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Dear KFAM Friends,

KFAM의 2021 Annual Report is out!!

In 2021, KFAM experimented with the new normalcy by creating hybrid services, created new programs to fill gaps seen during the pandemic and adapted to new technology to be more efficient. In 2021, the need of services exceeded KFAM’s capacity. It was the most demanding, mentally and physically, and busiest year in our 38 year history. Our culturally competent and essential programs in Mental Health, Domestic and Family Violence, Asian Foster Family Initiative and Child and Adult Wellness served over 12,000 individuals in 2021.

In the second year of the pandemic, we had faced many challenges created by the pandemic, specifically the rise of violent hate crimes against the Korean and AAPI communities. In response, KFAM increased the following services for our clients: anti-violence advocacy, hate crime reporting training, mental health and racial trauma education, providing housing and grocery delivery services and training law enforcement on cultural competency.

We also tested the waters for a handful of our new programs, KFAM started a School Violence Prevention Program to reduce cyber-bullying and bullying, created parenting seminars, worked with survivors to build up their own businesses and focused on family preservation to prevent children from entering the foster system. KFAM continues to increase our range of services to cover a vast scope of work for the underserved and most vulnerable members of our AAPI immigrant community.

KFAM continues to be a safe haven for low-income, underserved Korean and AAPI immigrant families. Every day, we continued our work in mental health therapy and advocacy, housing for the homeless, domestic violence services and education, empowering survivors to get back up on their own two feet, training AAPI foster parents to provide safe, culturally sensitive and nurturing homes, and ensuring healthy nutritious meals for 3,000 children daily. KFAM remains to be the first and only AAPI focused foster family agency in the nation.

The pandemic changed life as we know it, but it has taught each one of us to be resilient and hopeful. KFAM is grateful for all the support and love received this past year, we are only able to uphold our mission and continue serving our community because of you. We truly would not be where we are today without the trust of our clients, hard-working staff, and the support from our generous donors. Thank you. We hope you enjoy learning more about our significant achievements and accomplishments in 2021 and thank you for helping us create bright futures in our community.

Sincerely,

Katherine Yeom, Executive Director
Board of Directors

Charles Yoo, Chair, Capital Group
Eugene Kim, Vice Chair, Golf Co-Chair, Dr. Eugene Kim, Plastic Surgery
Lisa Yang, Secretary, Golf Co-Chair, Governance, LimNexus LLP
Elisa Lee, Treasurer, JC & Associates
Jina Park, Event Co-Chair, PLUSH, LLC
Henry Byun, Event Co-Chair, Merrill Lynch
Anthony Kim, Hanmi Bank
Brian Choi, Centerstone SBA Lending, Inc.
Christine Oh, Open Bank
Jay Park, Jpark Architects
Kenneth Seung, JR&K Properties LLC
Yun Kim, Emperor’s College of Traditional Oriental Medicine
Our Mission

KFAM’s mission is to empower underserved Korean American and Asian Pacific Islander families through culturally responsive programs.

Since its inception in 1983, KFAM has provided assistance to tens of thousands of Korean Americans - particularly women, children, immigrants and low-income families.

KFAM specializes in providing linguistically and culturally appropriate services through its multilingual and multicultural staff.

Our History

KFAM was founded in 1983 by the vision of Dr. Tae Young Lee, Korea’s first female attorney and an early advocate for women and children. KFAM opened its doors to help immigrant families devastated by economic hardships, immigration stress, and family strife.

The original mission and vision live on through KFAM’s broad range of family intervention, mental health, and social services that provide an important safety net for community members. Our dedicated, skilled team of multilingual staff and volunteers serve over 10,000 adults and children each year with quality, culturally responsive services and passionate care that speak directly to the challenges among immigrant families undergoing trauma or adaptation stresses. Our services truly provide a vital safety net for resource-poor families without access to care.
Volunteers

A person who expresses a willingness to contribute time, effort or talent to meet a need and further KFAM’s mission

Groups
Bethany Church
Global Children Foundation
Hwarang
Open Bank
St. James Episcopal School
Umlaut Foundation Tutors
Youth4Ward

Individuals
Alexandra Park
Brendan Park
Cameron Choi
Carter Choi
EJ Shin
Ellen Lee
Emily Kim
Hannah Diep
Jaden Park
Jenny Seon
Jonathan Sheng
Lea Shin
Mildred Yi
Mina Yoon
Pearl Kim
Rachel Kwon
Sally Kim
Sam Ko
SoHyun Park
Soo O
Sophia Kang
William Choi
Staff

Alice Lee, MBA, AFFI Manager
Amanda Jeon, AFFI Administrative Assistant
Amy Yi, Finance Manager
Bola Kim, AMFT, Mental Health Therapist
Carol Sim, LMFT, Clinical Supervisor
Catherine Feng, ASW, AFFI Social Worker
Chloe Kim, LMFT, GBV Family Advocate
Christine Chu, CCFP Home Manager
Crystal Huang, MSW, AFFI Social Worker
Emily Xu, AMFT, AFFI Social Worker
Eric Chung, MSW Intern
Erica Park, SAPC Manger
Estee Song, Consultant
Eun Young Chung, LMFT, Clinical Supervisor
Grace Kim, GBV Coordinator
Irene Chuang, MFT Trainee
Jamie Yang, ASW, AFFI Social Worker
Jane Park, AMFT, Case Manager and Therapist
Jennifer Oh, LCSW, Deputy Director
Jennifer Yang, GBV Victim Advocate
Jina Kim, AMFT, FFA Supervisor
Joyce Kim, ASW, GBV Victim Advocate
Katherine Yeom, MAT, Executive Director
Kenneth Oh, Psychiatric Assistant
Lauren Kwon, MEd, LMFT, GBV Supervisor
Mi Young Kim, AMFT, Mental Health Therapist
Na Young Ko, CCFP Center Manager
Robyn Harrod, LCSW, AFFI Program Coordinator
Seung Ryung Chang-Arredondo, GBV Victim Advocate
Shana Lee, Development Manager
Stephanie Choi, MSW Intern
Sunhee Kim, LMFT, GBV Program Manager
Susan Chung, MD, Psychiatrist
Sylvia Kwon, LMFT, Mental Health Therapist
Thomas Tae, DNP, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner
Yena Kim, Administrator
Yumi Kang, GBV Victim Advocate
Yunsook Choi, Office Support Specialist
2021–2022 FINANCIALS

**New fiscal year June 2021–July 2022

Total Revenue
$6,545,887

- Miscellaneous Income $12,542
- Interest Income $1,275
- Fees for Services $91,424
- Fundraising Events $237,139
- Individual Contributions $240,029
- Foundations & Corporations $640,389
- Third Party Reimbursements $2,291,568
- Government Grants & Contracts $5,323,089

Total Expense
$6,238,975

- GBV Program Services $966,748
- Child & Adult Wellness Program Services $2,842,587
- General Admin & Fundraising $425,076
- Mental Health Counseling $680,475
- AFFI Program Services $1,325,089
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOVERNMENT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>California Offices of Emergency Services</td>
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<td>California Partnership to End Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA County 1st District Board of Supervisor Hilda L. Solis</td>
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<tr>
<td>LA County Department of Children and Family Services</td>
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<td>LA County Department of Mental Health</td>
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<td>LA County Department of Public Health</td>
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<td>LA County Department of Social Services</td>
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<td>Legal Aid Foundation Los Angeles</td>
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<td>Orange County Children and Family Services</td>
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<td>Overseas Korean Foundation</td>
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<td>U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women</td>
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<td><strong>$200,000 AND UP</strong></td>
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<td>Albert Kim Foundation</td>
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<td><strong>$50,000 TO $199,999</strong></td>
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<td>Helaina Foundation</td>
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<td>JB &amp; Emily Van Nuys Charities</td>
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<td>Ralph M. Parsons Foundation</td>
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<td>Santa Monica Nikkei Hall</td>
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<td>Sierra Health Foundation</td>
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<td><strong>$10,000 TO $49,000</strong></td>
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<td>Asian Pacific Planning &amp; Policy Council</td>
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<td>ACFLS Charitable Foundation, Inc</td>
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<td>AMKO Restaurant</td>
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<td>Bethany Mission Church</td>
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<td>CALCASA</td>
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<td>Christine Chang</td>
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<td>Eugene Kim, MD</td>
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<td>Henry Byun</td>
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<td>KACF: San Francisco</td>
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<td>Jina and David Park</td>
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<td>Jinzheng Group LLC</td>
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<td>Jisun &amp; Monica Ryoo</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2021–2022 SUPPORTERS

$3,000 TO $4,999 Continued
KABA
Kaye Kim
Keefe, Bruyette & Woods
Kenneth Seung
Legal Aid Foundation
Luci Kim
Mackone Development, Inc
Megan Moriarty
Mijeong Bastian
Nancy Pak
Northstar Technology
OYV EMEN
Pacific City Bank
Park Dae Gam Ne, Inc.
Rebekah Chang
Rotary Club of Koreatown
Scott Kim
Seoul Medical Group, Inc
The Dental Care Center
The Spectrum of Hope Foundation
Trauma Assistance Program International
Tuffer Manufacturing Co
Yun Nam

$2,000 TO $2,999
AnnOne
Asian Americans Advancing Justice
Bloomberg
C.G. Kum
Joseph Young
Justin Surh
Pauline Panis
RocketCart Inc
Salesforce.com
Seum Church
Stephanie Onoshi

$1,000 TO $1,999
Abraham Nam
Anthony Kim
Scott Min
Baroo LLC
Bohyun Bae
Brian Choi
Caleb Liang
Calvin & Esther Lee
Chang Kyu Kim
Chang Lim
Charles Hung
Cindy Lee
Dess, Inc.
Elisa Lee
Ellen Choi
Gallagher Bassett
Gary R. Davis
Harim Lee
Hey Jung Choi
Hyung Kim
Jay Park
Jeanette J. Lee
Jina Park
Jinna Kang
Jinro America Inc
Jongmin Kim

$500 TO $999
Angie Chang
Brian Choi
Byung No Ree
Chung Min & Hwa Soon Lee
Dalae Management, Inc
David Kim
EQHR Solutions
Eunjin Chu
FALEO-LA
Inkook and Cathleen Chung
Jae Chung
James Ko
Jenna & Jace Foundation
John Jin Kim
Jungjae Kook
Korean Investor & Traders
Associate of Southern California
Lil Senseition
Mark Demos
Matthew Moy
Mixed Roots Foundation

Mixed Roots Foundation
Onp Construction, Inc.
Patrick Ban
Paul Song
Peter Suh
Richard Park
Salon Song
Sara Lee
Shinae Kim
The Gathering
Vanguard Charitable
Wisewak, Inc.
Woodmen of the World

$200 TO $499
Anthony Rosania
Arthur Heo
Barbara Sladeck
Charles Kim
Cliff Hong
David Han
Denny Han
Eduardo Garcia
Emily Kim
Emily Park
Erin Twitchell
Esther Yoon
George Park
Hyesook Kim
Hyung Soon Chin
Irene Lee
Jaded Media, LLC
Jake Curtis
James Hann
James Ma
James Vasquez
Jane Kim
Jay Hong
Jean Kim
Jeannie Jung
Jechul Um
Jennifer Chen
Jenny Park
Ji Young Hwang
Ji-Eon Jin
John Choi
John Ok
Joseph Lee
2021-2022 SUPPORTERS

$200 TO $499 Continued
Ken Takada
Kevin Mcnaney
Kiera Blake
Korean Cultural Center
Mathew Wang
Michael Brett
Michael M. Hong
Minae Yu
Milton Ordonez
Moon Ja Chung
Nancy Lee
Nicole Kim
Pai Lien Du
Peter Lee
Rachel Carfora
Robert Chong
Rohan Damani
Suk Yoo
Sukjooon Yoon
Sung Chun
Sungeun Yang
Sunhee Kim
Susan Palmer
The Wonderful Company
Foundation, Inc.
Theodore Bang
Tugba Keck

$20 TO $199
Adam Amanse
Adam Waggoner
Alexander Ma
Alfredo Ok
Alicia Wright
Andrea Ra
Andrea Sung
Andrew Hong
Angel Aivazian
Angie Lee
Anna Gunning
Anne Benedict
Annie Ree
Archstone Foundation
Austin Lyke
Bo Shim
Breezy Zhou
Brian Byun
Brian Choi & Yunsook Choi
Brian Kang
Brian Wang
Caroline Kim
Charlotte Duncanson
Choyeon Kim
Christina Tortal
Christine Han
Christine Oh
Cindy Lee
Cindy Yoo-Korneluk
Dan Alexander
Daniel Park
Danielle Choi
Danielle Yu
Daphne Chantell del Rosario
David Lee
David Lim & Bong A Lim
David Ok
David Park
David Yang
Diana Park
Dong H. Ko
Edward Han
Elisa Lee
Emanuel Hahn
Emmy Tan
Eric Kim
Esther Lee
Eunice Lee
Eunsan Huh
Farah Joy
Farris Consulting, LLC
Frederick Ty
Frontstream
Ga Young Kim
Genever
Gi Song
Gloria Lee
Grace Lee
Gregory Chou
Harold Felton
Helen Kim
Helen Koo
Helen Yoo
Hyangmi Kim
Hye Kim
Hye Won Lee
Hyun Oh
IAM Representatives
Association
Ian Robbins
Ivy Brown
Jae Kim
Jaebin Cha
James Barr
James Kim
James Lee
Janet Cho
Janet Yoon
Janice Lee
Jason Tomt
Jean Kim
Jeanie Cho
Jennifer Chang
Jennifer Lee
Jesse Martin
Jessica Pak
Jia H. Jug
Jihee Huh
Jihyang J. Yi
Jiyoon Cha
Jocelyn Yun
Joel McLeod
John Chae
John Piccioni
Johnny Paik
Jonathan Park
Joo Lee
Joo Yeol Park
Joseph Kim
JP Shelly
Judith No
Judy Chang
Julia Oppenheimer
Julian Ho
K. Freeman Lee
Karen Lee
Katherine Yeom
Kathryn Kim-Zahedi
Kathryn Legomsky
Kayeon Yoo
Kelly Montez
Ken Villa
2021–2022 SUPPORTERS

Kevin Arceneaux
Kris Chau
Kristine Hong
Kyle Beeman
Kyoung Kim
Kyoung Joo Kim
Kyoungmi Shim
Laura Leung
Laura Miller
Lee & Han Construction Co
Lisa Sean Cook
Lorna Thompson
Louisa Wells
Lu France Interiors LLC
Lu Malvar
Lucy-Ellen Chun
Madison Smith
Marguerite Ho
Mark & Janice Hansen
Mary Bak
Mary Scelba
Megan Mercier
Mercedes Yvette
Mi Chung
Michael Cheng
Mightycause Charitable Foundation
Mo Monte
Mina You
Minwoo Yoo
Miz Sensitiva
Nate Rich
Nazareth Nirza
Network for Good
New Life Church of Irvine
Nick Bregman
Niki Shwarz
Pat Green
Pauline Yang
Peter Cha
Phillip Kim
Phillip Son
Poms & Associates
Public Media Group of Southern California
Rachel Sullivan-Owens
Sally Dockery

Samantha Tran
Samir Alam
Samuel Pena
Sandra Lee
Sang Koog & Yoon Kyung Lim
Sang W. Ko & Na Y. Ko
Sarah Hong
Serapie Kim
Seyine Park
Sharon Cochran Jensen
Sheryl Hoffman Graham
Shojua Each
Soyoone Lee
Soyoung Park
Stella Kim
Steve Chen
Steve Choi
Sujuan Beck
Summer Dedick
Susan Dickie Farris
Tae Kim
Terry Shin
Tommy Han
Wan-Mo Kang
WE Drive-Ins
Will Park
William Peng
Xiao Yang
Yeah Eun Kim
Yeji Mun
Young Chae
Youngwoo Lee
Young Sook & In Park
Yvonne Wu

IN-KIND DONATION
Aesop
Albert Kim
Angel City Brewery
Atomy USA
Baroo LLC
Buchalter
Centerstone SBA Lending
Christina Pou
CPR Creative Production Resources
Cutsisus
Eugene Kim
Eve Hair Inc.
HiteJinro America, Inc.
Hope GOF
Hyojung Kim
ICSN, Inc.
Jeahhee Pyo
K Boom Beauty Inc
Katherine Kim
KITA
Korea Ginseng Corp
Kristy Bae and Scott Kim
Lawrence & Linda Kim
Leslie Perry
Navien Inc
Nongshim USA
Michael Yi
Pura Collective, Inc
Scott Yang
Sohyun Park
Women’s Foundation
Dear KFAM,

Many people have a fear that people will think they are crazy when they tell others that they are receiving therapy. People worry that they will be looked at differently. I also had these same thoughts when I first started therapy. I even regretted it after the first session. My whole life I kept the pain and suffering inside. I felt like I was the only one that was unhappy and going through struggles. I was constantly sad and filled with resentment. After 3 sessions, I began to see a small change in myself. After sharing the things that were weighing down my heart, I felt lighter.

I was not able to look people in their eyes, but now I can look at them as I speak to them. And I have a lot more to say, even talking to people I don’t know at the market. Not only did I get help with counseling, I also received help by receiving goods. They also helped me to get government assistance. It was my first-time receiving government assistance. At first, I was ashamed that I had to receive these things, but now I am so thankful. I decided to change my perspective to I will help later when I am in a better situation. Everyday that I felt uncertain and anxious, now I can breathe after accepting help. So now I look around me to see how I can help others and do what I am capable of.

Before getting therapy, each day was too difficult. Every night I thought to myself it would be great if I didn’t wake up tomorrow; but if your mind changes, then your life can change as well. Of course, when you are in a good place, you don’t need help. However, if your mind is in a dark place, it’s hard to change by yourself. You are desperate for help. If you are not getting help because of fear or embarrassment, it’s difficult to get out of the darkness. If you can have courage, get help and change your way of thinking like me then you can have the hope that tomorrow will be better than today. I no longer am sad or feel miserable. My life hasn’t changed drastically, but my heart and mind have changed completely. I am confident that tomorrow will be better than today. Others may think that I am unfortunate or pitiful, but everyday I can say that I am happy. I want to truly thank the therapists that helped me change the way I think.
Asian Foster Family Initiative

KFAM's Asian Family Foster Initiative recruits, trains and supports Asian Pacific Islander (API) resource parents to provide culturally and linguistically sensitive homes to API foster children in LA and OC County. KFAM is the nation’s first and only Asian Pacific Islander (API)-focused Foster Family Agency with services available in Korean, Mandarin, Cantonese, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

Programs and Services

Public Awareness Campaigns
Information Sessions and Orientation
API Language 20+ Hour Resource (Foster) Parent Training
Application Clinics
First Aid/CPR Classes
Case Management
Counseling with Positive Parenting Program
In-Home Support for Families

Foster Parent Support Group
Faith Based Support and Church Partnership
Referrals & Linkages
Volunteer Training and Respite Care
Gifts from the Heart: Backpack Drive
Holiday Gift Drive
Hanmi Dream Scholarship Program
Supervised Visitation

In 2021...

79 Resource Families Trained; 339 in total
36 Foster Children Placed; 127 in total
16 children adopted in total
3 teens moved to college
Child & Adult Wellness

KFAM’s Child & Adult Wellness Program provides individuals with the tools, support and resources to meet their diverse needs and enhance their quality of life. We also connect our community members to a broad range of government, health, legal and social services to more comprehensively meet gaps in essential health and human services.

Programs and Services
- Child Care Food Programs
- Substance Abuse Workshops
- Youth Mentorship and Health Education Program
- College Readiness Workshop
- Family Law Clinics
- Financial Literacy Workshops
- Tobacco Control Prevention and Policy
- Senior Yoga

In 2021...
- 3,000 Children Served Daily
- 183 Providers
- 33 Community Based Workshops
- 9,348 Referrals made
Mental Health Counseling

KFAM's mental health services are culturally and linguistically tailored for adults and children. Our professional bilingual and bicultural counseling services promote recovery, resilience and positive change in the lives of our clients and their families. Our highly-trained counselors work with clients on personal conflicts, relationship problems, and other life challenges such as: depression, anxiety, grief, or loss, trauma, marital conflicts, parent–child conflicts, family violence, anger, acculturation stresses, and workplace issues. Counseling services are private and confidential. Our services are open to everyone regardless of income, insurance, immigration status, or other barriers.

Programs and Services

Child, Adolescent, and Adult Individual Counseling
Couples and Family Group Counseling
Psychiatric Medication Support
Prevention and Early Intervention Services

Integrated Services
1:1 Counseling
Parenting Class
Triple P: Positive Parenting Program

In 2021...

362 Clients Served
30 Seminars around Mental Health
982 Participants
32.3% Male and 67.7% Female Clients
Gender Based Violence

KFAM’s Center for Women and Children provides free culturally specific and trauma-informed care support for family and domestic violence victims and families and victims of violence or crime. Our continuum of care – from crisis help, case management, to survivor support – helps them achieve safety, while empowering them as they journey toward healthy, violence-free lives. Our advocacy and prevention work involves training faith leaders to become first hand responders to victims of violence and partners in prevention education in the community. Recently, we have been expanding our victim services to include sexual assault and human trafficking survivors.

Programs and Services

Counseling Services
Case Management and Advocacy Services
Public Benefits Assistance
Restraining Orders
Translation and Interpretation
Court/Policy/Hospital Accompaniment
Housing Assistance and Shelter Linkage

52 Weeks Batterer’s Intervention Program
Teen Dating Violence Seminars
Financial Counseling & Workforce Development
40 Hour Domestic Violence Training
Life Beyond Weekly Survivor Support Group
Art Workshops for Exposed Children
DV Education and Training to Community/Faith Leaders

In 2021...

193 Clients Served
170 Hotline Calls Received
58 Clients received Financial Support
90 Clergy Members Trained
7 Participants in 5 Small Business Training Classes
Events

2nd Annual Golf Tournament

Share the Love

April 9, 2021
Events

38th Annual RISE TOGETHER Gala

September 22, 2021

Thank you for another successful gala.
Cheers!
CLIENT TESTIMONIES

Joon came to KFAM when he was 9-years-old, he developed 12 different types of tics due to Tourette Syndrome that began due to the shock of his father’s sudden death. His symptoms were caused by high stress and anxiety levels. He was very young and didn’t understand why his father was not around anymore or why he couldn’t see his father anymore. **He woke up one day and lost his favorite person in his world.** Joon was also very upset about the situation and started to resent his other family members.

Joon started to develop social problems; he was closed off from his family and friends and he was bullied at school for his tics. He was very shy at first and the goal for the first couple months was to work on stress management and grief processing together during the counseling therapy sessions. **He started to show improvement after each therapy session.** He was able to discover what he liked to do, what he enjoyed doing, how it would make him feel and his counselor would repeat this process over and over to help him set up goals and treatment milestones for his tick disorder.

After a couple of months of sessions, he started to open up and smiles would appear occasionally during the therapy sessions. He started to pick 2-3 goals per week and wanted to continue being happy and finding different ways to bring himself happiness. The difference was very noticeable because he would be able to control and manage his tics, slowly one by one. With full support from his mom in implementing what he learned in therapy at KFAM, he would practice the skills at home. After eight months, Joon was able to eliminate all symptoms of his tics except for 1 or 2 minor symptoms. His therapy sessions around grief processing was also a success: **Joon reported that memories of his father turned to good memories that he can cherish and remember and not to be stored as tragic ones.** He was doing much better in school, he wanted to enroll in sports and re-developed his friendships at school.
I first met my husband in 2017 on my birthday through acquaintances. His bright smile and warmth reminded me of a young boy I knew in Korea. When I first met him, I thought we were destined to be together. After three years of dating, we decided to get married. I was in the United States on a visa and my husband was a citizen. After we got married, I was able to qualify to get a green card. The first few months of our marriage were blissful and we were busy moving into our new home to start our lives together. We spent the weekends buying furniture and glassware for our new house. However, shortly after, I noticed my husband would say things bluntly or choose words that would pierce through my heart like shattered glass. I just thought maybe I was being too sensitive and too reactive to his words and tried to not think about it in detail. He began to change, the sweet person who always showed me kindness turned cold and his interests were no longer in our relationship. I thought to myself if I try harder then I can change him back to the man I fell in love with.

My mother-in-law decided to move in with us and my husband agreed, so I agreed also. When my husband left for work, she would ask me why I wasn't cleaning or cooking and that my husband could have married someone better than me. She didn't like the way I cleaned the floors, or cut the green onions. Nothing seemed to please her. But, I kept my mouth shut and changed my ways and the things I did to make her happy and to keep her from shouting or yelling at me.

As time passed, it got worse, she started to throw things at me, push and hit me when my husband wasn't home. When my husband came home, she would tell him lies: like I only married him to get a green card to stay in the United States and that I mistreated her while he was away. I felt like it was my wrongdoing that was causing all our problems. I wasn't being a good wife or daughter-in-law. So, I tried my best to change and do everything perfectly for my husband, but I started to notice that he was an avatar controlled by his mother. They would say the same things, act the same way and started to treat me the same.
IN STARTING OVER

My husband decided it would be best to leave our home and live with his mother at her house and he would come to our home once a week. He said if I wanted to get my green card, I would have to listen to his demands. I felt alone and abandoned. But mostly ashamed and embarrassed, I had no one to turn to. I thought this only happened in Korean dramas, but it was happening to me.

What did I do wrong?

I was introduced to KFAM because of my legal status problem, but I learned they offered a wide range of programs that I could qualify for. I began receiving therapy, and learned that it wasn't my fault or my wrongdoing. This was my beacon on light and hope that I was searching for. Then, I began receiving services for Domestic Violence from a Family Advocate where I regained my confidence and wanted to become strong, independent and financially stable. I didn't know there was a place I could go, and they would believe me or help me. I felt saved and began building up my skills, to be able to stand on my own two feet. I knew I was rediscovering myself....

To the person I want to be.
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