



# A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Eserian Nakera** is a traditional greeting used by the Maasai people of East Africa. It translates, ‘And how are the children?’ This question is embedded in the daily interactions of the Maasai, and reflects the high value their community places on the well-being of their children. The traditional response to Eserian Nakera is, ‘All the children are well,’ which recognizes that the overall well-being of society starts with prioritizing the health, safety, protection, and happiness of children.

For a moment, imagine if the people of San Francisco embraced this tradition and greeted fellow community members by asking: ‘And how are the children, youth, and their families?’ This year at DCYF, we set out across the City to learn whether we as a community could answer to say, ‘All the children, youth and their families are well.’

As stewards of the Children and Youth Fund, our grantmaking process and planning cycle is based on a five year timeline with three stages. First, we collect data and stories to learn about our community’s needs. Second, we identify the services that can address these needs to determine funding priorities. Third, organizations apply for grants to provide those services as we administer grants to community partners.

Our Family Summits are the critical first step towards the ultimate goal of funding important services. In 2019, DCYF hosted a total of 11 “We are the City Family Summits,” and had the opportunity to better understand the multifaceted challenges that San Franciscans face growing up, raising their families, and in providing vital community services. DCYF went out across all our district neighborhoods to learn more about the lived experiences of our children, youth, parents, grandparents, guardians, service providers and concerned residents. You served as our eyes and ears, giving us granular perspectives that may otherwise be undetectable by a City department. Thanks to you, we identified the strengths, needs and extraordinary narratives of our communities. Thanks to you, we have a better understanding of what our City can do to help you thrive. My staff and I are grateful to everyone who took the time to come to the Summits and share your perspectives with us — thank you.

As we complete the first phase of our planning cycle and set our sights on the future, we are fully aware that we will not be able to ensure that ‘All the children are well’ on our own. San Francisco’s children, youth, and their families are affected by the work of a large and intricate network of systems, institutions, and City agencies. We must partner as a City to collectively develop the most effective solutions and services. This also won’t happen without our service providers on the front lines. The organizations DCYF funds and the youth workers we support are rooted in the communities they serve. They have the ability to connect to our young people with authenticity and cultural competence. We are not just investing in high quality services for children and youth; we are investing in our communities.

Even as we look ahead to five years from now, the work is happening here in the present. Our DCYF family—grantees, partners, and our own staff—is tackling the disparities that prevent our young people from reaching their full potential. We are providing for children, youth and families to have responsive, high quality services that meet their needs. We are ensuring that the communities with the highest needs benefit most from the resources of the Children and Youth Fund. Together, we’re making San Francisco a great place to grow up.

In community,



Maria Su, Psy.D.  
Executive Director







# FY2018-19 SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

## OUR MISSION

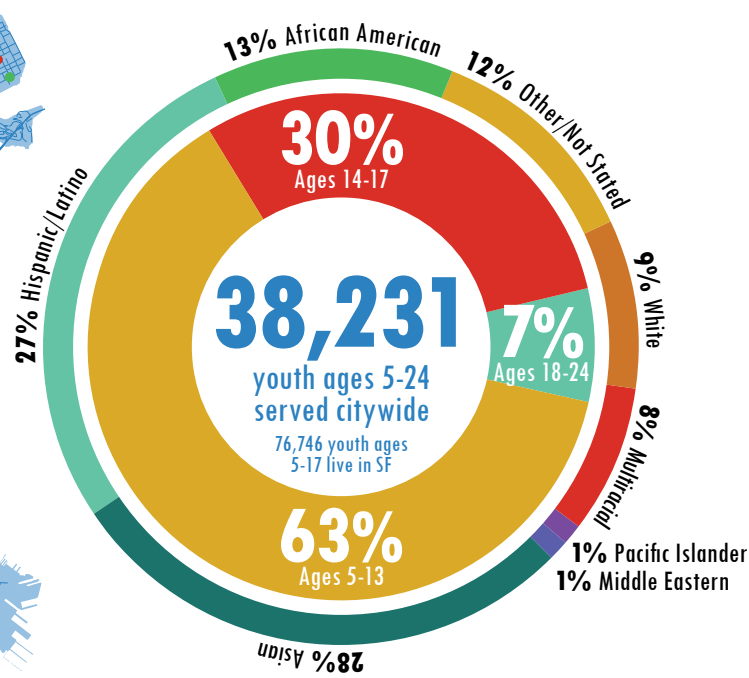
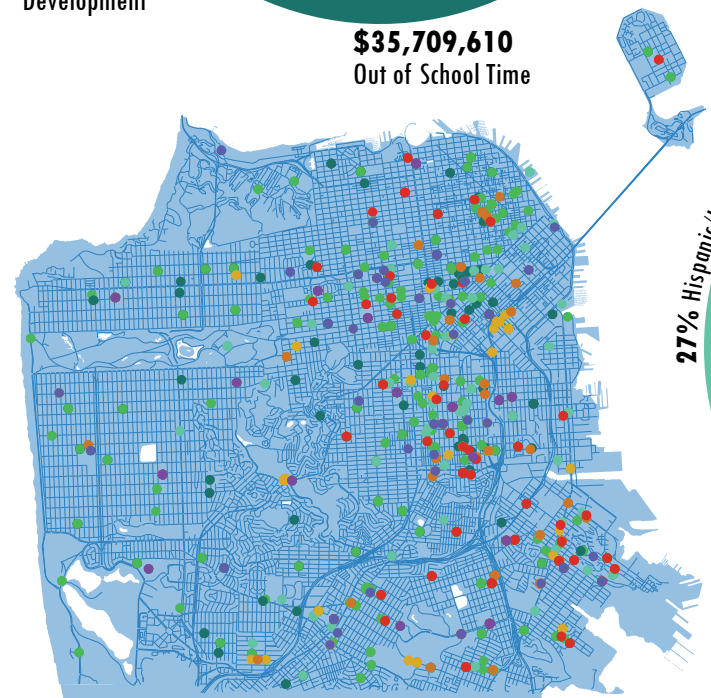
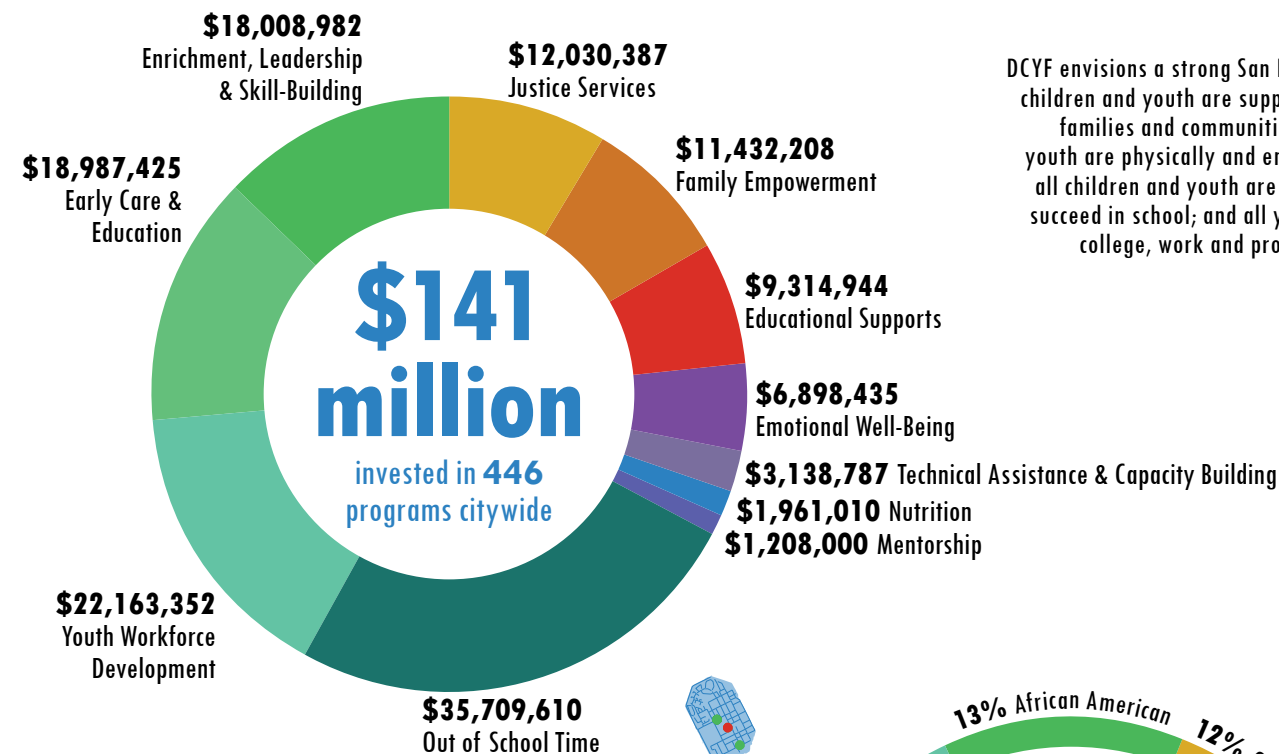
The Department of Children, Youth and Their Families (DCYF) has administered San Francisco's powerful investments in children, youth, transitional age youth, and their families through the Children and Youth Fund since 1991. With a deep commitment to advancing equity and healing trauma, we bring together government agencies, schools, and community-based organizations to strengthen our communities to lead full lives of opportunity and happiness. Together, we make San Francisco a great place to grow up.

## OUR FOUNDATION

- Strategic Funding:** We promote practice- and research-informed programs seed innovation and seek to address inequities in access and opportunity.
- Quality Services:** We provide leadership in developing high quality programs and strong community-based organizations in the interest of promoting positive outcomes.
- Engagement with San Francisco's Communities:** We prioritize children, youth, transitional age youth and families' voices in setting funding priorities and will build our knowledge of and presence in neighborhoods across San Francisco.
- Collaborative Partnerships:** We commit to working with city stakeholders to help set funding priorities, practices and policies that are based on an equity framework.

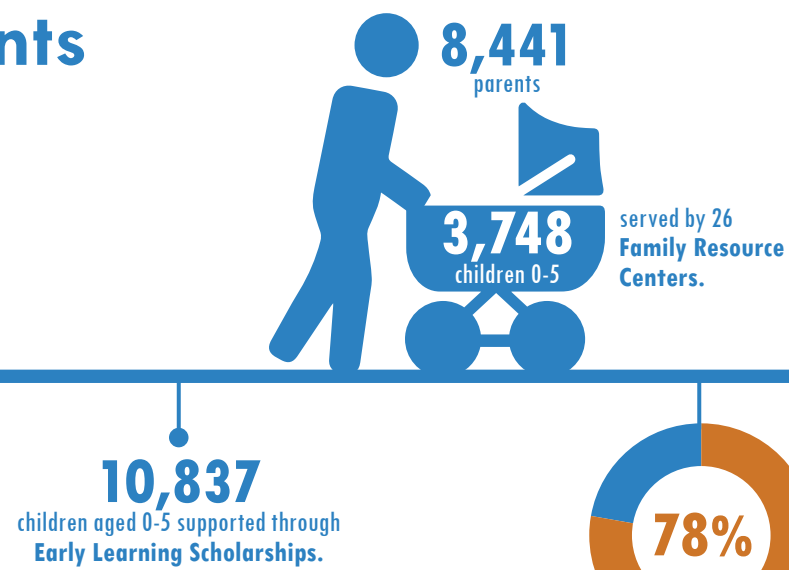
## OUR VISION

DCYF envisions a strong San Francisco where all children and youth are supported by nurturing families and communities; all children and youth are physically and emotionally healthy; all children and youth are ready to learn and succeed in school; and all youth are ready for college, work and productive adulthood.

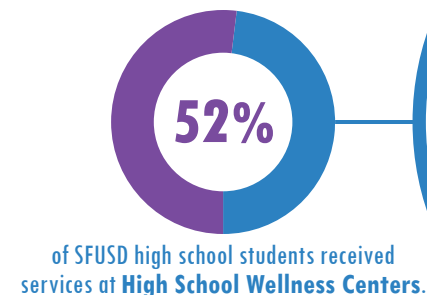
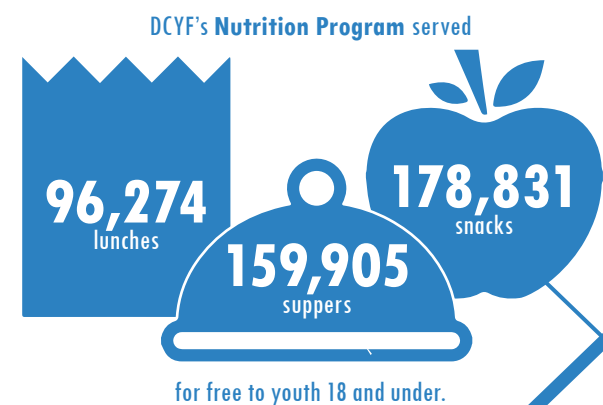
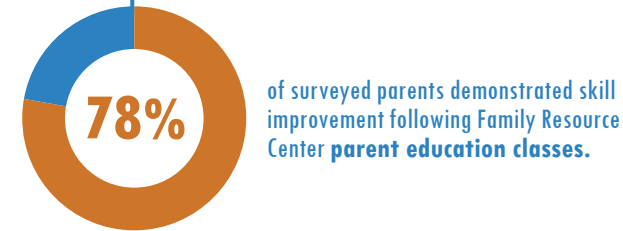


# MAKING SAN FRANCISCO A GREAT PLACE TO GROW UP

## Ages 0-5 & Parents



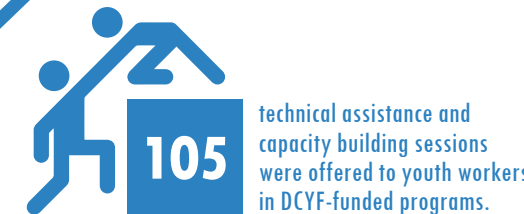
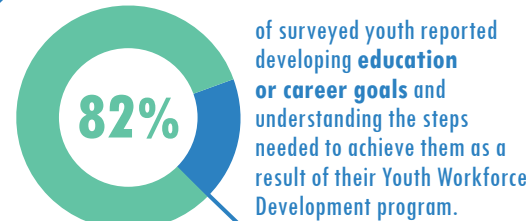
**10,837** children aged 0-5 supported through Early Learning Scholarships.



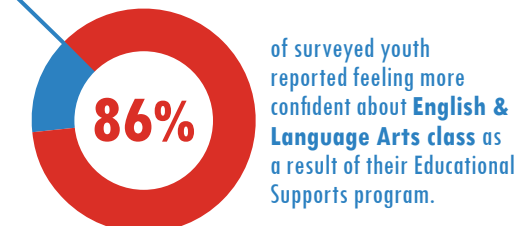
## Ages 14-17



Youth grantmakers in Youth-Led Philanthropy programs awarded **\$275,988** for youth- and community-led projects.



**4,894** youth participated in workforce development activities

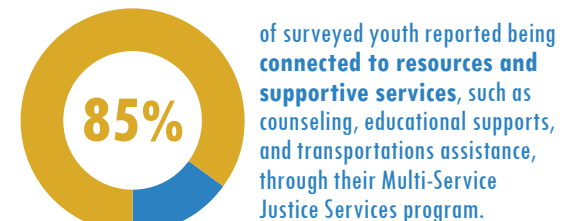
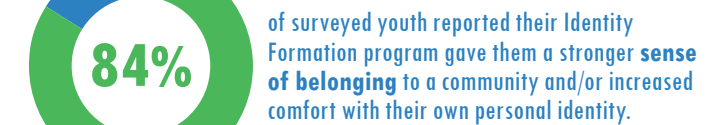
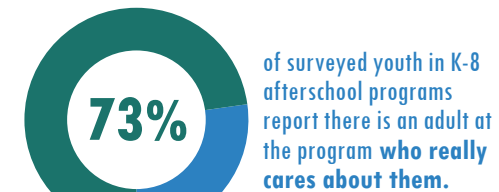


**34** of San Francisco's most vulnerable young adults successfully completed the requirements of the Young Adult Court Case Management program, accessing wraparound services, job referrals, case management services and other supports.

## Ages 5-13



**11,098** youth attended K-8 afterschool programs regularly.



**1,904** transitional age youth (TAY), 24% of whom identified as homeless, accessed specially targeted TAY programs.



## Ages 18-24

# OUR VOICES

DCYF is committed to improving program quality and driving better outcomes for program participants. We understand that the field grows stronger when we invest in the professional development of staff who administer and deliver programs. To meet the needs of front-line staff, program administrators and non-profit executives at all levels of experience, DCYF offers training workshops, cohorts, conferences and more to all our grantees. In FY18-19, DCYF offered 105 technical assistance and capacity building workshops facilitated by DCYF-funded providers with over 800 participants across 132 DCYF-funded agencies participated.

Join our community of non-profit professionals building their skills—sign up for a DCYF professional development opportunity today.

“The Executive Director (ED) Cohort has given me space to be ME. To learn with and from my peers has been helpful as I continue to polish my skills as a leader at SCDC and in my Samoan Community. I encourage my staff to take advantage of all the professional development workshops available so our tool box of knowledge will continue to be built and utilized. As we apply these learnings in our daily work with youth and one another, we are building trust, rapport, and camaraderie to ensure our presence is felt, our voices are heard and our community is represented at the table.”

—Patsy Tito, Executive Director, Samoan Community Development Center



“I have had the opportunity to attend various DCYF trainings which have provided learning and growth. As a Site Coordinator for the Mission YMCA, my main goal is the safety of our youth and maintaining a positive and engaging environment. From managing classrooms, accommodating the learning styles of youth to working with English learners, this curriculum has helped me build my relationships with the youth and their families. In addition, I have been able to share what I have learned with staff through the implementation of some strategies in our program.”

—Ernesto Soto, Site Coordinator, Mission YMCA



“I’ve learned to look at things in different perspectives. It has given me confidence that I can help others around me with my newfound knowledge and has helped me understand what it takes to be an effective leader and a support system to others. I will take what I learned with me for the rest of my career.”

—Anne De Ocampo, Youth Program Coordinator, West Bay Pilipino Multi-Service Center



“The cohort has been crucial in helping me narrow what I seek to do as a fresh undergrad with a lifelong plan to be in youth work. Our meetings are rare opportunities for San Francisco youth workers/stakeholders to gather. I feel that professional development is absolutely necessary as this field continues to grow in its capacity, understanding, theory, and findings—but recognize that our daily workload hardly affords us the time (and the resources!) to do so. The youth work experiences being brought to the table always illuminates a new perspective that I otherwise couldn’t gain within the bubble of my own program.”

—Julia Lin, Youth Engagement Programs Coordinator, Donaldina Cameron House



“The Program Manager cohort helped me develop a leadership mindset. I now have the skills to design systems and structures to make my job easier, help with the development of my organization, and the quality of my program. Since participating in the program manager cohort I have: planned and coordinated retreats for my entire organization, trained new staff for our program, and collaborated on the redesign of our summer program structure and curriculum. The ability to support staff in giving youth the skills they need to navigate a future that does not exist yet has been my most valuable takeaway.”

—Thais Littleton, Assistant Program Coordinator, Summer Youth Academic & Employment Program (SYAEP)



“In the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Workshop, we discussed the differences between equity and equality, and how to view our organization through a DEI lens. We learned how to make an organization more inclusive and what activities can make that happen. I was able to go back to my organization and examine the way that we did things from a DEI lens. Dr. Darlene Hall lead us through tough conversations where we had to do some serious internal analysis. As a result, our organization strives to create more opportunities for DEI. I now see everything through this new lens.”

—Johnny Irwin, Executive Director, City Surf Project



#DCYF FAMILY