

Creating Connection



2022 IMPACT REPORT / **AWBW** art transforming trauma
A WINDOW BETWEEN WORLDS

Welcome!



As the Executive Director of A Window Between Worlds (AWBW), I am proud to share with you our 2022 Impact Report on this year's theme, “**Connection.**” When we feel connected, we feel supported, loved, and valued. Yet, true connection is not always easy; it can feel risky to be vulnerable enough to welcome others into our world, and to be open enough to be seen and accepted for all we are. This vulnerability does not happen in a vacuum — it requires trust and safety.

The rewards of connection built through this level of vulnerability are immense. It helps dissipate isolation and loneliness. Connection empowers us to build deep, authentic relationships with others and gain a deeper love and acceptance of our own self.

It is this belief in the power of connection that remains the cornerstone of AWWB's programs, methodology, and approach to supporting an individual's journey towards healing & growth. Our national network of Facilitators are trained to create a safe environment where survivors can explore and practice healthy vulnerability in community. In doing so, we provide a valuable **Window of Time** for each participant to reconnect with their inner wisdom, and rebuild trust — with themselves and with others.

As we reflect back on the incredible growth AWWB experienced in 2022, I invite you to join me and explore the ways in which connection may grow and transform in your life. Together let's reconnect with one another and ourselves in a new way, knowing that each authentic connection we experience is helping to make the world a more safe, just, and welcoming place for us all.



“Windows of Connection” / Zachery Scott

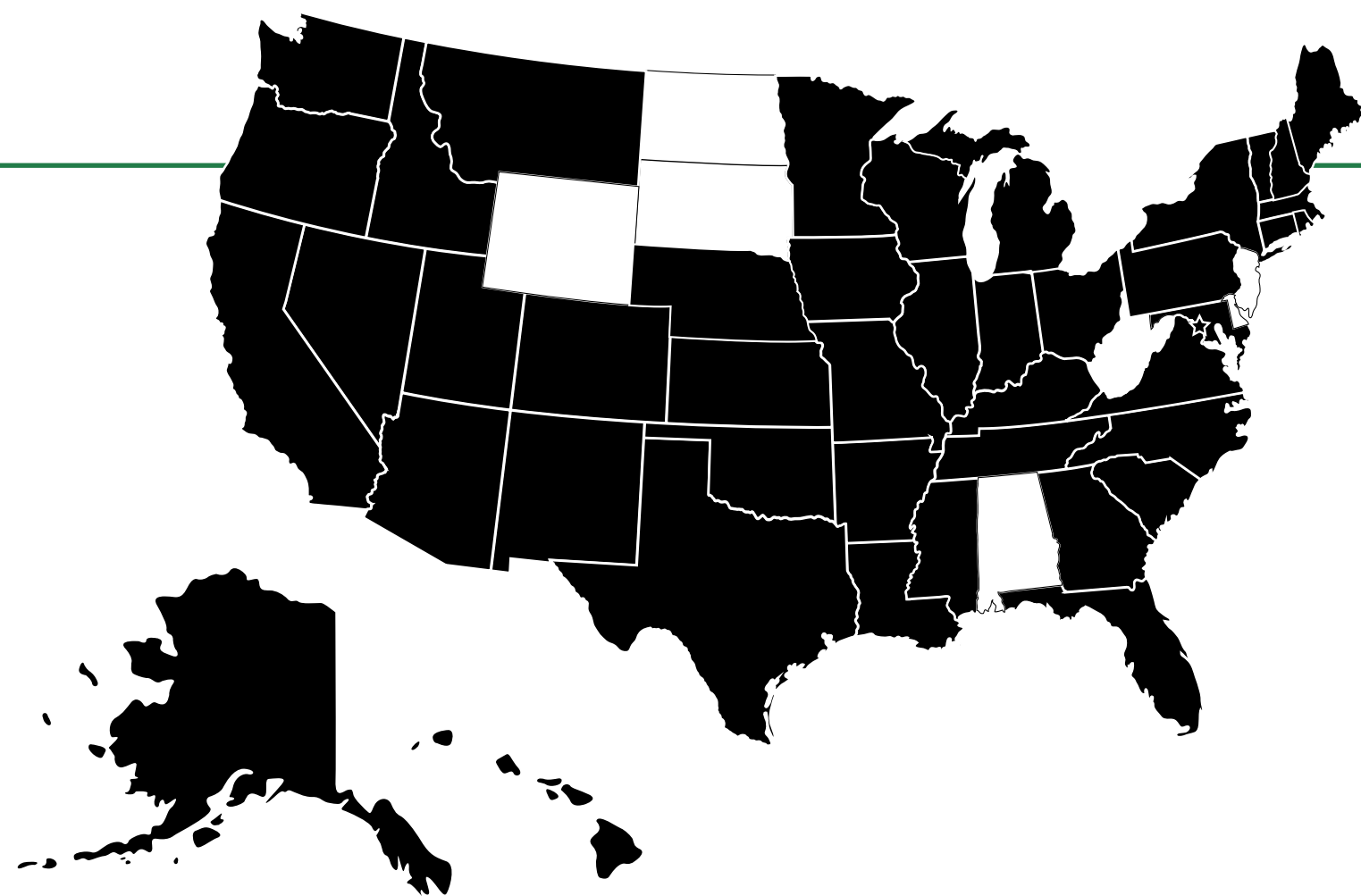
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachery Scott".

Zachery Scott
Executive Director

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Windows Facilitators support participants with these life experiences:



In 2022, the Windows Program continued to grow. We partnered with **375 organizations** spanning 43 states, Washington, DC, and five countries — Dominican Republic, Mexico, Pakistan, South Africa, and Venezuela — an 18% increase from 2021.

Our 2022 Impact



"Windows of Connection" / Rose Curtis, AWBW's Survivors' Art Circle Facilitator

468 FACILITATORS TRAINED
Virtual / In Person / On Demand

We supported

907 FACILITATORS
a 19% Increase from 2021!

who worked with

76,000+ PARTICIPANTS
a 26% Increase from 2021!

Windows Facilitators reported that art workshops help participants...

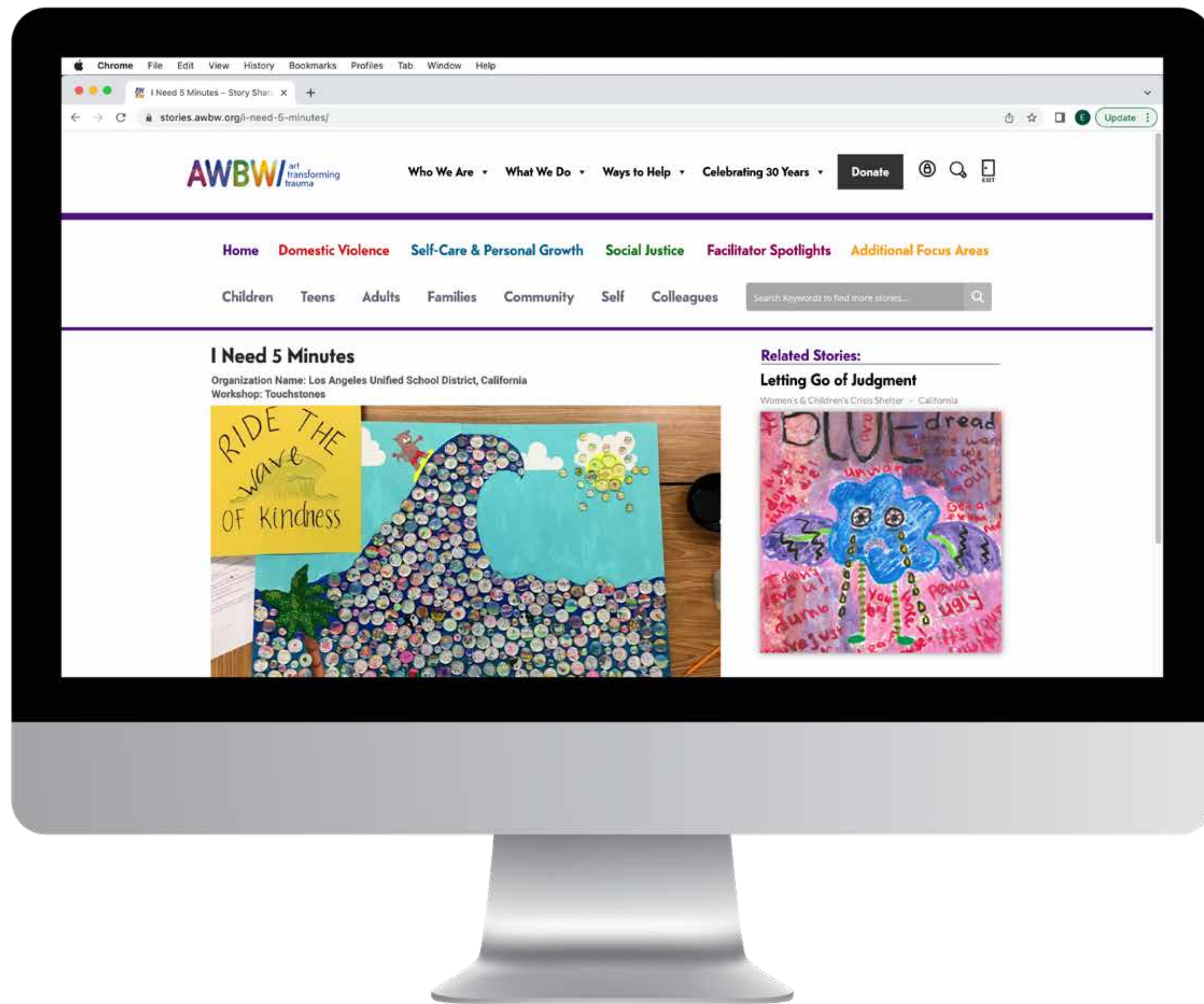
92% BUILD RESILIENCE **91%** FEEL MORE POSITIVE ABOUT THEIR FUTURE

“ I have never seen so much engagement from students — all it took was art for them to connect and actually listen to each other’s conversations.

Faculty Member, Rialto Unified School District, California

Connecting with Your Impact: Story Share

We invite you to explore stories.awbw.org



Made possible by: THE AHMANSON FOUNDATION

To better connect you with the impact you support, we're pleased to announce **Story Share**, our new digital library showcasing the innovations of how our healing arts curriculum is used, spanning multiple sectors and populations.

Discover a wide range of stories, by issue and population, including:

- **Facilitator Spotlights**
- **Survivor Stories**
- **Social Justice Work**
- **Domestic Violence**
- **Self-Care & Personal Growth**
- **And more...**

“

In the workshop, I connected deeply to myself and created poetry and art that will help me remember who I am.

*Windows Participant,
Alternatives for
Battered Women,
New York*

Cultivating Leadership: Social Justice Fellows

By empowering community-led solutions, our Social Justice Fellowship Program cultivates the leadership and lived experience of participants to innovate collective art actions in communities across the country and abroad. These leaders use art to engage their communities, work with AWBW staff to bring forward their learnings and experiences to co-create valuable resources that can benefit our community of Facilitators and the public at large.



Art Williams
The Arts Campus at Willits,
Colorado



Celeste Estrada
Washington State University
GEAR UP Program



Christina Kataoka
Asian Pacific American Dispute
Resolution Center, California



Christina Montalvo
Strong Women Healing Their
Community, California



Dawn Garrido, LMFT
Age Wise, Department of Aging
and Adult Services, California



Greta McClain
Silent No Longer Tennessee,
Tennessee



Hannah Nofsinger
Oklahoma Dept of Human Services,
Developmental Disability Services



Jamila Cervantes
Just Detention International,
California



Jessica Huerta
Coalition For Humane Immigrant
Rights, California



Kaitlyn Zollin
Riverside County Office of
Education/Cal-SOAP, California



Marisela Hernandez
Bethel Park Elementary,
Indiana

Learn more about
our 2023 program
and submit your
application by
May 31st, 2023 at

awbw.org/sjaip

Sustaining Action: Durational Art

At the heart of both individual and social change, we are called to find ways to "own" our leadership. As a **Durational Art incubator**, AWBW's aim is to foster space for innovation and build practices that invite everyone to explore how art can:

- empower us to crystalize our wishes for change;
- offer a path to creative, sustained action over time; and
- become a key to connection with ourselves and others.

See examples and find inspiration for your journey at awbw.org/durationalart



"Wings Against Hate" Community Art Action Day / November 19, 2022 / Venice Beach, California / #wingsagainsthate

Windows is proud to have partnered with Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center for "Wings Against Hate," an art activation launched to break isolation and build community in the face of ongoing and increasing acts of hate.

Fundraising w/ Heart: Home Is Where the Art Is

Our annual “Home Is Where the Art Is” fundraiser invited guests to experience how Windows participants use creative expression to support their journeys toward healing. We honored three incredible individuals for embodying and advancing our mission. They share their connections to AWBW in a video at awbw.org/2022honorees

Eydie Pasicel, Program Director at Pathways to Independence and Windows Facilitator, led the workshop, welcoming attendees to create art representing strengths they want to connect to, launching our “Windows of Connection” workshop series. Learn more at awbw.org/connect

Thanks to our individual and corporate sponsors, those in attendance, and all who donated, we raised over \$60,000 in support of our nationwide network of Facilitators and the tens of thousands of trauma survivors they serve each year.

2022 "Home Is Where the Art Is" Honorees:



**Transforming Trauma
Award**

Stacia Kato
Windows Facilitator &
AWBW Board Chair



**Rooting Resilience
Award**

Sally Stevens, MSW, PPS
Windows Facilitator,
LA Unified School District



**Uplifting Voices
Award**

Kim Cummings
Program Sponsor,
Survivors' Art Circle

Special Thanks:



**CAPITAL
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“

*I did not
know
that
through
art I
could
connect
with my
soul.*

*Windows
Participant, North
County Rape
Crisis and Child
Protection Center,
California*

Major Donors

Thank you for being participants in weaving this fabric of change

\$50,000+

Ahmanson Foundation
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Elisa Perlman*
Salser Family Foundation

Entravision
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Ingrid Lilligren
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Sara Neff
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Jason Price
Bill Resnick
Richard & Taylor Beale Family Fund Liberty Hill*
Douglas Rosen
Winston Salser*
Lyne Scott
Michael Spiegelman
Kim S. Thies*
Bruce Tyson*
Deirdre Wallace
Leonard Wechsler
Arlene Weinstock

\$10,000–\$49,999

Capital Group
Gary Saltz Foundation
Google Social Impact
In-N-Out Burger Foundation
Los Angeles County Arts Commission
Robin Rea Scarborough*
Willmas Charitable Trust

\$500–\$2,499

Beth Abronson
Brooke Ackerly and Bill Zinke
Matthew and Gail Adamo
Anonymous*
Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California

\$2,500–\$9,999

Terry Ball
Celia Bernstein and Bradley Kesden
Lisa Caine
Kim Cummings
Randy and Luke Dauchot*
Pam and George Douglas

** Sustaining Donor*

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Kimberly and Bill Brzeski		Gretchen Hays*	Janice Long			

* Sustaining Donor

Donor Story: Jamie Escoto

As many supporters of AWBW do, Jamie Escoto has incorporated art into her own life in ways she never expected. We hope Jamie's story inspires you to connect with your own story and others in your community.



Building a Better World

“I believe in the power of art to heal, transform, and affect change. I realize that's a bold statement for a self-proclaimed non-artist; but through the nearly two decades since being introduced to Windows, I've turned to art for help. And it's changed my life.

My **Me Doll** brought me solace as I battled depression through a particularly dark time. I created **Justice Journey Jars** to guide tough conversations with my five-year-old son about race and racism. I discovered with my **Durational Mural** that I needed to prioritize myself and my family, resulting in a new job and a happier, healthier me.

Relationship Reset Stones gave me patience with my mom, who has had a difficult time accepting my brother's sexuality. **Family Gratitude Puzzle** gave them a platform to acknowledge and appreciate their love for each other after over two years of silence.

I've even used art to honor my father, who I lost to lung cancer, adapting AWBW's **Puzzle Re(Connection)** workshop to unite volunteers, staff, researchers, and doctors in the *American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network's* movement to support those facing cancer.

Through AWBW, art has helped me build a better, stronger me. And now I'm using art to build a better world.”

— Jamie Escoto, Windows Donor & Board Emeritus

Survivor Story: Pamela

Finding Freedom

“I am a domestic violence and sexual assault survivor who had many people help me along the way to freedom, as I call it. I feel that those connections and experiences along with healing and art are the “invisible threads that connect us.”

I drew the fireplace because it represents a symbol of safety and warmth. When I was small I went to Cracker Barrel with my family on a rare restaurant visit and remember feeling so safe looking at the fireplace. When my girls were small, and I was still in a bad situation, we started going to Cracker Barrel for breakfast as a place to get away, and we still go together today. It’s still a place of warmth and safety for me and now, them.

Ten years ago I could barely speak or look at people, let alone imagine my dreams could come true. Having the experiences in my DV group along with my peers helped me heal so much and I get to watch not only me but also my friends follow and achieve our dreams. One of my dreams was to get an AWBW certification. These experiences have led me to facilitate AWBW healing art both for DV peers in my group as well as for my pre-K students since many have also been affected by trauma.”

— Pamela, Visual Art Consultant at CT-ALIVE, Survivor, and Windows Facilitator

“

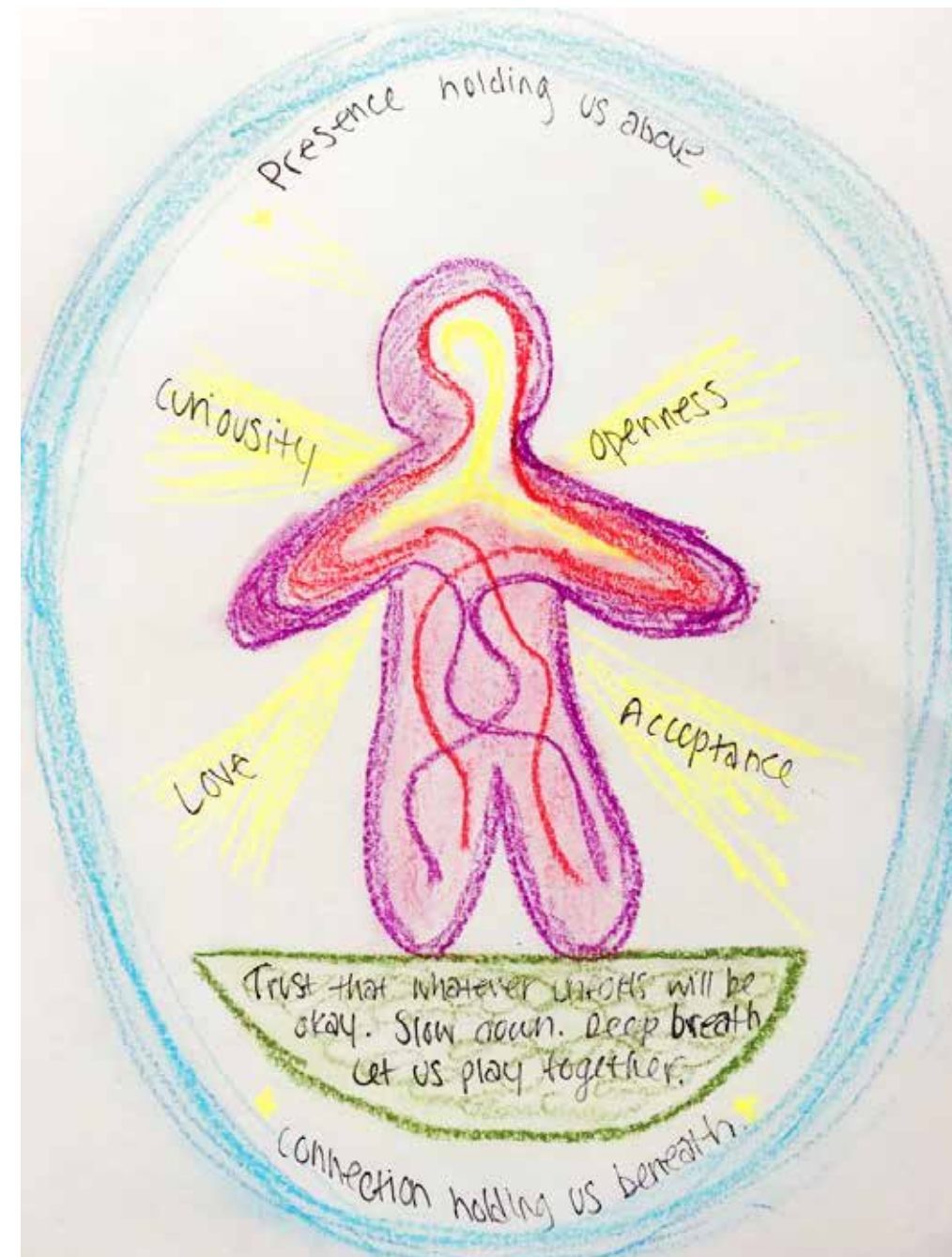
It’s amazing to me how powerful AWBW’s healing arts programs are.



Windows Program Artwork



“Claiming Who I Am” / Training Attendee /
The Nest, Kentucky



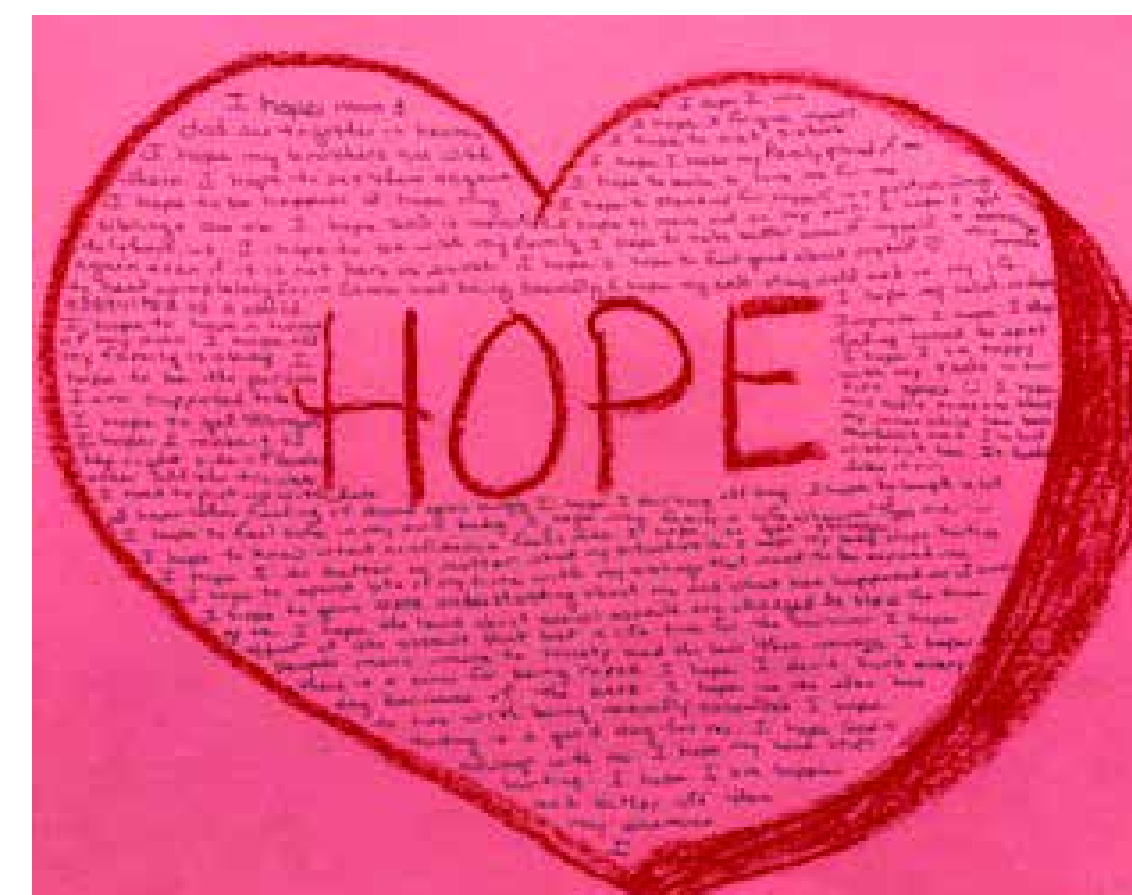
“Facilitator in Me” / Windows
Facilitator / Between Friends, Illinois



"Community Story Tree" / A Greater Hope, California



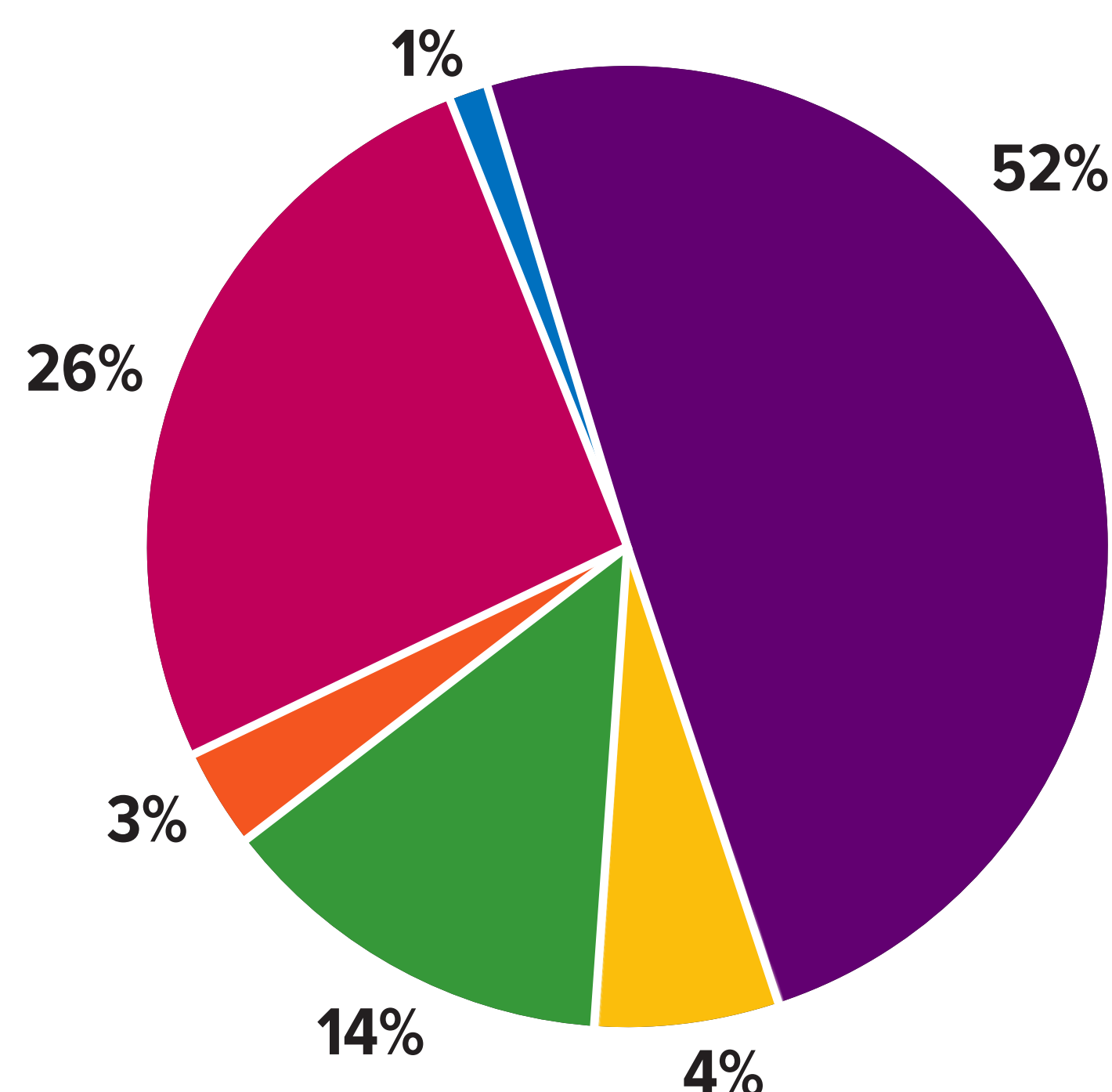
"Crowning Achievements" / 10-year-old Participant / Prevail, Indiana



"Befriending Your Feelings" / Survivor & Participant / Tides of Change, Oregon

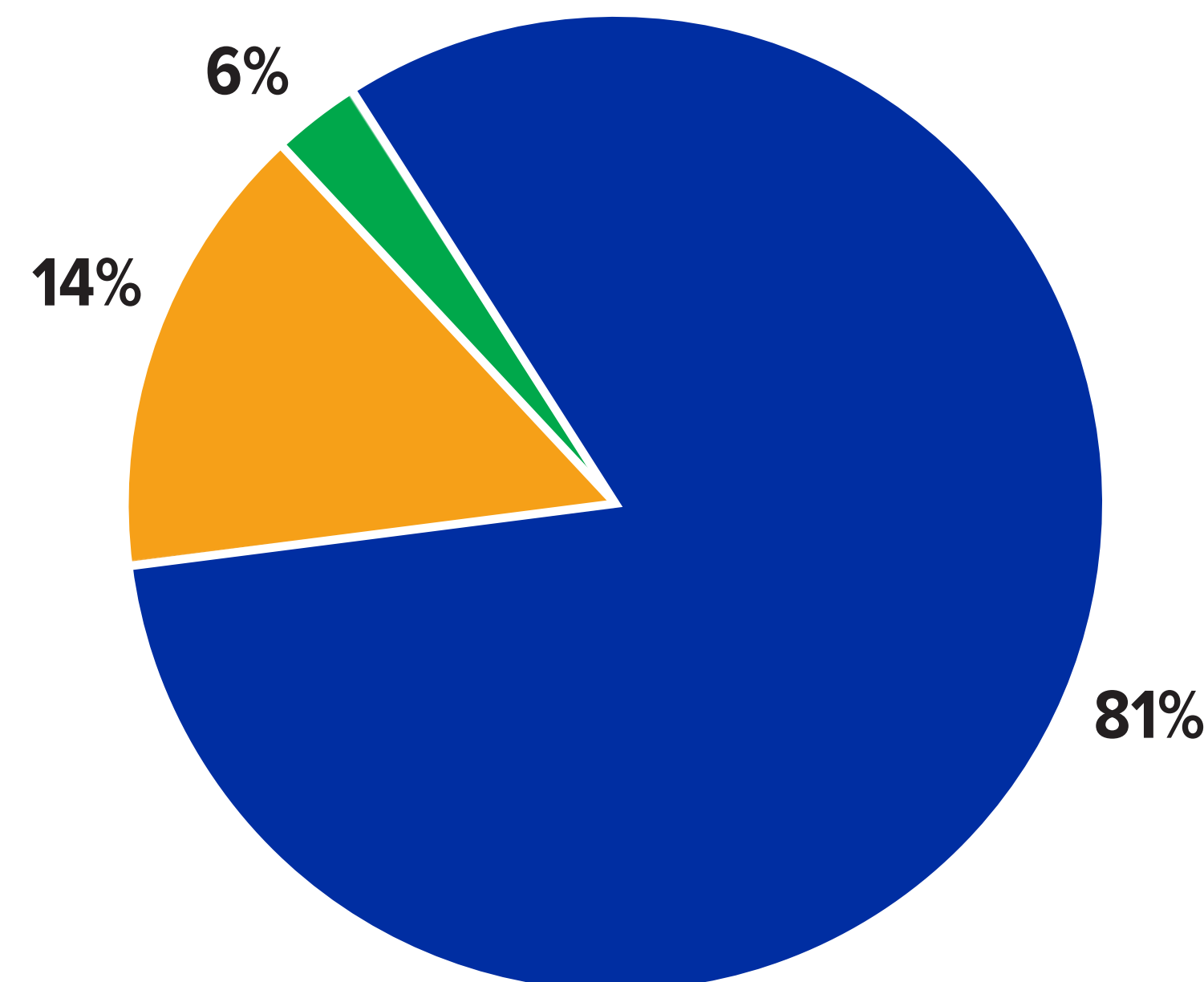
2022 Financials

2022 REVENUE



	2022	2021
Foundations & Gov't	725,000	398,050
Corporations	49,752	81,830
Individuals	189,646	284,195
Special Events	39,907	45,750
Program Fees	361,790	304,544
Other	19,445	189,781
	\$1,385,540	\$1,304,150

2022 EXPENSES



	2022	2021
Program Services	977,366	762,091
General & Admin.	174,669	139,534
Fundraising	62,517	25,208
	\$1,214,552	\$926,833

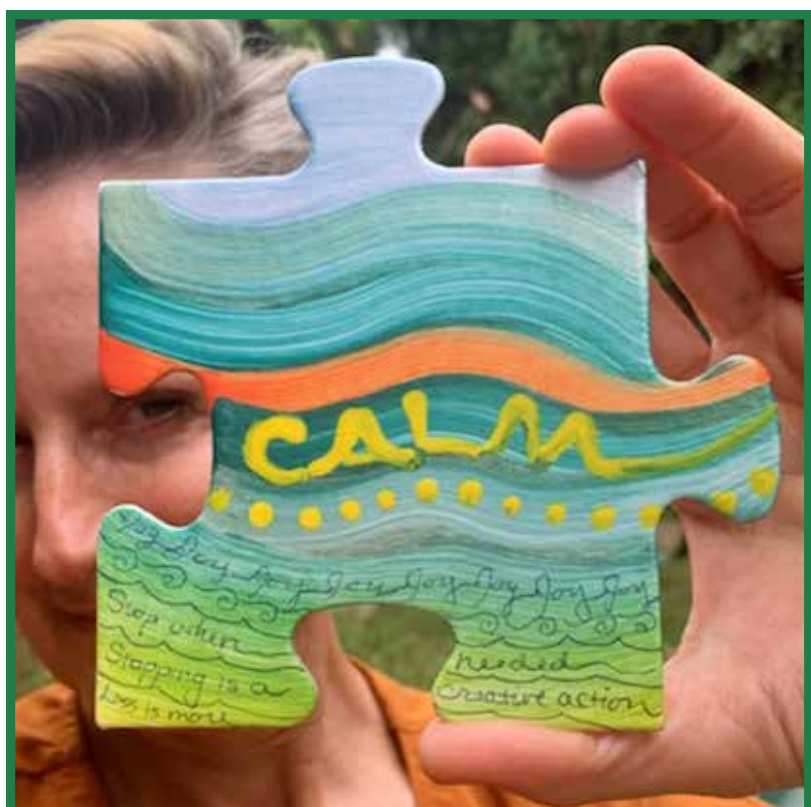
Financials above are audited.

“

There will never be another group like this. This was the first group where I felt like I had choices and that my story mattered.

*Heart Stories
Workshop
Participant,
Just Detention
International,
South Africa*

Thank You!



“Windows of Connection”
Top to Bottom: Trini Nuñez,
Windows Facilitator / Cathy
Salser, AWBW Founder /
Rudy Hernandez, Windows
Program Director

On behalf of our Windows Facilitators and workshop participants, the staff and Board of AWBW thank you for believing in art as a resource to anchor strength, voice, and power to move toward transformation and healing. Your support is an investment in our capacity to meet the growing need for our programs, and will have a lasting impact beyond anything we can imagine today.

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Our Mission & Vision

A Window Between Worlds is dedicated to empowering individuals and communities impacted by violence and trauma through a transformative healing arts program.

We view art as a catalyst to release trauma, build resilience, and ignite social change. When individuals create art in a safe community they can be heard and respected — replacing violence and shame with safety and hope.



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Los Angeles, CA 90007

310-396-0317 • [AWBW.org](https://www.awbw.org)



"Windows of Connection" / Melissa Guzman, Windows Facilitator / YWCA San Gabriel Valley, CA