



# Bright Horizons

## Brighter Beginnings Family Health Clinics

On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, the Brighter Beginnings Family Health Clinics were designated as “Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alikes” by the Health Resources & Services Administration. This distinction is predicated on Brighter Beginnings’ commitment to serving medically-underserved communities. Community based health centers are essential to promoting healthy communities and ensuring access to healthcare for all. The Brighter Beginnings Family Health Clinic in Richmond has been operating at 40 hours each week, and is located in the same facility as our behavioral health and social services, making it easier for families to holistically meet their needs. Our Antioch clinic has expanded its operating hours to 30 hours per week and is equipped with four exam rooms, an intake room and lab, full-time medical and social service staff, and Certified Enrollment Specialists who work to extend healthcare coverage to qualifying individuals.

A very special thank you to **Samuel Merritt University** for supporting our Family Health Clinics from the start through their Family Nurse Practitioner preceptorship program. We wouldn’t be where we are without your support!

## Organizational Updates

To accommodate our recent expansion into healthcare and in an effort to centralize our administrative staff, we’ve relocated our HR, accounting, & development departments to our new office in Pleasant Hill. We have launched fatherhood groups in Oakland, are currently providing Volunteer Income Tax Assistance each Saturday from 10-3pm in Antioch, and have a number of community events including open houses and literacy events scheduled for this spring and summer.

## Our Newest Partner: Nonprofit Finance Fund

Brighter Beginnings has partnered with the Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF), a community development financial institution that helps strengthen and stabilize non profit organizations. Our new financing relationship with NFF enables us to better manage our day to day cash flow and invest in critically needed growth for our Family Health Clinics.



[Save the Date](#)

**East Bay Gives**  
May 3, 2016

**Charity Bocce Ball  
Tournament**  
Summer 2016

**2016 Playing Together**  
Sept. 24, 2016

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BrighterBeginningsCA

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**B R I G H T E R**



**B E G I N N I N G S**

## Meet our Human Resources team!

We've hired two full-time HR staff to provide greater stability as we expand as an organization and strive to manage our organization's most valuable resource: our talented & committed employees. HR & Operations Manager Claudia Karell has been with the organization for four months and has over twelve years of HR experience as a generalist, as well as recruiting experience, and is completing her MBA with a concentration in HR. Karell is most excited about hiring new personnel, building relationships, and working alongside managers. Karell hopes to help the organization grow to "provide more opportunities for the community we serve as well as our employees." Claudia Karell is joined in HR by Claudia Cesena, who has worked with Brighter Beginnings for over 4 years. Speaking to her experiences working alongside Brighter Beginnings staff, Cesena says she is "continuously inspired by our case managers who put personal dilemmas aside day to day in order to support and advocate for our clients. BB is special because we meet families where they are in life and provide a space free of judgement where they can receive holistic support."

## The Oakland Promise & Brilliant Baby

Brighter Beginnings is a partner in the Oakland Promise, Oakland's cradle-to-career effort to ensure that every Oakland child receives the support they need to graduate high school and pursue a career of their choice. We're excited to be a part of the Oakland Promise's Brilliant Baby program, an initiative to promote asset building among Oakland's most economically vulnerable families by establishing college savings accounts for high-need newborns, supporting new parents through financial planning and savings matches, and embedding this work in existing family services.

## Give Where You Live: East Bay Gives

The East Bay Community Foundation is hosting its annual day of local giving, East Bay Gives, on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016. To participate, make an online contribution at [www.eastbaygives.org](http://www.eastbaygives.org) on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is a great opportunity for Brighter Beginnings and other area non-profits to leverage social media and our regional networks to garner support for our work in the community.

## Can't get enough? Volunteer with BB!

Our Board of Directors is looking for individuals with networking, financial, and business skills to join our Executive, Finance, or Fund Development Committees and help with organizational growth and strategic planning. If interested, contact [development@brighter-beginnings.org](mailto:development@brighter-beginnings.org).



Karell and Cesena bring expertise and over 15 years of experience to our HR department.



This past holiday season, a total of 330 families were "adopted" through our Adopt-a-Family drive.



Special thanks to VISA for participating in our holiday giving programs for over six years & hosting holiday bakesales in their offices to support our work!



Brilliant Baby promotes asset building among Oakland's most vulnerable families.