Spring 2015 Updates

Brighter Beginnings Family Health Clinics

This year, Brighter Beginings received our license to operate primary care clinics at our Richmond & Antioch locations. The Brighter Beginnings Family Health Clinics have provided over 2,400 appointments to over 820 individual patients since opening. Since our clinics are located in the same facilities that house our social services, our clients are able to meet many of their needs in the same visit. Our staff currently includes doctors, nurses, and family nurse practitioners as well as providers through a preceptorship partnership with Samuel Merritt University. By integrating medical care with our social programs, we are able to remove barriers to medical care and reach better outcomes with our patients. One of our newest initiatives co-located with our Antioch Family Health Clinics is “Bright Start”, a program designed to facilitate African American clinic usage in the Antioch area through health education and community outreach.

In Richmond, we have renovated our building to become a full-service medical clinic and social services center by adding intake rooms, a new exam room, and a receptionist space, along with a newly painted exterior and new signage to promote our medical services.

Organizational Updates

In recent months we have hired new medical providers, and reorganized our social services to directly interface with the our new clinics. This effort has increased the management capacity of our social programs and our clinics, and resulted in higher standards for care quality assurance. We are now implementing a new outcome-tracking method called Results Based Accountability (RBA) which tracks the social return of our work to help keep our efforts outcome-oriented and data-driven. In our last fiscal year, we served 4,700 clients, a 60% increase from the previous year, and as we expand into providing clinical services in the medically-underserved areas where we operate, we anticipate that this number will grow dramatically.
In the News: Fatherhood, AB302, and More

Over the past year, we’ve expanded our fatherhood programs in both Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Our Fatherhood Coach Chris Gibson was recently interviewed about his work with promoting strong relationships between father figures and their children with First 5 Contra Costa County. His interview is available on our website. Our other major fatherhood program which we recently launched is our AB109 program for Public Safety Realignment. AB109 allows for supervised release of formerly incarcerated individuals to combat recidivism and ameliorate the conditions in overcrowded California prisons. Our efforts under AB109 help fathers return to their families and play a vital role in the lives of their loved ones.

This month, our Teen Family Success coordinators and clients traveled to Sacramento to advocate for Assembly Bill 302 before the California State Assembly’s Committee on Education. AB302 asks for public subsidies to ensure adequate lactation facilities and break time in public schools to uphold the rights and education opportunities of pregnant and parenting pupils. Our Teen Family Support work was also featured in an Univision Educacion national broadcast on December 20, 2014. The full segment is available on our website.

“Research tells us that fathers are important. And they need to be a part of that child’s life for that child to thrive and be all that they can be.”

- Fatherhood Coach Chris Gibson in his interview with the CA Health Report

Play Bocce Ball with Brighter Beginnings

We will be hosting a Charity Bocce Ball Tournament benefitting our Family Health Clinics on May 16th! Sign up as a sponsor today or get a team together for this fun event at Chichibu Park. There will be awards for the top four teams, as well as breakfast and lunch. For information, visit our website or contact Mary Rocha at (925)207-7220 or by email at mrocha@brighter-beginnings.org.

Give Where You Live: East Bay Gives

The East Bay Community Foundation is hosting its second annual day of local giving, East Bay Gives, on May 5th, 2015. To participate, make an online contribution at www.eastbaygives.org on May 5th. This is a great opportunity for Brighter Beginnings and other area non-profits to tap into social media and our regional networks to garner support for our work in the community.

Our 8th Annual Playing Together Event

We’ve already begun planning our 8th Annual Playing Together Event! Do you have something in mind that you think would do great in our live auction? Let us know at development@brighter-beginnings.org! We are also accepting event sponsors at this time.