



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A Coming of Age Foster Family Agency

The Year of COVID-19
and It's Impacts

Completed by
David McCoy, CEO

2020
EDITION



WWW.ACOMINGOFAGE.ORG





2020 OUTLOOK THE YEAR OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Like all other entities and organizations, COVID-19 definitely impacted A Coming of Age FFA & Counseling Center in number of ways. First, the organization did suffer some financial losses as a result of this deadly virus. It was noticed that many Resource Families were unwilling to accept new children being placed into their homes due to fears associated with the virus. Unfortunately, many families were vocal in their expressions that they believed that accepting new children into their homes meant placing the current occupants of the home at risk of catching the virus. As a result, many families chose to simply not accept any new children into the homes which hindered the organization's ability to increase our revenues for the year

Altogether, we only served approximately 165 newly placed youth in our care during the year, with the agency maintaining an average placement ration of 77 youth in care each month.





GENERAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION & INSIGHT

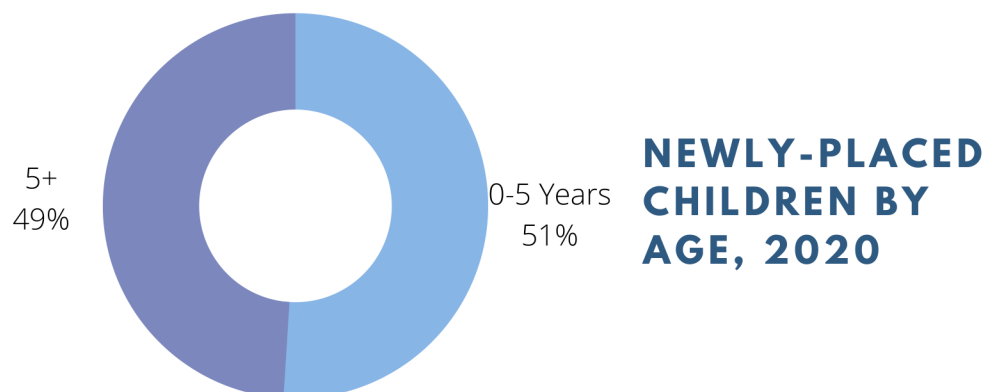
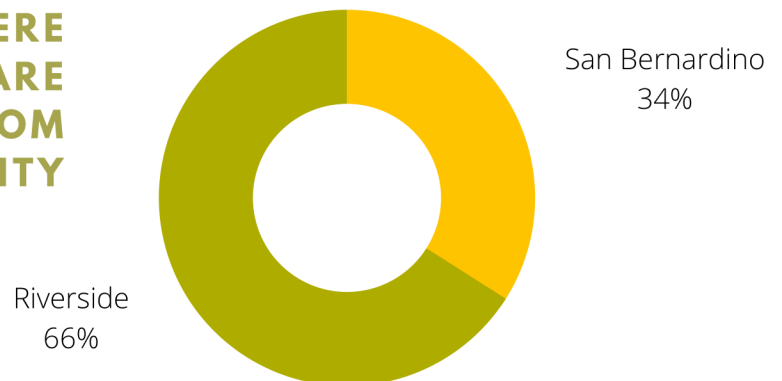


A. WHERE ARE CHILDREN COMING FROM

It was observed that 66% of all children placed at A Coming of Age FFA & Counseling Center were dependents of Riverside County. The remainder were dependents from San Bernardino County.

These children ranged in ages between 0-20 with the average age being 6.7 years old. It was also noticed that children between the ages of 0-5 totaled 51% of all newly-placed children during the calendar year 2020.

WHERE CHILDREN ARE COMING FROM BY COUNTY



NEWLY-PLACED CHILDREN BY AGE, 2020



B. ETHNICITIES

Children placed at ACOA during 2020, typically came from one of three different ethnic backgrounds. This is consistent with the typical population of Riverside County and is reflective of the need for Resource Parents who are willing to accept children from differing ethnic backgrounds.

ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS

HISPANIC/LATINX (31%)



WHITE (30%)



AFRICAN AMERICAN (30%)



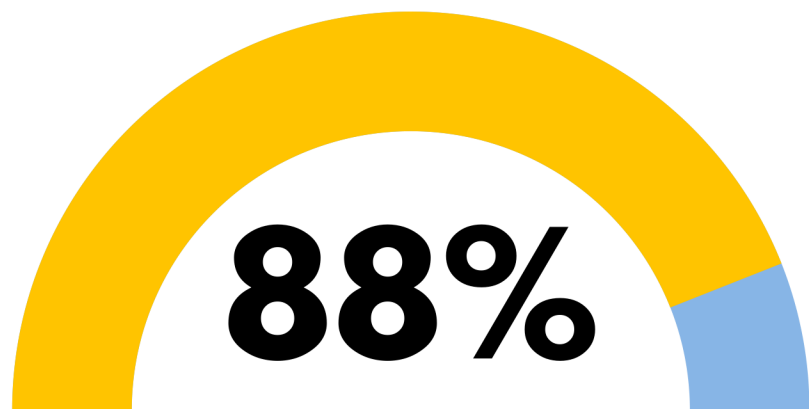
OTHER (8%)





C. CASE GOALS & BACKGROUNDS

In looking at those children who were initially referred to placement with ACOA, it was noticed that 88% of the children initially placed had an initial case goal of Family Reunification. This means that the parents of those children placed in out of home custody were initially given an opportunity to have their children returned to their care provided that they adhered to strict expectations of the Juvenile Court system.



**88% OF THE CHILDREN PLACED
HAVE AN INITIAL CASE GOAL OF
FAMILY REUNIFICATION**



OUR PROFILE

When specifically looking at the reasons for being initially separated from their parents, the following was observed:

79%

OF CHILDREN WERE REFERRED DUE TO NEGLECT BY THEIR PARENTS OR CARETAKERS. THIS COULD ALSO INCLUDE DRUG RELATED OFFENSES (ARRESTS, POSITIVE TOXICOLOGY BIRTHS, ETC)

12%

OF CHILDREN PLACED WERE REMOVED DUE TO LACK OF STABILITY IN THEIR FAMILIAL HOUSEHOLDS

9%

OF CHILDREN WERE VICTIMS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE OR HARM

6%

OF CHILDREN PLACED WERE VICTIMS OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE

3%

OF CHILDREN PLACED WERE VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

NOTE: It should be noted that these outcomes dispute the general belief that the majority of “foster children” are placed due to physical and sexual abuse by their parents/caregivers.





CHILDREN EXITING PLACEMENT WITH A COMING OF AGE FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY



A. AGES AT DISCHARGE

It should be noted that at the time of discharge from ACOA, the average age of our youth in 2020 was 7.44 years, regardless of the circumstances that led to their discharge from placement with our agency.

AVERAGE
AGE AT DISCHARGE

7.4

B. COUNTY OF DEPENDENCY

A Coming of Age FFA continues to serve children who are dependents of the court who are primarily representative of two counties.

Those counties are Riverside and San Bernardino County. At the time of discharge, it was noticed that more children (57%) were Riverside County dependents upon discharge rather than San Bernardino County (43%).

C. DISCHARGE HIGHLIGHTS

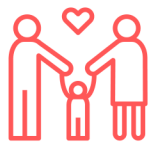
There were a number of successes that were noticed with regards to the manner in which children discharged from placement with ACOA. The following are the discharge outcomes for those children who left placement with A Coming of Age in 2020.



57% of children who discharged were able to reunify with family members



7% of children who discharged were able to find a forever family through being adopted



5% of children who were discharged were able to find a forever family through Legal Guardianship



4% of children who were discharged were able to successfully Emancipate out of foster care on their own accord



1% of children who were discharged were able to be placed successfully into the home of a non-related extended family member's care



Of all the children who discharged in 2020, it was noticed that 75% of youth discharged from ACOA successfully achieved their court ordered case plan. A successful attainment of a case plan is when a child is able to reunify with their parents/family members, find a forever family through adoption or legal guardianship or successfully emancipate from foster care by being able to support themselves independently or through living with a non-related extended family member that is court approved by the Juvenile Court Judge and Child Protective Services county social worker.



FEEDBACK FROM SURVEY REPORTS: FEEDBACK FROM EMPLOYEES



FEEDBACK FROM EMPLOYEES

Opportunities for Personal Growth & Development

During this past year, the agency offered employees the opportunity to provide anonymous feedback about their general sentiments and feelings about working at A Coming of Age FFA. The information listed below is a consensus of the feelings expressed by our employees.

1. When asked whether or not there was someone who an employee believed encouraged their development, 100% of staff felt that there was a member of leadership who personally encouraged their growth.
2. When asked about whether or not employees receive feedback that helps them to improve in some manner, 100% of staff all believed that they received positive feedback.
3. When asked whether or not staff are encouraged to learn from their mistakes, 100% of employees responded that they do believe they are encouraged to learn from their mistakes.



FEEDBACK FROM EMPLOYEES

Teamwork

1. 94% of staff believed that the organization promoted a strong feeling of teamwork and cooperation.
2. 94% of staff also felt that teamwork was also practiced in the organization.
3. 100% of staff surveyed indicated that they are comfortable sharing their opinions about things with others without fear or concern.
4. 100% of all staff felt that the leadership at the organization "lead by example."
5. When asked if staff would recommend this organization to others, 100% of all staff surveyed indicated that they would indeed recommend the organization to others.



FEEDBACK FROM EMPLOYEES

Mission and Purpose

- When it came to understanding the organization's mission and desired results, 100% of staff surveyed indicated that they fully understood the mission and desired outcomes that the organization strives to achieve.
- When asked whether or not staff understand how their individual work contributes to the success of the organization, 100% of staff answered in the affirmative.



**100% OF STAFF FULLY
UNDERSTOOD THE MISSION AND
DESIRED OUTCOMES**



FEEDBACK FROM SURVEY REPORTS: FEEDBACK FROM RESOURCE PARENTS



FEEDBACK FROM RESOURCE PARENTS

Resource Parents were asked to complete anonymous surveys to provide insight into their experiences in caring for dependent minors. The information gathered was then shared with the Board of Directors, Officers, and members as well as all organizational staff to ascertain ways in which the organization could positively enhance the services provided to those whom we serve.

Satisfaction with Experience of Being a Resource Parent:

- 89% of Resource Parents who responded reported that they were “Completely Satisfied”
- 11% of Resource Parents who responded reported that they were “Often Satisfied”





Willingness to Refer Others to ACOA?



of Resource Parents surveyed indicated that they would be “Extremely Likely” to refer a friend or family member to serve as a Resource Parent.



INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS

1. What's Most Rewarding about being a Resource Parent?

- a. Watching the children bloom as services are put in place to help these children.
- b. Seeing children respond to warmth, kindness, comfort and understanding
- c. "Knowing that you are making a difference in a child's life"
- d. "Being able to make a difference in the life of a child"

2. Advice to Give New Resource Parents:

- a. "Take lots of notes, pay attention, pray, be really sure you are committed!"
- b. "Be open minded and love unconditionally"
- c. "Take things one thing at a time so it will be less stressful and not overwhelming."



FEEDBACK FROM SURVEY REPORTS: FEEDBACK FROM CLIENTS SERVED



FEEDBACK FROM YOUTH

Youth placed at A Coming of Age (ACOA) FFA were surveyed and asked questions about the services that they were receiving, their general comfortability with their foster homes, and their beliefs about whether or not the agency has helped them to feel empowered in some aspect of their lives.

A. Number of Homes Residing in Since Placement

The number of homes that youth have resided in during their time in placement with ACOA.

B. Equity & Inclusion

Youth were asked about their feelings around equity and inclusion.

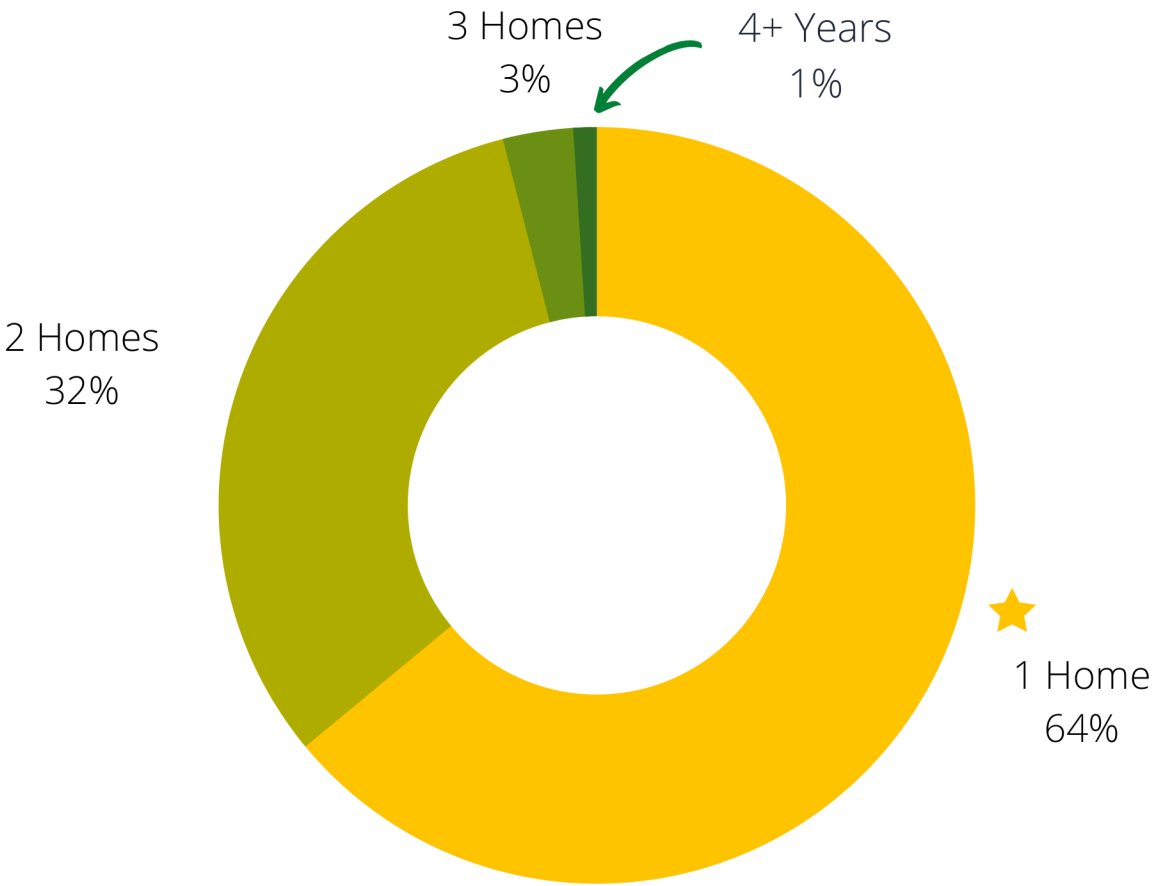
C. Feeling Empowered

Youth were asked if they felt empowered as a result of the support that they were provided by ACOA.



A. HOME PLACEMENT

When asked about the number of homes that youth have resided in during their time in placement with ACOA, 96% of the children placed at ACOA have only been in 1 or 2 placements at this time.





B. EQUITY & INCLUSION

When asked about their feelings of equity and inclusion, a resounding 97% of youth in placement with ACOA believed that their cultural and ethnic background was acknowledged and respected by those Resource Parents that were caring for them.

This is an important premise for the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of ACOA. As part of the initial training that prospective Resource Parents undergo, it is imperative that they realize that caring for children in foster care will often times mean caring for children who may not look similar to the Resource Family itself. It's important to remember that in order for children in care to thrive, they must feel that they are respected by those who are charged with caring for them. 2020 demonstrated that our youth in care believed that their caretakers truly cared about them insofar as equity and inclusion was concerned.



C.FEELING EMPOWERED

91% of our youth surveyed were able to acknowledge that they felt empowered as a result of the support that they were provided by A Coming of Age.

Empowerment was largely attributed to one of three main areas with these areas being:

1. Educational;
2. Behavioral/Developmental; or
3. Personal Accomplishments.

The agency did inquire of the caretakers of infants or youth who were unable to verbally express themselves as to what areas of accomplishment did these caretakers see in the children.

Their responses have been recorded on the following pages.



1. EDUCATIONAL

**“I RAISED MY READING
LEVEL UP TO 8TH GRADE.”**

**“I LEARNED MY ABCS,
COLORS, OR BEING ABLE
TO WRITE MY NAME.”**

**“I GOT ON THE HONOR
ROLL EVERY YEAR.”**

“DOING BETTER IN SCHOOL.”

“I HAVE ALL A'S.”

**“I GOT THE BEST GRADES
IN THE HOUSE.”**



2. BEHAVIORAL/ DEVELOPMENTAL

"I'M MORE ACTIVE NOW"

**"I CAN NOW GO PEE-PEE
IN THE TOILET."**

**"PULLS SELF-UP, STANDS BY
SELF ON PLAYPEN, STARTS
TO WALK IN WALKER."**

**"I AM MUCH MORE HELPFUL
TO MY FOSTER PARENTS."**

**"I DON'T CRY WHEN I
LEAVE VISITS WITH MY
MOM."**

**"I LEARNED TO LISTEN
BETTER"**



3. PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

“I GOT A JOB!”

**“BY WORKING HARD, I HAVE
SUCCEEDED AT THIS TIME”**

**“NOT GIVING UP ON LIFE EVEN AFTER
EVERYTHING I EXPERIENCED IN THE PAST”**

**“I WAS ABLE TO STAY STRONG
AFTER A BREAK-UP”**

**“I LEARNED TO EXPRESS
MYSELF TO OTHERS”**

**“I LEARNED TO DRAW THINGS TO
SHOW MY FEELINGS”**

**“I AM FINALLY HAPPY
WHERE I AM”**

**“I CAN NOW GO PEE-PEE
IN THE TOILET”**

**“I LEARNED HOW TO FACE MY FEARS AND
ASK FOR HELP IF NECESSARY”**

**“I WAS CHOSEN TO BE HONORED FOR MY
VOLUNTEER WORK FOR A STATE
CONGRESSMAN”**

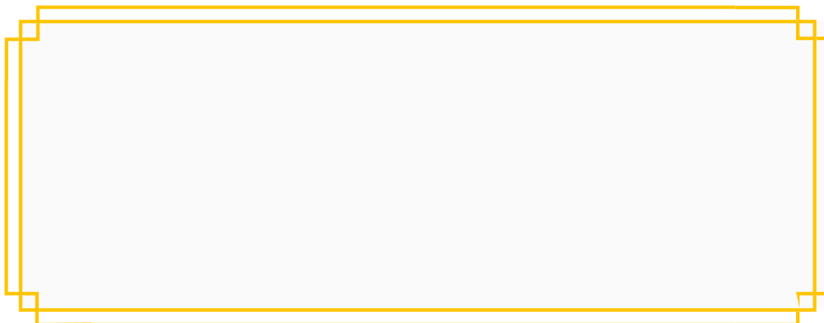




2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A COMING OF AGE FFA
7891 MISSION GROVE PKWY.
SUITE #B
RIVERSIDE, CA 92508
(951) 776-9223 (OFFICE)

**WANT TO
SUPPORT ACOA?**
Find out how you
can donate,
volunteer, or host a
fundraiser today by
following the link
below:
bit.ly/acoa-donate



WWW.ACOMINGOFAGE.ORG