

# 2022 IMPACT REPORT





**Thank you for helping youth create their own brilliant futures!**



**B:E's mission is to support young people as they imagine and create their own life beyond foster care.**

**Cover photo:** With your support, Coach Shaheda made sure Tim and Kamri have safe and stable housing.

# You are making sure young people have *steady support* during these unsteady times.

Dear B:E Friend,

Like you, I have felt helpless at times during this tough year. Surrounded by a global pandemic, injustice and senseless violence, I sometimes struggle to find my footing.

But when I feel helpless, you remind me of what we can control and how we can help. Through thick and thin, you continue to care and show up for youth. **Thank you for your unshakable support!**

With you cheering them on, young people like Taiwan and Lena have a safe place to call home and someone to count on when life feels overwhelming.

You are making sure young people have steady support during these unsteady times. And with you believing in them, young people can weather these hard times and reach their goals.

As we look ahead to this next year, you and I can continue to meet young people's needs. Together, we are rising to the occasion so that youth can:

- access affordable housing in the Bay Area with more help finding options plus 4X as many affordable units through B:E
- receive more mental health support to heal from past trauma and the stress of the pandemic and rising injustice
- lean on us for over a decade of their young lives—from age 14 to age 26—as they imagine and create their own lives beyond foster care

While loss and uncertainty shakes our world, your compassion and commitment to young people brings abundance and light to our future. When you believe in youth, you change the world for the better.

With gratitude,



Vanetta Johnson  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



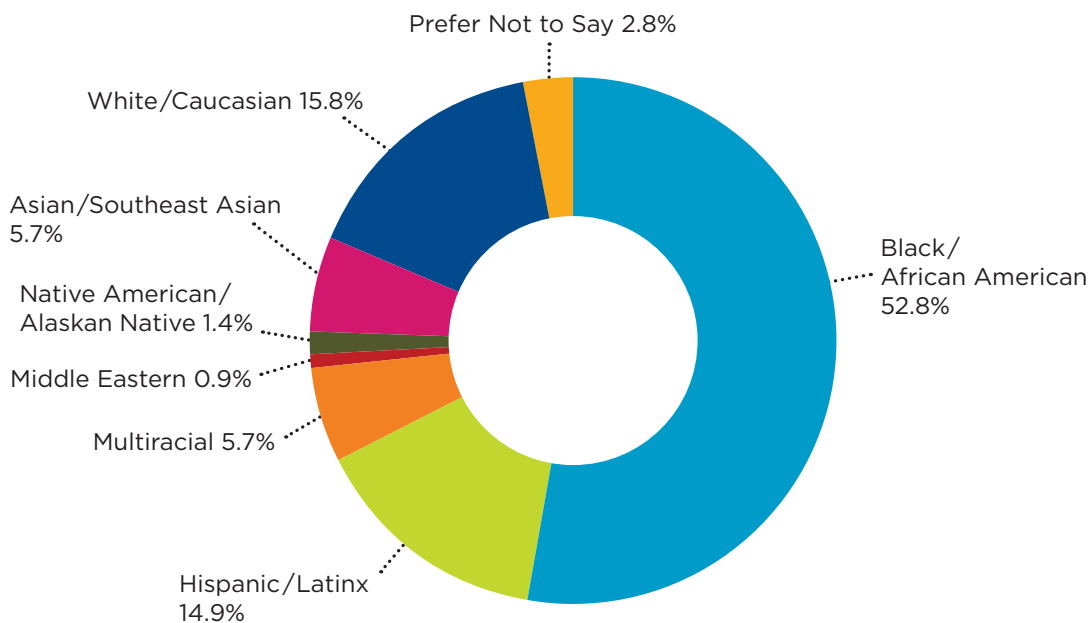




Photo by Kate Linhardt

# You helped 493 young people this year!

## YOUTH AT A GLANCE:



Over **80%**  
identify as  
people of color

**70%**  
currently in  
foster care

**30%**  
formerly in  
foster care

# You made a difference!

## WHEN YOU SHOWED UP:

**98%**

of youth received personal one-on-one support

**358**

youth helped to transition out of foster care

**286**

young people supported with their school and career goals

**227**

youth got a helping hand with their housing



Photo by Kate Linhardt

## AND THANKS TO YOU,



**49** youth and **20** kids lived in safe B:E housing

**83%** remained stably housed after leaving B:E



**43** students graduated from high school

**\$36K+** in scholarships distributed to college students

For financials and more about our programs, please visit [beyondemancipation.org](https://beyondemancipation.org)



# You help Taiwan thrive.

Taiwan grew up with abuse and neglect and ended up in foster care five years ago. On top of his family problems, Taiwan deals with a chronic disease that has led to countless hospitalizations and surgeries. But Taiwan has turned his struggle into strength. Taiwan just earned a full-ride college scholarship and started his classes! With your support, he is pursuing his goal of becoming a surgeon.

“I want to help people with the same challenges and struggles,” Taiwan shares. “B:E has played a big role in my life—helping me with everything from proofreading my essays to getting housing.”

**“B:E encourages youth to take a step forward.”**



# You gave Lena a home.

After growing up in the foster care system, Lena was determined to give her daughter Kamilah the stability and family support she didn't have. But when her grandmother passed away, Lena and Kamilah needed a safe place to call home. Lena got back on her feet in B:E's community home for young moms and their kids. And thanks to you, Lena and Kamilah just moved into their first very own apartment!

"I needed a breath of fresh air, and B:E came through for us at the perfect time," Lena says. "I've learned to be a better mom and have people who believe in my potential."

**"B:E has made a 100% difference in my life."**





# You gave Greyson a family.

Greyson was raised in an abusive and unsafe home situation that only got worse when he came out to his Mexican family as transgender and queer. After entering foster care, he was bounced around and only ever lived in group homes that felt like institutions instead of family. It was there in these group homes that Greyson started advocating for himself and his peers. Determined to help others, Greyson became a leader on B:E's first Youth Council. And with your support, Greyson is studying to become a social worker.

"A chosen family like B:E is so important for those of us who were left or rejected by biological families," says Greyson. "I was told I was nothing, but here I am. I get to be in charge of my life, have a support system, and help youth build the skills to advocate for themselves."



**“B:E provides  
a sense of  
community.”**



# You help Leslie shine.

When she entered foster care at age 16, Leslie felt alone and depressed. And she was reluctant to join B:E because then people would know she was in foster care. But when you and B:E stepped in and welcomed Leslie, she found the support she needed. With you cheering for her, Leslie just graduated with two associate degrees! And she's pursuing a career where she can help foster youth succeed.

"I've discovered my passion for helping foster care youth," says Leslie. "I'm grateful for B:E. The coaching alone is really helpful, and I feel like they are always available and welcoming to me."

**"It gave me  
hope to  
see all the  
services B:E  
offered."**

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Photo by Kate Linhardt

## Staff Spotlight

Our team reflects the youth you support:

**84%** identify as people of color

**28%** have experience in the foster care and/or juvenile systems

**38%** are first-generation college graduates

**“I feel like I’ve needed B:E as much as B:E has needed me. Coming out of the foster care system myself, working here has been a big part of my journey.”**  
**– Ike, B:E staff**



# David & Bill: Leaving A Lasting Legacy



**“We want to be able to give someone else the same opportunities that my kids had.” – David**

David and Bill’s lives were shaped by the foster care system—one by choice and one by birth.

“I was one of the lucky ones,” says Bill, who was adopted at birth. “I could have easily gone into the foster care system.”

On the other hand, David adopted and raised four kids who came out of the foster care system. Hearing what his kids went through before they became part of his family inspires him to give back.

David and Bill want to make sure foster kids get the same love and support all kids deserve. That’s why they chose to make a gift to B:E in their will.

Want to learn more about leaving a legacy for foster kids?  
Please visit [\*\*beyondemancipation.org/get-involved/\*\*](https://beyondemancipation.org/get-involved/)

# Rising costs, hard choices

Eighteen-year-old Sarah is living on her own after growing up in foster care. Without a family to fall back on, every day after work Sarah has to ask herself: Do I spend my last dollars on a couple gallons of gas or a hot meal for dinner?

**No one should have to choose between filling their gas tank or feeding themselves.** There are no easy answers.

Sarah is working, but after paying rent, her paycheck doesn't cover groceries and gas. And Sarah wants to start going to college and making a career for herself.

When her tight budget doesn't go as far as it did a year ago, Sarah can't meet her basic needs. Having to make the choice between a meal or some gas leaves her feeling hopeless. And she wonders if school is really an option.



## Will you make sure Sarah doesn't have to choose between a hot dinner or gas for her car?

- ☒ **YES! Please use my gift to help foster youth like Sarah with life-changing support:**
- ☐ **\$50:** A full week of groceries on a budget—21 meals!
  - ☐ **\$100:** A full week of groceries and a full tank of gas for getting to and from school and work
  - ☐ **\$250:** A full week of groceries, a tank of gas, and a month of internet and cell service
  - ☐ **\$500:** A full week of groceries, a tank of gas, internet and cell service, and utility bills
  - ☐ **\$1,000:** A full week of groceries, a tank of gas, internet and cell service, utility bills, and help with rent

**Give online at [beyondemancipation.org/donate](https://beyondemancipation.org/donate)**