

SVCN Nonprofit Impact Awards 2022



If you missed Be Our Guest 2022, we would love to tell you more about our Nonprofit Impact Award recipients. Congratulations to the recipients and thank you to the nominators.

Nonprofit of the Year

SVCN's Nonprofit of the Year Award was presented to the **Behavioral Health Contractors' Association** (BHCA). BHCA is a Santa Clara County-wide network of community-based, nonprofit organizations providing essential mental health and substance use prevention, treatment, recovery, and supportive transitional housing services to children, adolescents, and adults under contract with Santa Clara County's Behavioral Health Services Department.

With Elisa Koff Ginsborg as Executive Director, BHCA identified and targeted the behavioral health aspect of the crisis: overwhelming demand and shrinking workforce. She worked with County leaders to develop a solution that would increase payment rates to CBOs to retain the existing workforce without increasing contracts, allowing hundreds more members of our community to be served.

Patricia A. Gardner Changemaker Award

In 2020, we renamed our longstanding Changemaker Award to the "Patricia A. Gardner Changemaker Award" to honor SVCN's former long-time CEO, Patricia Gardner. Patricia's vision of nonprofit power in unity strengthened many community-based nonprofits and their work throughout the County.

This year, the Patricia A. Gardner Changemaker Award was awarded to two community leaders with years of impact: **André Chapman** (Unity Care) and **Susie Rivera** (Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY)).

"As the Founder and CEO of Unity Care for 29 years, André Chapman has poured blood, sweat, and tears into changing the foster care system into places of healing," said Michele Lew, CEO of The Health Trust. "Serving thousands of foster children, youth, and families, Andre has spurred systemic improvements in the fields of foster care, juvenile justice, mental health, and public education."

"Susie Rivera has been an amazing leader in the field of juvenile justice. She challenges the status quo in a way that people listen," said Dana Bunnet, Executive Director of Kids in Common. "She cares about the young people, sees them as leaders of change."

Nonprofit Leadership Award

Gabriela Berumen (Building Skills Partnerships) and **Kylie Clark** (West Valley Community Services) have been named recipients of the Nonprofit Leadership Award. This award is for individuals working in the nonprofit sector who are early to midway in their careers, shaping the sector through their energy, creativity, and exceptional leadership.

In her role as the Bay Area Manager at Building Skills Partnership, Gabriela Berumen was integral in BSP's work in providing resources for financial and computer literacy, learning English as a Second Language, and Citizen Preparation in San Jose. As the Assistant Manager of Public Policy, Kylie Clark created the WVCS Lived Experience Advisory Committee and organizes Housing Element community meetings for clients to educate and empower them to advocate for more just policies.

Nonprofit Ally Award

Dora Beyer, Community Relations at Excite Credit Union and nonprofit supporter, and **Victor Sin**, long-time volunteer with Asian Law Alliance (ALA), have been awarded the Nonprofit Ally Award. This award is given to a government, private partner, Board member, or volunteer who has demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment to the goals and work priorities of Santa Clara County nonprofits in 2022.

Dora Beyer is a first-generation professional with a passion for advancing educational and socioeconomic equity. She has supported hundreds of students on the path to college, volunteers to uplift foster youth at Child Advocates, and serves on the board of the Center for Excellence in Nonprofits. “Dora’s energy and creativity has brought a new generation of donors and nonprofit leaders to CEN.” said Azha Simmons, Associate Director of Development & Marketing at CEN.

Victor Sin is a retired engineer who has performed volunteer work for the Asian Law Alliance since 2013. “During his time at ALA, Victor has done so much for the community, promoting a complete and accurate count in the 2020 Census, fairness in redistricting, language access for Mandarin- and Cantonese-speaking clients with limited English proficiency,” said Richard Konda, Executive Director of ALA. “It is difficult to sum up his contributions.”

Collaborative Impact Award

And lastly, the **San Jose Conservation Corps & their Resilience Corps partners** and **FIRST 5 Santa Clara County & the network of Family Resource Centers** (FRCs) are named dual recipients of the Collaborative Impact Award. This award honors collaborations that have created and nurtured an impactful partnership that inspired action and addressed this year’s challenging circumstances.

The Resilience Corps seeks to support unemployed and underemployed young adults through living-wage employment and work experience opportunities. Corpsmembers in the program earn a living wage while undertaking environmental stewardship projects such as tree planting, defensible space and fuel reduction, bio fuel maintenance, and trail maintenance, including community engagement. The collaborating agencies include:

- City Of San Jose (Mayor, City Manager’s Office, and Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)
- Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

- Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful
- Our City Forest
- San Jose Downtown Association
- SJ Walls
- South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition
- The Trash Punx
- Veggielution
- West Valley College Park Management Program
- Work2future

FIRST 5 and the Nonprofit Family Resource Center Network (FRCs) stood up a comprehensive and expansive Diaper Distribution and Essential Supplies Network for almost 2 years to enable families to access free of charge diapers, baby wipes, formula and essential supplies.

The FRCs include:

- African American Community Services Agency (AACSA)
- Catholic Charities
- Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC)
- ConXion
- Gardner Family Care
- International Children Assistance Network (ICAN)
- Pacific Clinics
- Rebekah Children's Services
- Roots Community Health Center
- SOMOS Mayfair

Over two years, the FRCs distributed 21,560 diaper kits, 3,456 formula kits, and 24,139 boxes of period products.