

Angels is a licensed, private non-profit foster family agency with a unique emphasis on stable placement of abused foster infants with healthy, nurturing families who promote emotional bonding resulting in happy, productive, secure adults.



2009  
Annual Report



To all Angels Friends,

The Angels Foster Family Network is now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year of rescuing the most vulnerable of all of San Diego's foster children- the babies. We are pursuing an aggressive 5 year vision to increase the number of babies being served so that by year 2015, we will be able to place 300 babies annually. Each year Angels has been increasing their number of placements. Most importantly Angels placed 71 babies in 2009, more placements than ever before in our 10 year history. We face current challenges with a horrific trend of referrals of severely battered babies. Our demand has never been greater for more quality foster families, and this trend is something we have never experienced before. Angels has added additional training in response to this crisis so that all Angels parents are adequately trained to care for babies with broken bones, bruising, internal injuries, and all who come with broken hearts and spirits.

Unlike some non-profits with substantial government funding or revenues from the services they provide, Angels is 100% dependent on private donations and the priorities of its donors. The largest percentage of our donations come from individual donors who have come to believe in the Angels mission and who care deeply for abused, abandoned and neglected infants and toddlers. We thank each of our donors and remind them that it does "take a village" to rescue vulnerable, innocent babies who through no fault of their own became the youngest victims of the foster care system.

This is our first Annual Report and we are proud to list our many accomplishments. We thank you for helping us to provide hope and healing to San Diego's foster babies.

Warm regards,

Cathy Richman

Angels Founder/Director



## Information on Angels

### Angels Mission Statement:

Angels is a licensed, private non-profit foster family agency with a unique emphasis on stable placement of abused foster infants with healthy, nurturing families who promote emotional bonding resulting in happy, productive, secure adults.

### How Angels started:

Angels was founded in 1998 by Cathy Richman, following five years of service as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CA-SA) volunteer working within the San Diego County foster system. What Cathy Richman encountered was an inefficient and congested system. She witnessed far too many children being bounced from placement to placement, with varying standards of care and never truly having a place to call home. Her first solution to this dire problem was her Infants In Crisis project.

### Why We Are Different

Angels Foster Family Network is the only foster agency that focuses on rescuing abandoned babies in the San Diego area. We see qualified foster parents that will commit to loving and caring for a child for up to two years or until the child finds a permanent placement – so that the child will learn the essential skills of human attachment. Only one foster child (or sibling set) will be placed in an Angels home at a time. Angels requires rigorous standards that are met by all of the foster parents to ensure the highest quality of love and care for our foster babies.



### Basic Foster Care Statistics:

Research shows that young people in foster care are far more likely than their peers in the general population to endure homelessness, poverty, compromised health, unemployment, incarceration and other adversities after they leave the foster care system\*

Here are some National startling statistics about children in the foster care system:

- 54% earned a high school diploma\*
- 2% earned a Bachelor's degree or higher\*
- 84% became a parent often repeating the same cycle they went through\*
- 51% were unemployed\*
- 30% had no health insurance\*
- 25% have been homeless at one time\*
- 30% were receiving public assistance\*

It is reported that 65 deaths of children in foster care occurred statewide in 2006. In 2005, 48 deaths occurred statewide.

\* resource: [www.fostercaremonth.org](http://www.fostercaremonth.org)

## Choosing the Best Parents

Angels strives to find high quality caregivers for the infants and toddlers in foster care. Angels foster parent requirements are based on state regulations as well as Angels' mission and beliefs. Here are the basic foster parent requirements.

### Angels Foster Parents must:

- Be at least 21 years of age or older. (There is no maximum age limit).
- Be in good physical and mental health.
- Be fingerprinted and cleared through the FBI, Dept of Justice and Child Abuse Index Clearance.
- Be a good driver with available transportation.
- Be able to provide financially for a foster child.
- Have adequate space in home. (In most cases must have at least 2 bedrooms).

### We Require Screening of All Potential Parents

There is no other foster agency that utilizes psychological screening as part of the process of assessing individuals for their suitability to become foster parents.

To ensure the mental and emotionally fit foster parents, Angels administers the MMPI-2 (Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory) to all applicants and the test is scored by Nancy Haller, Ph.D. The MMPI-2 is the most widely used personality test in the United States and around the world and ensures psychological healthy foster parents for each child.

Our acclaimed Angels Parenting Program teaches you not only practical parenting skills, but also the key principles of development and psychology required to raise a happy, well-adjusted child. To become a foster parent with Angels, each foster parent will complete 24 hours of initial training.

### Angels Parent Training

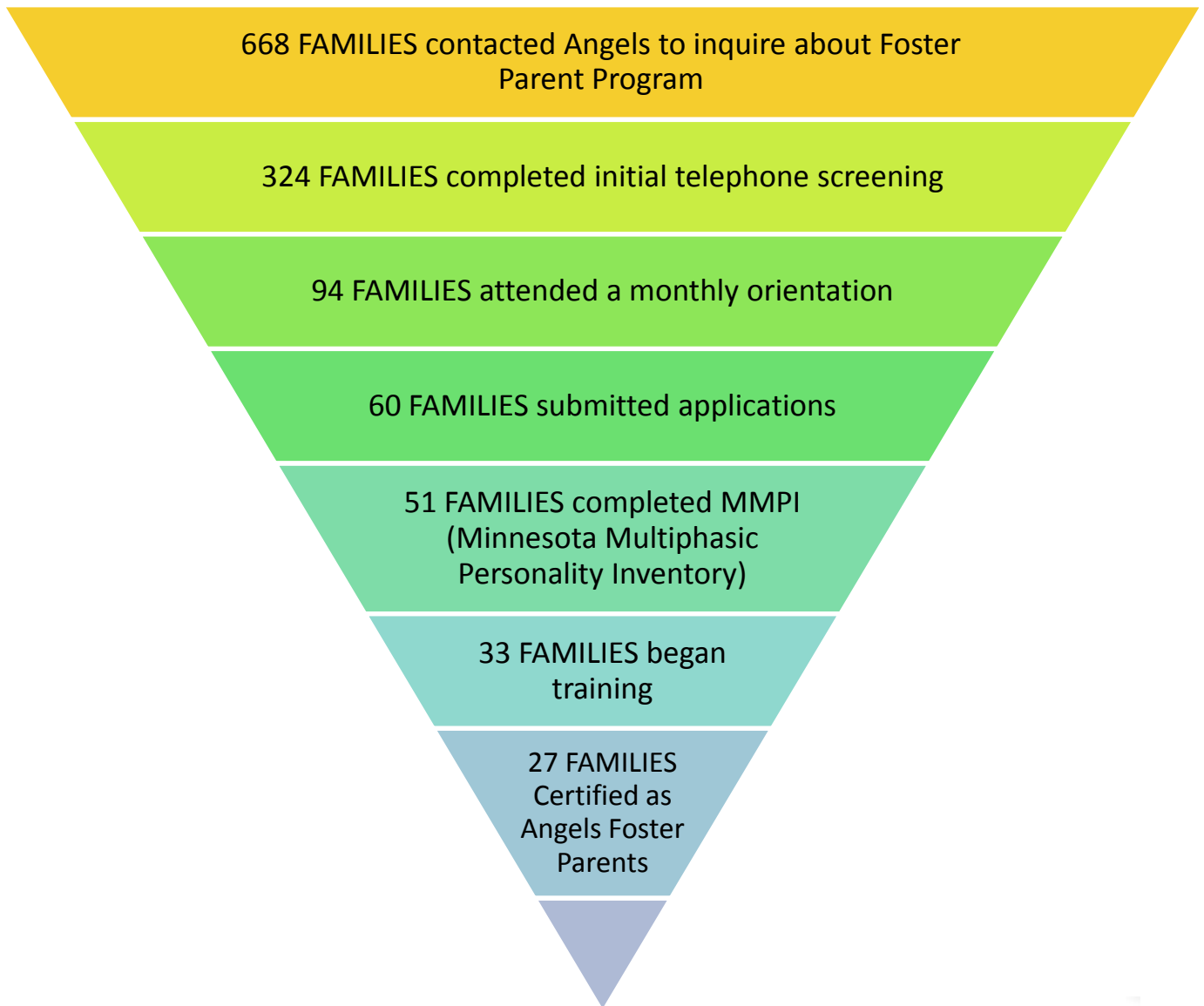
Our program includes:

- **PRIDE training:** Developed by the Child Welfare League of America, this is the standard in foster parent training.
- **Bonding/ Attachment Theory:** Teaches you how to develop empathy and trust with your baby or toddler.
- **Infant Care:** Information on how to specifically care for infants.
- **Meeting the Developmental Needs of Children**
- **Grief and Loss**
- **Parenting, Play and Stimulation**
- **County Roles and Responsibilities**



## Road To Certification

Angels is very cautious about the foster parents they certify and entrust with the life of a precious child. This pyramid was created to show the process whereby Angels is first contacted by interested individuals, and the result of how many of those individuals actually became certified Angels parents and received a placement.



## 2009 Profile for Foster Families

### FAMILY PROFILE

#### REGION

<b>SOUTH BAY</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>EAST COUNTY</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>NORTH INLAND</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>NORTH COASTAL</b>	<b>18%</b>

#### HOME OWNERSHIP

<b>HOME OWNERS</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>RENTERS</b>	<b>18%</b>

#### MARITAL STATUS:

<b>MARRIED</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>SINGLE</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>DOMESTIC PARTNERS</b>	<b>2%</b>

#### HAVE CHILDREN?

<b>NO CHILDREN</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>1 OR 2 CHILDREN</b>	<b>47%</b>
<b>3 OF MORE CHILDREN</b>	<b>25%</b>

#### AGES OF CHILDREN

<b>UNDER 5</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>6 – 17 YEARS OLD</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>ADULT CHILDREN</b>	<b>22%</b>

#### PRIOR ADOPTIONS

<b>YES</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>80%</b>

#### STAY-AT-HOME PARENT

<b>YES</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>NO</b>	<b>18%</b>

#### INCOME:

ANNUAL INCOME BETWEEN

<b>Under \$40K</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>\$40 - \$60K</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>\$60 - \$80K</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>\$80-\$100K</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>OVER \$100K</b>	<b>39%</b>

### INDIVIDUAL PARENT PROFILES

#### AGE:

<b>21-30</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>30-40</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>40-50</b>	<b>32%</b>
<b>50-60</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Over 60</b>	<b>4%</b>

#### EDUCATION

<b>HIGH SCHOOL/TRADE SCHOOL/ SOME COLLEGE</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>AA DEGREE</b>	<b>7%</b>
<b>BA DEGREE</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>GRADUATE +</b>	<b>17%</b>

#### ETHNICITY

<b>CAUCASIAN</b>	<b>88%</b>
<b>BLACK</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>HISPANIC</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>6%</b>

#### DIVORCE RATES

<b>NEVER</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>ONCE</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>2 OR MORE</b>	<b>3%</b>

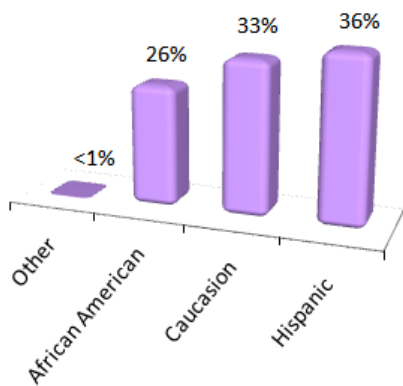


## The Foster Crisis

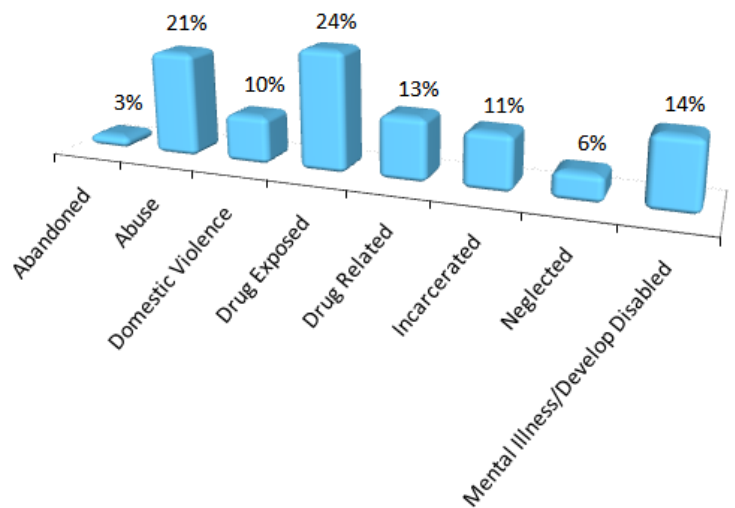
The evidence is clear that the time for a change in foster care has come. There are currently over 4,500 foster children in San Diego County, with more than a third of them under the age of 3. Of these children, typically only 10% are ever adopted, and most bounce around from home to home, never finding a permanent placement.

Such instability would be difficult for anybody, but for a tiny, developing baby, the effects are staggering.

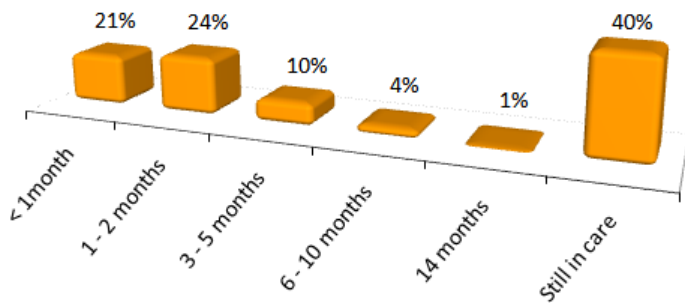
### Ethnicity of Placements



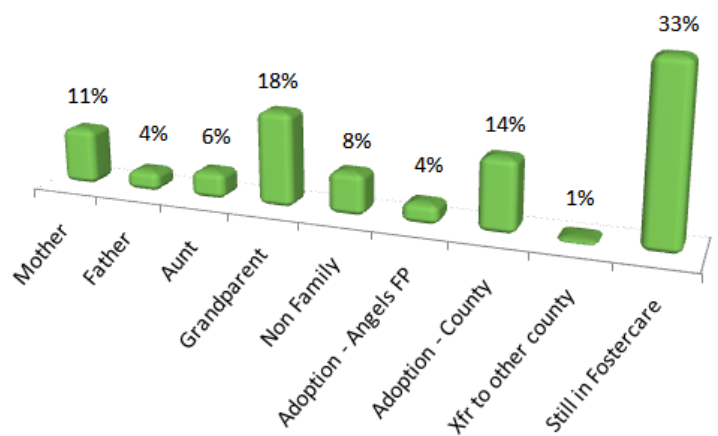
### Reason for Entry into Foster Care



### Length of stay (43 left placement)



### Outcome of placements in 2009 (out of 48)



## The Life of a Foster Baby

**Makayla:** Before she ever takes her first step and celebrates her first birthday, a foster baby can expect a minimum of 3.2 placements with different foster families. Before she speaks her first words at age two, she can expect to have lived with 5 different families. The reasons why foster children are moved from home to home are often complex and hard to understand, but for the child they can leave devastating life-long scars on them.



Makayla was referred to Angels for a family at age 14 months. She had been abandoned by her mother at 8 weeks old, and remained in the home of a relative caregiver for 3 months. After the relative could no longer care for her, she was moved to a foster home where she was one of 3 infants, and 4 older children.

She developed some medical needs, which required frequent visits to the doctor and her foster mother could not provide for her medical needs. At 10 months of age, she moved to her 3rd placement, where she remained for 3 months, at which time this foster home had their license suspended due to allegations of child abuse, at which time Makayla was taken to the Polinsky Center. She remained there until a new home could be found for her, when Angels was contacted about finding her a suitable home. That was 2 years ago, and Makayla has since been adopted by her Angels family where she has attached and bonded closely with her “forever” family. Makayla was one of the lucky ones, and was saved from the “revolving door” situation that far too many foster children find themselves having to endure.



**Aliyah:** She dances, loves her ballet classes and talks about her dreams of what she'll be one day when she grows up. She loves her family, her baby sister, and her cousins are her best friends! Meet Aliyah, a beautiful 4 year old who now has everything a little girl could ask for AFTER a very tough start in life.

Angels first met Aliyah at Children's Hospital in March 2008 where she was recovering from a long list of serious injuries inflicted upon her by her mother and her grandfather! She was hospitalized for 4 days with a lacerated liver (from severe punches to her abdomen), internal bruising to other organs, a broken shoulder,

and whip and burn marks scarring her delicate little two year old body.

Upon entering her Angels foster home, she had frequent emotional melt-downs, would hide in the fetal position in remote places in the home, and her night terrors are only recently beginning to subside. Her Angels parents never gave up on her, often enduring many sleepless nights with a child impacted deeply from the terrors she endured prior to entering foster care.

As her Angels family awaits their permanent adoption of Aliyah, we celebrate this beautiful child and the strong ability she has had to heal and move forward with her life. She represents but one of nearly 400 children Angels has rescued in the past 11 years. Her Angels parents represent the committed and loving families it takes to help a child like Aliyah to dance, laugh, play and enjoy the healthy childhood she once had stolen from her.

We thank the District Attorney for prosecuting the adults who abused her, we thank the Juvenile Court for terminating the rights of her family to retain custody of her and for freeing her for adoption, we thank the Angels staff who have provided 24/7 support and counsel for Aliyah and her foster parents during the tedious court process, and all her health care providers who have helped her to heal from the physical and psychological damage inflicted on this precious child. Lastly, we thank her foster/adoptive parents for embracing Aliyah and for claiming her as their forever daughter!

## Financial Statement Highlights

<b>Prior Three Years Total Revenue and Expense Totals</b>			
Fiscal Year	2009	2008	2007
Total Revenue	\$499,001	\$376,343	\$317,813
Total Expenses	\$474,116	\$338,237	\$343,069

<b>Prior Three Years Revenue Sources</b>			
Fiscal Year	2009	2008	2007
Foundation and Corporation Contributions	\$128,510	\$150,000	\$162,500
Local Government Contributions	\$31,435	\$20,000	\$0
Individual Contributions	\$260,734	\$176,122	\$138,000
Interest and Dividend Income	\$888	\$397	\$313
Special Events	\$77,434	\$29,824	\$17,000
Revenue In-Kind	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0

<b>Prior Three Years Expense Allocations</b>			
Fiscal Year	2009	2008	2007
Program Expense	\$402,995	\$287,501	\$291,612
Administration Expense	\$47,414	\$33,823	\$34,307
Fundraising Expense	\$23,707	\$16,913	\$17,150
Total Revenue/Total Expenses	1.05	1.11	0.93
Program Expense/Total Expenses	85%	85%	85%
Fundraising Expense/Contributed Revenue	5%	4%	5%

<b>Prior Three Years Assets and Liabilities</b>			
Fiscal Year	2009	2008	2007
Total Assets	\$187,540	\$178,400	\$115,516
Current Assets	\$181,574	\$172,062	\$109,324
Current Liabilities	\$10,374	\$26,119	\$1,341
Total Net Assets	\$177,166	\$152,281	\$114,175

<b>Prior Three Years Assets and Liabilities</b>			
Fiscal Year	2009	2008	2007
Current Ratio: Current Assets/Current Liabilities	17.5	6.59	81.52

**Divine (Over \$20,000)**

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 The Thursday Club Foundation  
 County of San Diego

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