



# 2018 Impact Report



# A Letter from our Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Almost a decade ago I joined Beyond Emancipation (B:E) to support young people with experience in foster care and probation to become their best selves. Today I am proud to share that many young people are thriving as a result of our collective efforts. Over the last year we reaffirmed our commitment to stronger youth, stronger communities. We have always embraced this future-forward vision, recognizing that youth are our hope for tomorrow.

This past year, over 1,200 youth received services, housing and much more through Beyond Emancipation. Thanks to our ever-growing community of supporters, we have deepened and broadened our offerings.

In 2018 we integrated our programs to improve full wraparound services, acquired an urban farm for youth job training and wellness, strengthened our coaching approach and implemented the Pathway to College program. We did all of this in the name of the next generation; when we support young people to realize their dreams today, they will build a brighter tomorrow for us all.

But our collective efforts are not done. Young people who grow up in foster care are twice as likely to suffer from PTSD as war veterans. Half of California foster youth have experienced three or more foster care placements. And, despite valiant efforts to house more children with relatives or foster families – which experts agree is best – about a third of foster youth had most recently been in a group home or institutional setting. We are here explicitly for these young people who have experienced the most instability.

We remain committed to being a calm and steady force in the stormy sea our young people encounter. This is truly a community effort. Together we are shifting the life trajectories of youth who have been failed by adult-driven systems and institutions, and we are preparing them for enduring success. Supportive relationships, adaptive skill-building, and positive experiences are the foundation for resilient youth, and therefore for resilient communities. Thank you for your commitment to our collective future.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kate Durham".

Kate Durham  
Executive Director


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DIAMOND was in middle school when she lost both her mother and grandmother. She spent years trying to find her sense of self amidst this loss, and gained stability when she started attending B:E's life skills workshops and connected with a coach. Once Diamond found her voice she began advocating for foster youth in her local school district and at the state capitol. She's now pursuing a cosmetology license to fulfill her dream of opening a neighborhood hair salon.


**“B:E gave me a village of supporters who helped me realize that the sky was not the limit.”**



A man and a young woman are sitting on wooden steps in front of a restaurant. The man is wearing a colorful plaid shirt, blue jeans, and a black cap. The woman is wearing a grey cardigan over a red shirt and black pants. They are both smiling at the camera.

**“As a person of color in the restaurant industry, I see biases that I want to change. It’s my job to model that change and show young people that more is possible.”**

**NIGEL JONES** – B:E community partner and owner of Kingston 11 Cuisine in Oakland – explains that he doesn’t judge people based on who they are or where they have been, because “you never know where they’re going to end up.” Nigel, who was raised by his grandparents in Jamaica before immigrating to the US as a young man, sees parallels between his own upbringing and the experience of young people in B:E’s programs. Nigel serves as a role model for many, inspiring students in our high school workshops and hiring graduates from our culinary training program.

A young man with dreadlocks is standing outdoors, wearing a dark grey suit, a blue checkered shirt, and a dark tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background shows a sidewalk, trees, and a building.

**“I don’t give up easily. I fight and push myself even through hard times. B:E has given me knowledge to live on my own and provide for myself.”**

MARIEO is dedicated to surrounding himself with positivity. He works at the local animal shelter – he says animals are more loyal than most people – and shoots hoops to clear his mind. Overcoming challenges is not new to this 19-year-old; Marieo experienced homelessness and trauma as a kid and cycled through more than six high schools. He now lives in B:E community housing, recently earned his high school diploma and is registering for college classes. He hopes to have a dog of his own someday.



Stability was a foreign concept to B:E alum **MARIANA** when she was growing up. After entering foster care at age thirteen, she navigated thirteen high schools before receiving her diploma. Soon after, she found herself homeless, struggling with the law and pregnant. B:E helped Mariana and her newborn secure housing and develop a support system, and connected Mariana with a job at State Farm Insurance where she worked for almost a decade. Today Mariana works in social services, provides stability and care for her two sons, and gives back to her community.

**“If it wasn’t for B:E, I wouldn’t be where I am today. B:E showed me that I had options and that I could overcome anything.”**

## OUR IMPACT

B:E served over **1,200** youth in 2018 through **7,543** contacts, using an innovative coaching model that responds to the needs of young people in and from foster care and probation.

Youth received support in one or more of our core areas:

### Education



**457**

youth supported  
in their  
pursuit of education

**97%** of graduating seniors enrolled  
in a post-secondary program

### Employment



**296**

youth supported in  
preparing for and  
securing employment

**512** hours of employment workshops  
& trainings for youth

### Housing



**92** youth and  
**35** children housed  
in B:E housing

**86%** of young people in B:E housing  
were working and/or in school

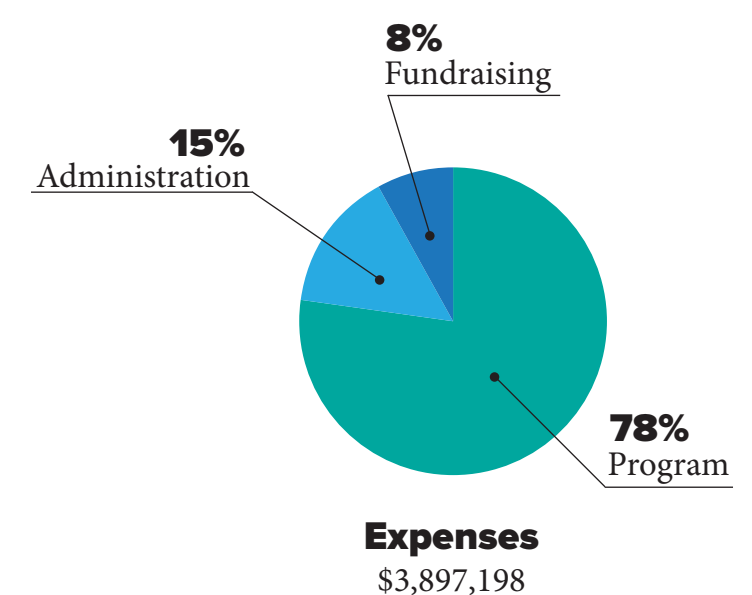
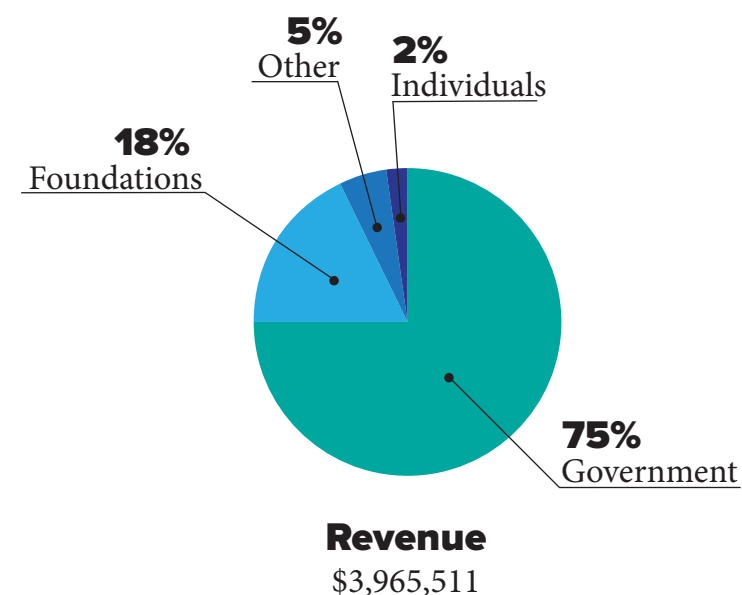
### Life Skills



**578** youth participated  
in the Independent Living  
Program, gaining skills to  
succeed *beyond* foster care

**192** youth attended life skills workshops -  
learning how to cook, budget & succeed in school

## REVENUE & EXPENSES



Figures are from B:E's audited financial statements for FY17-18. Full audited financial statements can be viewed on B:E's website.





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## BEYOND EMANCIPATION

### OUR MISSION

Beyond Emancipation's mission is to support Alameda County's current and former foster and probation youth to make successful transitions to adulthood and living independently.

### OUR SERVICES

**Education:** helping youth secure their high school diploma or GED, and enter and succeed in post-secondary education

**Employment:** preparing youth for a wide variety of living wage jobs, including through our culinary training and farm internship programs

**Housing:** providing safe and stable housing for youth as they learn to thrive as young adults and create caring community connections

**Life Skills & Wellness:** helping youth manage and overcome the challenges they face as they enter adulthood through workshops, classes and life coaching



Justin digs in at B:E's urban flower farm in West Oakland. GROW Oakland Farm is a job training site and social enterprise where young people learn job, leadership and teamwork skills.

**Support foster youth to fulfill their dreams today -  
give online at [www.beyondemancipation.org](http://www.beyondemancipation.org)**