



# 2020 IMPACT REPORT

Painting created by a sexual abuse and domestic violence survivor in our "Permission Canvas" workshop



# IT'S TIME TO HEAL: A SURVIVOR'S STORY



Natalie\* experienced sexual abuse by her mother's boyfriend for many years as a child, as well as domestic violence in her own relationship in her early adulthood. When she was 20-years old, Natalie sought help, struggling with how to cope with the trauma she had experienced in healthy ways. She was introduced to art as a way to transform her life through the Windows program at the YWCA San Gabriel Valley domestic violence shelter, one of our partner organizations in California.

In creating this piece, Natalie shared that she decided to give herself permission to heal. She painted the home she grew up in, with rain in the window because she "felt that every day she woke up as a child was a bad day." The people represent her older self walking her younger self out on a path to healing.

Along with being able to share her history, emotions, and readiness to move forward in her life, Natalie learned to use art as a healthy coping strategy. She enthusiastically participated in multiple art groups and would hang her art on the walls of her room in the shelter. It became a release for her, allowing her to "get it out and breathe."

*\* Name changed to protect confidentiality*



# WELCOME


The training attendee who created this artwork shared, **"I am strong. I am resilient."** These words echo in our minds as we think about the turmoil and loss we experienced as individuals and in our communities in 2020 — trauma which cannot be underestimated or overlooked.

Last year also brought with it a reminder that by coming together, there is real power through our individual voices and collective action. This is the spirit that **A Window Between Worlds** has embodied for three decades, and that continues to be at the heart of our healing and advocacy work.

In 2020, our staff made it a priority to be there for others (see pages 6 & 7), just as many of you were there for us. Without our community of donors, foundations, and supporters championing the leadership of over 450 Windows Facilitators across the country, the critical work for which AWBW has become known could not have continued. Thank you.

While some are hoping to go back to normal, we prefer to go "Back to Better" — stronger and more resilient than ever before. As we take what we have learned and look toward the horizon, we invite you to use AWBW's art workshops (see [awbw.org/windowoftime](http://awbw.org/windowoftime)) to facilitate your own healing and transformation as we move forward together.

In gratitude,



Zachery Scott  
Executive Director



Stacia Kato  
Board Chair



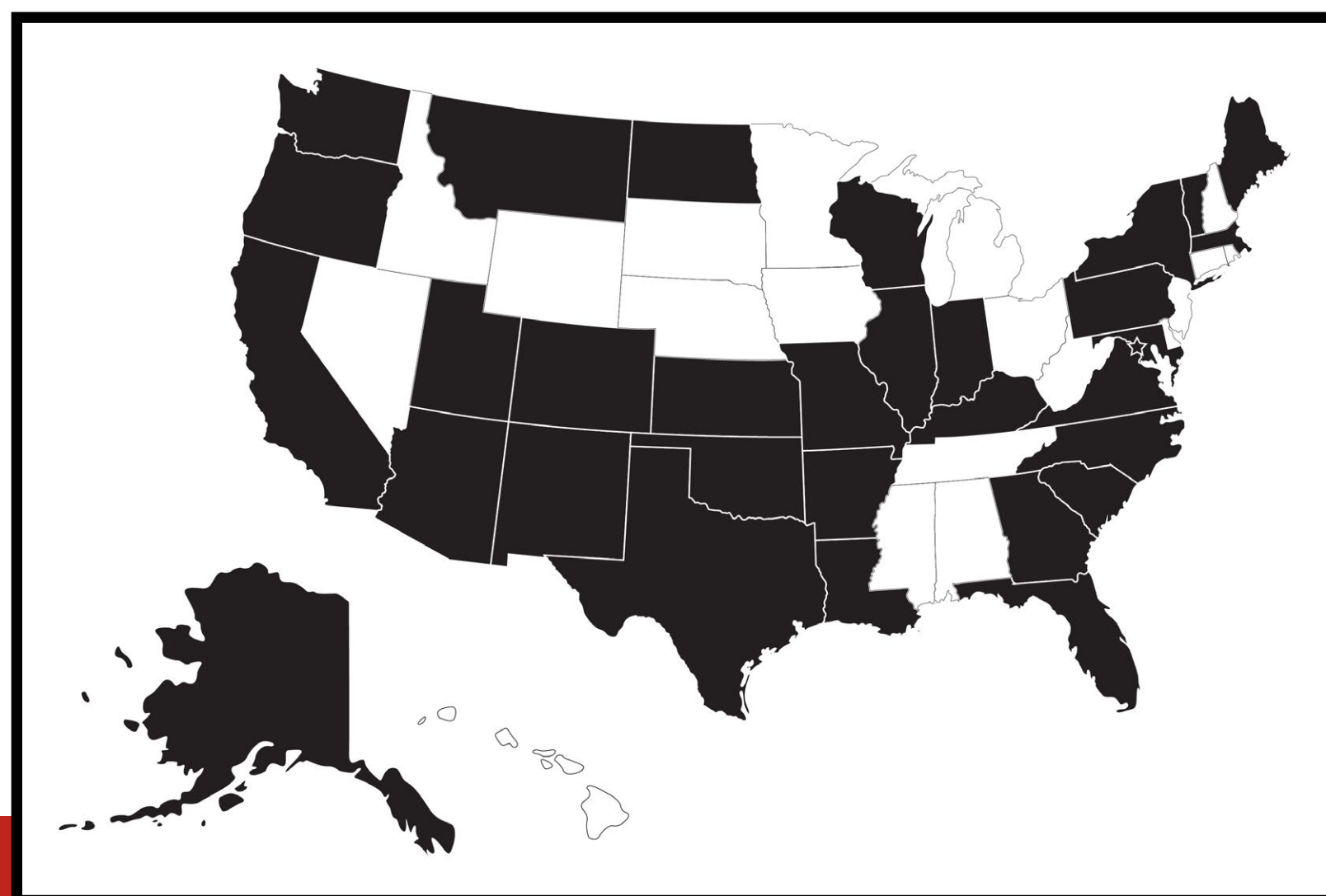
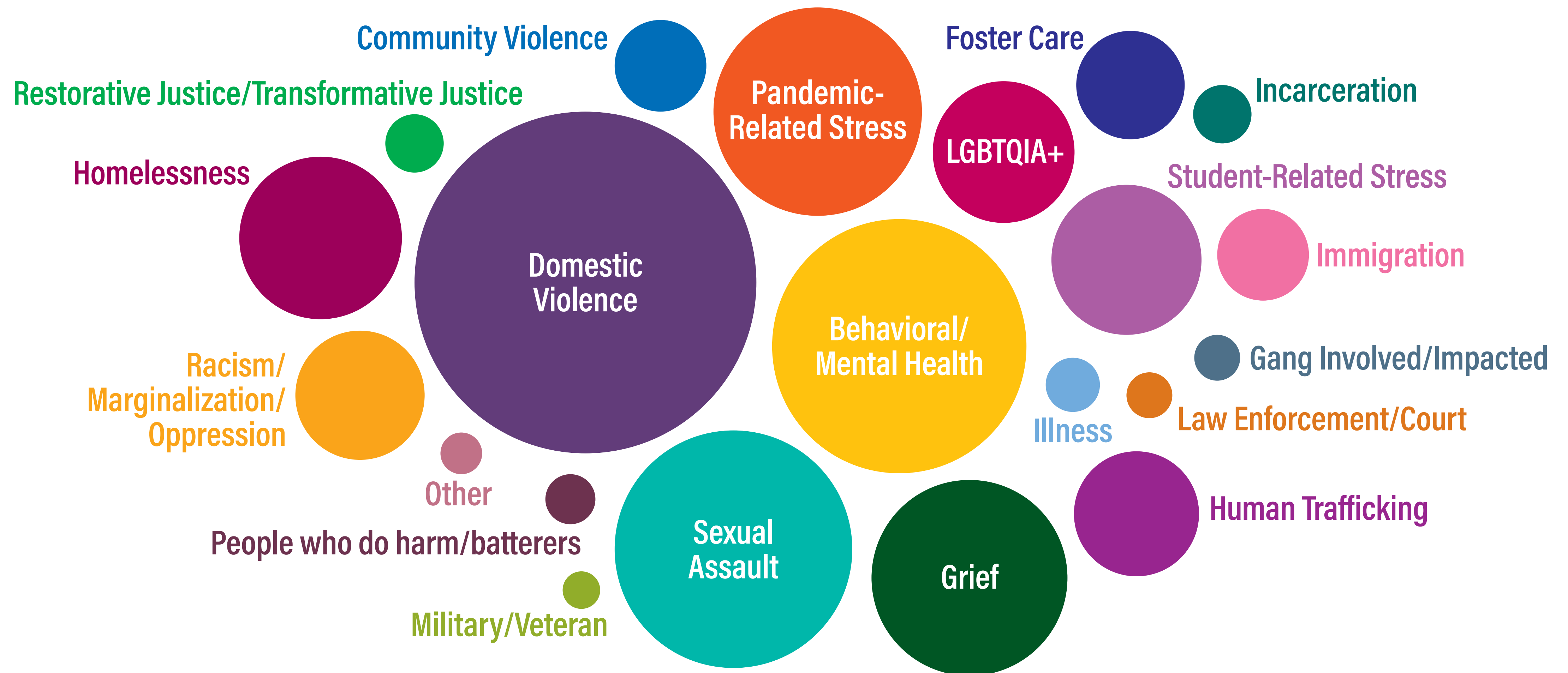
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# OUR REACH

Windows Facilitators offer support in the following areas:



**Our national and international presence continues to grow.**

In 2020, we partnered with organizations in 31 States and Washington, DC, as well as in Mexico, Pakistan, South Africa, and Venezuela.



# OUR 2020 IMPACT

— We supported — at —

**467**  
WINDOWS  
FACILITATORS

**247**  
PARTNERING  
ORGANIZATIONS

— who offered — to —

**7,171**  
ART WORKSHOPS

**39,048**  
PARTICIPANTS

Facilitators reported that the Windows Program helps...

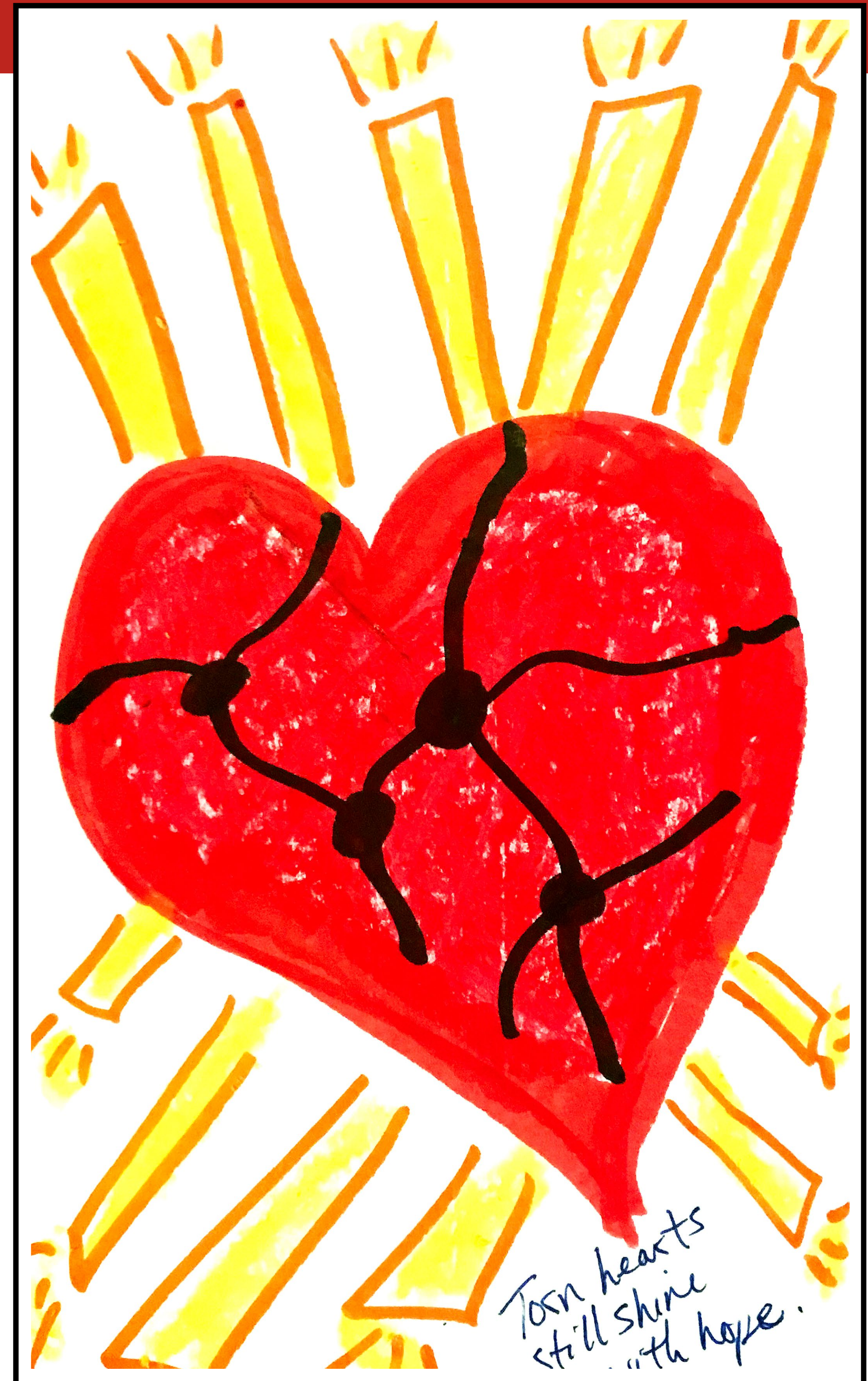
**97%**  
workshop  
participants feel  
more hopeful

**94%**  
with  
building  
resilience

**96%**  
to build and improve  
peer-to-peer  
relationships

**72%** of our program partners would not have any  
arts programming without AWBW's support

Art created by a 17-year-old in our "Heart Stories" workshop at Trauma Talks in Florida





# SUPPORTING OUR FACILITATORS IN 2020

# 232

## WINDOWS FACILITATORS WERE TRAINED

# 118

AT AWBW  
TRAININGS

# 114

BY COLLEAGUES THROUGH OUR  
TRAIN-THE-TRAINER MODEL



We offered — **3** —

**TWO-DAY  
VIRTUAL  
TRAININGS**

Includes presentations by licensed clinicians with discussions on trauma-informed care, cultural responsiveness, and more; plus six hands-on art workshops exploring the value of the creative process, safety, and connection.

and —

# 4

**FACILITATOR  
ENRICHMENT  
TRAININGS**

Free professional development opportunities on topics such as Adapting to Virtual Facilitation, Racial Trauma & Vicarious Resilience, and Wellness.

providing —

# \$183,350 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

We released —

# 10

plus —

# 43

**NEW ART WORKSHOPS TO  
OUR CURRICULUM OF OVER  
600 ACTIVITIES**

**ONE-PAGE ART WORKSHOP WORKSHEETS  
IN ENGLISH & SPANISH TO PROVIDE FOR  
ONLINE & LOW-BARRIER PARTICIPATION**



# SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

## “Window of Time” Workshop Series

As “Safer-at-Home” orders were put into place here in Los Angeles and across the country, we immediately began creating a series of self-led art workshops to support both children and adults in navigating the uncertainty and anxiety brought on by the global pandemic. These fun and intentional activities invite individuals to explore their experiences, feelings and needs, as well as communicate and connect with others, both directly within households and virtually with friends, family, and colleagues.

Download the 16 worksheets: [awbw.org/WindowOfTime](http://awbw.org/WindowOfTime)



Delivery to office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger to distribute to foster families and students



Distribution in collaboration with Cedars Sinai and Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin as part of their Back to School Support effort

## Mental Health Art Workbooks

With the invaluable support of the Cedars Sinai Hospital Foundation, we distributed over 2,500 workbooks, comprised of worksheets from our “Window of Time” Workshop Series and other creative resources, to families and communities throughout Los Angeles County.

In December, we facilitated an in-service training for 500 teachers and mental health professionals from Los Angeles Unified School District. All participants received a digital version of the workbook to share with their students.

Download the workbook: [awbw.org/ArtWorkbook](http://awbw.org/ArtWorkbook)



# CREATING A LEGACY

**A**rtist and educator, Sherrill Kahn, sees her own experiences reflected in A Window Between Worlds' model of using art as a tool for healing. She believes that **"art is a great bridge between people. It knocks down barriers. It's an introspective part of your game where you start drawing something that comes out of your head."**

Sherrill grew up very poor, and, as she shared with us, her *"father was bullied by his father. He was the least favorite, never getting any encouragement or love from his father, ever."* However, Sherrill saw art as a resource for transformation and empowerment, and as an adult dedicated her entire professional career as a high school art teacher to helping young people connect with themselves through creative expression.

In recent years, as Sherrill saw the overall tone and direction of our country shift towards vitriol and division, she became disheartened, saying, *"The hate seems to be taking over instead of the acceptance of others in our lives. **My wish is that the world would be at peace.**"* Never one to be disillusioned, Sherrill was inspired to look ahead, taking action towards supporting her vision of a healthier world for the next generation: **"That's why you have to think, 'where would I like this money to go?' "**

Sherrill has supported AWBW in a myriad of ways since 1992, including in-kind donations, monetary gifts, and being a founding member of AWBW's Legacy Society. Understanding the urgency of needed services for AWBW's participants, when it came time for Sherrill to downsize, she used a portion of the proceeds from the sale of her home to provide lasting support for AWBW's mission. She advanced AWBW \$100,000, the majority of the legacy gift she was intending to leave to our organization in her estate.

Laying the foundation for an AWBW endowment, this powerful gift will support AWBW's critical work of empowering survivors through art for thousands of survivors in the years to come. **Thank you Sherrill for your dedication, passion, and generosity.** We are honored to have you as part of the AWBW family.

*If you are able to join Sherrill in supporting the long term growth and stability of A Window Between Worlds by making or pledging a planned gift, contact us at [Legacy@awbw.org](mailto:Legacy@awbw.org) or 310.396.0317*



Cathy Salser, AWBW Founder, and Sherrill Kahn

***"You can't take it with you. It's the people you touch in your life along the way that will be the most important journey you ever take."***

—Sherrill Kahn, Artist & A Window Between Worlds Legacy Society Founding Member

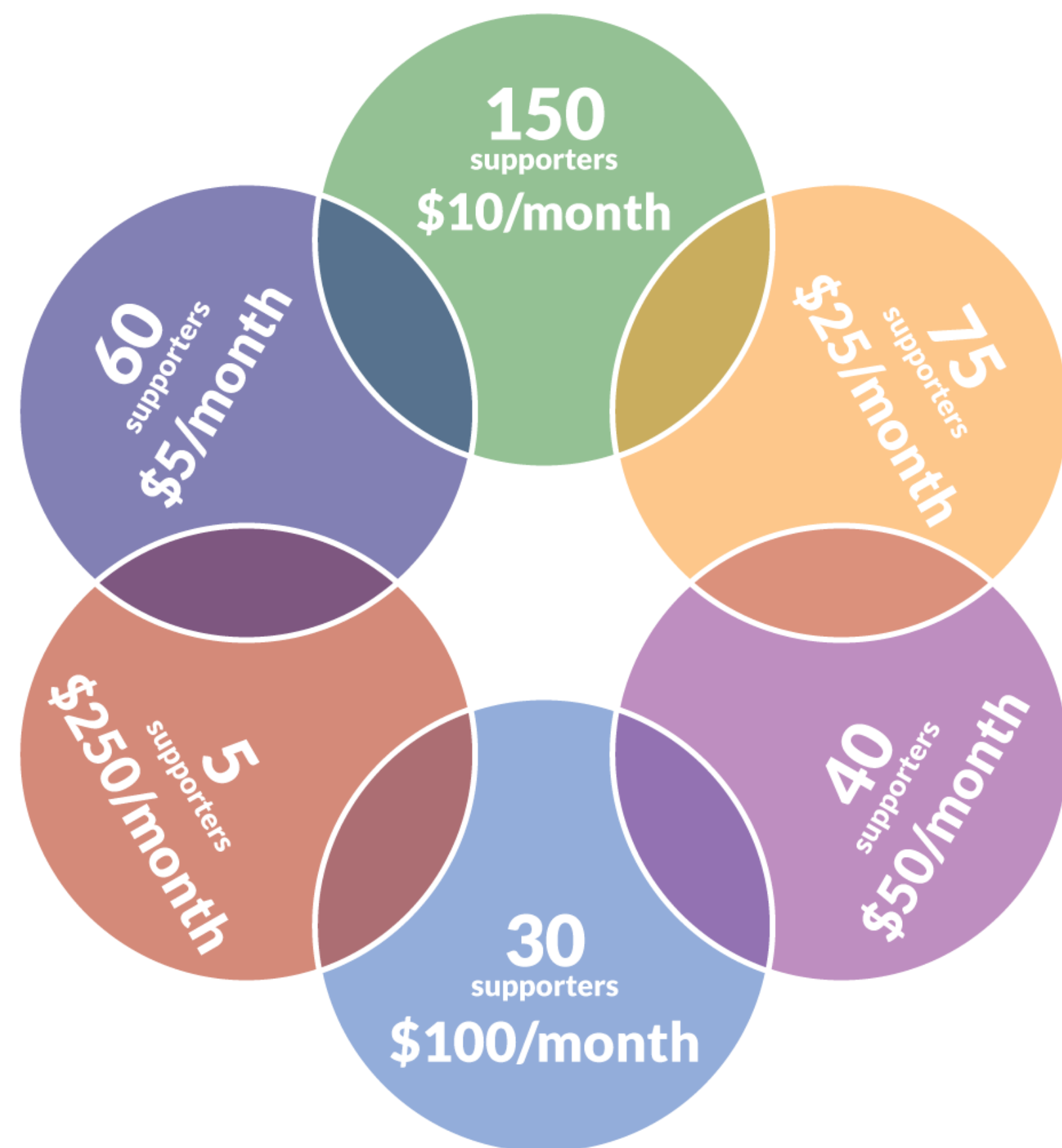


# SUSTAINED GIVING

## Join our Circle of 360

In celebrating AWBW's 30th Anniversary, we invite you to help us build a circle of 360 sustaining donors, propelling the next chapter of AWBW's impact. No matter the level of support, your recurring gift helps build the foundation for generations of healing.

## Help Us Meet Our Sustained Giving Goals!



To become a monthly donor, please visit [awbw.org/givemonthly](https://awbw.org/givemonthly). For other giving frequencies, such as quarterly or annually, contact us at [donate@awbw.org](mailto:donate@awbw.org) or 310.396.0317

## 2020 Sustaining Donors

|                                  |                          |                               |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Adam Miller                      | Gabriela Alexis Lopez    | Pascale Cardozo               |
| Allison Block                    | Genevieve Hannelius      | Peggy Diggs and Ed Epping     |
| Allison Edwards                  | Gretchen Hays            | Peter Tunney                  |
| Andrea Reibsamen and Steve Doyle | Heidi and James Gray     | Rachel Barchie                |
| Bethan Land                      | Jamie and Henry Escoto   | Rhonna Del Rio                |
| Bonnie and Mervyn Hecht          | Jamie Schiffer           | Robin Rea Scarborough         |
| Brian and Devin Cronin           | Jay Alexander Taylor     | Roxanne Mayo                  |
| Bruce Tyson                      | Katie and Kevin Cordano  | Sandra Briney                 |
| Carol and David Adler            | Kay Hudnall              | Sash Ramaswami                |
| Cathy Cudeck                     | Kim S. Thies             | Shannon Peterson              |
| Cathy Salser                     | Kimberly Cortner         | Shelley Frost                 |
| Christine Budzowski              | Kristin Hall             | Stacia Kato                   |
| Christine Lim                    | Kyle Kimmel              | Stephanie Molen               |
| Cindy McQuade and David Mayhan   | Letitia Quinn            | Sunny Bak                     |
| Cindy Theodosia                  | Lin Morel                | Sunny Cho                     |
| Courtenay Fletcher               | Lisa Remington           | Susan Bernardo                |
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| Debbie and David Yaskulka        | Maria Juarez             | Suvan and Steve Geer          |
| Debbie Eisenberg                 | Martha Estes             | Tami Pardee                   |
| Debra Nakatomi                   | Mary McThomas            | Teresa Smith                  |
| Deirdre Dietel                   | Michael and Rosalie Gotz | Tiffany Bright                |
| Dellis Frank                     | Nancy and Mike Mooslin   | Trini Nuñez                   |
| Eleanor Driver Post              | Natalie Coleman          | Wade Mueller                  |
| Elisa Perlman                    | Nicole Buffett           | Wesla B. Weller               |
| Francine and Roger Diamond       | Noreen Jenkins           | Winston Salser                |
|                                  |                          | Zachery Scott and Lior Hillel |



# 2020 DONORS

## Thank you for your belief in art transforming trauma.

### \$20,000+

Cedars-Sinai Hospital  
Foundation  
Dwight Stuart Youth Fund  
Elisa Perlman  
John Gogian Family  
Foundation  
Marisla Fund - OCCF  
Ralph M. Parsons Foundation  
Rose Hills Foundation  
Salser Family Foundation  
Sherrill Kahn

### \$10,000-\$19,999

Anonymous  
James C. Stewart Charitable  
Foundation  
Lenart Art Education  
Foundation  
Robin Rea Scarborough  
William & Charlene Glikbarg  
Foundation  
Willmas Charitable Trust

### \$2,500-\$9,999

Andrew and Shannon Watt  
Bianca Dobrikovic  
Cathy Salser  
City National Bank  
Daniel Miller  
Entravision  
Health Right 360  
In-N-Out Burger Foundation  
Joan Shoepke  
Joseph & Jaqueline Kirshbaum  
Memorial Fund  
Larry Layne and Sheelagh Boyd  
Marguerite O'Toole  
Michael Mason Foundation  
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Randy and Luke Dauchot  
Sherisa Dahlgren  
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Sunny Cho  
Tami Pardee  
Teri Carpenter  
Terry Ball  
Tom Stempel  
Susan and Winston Salser  
Yvonne Hsieh and David  
Schumacher

### \$500-\$2,499

Adam Miller  
Adrianne and Robert Zarnegin  
Alexis and Douglas MacIvor  
Alvarado Grant, LLC  
Amazon Smile  
Antoinette Bedolla  
Ariadne Kimberly Huque  
Beth Hope  
Bill Resnick  
Bobbie McMorrow  
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Cause Communications  
Celia Bernstein  
and Bradley Kesden  
Charities Aid Foundation  
of America  
David Loffredo  
David Moskowitz  
and Michelle Kelly  
Diane and Charles Hill  
Duncan Robertson  
Edison International Corporate  
Francine and Roger Diamond  
Graham Loper  
Heidi and James Gray  
Helmstetter Family Foundation  
Holthouse Carlin & Van Trigt  
(HCVT)

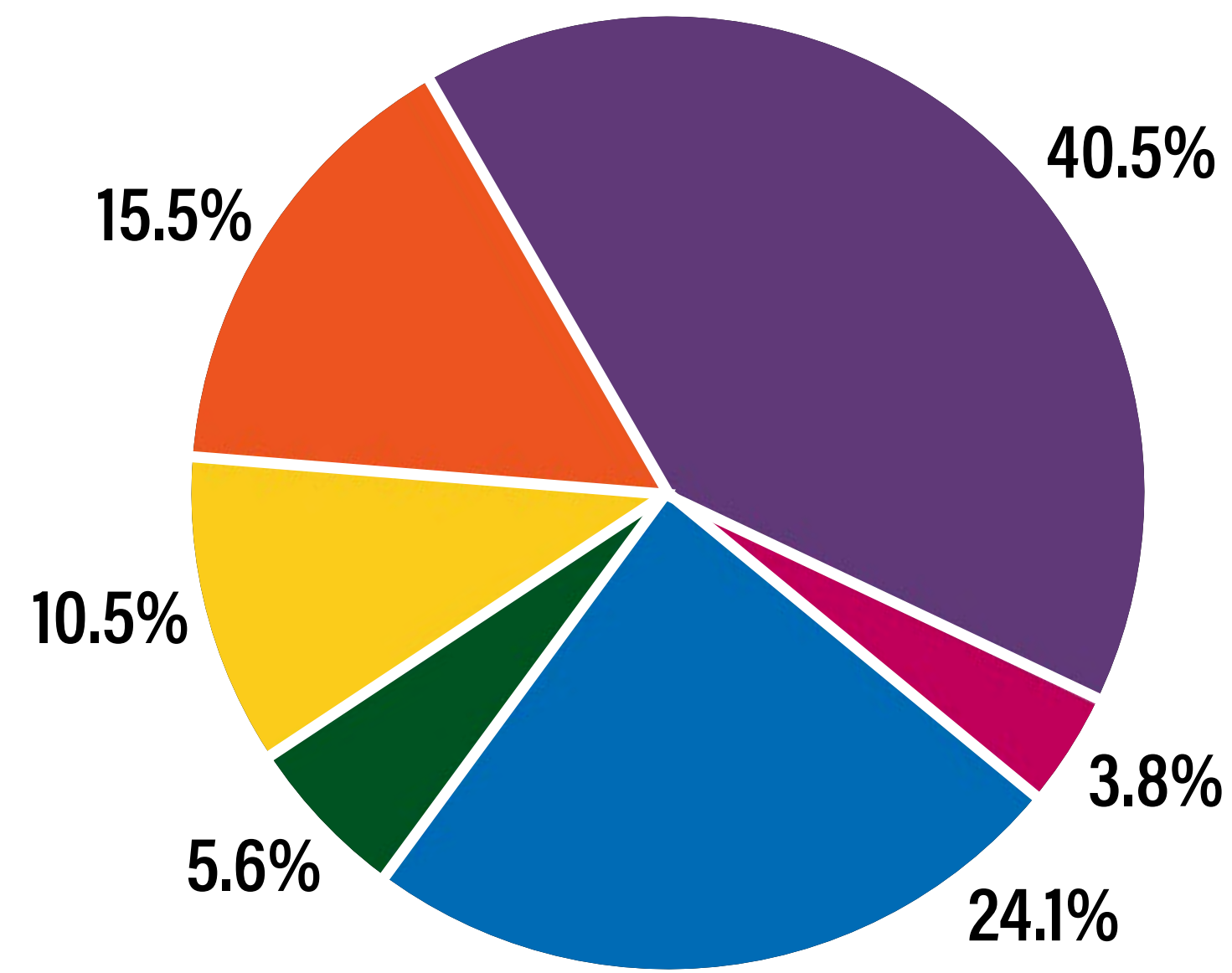
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Katie and Kevin Cordano  
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Longo Toyota / Longo Lexus  
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Maria Parra  
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Michael and  
Jennifer McDougall  
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Michael Marans  
and Terri Crystal  
Michael Spiegelman  
Nellie and Paul Newman  
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Nonprofits' Insurance Alliance  
of California  
Noreen Jenkins  
PayPal Giving Fund  
Probity International Corp  
Raul Alvarado  
Richard Beale  
Robert Wood Johnson  
Foundation  
Sara and Ben Stern  
Sophia Wisniewska  
Steve Laswell  
Steve Salser  
Susan Adelman  
Suvan and Steve Geer  
Suzanne Brogger  
Tara Shambaugh  
Tiffany Bright  
Zachery Scott and Lior Hillel



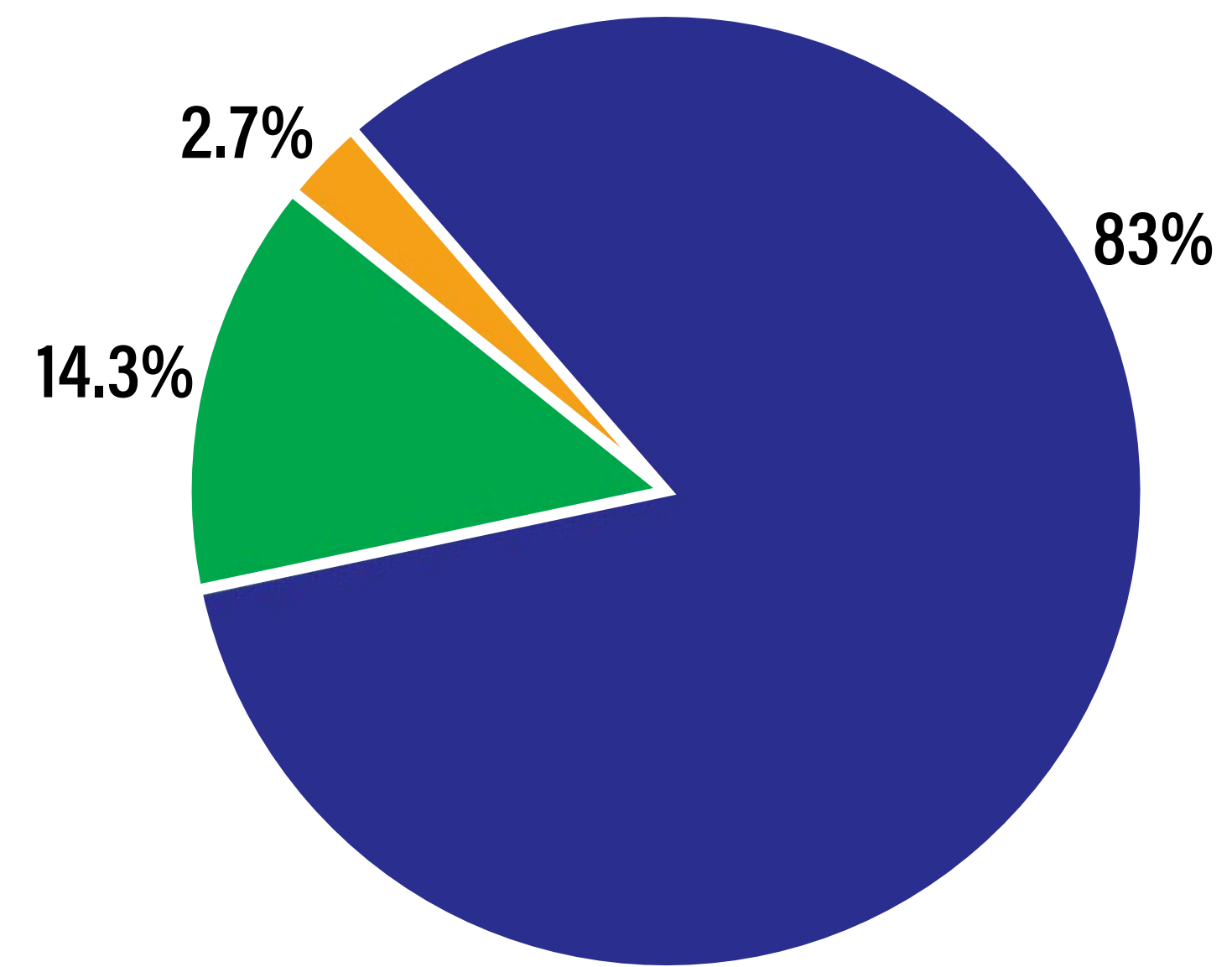
# 2020 FINANCIALS

## 2020 REVENUE



|                        | 2020               | 2019             |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Foundations            | 423,736            | 303,841          |
| Corporations           | 39,376             | 39,434           |
| Individuals            | 251,727            | 94,004           |
| Special Events         | 58,259             | 26,935           |
| Program Fees           | 110,364            | 23,064           |
| Other                  | 161,707            | 3,569            |
|                        | <u>\$1,045,169</u> | <u>\$490,847</u> |
| Revenue: 113% Increase |                    |                  |

## 2020 EXPENSES



|                        | 2020             | 2019               |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Program Services       | 685,054          | 990,696            |
| General & Admin.       | 118,115          | 234,670            |
| Fundraising            | 22,666           | 172,496            |
|                        | <u>\$825,835</u> | <u>\$1,397,862</u> |
| Expenses: 41% Decrease |                  |                    |

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS: \$847,561**



# ARTWORK BY YOUNG PARTICIPANTS

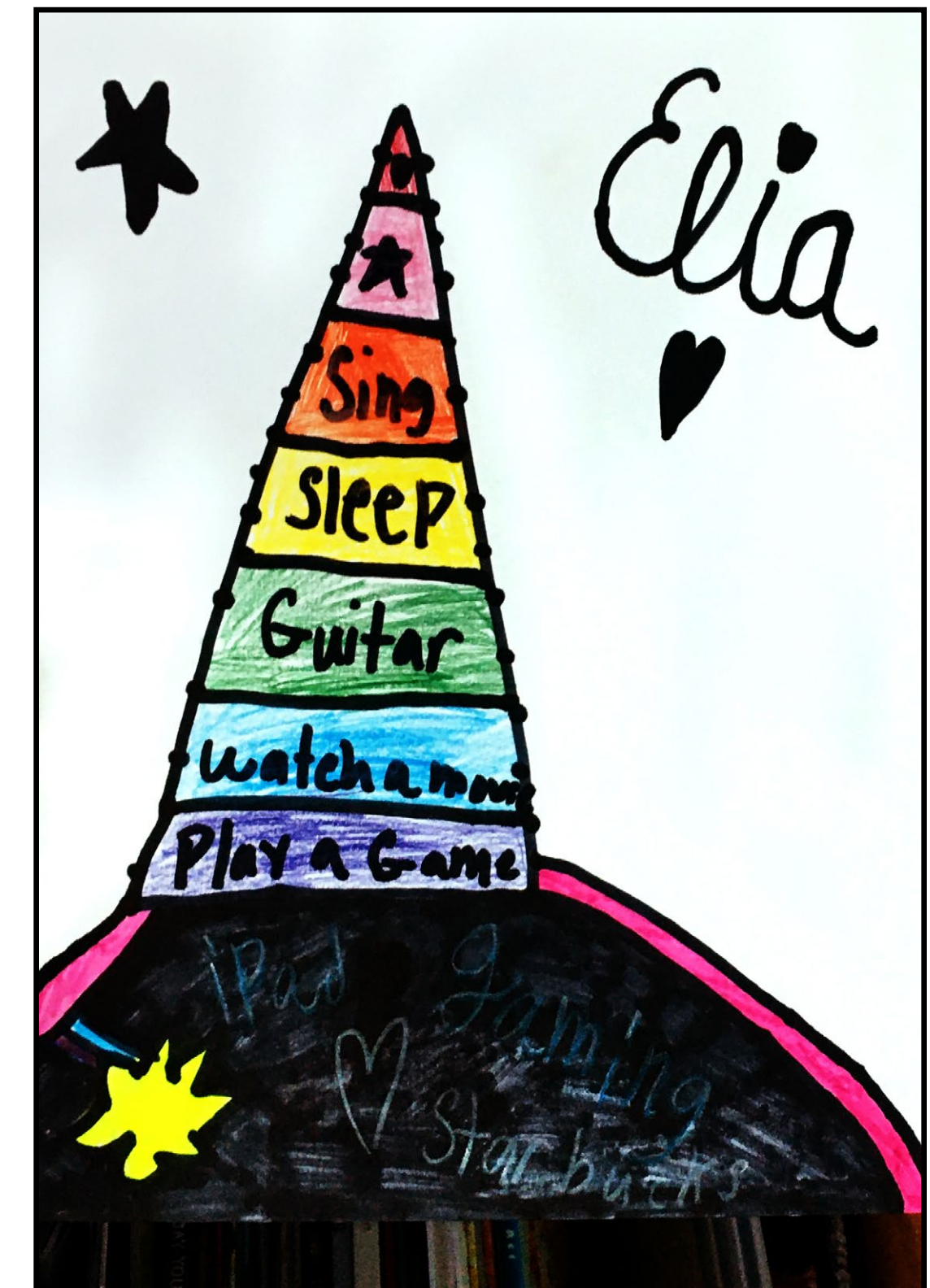


***"We don't always have to be tough on the outside. We can be vulnerable too."***

"Inside/Outside" Workshop, 16-year-old  
Orange County Probation Department,  
California



"What is Love?" Workshop, 8-year-old  
Committee Against Domestic Abuse, Minnesota



"Personal Needs Animal" Workshop  
The Out-of-Door Academy, Florida



"Sun Kisses, Moon Hugs" Workshop  
Prevail, Indiana



# ARTWORK BY ADULT PARTICIPANTS



"Intuition Collage" Workshop  
The Willow Domestic Violence Center, Kansas



Just Detention International, South Africa



"My Footprints" Workshop  
Alas, California



*"At first I was ashamed and embarrassed. I thought I was the only one feeling this way, but now I have nothing to be ashamed of."*

"Clothesline Project" Workshop  
Jewish Family Service, California



# A BUTTERFLY JOURNEY



Throughout 2020, AWBW founder Cathy Salser and our program partner Just Detention International collaborated with incarcerated women and staff at two prisons in South Carolina on a project called #PrisonersToo. Choosing the butterfly as a symbol of rebirth from trauma, the women created murals to anchor communication, connection and transformation, inviting others in the prisons to contribute their own butterflies of healing.

With staff, the women have co-created new practices, including daily journaling and weekly butterfly gatherings that are making a profound impact in both the lives of the participants and the culture of these institutions.

The project is also beginning to explore ways of inviting inside/outside connection. In the words of one South Carolina Department of Corrections Administrator, ***"This project is about understanding that people have trauma. We all feel pain, and there's another way to do corrections. I see this as a method of change, really."***

***"People who are incarcerated live with so much trauma. But the art workshops help them process difficult feelings – and create a space where they feel safe enough to embark on a path to healing."***

–Linda McFarlane, Executive Director, Just Detention International



# CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

From the beginning, a circle of connected innovation — comprised of each facilitator, supporter, staff, board member, and survivor — has created A Window Between Worlds.

As we celebrate 30 years of art transforming trauma, we invite you to join us in both honoring the talents that have brought our work this far and carrying that work into a sustainable future.



## Join us in taking action through our 30th Anniversary initiatives:

### UPLIFTING VOICES

[awbw.org/upliftingvoices](https://awbw.org/upliftingvoices)

Create compensated leadership & co-facilitation opportunities

Facilitator spotlight videos

Peer-to-peer check-ins

Program leadership groups

Virtual art & resource gallery

### CENTERING SOCIAL JUSTICE

[awbw.org/socialjustice](https://awbw.org/socialjustice)

Creation of training scholarships for social justice organizations

Creation of Facilitator anti-racism group

A more proactive search for BIPOC talent at staff, leadership & board levels

### EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY

[awbw.org/sustainability](https://awbw.org/sustainability)

Development of a virtual, on-demand training model

Expanded avenues of communication between donors & programs

Cultivation of a strong & sustained donor base

Transforming Trauma Tree by AWBW Founder Cathy Salser: This piece was created to anchor Touchstone Journey as collaborative resource dedicated to transforming legacies of trauma that ripple generations back and touch generations forward.



# THANK YOU!

**W**e are so grateful for all of our Windows Facilitators, Program Partners, donors, funders, and the community for helping AWBW thrive in 2020.

We invite you to continue supporting the stability of the Windows Program by becoming a sustaining donor today at **[awbw.org/givemonthly](https://awbw.org/givemonthly)**.

*Thank you for a such a special year!*

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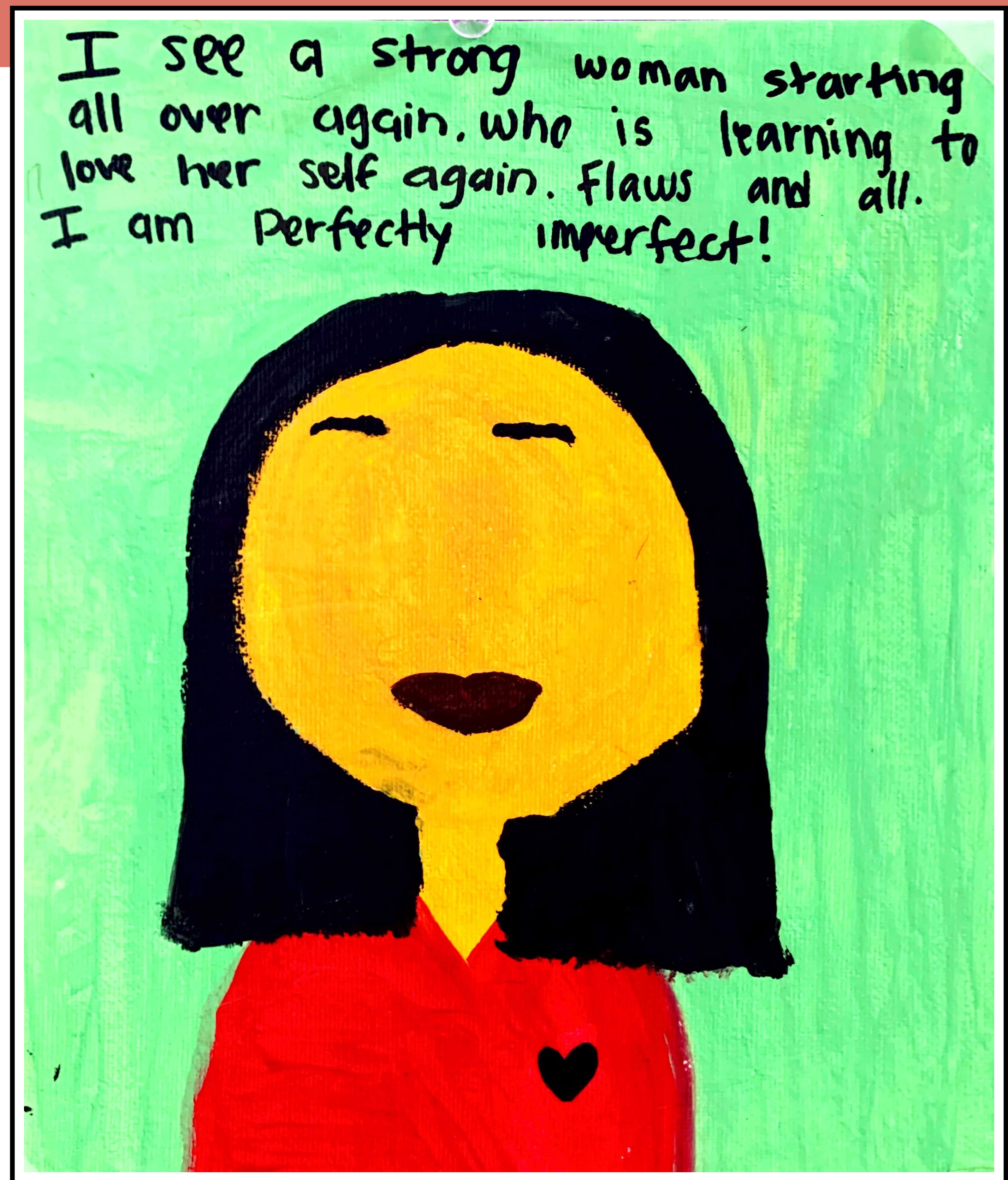
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Art created in our "Self-Nurture Portait" workshop at Jewish Family Service in California