In 1994, Pastors Tommy Barnett and son, Matthew Barnett, had a vision when they saw the then Queen of Angels Hospital from the Hollywood Freeway, that it would one day be a place of hope, recovery, and purpose. Since then, the Dream Center has been a non-profit organization dedicated to the mission of transforming the lives and communities of Los Angeles.

Today and for the past 26 years, the Los Angeles Dream Center continues to serve up to 45,000 people a month through its various residential, resource and outreach programs made available free of charge. These programs are all dedicated to providing opportunities to make a difference in the countless lives in need.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM OUR FOUNDERS…

Thank you to every friend, corporation, church, organization, volunteer, supporter and staff who has believed and supported this mission for the past 26 years. You have helped us make a long-lasting impact and continue to grow our transformational story and legacy of hope.
The Los Angeles (L.A.) Dream Center is a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming lives and the underserved communities of our city. We are in Los Angeles, committed to immediate and long-term transformation of individuals and communities.

The Dream Center’s mission is to connect broken people to a community of support by providing free resources and services that address immediate and long-term needs in the areas of homelessness, hunger, poverty, addiction, abuse, education and human trafficking.
SERVING THE NEEDS OF UP TO 27 DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES

MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

THROUGH RESIDENTIAL, RESOURCE AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS
The coronavirus pandemic impacted 2020 in unprecedented ways. A health crisis that spawned the globe endangering many vulnerable lives, COVID-19 has not only threatened and devastated people’s health, but has imbalanced their stability and outlook on life. Lockdowns were mandated in almost every city and country in an effort to flatten the curve which resulted in a staggering rise of unemployment of up to 19% as businesses shut down and employees were laid off. Schools were closed and remain closed forcing children to adapt to online learning and studying at home. Everyday norms became limited. The Dream Center adjusted to a new normal, but the crisis continues to move with fluctuating speed, warranting an immediate response at any given time. COVID-19 has been a health crisis, a mental health crisis, and an economic crisis.

The Dream Center responded and continues to respond to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis in every way possible.
FOOD BANK: DRIVE-THRU + CAREY KITCHEN

On March 16, the Dream Center immediately stepped in with a drive-thru system to provide free meals for families who rely on free school meals every day when LAUSD and other school systems closed. This relief effort was operational every day, 11 hours a day, from 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. After 82 days of serving communities and bringing relief, joy, and hope to individuals and families, we closed the drive-thru but continued our operations through the community kitchen and diner, now open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for breakfast, lunch, and dinner available for anyone to pick up and go.

On August 18, the drive-thru re-opened to provide meals for LAUSD students who will continue to study remotely due to school closures for the fall semester. A special thank you to Justin & Kourtney Turner and the Justin Turner Foundation for their support in helping us feed the communities of Los Angeles.

DRIVE-THRU: 574,942
CARRY OUT: 31,000
ON-SITE TOTAL: 605,942
The Dream Center’s long-term goal aims to accommodate the needs of the city by continuing to feed its people and communities on a regular basis. This is accomplished through food distribution not only on-site but also off-site while still complying with health and safety regulations from the CDC, city and state.

**MOBILE FOOD BANKS**

As the hours of the kitchen on campus were extended to accommodate those in need of meals, mobile food banks were dispatched at full capacity. During the first phase of the coronavirus pandemic, the Dream Center’s relief efforts expanded to delivering packages of food, hygiene, and cleaning products to surrounding areas and communities. Food and groceries were distributed to an average of 20 sites on a weekly basis.

- **112,500** meals distributed to other churches & organizations
- **68,019** meals distributed to local communities
- **42,185** outreach meals
- **64,183** senior care packages
- **286,887** off-site total

**ADOPT-A-BLOCK + SENIOR DELIVERIES**

The Dream Center’s staff and volunteers distributed food and supplies to neighboring areas and usual Adopt-A-Block sites. The team personally delivered care packages to the homes of local elderly communities, where residents aged 65+ were strongly advised to stay at home as they were the most vulnerable. Deliveries were also made to retirement homes such as the Park View Senior Living Apartments, a retirement home across from Angelus Temple (church of the Dream Center).

- **112,500** meals distributed to other churches & organizations
- **68,019** meals distributed to local communities
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- **64,183** senior care packages
- **286,887** off-site total

**COVID-19 CRISIS IMPACT & OUR RELIEF EFFORTS**
COVID-19 CRISIS RELIEF

COVID-19 CRISIS IMPACT & OUR RELIEF EFFORTS

TOTAL DAYS: 82
TOTAL MEALS: 892,829
TOTAL POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED: 2,600,490
“Pastor Matthew and all the DC team surprised us today with a $500 gift for our family. We thank them so much, they have no clue what we’ve been through. My husband works once a week, maybe sometimes, twice a week. We always come here to get our food, for lunch and dinner. They have blessed us so many times with baby diapers. Thank you everyone to the DC team for blessing us and I’m so overwhelmed, I don’t have the words to even express how I feel but I’m just so grateful that they chose our family for the $500 gift and I can’t thank them enough. We’re all blessed and I’m pretty sure everyone that comes out here is blessed with what the Dream Center does everyday for us.”

$500 was gifted to the Betancourt family to celebrate the 500,000th meal milestone on May 4th, 2020.
The Dream Center continues to positively impact and transform individuals, families and communities through various outreach programs and services. These programs provide free assistance for immediate relief to those struggling in the surrounding communities in the form of food, clothing, furniture, children’s programs and more.

OVER 8.5 MILLION PEOPLE SERVED THROUGH OUTREACH PROGRAMS SINCE 1994
ADOPT-A-BLOCK

Los Angeles has the largest number of people in poverty, about 20% of the city’s population (Poverty Measure, US Census Bureau, 2018) and 2020 saw a staggering rise in unemployment of up to 19%. Through the Adopt-A-Block community outreach program, the Dream Center partners with many volunteers to visit the most under-resourced, at-risk, and high-need neighborhoods consistently every week to make an impact. As many as 500 volunteers serve by distributing food, hygiene items and other essentials. Practical services are also available to the community, to provide emotional, physical, mental and spiritual support.

MOBILE FOOD BANKS

An estimated 2 million people in Los Angeles County live with food insecurity, which means 1 in 5 people who live here may not know where their next meal is coming from (Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, 2019). The Dream Center looks to meet the need by distributing food to individuals and families in over 21 local distribution sites. On average, our food programs feed more than 20,000 people monthly. Over half a million pounds of food is distributed every month through mobile food banks.

2019-2020 FY

OUTREACH

PROGRAMS

INDIVIDUALS REACHED

TOTAL

NEW INDIVIDUALS

NEW FAMILIES

34,697

165,497

190,945

81

81

81

34,697

42,209

58,137

SALVATIONS

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FOSTER CARE INTERVENTION

The Department of Children and Family Services reported that nearly 200 kids are separated from parents simply due to poverty-related issues every month. To help prevent families from being separated, the Foster Care Intervention Program assists these families by providing furniture, food, clothing, appliances, and other basic items needed to allow parents to retain or regain custody of their children. It is the Dream Center’s goal to keep as many families together as possible.

Families Avoided Separations: 49
Families Reunited: 19
Individuals Impacted: 1,285

KIDZ JAM

This program partners with the Adopt-A-Block outreach to provide community support to the many children living in underserved neighborhoods around Los Angeles. Through sports, games and other activities, many of the volunteers and staff make a difference in their lives through consistency and simply by being present.

Kids Served: 9,514
Individuals Impacted: 7,600

JAIL OUTREACH

This outreach encourages and spiritually trains inmates of Los Angeles Men’s Central Jail, Twin Towers and Century Regional Detention Center through positive weekly visits, Bible studies, and church services.

Individuals: 162,518

CLOTHING OUTREACH

This outreach provides free clothing from the campus location to anyone in need every first Thursday of the month. In a typical month, we give out more than 15,000 articles of clothing. Through the Clothing Outreach, all donations (new and used) have been repurposed to serve more than 30,000 people.

Items Distributed: 162,518

Barbara Berg
MOBILE FOOD BANK BENEFICIARY

“After I retired, I needed help obtaining food. When I found out about the Dream Center, they helped me get the food I needed. I also needed community and through the Mobile Food Bank outreach (also known as the Food Truck ministry in our communities), I have found community because I get to meet new people and friends. I had my son at the Dream Center when it was still a hospital. I wish I had known about the Dream Center rehabilitation programs because I probably would have gotten sober a lot sooner since I used to be an addict, but I am so thankful to be sober and retired now as well. My son went to the Dream Center for shelter and while there, he learned about the clothing and food giveaways. I receive food every Tuesday. The Dream Center provides groceries for me and I also started going to church again at Angelus Temple. I’m just thankful that I’m still alive today after all I’ve been through.”
WE GET TO SERVE
The Dream Center’s on-site Food Bank aims to meet the surrounding community’s basic food needs while supporting individuals’ transitions to a more sustainable lifestyle. Every month, over half a million pounds of food gets distributed to various communities through the Dream Center’s programs such as Foster Care Intervention, Mobile Food Bank outreach, and Carey Kitchen, as well as other service-led organizations. The Carey Kitchen has taken on a vital role in 2020 as it served as an expansion of the Dream Center’s relief efforts by becoming a community kitchen where those in need could still access daily free meals and other basic necessities.

A special thank you to Justin & Kourtney Turner and the Justin Turner Foundation.
ADULT EDUCATION

According to the Census Bureau, 1.5 million Los Angeles County adults over the age of 25 don’t have their high school diploma or the equivalency. The Dream Center Adult Education Program assists adult students in successfully achieving their high school equivalency by providing a safe, supportive, and encouraging learning environment with the most qualified and attentive tutors, while enabling adults to pursue their educational goals and equipping them for greater financial potential. This is done through one-on-one tutoring, academic classes, and free testing. Adult Education aims to help adults finish their foundational education, launch into their careers, thrive in life, and be in a position to reach out to others.

DC FITNESS

The DC Fitness Program provides an affordable gym to the community, including weight and cardio rooms, a wide range of fitness classes and extracurricular sports programs. The gym is open to members of the community and caters to young clientele which includes emancipated foster youth and homeless teens living at the Dream Center, as well as people from the local neighborhood and students in our Dream Center Leadership School. Residents at the Dream Center attend DC Fitness free of charge.

WE GET TO SERVE

ROCIO MACIAS

"I graduated from the year-long Discipleship program and was accepted into Connections. While in the program, I began resourcing the Dream Center’s Adult Education Department, which provided me access to free GED classes that I now attend five days a week. Before coming to the Dream Center I struggled with an 11-year addiction. Due to my substance abuse problem, my family wanted nothing to do with me. I was mentally and spiritually bankrupt. Now the Dream Center is helping me with my sobriety, while supporting me in the efforts to further my education. I have a relationship with God that has grown significantly in my time here. I used to look for comfort in the opinions of others but today, I find my self-worth in the Lord. In the future I plan on going to college to become a social worker. I’m going to take the skills and knowledge that I’ve gained here at the Dream Center and use them to reach my dreams."
FIND A NEED + FILL IT
FIND A HURT + HEAL IT
The Dream Center Veterans Program is a one-year transitional housing peer support program. The goal of the program is to help veterans understand and normalize the process needed to find healing from the trauma of war and other traumatic life experiences these men and women face. Supporting veterans in this way while transitioning them back into the workforce and into independent living are key factors in breaking the cycle of long-term and recurring homelessness. This is done by creating an atmosphere of support and spiritual growth and encouragement amongst the men and women in the program.

The Dream Center’s recovery program is a 1-3 year residential program designed to support men and women who are overcoming life-controlling issues, and recovering from drug and alcohol addictions, depression, and abuse. This program is structured to eliminate distractions and provide the time, resources, and community to enable participants to focus on building a healthy foundation to rebuild their lives. Food, housing, education, and counseling are all provided free of charge.

Thousands of struggling homeless families have found refuge through the Transitional Housing program. We provide more than just food, access to showers, clean clothes, and a safe place to stay for six months. Additionally, a case manager is assigned to mentor each family, guiding them on the path towards independent living and permanent housing. Other resources are also available, including classes and tutoring for GED, money management courses, mentorship, and connections to vocational training resources.

**FIND A NEED + FILL IT**

**FIND A HURT + HEAL IT**

**DISCIPLESHIP**

411 MEN / 68 WOMEN / 67 GRADUATED

**CONNECTIONS**

52 MEN / 21 WOMEN / 26 GRADUATED

**TRANSITIONS**

29 MEN / 22 WOMEN / 17 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS

**39 FAMILIES / 94 INDIVIDUALS**

**13 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS**

**VETERANS**

**RECOVERY**

**HOMELESS FAMILIES**

**DISCIPLESHIP**

25 MEN / 6 WOMEN

15 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS

**CONNECTIONS**

52 MEN / 21 WOMEN / 26 GRADUATED

**TRANSITIONS**

29 MEN / 22 WOMEN / 17 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS

**39 FAMILIES / 94 INDIVIDUALS**

**13 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS**
FOSTER YOUTH

According to Foster Focus, 40-50% of emancipated youth end up homeless within the first two years of transitioning out of the foster care system. Many foster youth face a minefield of problems, from prison to pregnancy, and even addiction. The Foster Youth program is open to young people ages 18-24 and provides a safe and comfortable place where young men and women can learn to become self-sufficient. Working directly with the Department of Children and Family Services, the Dream Center provides a community of support and resources to help them find assistance to make a future for themselves.

EMERGENCY SHELTER

This short-term rescue shelter provides physical, spiritual and emotional care to adult female victims of human trafficking, domestic violence and substance abuse, teaching life stability and restoration as residents are assisted in finding long-term restorative care.

FIND A NEED + FILL IT
FIND A HURT + HEAL IT

DAVID RICHIE

“Att birth my mom left me in the hospital and until I was seven, I was in and out of foster care because my dad kept going to jail. We were homeless, moving in and out of countless drug homes. Then when I was 17, my dad passed away. My mother’s side of the family brought me in and I graduated high school and joined the Army. Two years in, I went to jail and became suicidal. My aunt told me about the Dream Center while I was there, so when I was released I looked into it and decided to come. This place has given me time to heal and learn that taking my own life would have been the biggest mistake. I have learned a great deal of determination and a lot more discipline than ever before, I am becoming a lot more mature and spiritually stable. I plan on either continuing into Connections or going back into the Army as a career. I have always been a leader, but this place has redefined my leadership qualities and made me a better man of God.”

23 INDIVIDUALS
9 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS
64 WOMEN

23 INDIVIDUALS
9 SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS
64 WOMEN

HAVE BEEN THROUGH THE PROGRAM

HAVE BEEN THROUGH THE PROGRAM

64 WOMEN

HAVE BEEN THROUGH THE PROGRAM

HAVE BEEN THROUGH THE PROGRAM
MAKING AN IMPACT
**SHORT TERM MISSIONS**

Individuals, churches and other volunteer groups or organizations have the opportunity to experience all Dream Center outreach programs while serving a week-long Short Term Mission. Volunteers have the option to stay on the Dream Center campus while gaining hands-on experience by teaming up with staff to directly impact people in need from the most desperate and at-risk places in Los Angeles.

120 TEAMS SERVED 2019-2020

**DREAM CENTER LEADERSHIP SCHOOL**

With a mission to mobilize young leaders from all over the globe, the Dream Center Leadership School is a training center for college-aged students to dedicate a season of their lives to ministry. Unlike any other school, this movement offers a variety of ministry outreach and leadership training opportunities for young adults to change the world.

1,723 STUDENTS HAVE GRADUATED DCLS SINCE ITS INCEPTION
MAKING AN IMPACT

MATT KELLY
FAMILY & STUDENT PASTOR OF THE SUMMIT CHURCH
SHORT TERM MISSIONS

“I have partnered with the Dream Center three different times. Each time has been incredibly impactful for our high school students. As a youth pastor, I have the responsibility to put together the best experiences for our students. This has become especially important with how busy teenagers are today! When it comes to high impact, missions-based opportunities, there is no better partner than the Dream Center. Every time my students have returned from a week at the Dream Center they feel a renewed sense of Jesus in their lives and want to make an impact in His name in our community.”
Thousands of pastors, community leaders and volunteers have visited the Dream Center throughout the years. Inspired by their experiences, many since that time have built Dream Centers in their own cities to meet specific community needs. The Dream Center Network now collectively consists of 75 Dream Centers around the world, including 65 nationally and 10 internationally. With a vision to transform the world, each Dream Center strives to provide the help and resources necessary to individuals and communities in need. The Dream Center Network continues to grow each year, reaching thousands of people across the globe. For more information on the Dream Center Network, visit www.thedcnetwork.org.
Together, with your help, we are able to transform not only the communities in Los Angeles but lives all around the world through Dream Center programs and community outreach.

If you are interested in providing volunteer or financial support to the Dream Center, please contact:

213.273.7017 • 2301 Bellevue Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90026 • jhigh@dreamcenter.org

All photos that feature individuals not wearing masks were taken before the COVID-19 pandemic.