



Annual Report 2017



MESSAGE FROM FOUNDER & PRESIDENT



I can't believe it's been almost two decades that Forgiving For Living, Inc. has been in service. Since 1999, we've had the pleasure of working with at-risk, low income, and underserved young ladies in Southern California; covering areas from Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. As I reflect on 2017, each season brought something new and exciting. In the first quarter, Winter, we welcomed back our young ladies of Markham Middle School from their Holiday Break and continued out our program with them through the end of the school year.

In the second quarter, Spring, we celebrated our 10th Annual PLUS Awards! The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, California State Senator of the 30th Senatorial District, received the President's Award and our Community Honorees included: Eileen K. Aranda, PhD, President of Claremont Lincoln University; Elaine Batchlor, MD, MPH, CEO & Co-Founder of the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital; Rhonda Carter, Community Volunteer; Michael C. Flores, EdD, Professor at Cypress College; and Valerie R. Green-Amos, MD, President of Molina Medical Group. Once again, thanks to our generous supporters and sponsors, we were able to award close to \$10,000.00 in scholarships and continue to keep the mission and work of Forgiving For Living thriving for another year. I'm so grateful that this annual fundraising event has been going strong for a decade!

As the school year came to a close, we completed our program at Markham Middle School in Watts. As we welcomed Summer in the third quarter, we began a new partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Los Angeles in Watts Willowbrook. With this new partnership, we were able to extend our signature Ambassador Program to more girls in the Watts area, which began in the Fall. With Fall also came our annual "Healthy, Wealthy & Wise" Conference, which was held in a new location in 2017! Watts Willowbrook opened its doors to us as our new home, not just for the Ambassador Program, but also for the Conference as well. As the year closed out, and Winter returned in the fourth quarter, we implemented our curriculum with the girls at our new location and we look forward to continuing with them in 2018!

We at Forgiving For Living, Inc. are continually thankful to all of our partners, supporters, volunteers and donors for believing in the work we do to build up the self-esteem of the next generation. Seasons may change, but through them all we remain dedicated to the youth we serve and it is our ultimate goal, not only to touch their lives, but also to add a lasting imprint for good!

"She believed she could so she did."

Wendy

About Us

Message to Supporters and Friends

Forgiving For Living, Inc. (FFL) was founded in 1999 with the mission to help at-risk girls between the ages of 13-18 overcome behavioral and mental health issues in addition to low self-esteem due to depression, abuse and/or abandonment. We help provide the necessary tools to live a healthy life through our Ambassador Program, workshops, and annual Conference, which offers mentoring and life skills. To date, we've touched the lives of over 3,000 girls.

Forgiving For Living Programs

- ▶ Ambassador Mentoring Program
- ▶ Workshops & Annual Conference
- ▶ Annual PLUS Awards

Forgiving For Living, Inc. was incorporated in 1999 by Wendy Gladney to help women and girls who suffer from abuse, abandonment and low self-esteem. Coming from a childhood filled with sexual abuse by her father and abandonment by her birth mother, Wendy decided that she wanted to dedicate part of her life to helping others learn how to forgive so they could heal and move forward to enjoy a full and productive life.

Through the years Wendy has also experienced divorce, cancer, single parenting and building a business while taking care of her two children. Wendy viewed life's challenges as stepping stones instead of stumbling blocks to help teach others how they too can overcome and be successful. Out of the ashes she developed ten steps that have been a cornerstone in the "Healing Without Hate: How To Forgive To Live" process.



"Forgiveness says you are given another chance to make a new beginning."

- Desmond Tutu



Our Vision

The Vision of Forgiving For Living, Inc. is to give our girls hope and purpose through understanding the power and importance of forgiveness. We hope to restore one's self esteem, self-confidence and provide tools for a better and more productive life.



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Wendy Gladney

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PROGRAMS

Ambassador Program

Forgiving for Living selects girls, ages 13-18, to participate in the FFL Ambassador Program. As an FFL Ambassador, the young ladies are mentored in the areas of Forgiveness, Life Skills, Community Involvement, Social Etiquette, and Educational Responsibility.

The FFL Ambassador Program provides each young lady a one-on-one relationship with a successful professional woman for the period of 1 year. During this time the Ambassador will receive an enriched, hands-on relationship with their mentor to provide potentially positive life-changing experiences for both parties.

Ambassadors are mentored individually and conduct community outreach in the greater Los Angeles area and Inland Empire.

All FFLAP mentors are required to administer one-on-one mentoring, attend FFLAP Kick-Off and a monthly workshop, take mentee to observe mentor work environment, and participate in our annual PLUS Awards.



“You took the time to talk to us about things our parents never did.” - Asia





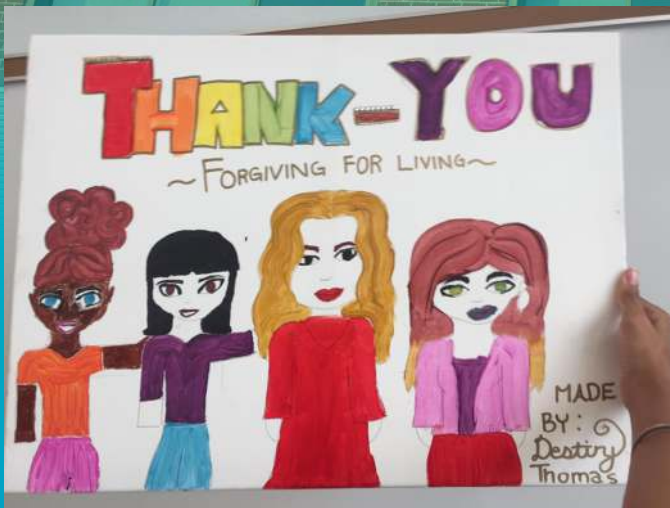
PROGRAMS

Markham Middle School (since 2011) & Watts Willowbrook (Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Los Angeles)

Forgiving For Living, Inc. provides an approved on-going curriculum to young ladies in both the Los Angeles & San Bernardino Counties. The curriculum focuses on helping restore and build up the self-esteem of at risk girls who may have a difficult time believing in themselves. We also believe it is important to provide them with mentoring and life skills that will carry them beyond high school and college. These skills include financial literacy, as well as exposing them to resources and opportunities to increase their success in life. Upon completing the necessary steps and requirements the young ladies can qualify and apply for an academic scholarship.



“Forgiving for Living is a reminder that I’m free to be me. And to be kind to myself and to others.” - Victoria



“You taught us about *life*.
This program was very *empowering*.
It gave me *confidence*.”
- *Destiny*

Words the girls picked
that remind them of FFL:

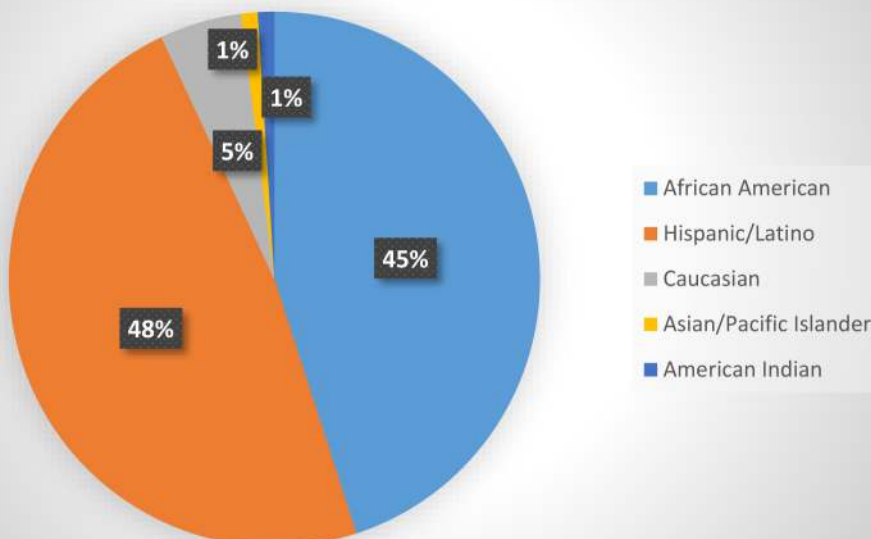
Love
Warrior
Hope
Believe
Trust



Programs by the Numbers

(Youth (Girls) between the ages of 10 - 17. Total served in 2017 = 310 Young Ladies)

Demographics



10%

of the girls
we serve are
part of the

**LGBT
COMMUNITY**



10th Annual PLUS Awards Brunch & Auction

**Saturday, April 8, 2017
Beverly Hills Hotel**

President's Award
Honorable Holly J. Mitchell
California State Senator, 30th Senatorial District

Community Awards

Eileen K. Aranda, PhD
President,
Claremont Lincoln University

Elaine Batchlor, MD, MPH
CEO & Co-Founder,
Martin Luther King Jr.
Community Hospital

Rhonda Carter
Community Volunteer

Michael C. Flores, EdD
Professor, Cypress College

Valerie Green-Amos, MD
President,
Molina Medical Group

Mistress of Ceremonies

Michelle Valles
Co-Anchor and Reporter, NBC4 Southern California

The PLUS Awards, an annual fundraiser that benefits Forging For Living, Inc., links together gatekeepers in the political, corporate and community arenas and advocates to recognize their achievements and efforts in making a difference in the lives of others.

Forgiving For Living, Inc.
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization



"When we went to the event in Beverly Hills we all grew closer together. You guys taught us to be kind to each other even when people are mean to us. We can bring peace to the world." - Pia





6th Annual Healthy, Wealthy & Wise Conference

Saturday, September 23, 2017
Watts Willowbrook Boys & Girls Club

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Entertainment

DJ Shai

Keynote Speaker

Nikiva Dionne

Actress & Founder, AWE

WORKSHOP SPEAKERS

Debra Bradford

*VP, Banking Center Mgr.,
Comerica Bank, Beverly Hills*

Rhonda Y. Carter

Optician

Michael C. Flores, PhD

Professor, Cypress College

Christina D. Ford

Actress & Founder, Fit 4 LYFE

Connie Magana

*Assistant Banking Center
Manager, Comerica Bank,
Crenshaw Branch*

Jay J. Silverman, MD

Ophthalmologist

Wenonah Valentine

*Founder, iDream For Racial
Health Equity*



The Healthy, Wealthy, & Wise Conference is an annual event designed to provide information and awareness in the areas of developing and leading healthy lifestyles, fitness & nutrition, financial literacy, college preparedness, self-esteem, and goal setting. Working professionals donate their time by providing valuable tools and knowledge in their areas of expertise in our workshops. These tools and information are provided to assist the youth with making wise choices in life.



Financial Review

REVENUE

Corporate Grants	\$62,500
Donations/Fundraising	\$20,288
Board Support	\$3,150
Total 2017 Revenue:	\$85,938

OVERVIEW

Beginning Balance	\$38,735
Total Revenue Raised in 2017	\$85,938
Total 2017 Expenses	\$85,888
Ending Checking Balance	\$38,785
Balance in Savings	\$16,916
Grand Total:	\$55,701



a 501 (c) 3, non-profit organization





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LAUREN WALTON, MD

Sabra Marie
PHOTOGRAPHY

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Forgiving For Living, Inc.
INLAND EMPIRE:
PO Box 1313
Upland, CA 91785
(951) 313-4732

LOS ANGELES:
4859 W. Slauson Avenue #449
Los Angeles, CA 90056
(951) 313-4732



/ForgivingForLiving.Inc



@4giving4living

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“It was fun and now I feel like
we're all sisters.

This program reminds me to
love myself and others.”

- Natalie