 4,630,499           |
| Property and Equipment                  | 29,288,454          | 13,117,366          |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                     | <b>\$42,534,299</b> | <b>\$27,036,940</b> |
|   |                     |                     |
| Accounts Payable/Accrued                | \$6,505,831         | \$5,494,793         |
| Notes Payable                           | 20,177,754          | 5,375,331           |
| Capital Lease Obligation                | 58,610              | 131,617             |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                | <b>\$26,742,195</b> | <b>\$11,001,741</b> |
|   |                     |                     |
| Net Assets                              | 15,792,104          | 16,035,199          |
|   |                     |                     |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b> | <b>\$42,534,299</b> | <b>\$27,036,940</b> |

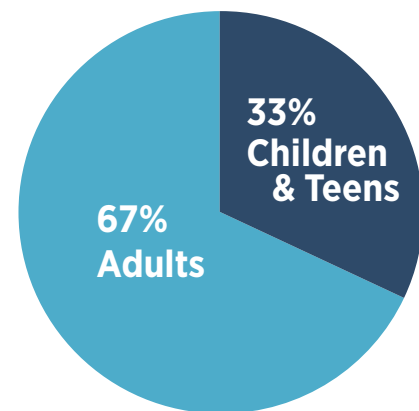
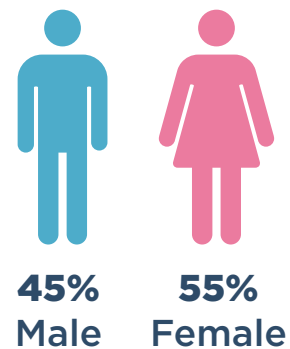
Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For information on contributions or planned gifts, please contact the Development Department at (310) 751-5455 or [development@didihirsch.org](mailto:development@didihirsch.org).



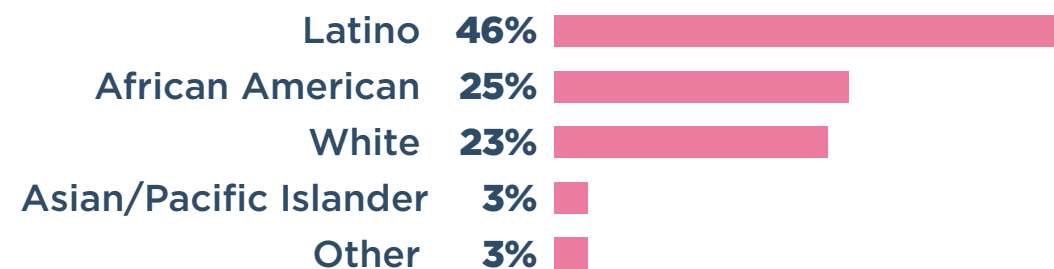
# 2018 by the numbers

**8,817** children and adults received mental health, substance use and/or residential services.

## Our clients:



96% of parents satisfied with child's treatment



**101,010** calls, chats, texts



**3,361**  
High-risk callers/  
chatters rescued



**46%**  
callers under  
age 25  
**Age of Youngest Caller: 6**  
**Age of Oldest Caller: 97**



**100%**  
of our suicide loss  
survivors would  
recommend our services

*ayuda en  
español*

**10%**  
of all calls on the Crisis  
Line were in Spanish

**19,194** first responders, faith & community group members, students, parents and teachers trained



**129,021** total served





# Didi Hirsch Legacy Society

The Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges an extraordinary group of individuals whose bequests and other estate gifts ensure access to mental health, substance use and suicide prevention services for generations to come.

### Legacy Society Founders

*Honoring those who have made planned gift commitments of \$1,000,000 or more*

Michael Becker  
Cynthia Chaillie Marchant  
Andrew E. Rubin

### Legacy Society Members

Curley L. Bonds, MD  
Anette R. Brown  
Linda Carpenter  
Kita S. Curry, PhD, and Peter W. Curry  
Linda and Martin J. Frank  
Kate Zimmerman Geismar  
Julianne Grossman-Deme  
Todd Hays  
Sharon Kopman and Jason Kay Trust  
Janine and Henry Lichstein  
Francine Chandler Righter  
Richard Ross, PhD  
Joel Safranek  
Jilliene F. Schenkel  
Susan Goran Sobel  
Lisa and Michael C. Wierwille

### In Memoriam

Robert E. Emerson  
Gerald Geismar  
Edna H. Larkin  
Stanley D. Lelewer  
Louise E. Light and Max Silver  
Alexandria M. McAfee and Michael McAfee  
Judith Anne Phillips  
Guy Righter  
Marjorie J. Schoenberg  
Terrence V. Scott  
Eileen J. Vogt

### The Tony Ross Memorial Fund

*Created through the generosity of his father, Richard Ross*

# 2018 DONATIONS

### \$100,000 and above

The Ahmanson Foundation  
Everychild Foundation  
W.M. Keck Foundation  
The Nickoll Family  
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation  
Richard Ross, PhD  
Nancy and Miles Rubin  
Estate of Terrence V. Scott  
UniHealth Foundation  
Jean and Lewis Wolff Family Foundation

### \$25,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous  
The Berman Family Trust  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Fletcher Family Foundation  
Linda and Martin J. Frank  
Thomas J. Han, DDS, FACD  
Gail Kamer Lieberfarb and Warren Lieberfarb  
Laura Ornest/Ornest Family Foundation  
Jeanne Phillips and Walter Harris/Jay and Rose Phillips  
Family Foundation of Minnesota  
Andrew E. Rubin  
The Skylight Foundation  
United Way of Greater Los Angeles

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous  
Beacon Capital Partners, LLC  
Create Advertising Group, LLC  
Kita S. Curry, PhD, and Peter W. Curry  
Dalio Foundation  
First Republic Bank  
Jami and Nikolaus Heidegger  
Heidrick & Struggles  
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Marilyn Mikos  
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Karen and Hubert Millet  
Nancy and David Milstein  
Nancy and Steve Mindel

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Barbara and Ruben Miras  
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Waterman, Jr.  
Amanda Watrous  
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Lauren and Mark Wecker  
Sheri Wegand  
Loranne and Thomas Weir  
Pamela Weisberg  
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Beth and Jim Weston  
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Rita Wilde  
Brian Williams  
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Kori Worman  
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Cheron Zekavat  
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Tingting Zhang  
Alaina Zink  
Anthony Zito  
David Zoltan

In-Kind

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Marie and Kevin Butler  
Jasmine Cameron  
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Serena Chen  
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THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE  
DIDI HIRSCH SUICIDE PREVENTION CENTER

\$2 Million +

Fletcher Family Foundation  
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

\$1 Million

Everychild Foundation  
Kate Zimmermann Geismar and Gerald G. Geismar  
The Nickoll Family  
Linda Carpenter and Richard Ross, PhD  
Nancy and Miles Rubin

\$500,000 - \$999,999

The Ahmanson Foundation  
W.M. Keck Foundation  
Janine and Henry Lichstein  
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

\$250,000 - \$499,999

Alexandrina McAfee Foundation  
Louise and Paul Greenberg  
The Stone Family Fund

\$100,000 - \$249,999

The Berman Family Trust  
Stanley and Joyce Black Family Foundation  
Linda and Martin J. Frank  
Gerald Light Goldstein Trust  
Cathy and Jeff Kalmick  
Lois and David Kalmick  
Gail Kamer Lieberfarb and Warren Lieberfarb  
Laura Ornest/Ornest Family Foundation  
The Honorable Vicki Reynolds Pepper and Murray Pepper, PhD  
Estate of Terrence V. Scott  
Jean and Lewis Wolff Family Foundation

\$25,000 - \$99,999

Kita S. Curry, PhD and Peter W. Curry  
Janet Dreisen Rappaport  
Mimi and Carlos E. Garcia  
Pamela Kluft  
The Lauder Foundation  
Andrew Rosen  
Andrew E. Rubin  
The Skylight Foundation  
Anne and Philip Strauss, CPA  
Lisa and Michael C. Wierwille

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE  
DIDI HIRSCH SUICIDE PREVENTION CENTER

\$10,000 - \$24,999

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Adams Cowan Foundation  
Anonymous  
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
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Katrina vanden Heuvel  
Mary and Jeffery Zients

\$1,000 - \$9,999

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Adrienne and Matthew Allnatt      | Lyn and Norman Lear                                |
| Magalie Alvarez                   | Jessica and Michael McConahey                      |
| Shawn Amos                        | Lucy McCoy and Paul Bacigalupo                     |
| Susan Auerbach and Brian Langholz | Amena and Brandon Mebane                           |
| Brionna and Joe Barksdale         | Lisa and Alvin Michaelson                          |
| Born This Way Foundation          | Chuck Ortner                                       |
| Judy and Bernard Briskin          | Susan and Alan Patricof                            |
| Renee and Harold Brook            | Jennifer Perry                                     |
| The Brown Family                  | Lisa Petrazzolo and Emile Gladstone                |
| Mavis and Chuck Chan              | Michelle Post                                      |
| David Clyde                       | Brian and Gwen Potiker Fund                        |
| Toni and Bruce Corwin             | Ralph L. Smith Foundation, UMB Bank, n.a., Trustee |
| Ann and Dick Costello             | Susan and Arthur Rebell                            |
| Pamela Farkas                     | Bill Resnick and Michael J. Stubbs                 |
| First Republic Bank               | Murphy and Ed Romano                               |
| Flanny Productions / Judd Apatow  | Rossi Family Foundation                            |
| Ricardo Fortier                   | Jon M. Rubin                                       |
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| Dana Kiesel, PhD, and Paul Kiesel | Sherry and Albert Yanagisawa                       |
| Daniel Kravitz                    | Cheri Renfroe Yousem                               |
| Daphna Krim                       | Anton Zaslavski/Zedd                               |
| Christine Le Pera                 |  |



## 2018 GRANTS

Didi Hirsch receives critical funding from many outstanding national, regional and local agencies and organizations. Their support helps us provide high quality mental health, substance use and suicide prevention services throughout the community.

### INTEGRATED CARE

#### **Saint John's Health Center Foundation \$100,000**

Allowed us to adopt a health care registry, build partnerships with primary care providers to increase client access to healthcare, and hire a program coordinator to ensure better communication between physical and mental health providers. Also provides funds for monitoring clients' vitals, diabetes testing and health coaching.

#### **Cedars-Sinai Behavioral Health Initiative \$75,000**

Supports a partnership with Westside Family Health Center so we can train Didi Hirsch staff to help clients manage smoking, exercise, nutrition and other behaviors that affect their mental and physical health.

### CHILD & FAMILY

#### **Emergency Food and Shelter Partnership \$48,305**

Defrays costs of sheltering homeless women who are struggling with trauma, mental illness and substance use issues and their young children at Via Avanta for a year.

#### **UniHealth Foundation \$300,000**

Provides funding over two years to screen 200 at-risk children under the age of six who have been exposed to trauma using an innovative screening tool. The program also provides developmental assessments to ensure targeted interventions and referrals, and educates community members and healthcare providers to seek care for young children exposed to trauma.

#### **Las Candelas \$10,000**

Supports teen offerings at Didi Hirsch Glendale such as support groups and an annual Teen Summit.

## 2018 GRANTS

### DISASTER DISTRESS RELIEF

#### **SAMHSA \$137,500**

Provides funding over three years to support Didi Hirsch's role as one of three Core Region Call Centers for the national Disaster Distress Helpline, which receives calls from throughout the U.S. Didi Hirsch is the only one that provides services 24/7 in English and Spanish.

### SUICIDE PREVENTION

#### **Everychild Foundation \$1,000,000**

Funded the Everychild Suicide Prevention Program, which focuses on youth under 24 and their families, including crisis intervention, therapy and support, and training and education. Included funds to upgrade equipment, technology and related furnishings for the Crisis Line.

#### **The Ahmanson Foundation \$500,000**

Provided capital funds for the purchase of a new home for our Suicide Prevention Center to increase crisis services, support groups and training throughout the community.

#### **W.M. Keck Foundation \$500,000**

Provided capital funds for the purchase of a new home for our Suicide Prevention Center to increase crisis services, support groups and training throughout the community.

#### **The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation \$500,000**

Provided capital funds for the purchase of a new home for our Suicide Prevention Center to increase crisis services, support groups and training throughout the community.

#### **Max Factor Family Foundation \$20,000**

Supported the development of a curriculum for youth bereavement support groups.



## Special Thanks

Charity Angels

Delta Air Lines

Houston/Tyner

*Los Angeles* magazine

Morrison & Foerster LLP

Power 106

Shelter Partnership, Inc.

Robert Zigman/  
Jensen-Zigman Construction

Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers who provided **22,087** hours of service in 2018, and to our **553** employees. We couldn't do it without you!

## Artwork reminds us there can be hope and healing after suicide

Pamela Kluft, Vice Chair of Didi Hirsch's Board of Directors, wasn't in the mood to celebrate her birthday but wanted to do something in memory of her sister, Beth Hess, who died by suicide in 2012.

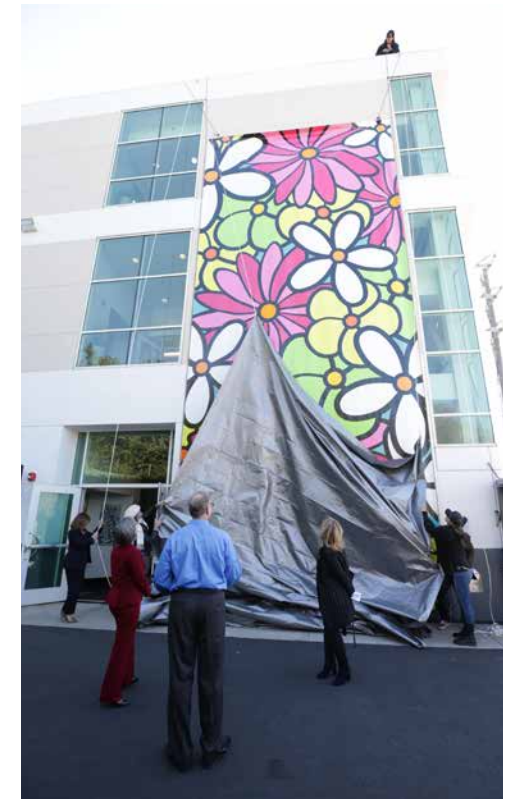
When artist Ed Massey offered to design an artwork for Didi Hirsch's new Suicide Prevention Center that would be painted by survivors of suicide loss and attempts, she knew she had found her project.

With her support, Didi Hirsch partnered with Massey's non-profit Portraits of Hope to create the public art piece.

More than 60 children and adults, all of whom were either bereaved by suicide or had survived an attempt, gathered in Massey's art studio in Redondo Beach to share their stories and to paint the three-story-tall canvas in December.

Shortly after staff moved into the new building, Board Member Melissa Rivers and suicide prevention advocate Ronda Rousey helped unveil the banner before a large crowd of survivors and camera crews.

The artwork reminds all who enter that there can be healing and hope after suicide.



A large artwork by the front door of the Center reminds all who enter there is hope after suicide.



Didi Hirsch President/CEO Kita S. Curry, PhD, Board Member Melissa Rivers, artist Ed Massey, supporter Ronda Rousey and Board Member Pamela Kluft.



Board Member Pamela Kluft paints for the project she underwrote in memory of her sister, Beth Hess.

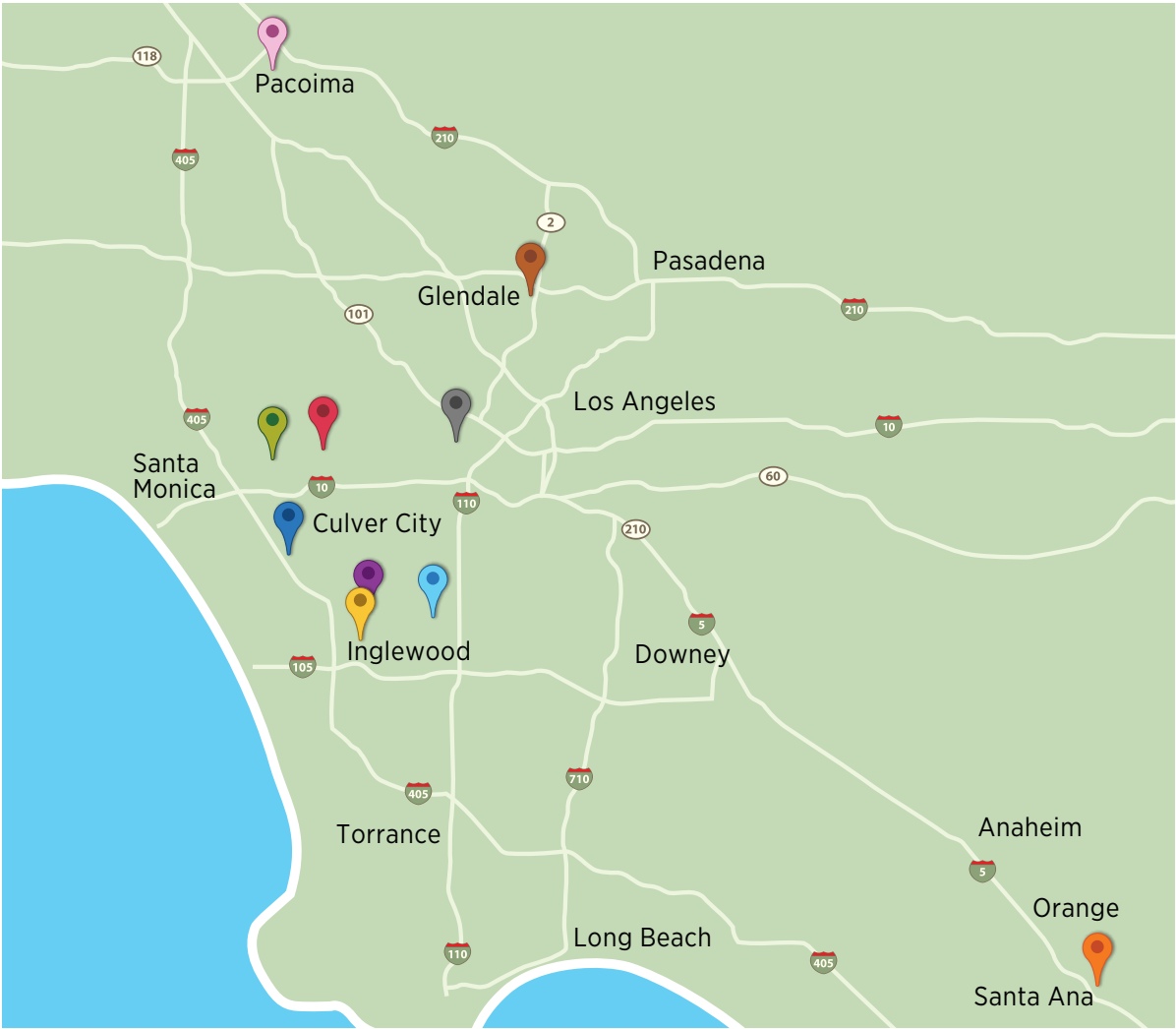


We Are Funded By

- California Department of Health Care Services
- FEMA National Board—Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- Orange County Health Care Agency



LOCATIONS



**Headquarters**  
4760 S. Sepulveda Blvd.  
Culver City, CA 90230  
(310) 390-6612



**Suicide Prevention Center**  
10277 W. Olympic Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
(424) 362-2900



**Excelsior House**  
1007 Myrtle Ave.  
Inglewood, CA 90301  
(310) 412-4191



**Glendale Center**  
1540 E. Colorado St.  
Glendale, CA 91205  
(818) 244-7257



**Inglewood Center**  
323 N. Prairie Ave.  
Inglewood, CA 90301  
(310) 677-7808



**Jump Street**  
1233 S. La Cienega Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90035  
(310) 855-0031



**Metro Center**  
672 S. La Fayette Park Pl., Suite 6  
Los Angeles, CA 90057  
(213) 381-3626



**Orange County Center**  
2000 E. 4th St., Suite 201  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
(714) 547-0885



**S. Mark Taper Foundation Center**  
1328 W. Manchester Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90044  
(323) 778-9593



**Via Avanta**  
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**Writers** Randy Cohen  
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**Photographers** Carla Blumenkrantz  
Eric Charbonneau  
Donato Sardella

**Printer** Weber Printing Co.





## **Mission Statement**

Since 1942, Didi Hirsch has transformed lives by providing quality mental health, substance use and suicide prevention services in communities where stigma or poverty limits access.

### **We value care that is:**

Accessible  
Comprehensive  
Collaborative  
Innovative  
Accountable  
Committed

**[www.didihirsch.org](http://www.didihirsch.org)**

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