



SHAREFEST 2021-2022 IMPACT REPORT

SHAREFESTINC.ORG

The background of the entire image is a blue-tinted photograph of a school hallway. In the center, a teacher with long dark hair is seen from behind, walking down the hallway. To the left, a student is partially visible in the foreground. To the right, a group of students is walking away from the camera. The hallway has lockers on the left and a curved ceiling with recessed lights.

***“I NEVER IMAGINED THAT I WOULD
BE GOING TO COLLEGE.”***

***- GRADUATE, AVALON CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMER PROGRAM PARTICIPANT
...SHARED IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIVING CONFIRMATION OF
ENROLLMENT AT LONG BEACH COMMUNITY COLLEGE***

***“I CAN’T BELIEVE THAT IN 12 WEEKS, I CAN HAVE
A UNION JOB IN CONSTRUCTION!”***

***- GRADUATE, SIMON RODIA CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMER PROGRAM PARTICIPANT***

***“THANK YOU SO MUCH AND I WILL FOLLOW MY HEART
AND GOALS! I COULD NOT DO IT WITHOUT YOU.”***

***- GRADUATE, ANGEL’S GATE CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMER PROGRAM PARTICIPANT***

The storyline of my upbringing is, “No one was looking out for me.” As an adult I have committed my life to making sure youth don’t share the same storyline. The journey of Sharefest has been one of listening, learning, building, adapting and growing all to make sure our youth know someone is looking out for them. In addition to that, we make sure they have the tools, resources, opportunities and connections they need to transform their storyline.

You see, we believe that Los Angeles youth should no longer be limited by barriers to economic mobility. I believe this goal is achievable and necessary for our communities. With partners and supporters like you and an incredible team walking alongside our youth, we can transform our collective future one student at a time.

I am encouraged every year as we assemble this report. We continue to do the hard work of changing and becoming better for the sake of our youth. I hope you too see the impact you are making by supporting Sharefest. Thank you for believing in us and being an essential part of our ongoing impact.

Gratefully,



Chad Mayer
Executive Director



HERE'S HOW OUR PROGRAM WORKS...

- 1.** We meet students in Continuation High Schools where we provide accelerated life skills and career development courses to help students earn a high school diploma.
- 2.** We deliver ongoing mentoring, educational support and case management.
- 3.** After high school we continue to support, mentor and resource students into jobs in the workforce or community college.

We build hope and pathways to economic success for youth facing significant barriers *because* we believe those barriers should not limit their opportunity for mobility.

A LOOK BACK AT 2021-2022

5

**LAUSD CONTINUATION
HIGH SCHOOLS SERVED**

98

**HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATES**

364

**STUDENTS
ENROLLED**

5

**SHAREFEST COLLEGE
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

215

**STUDENTS COMPLETED
AT LEAST ONE SEMESTER
TO EARN CREDIT TOWARD
GRADUATION**

86%

**FELT COMFORTABLE
TALKING TO AT LEAST ONE
SHAREFEST TEAM MEMBER
ABOUT LIFE**

123

**STUDENTS COMPLETED
CAREER PLANS**

80%

**WERE MORE LIKELY TO GO
TO SCHOOL BECAUSE OF
SHAREFEST**

18

**STUDENTS RE-INTEGRATED
INTO A TRADITIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL**

100%

**OF SUMMER PARTICIPANTS
PLACED INTO A CAREER OR
COLLEGE PATHWAY**

16

**INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS PARTNERED
WITH SHAREFEST IN SPRING 2022 ALONE**

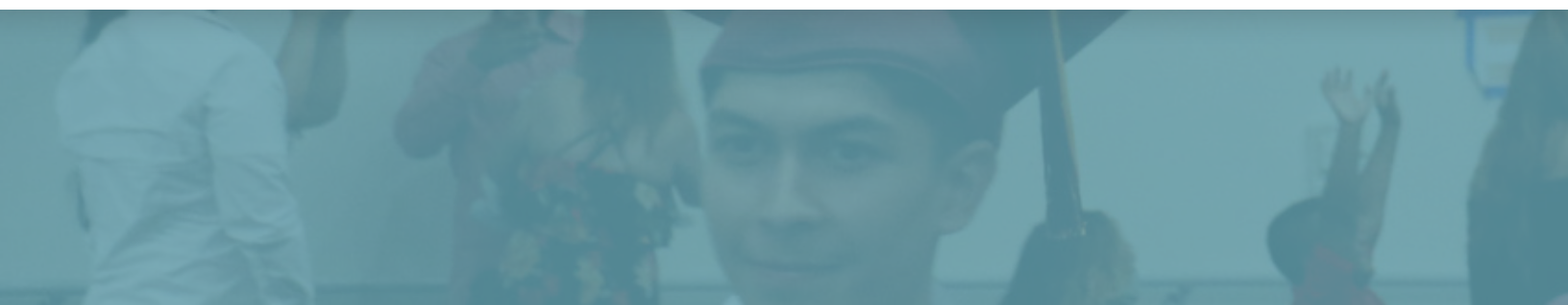


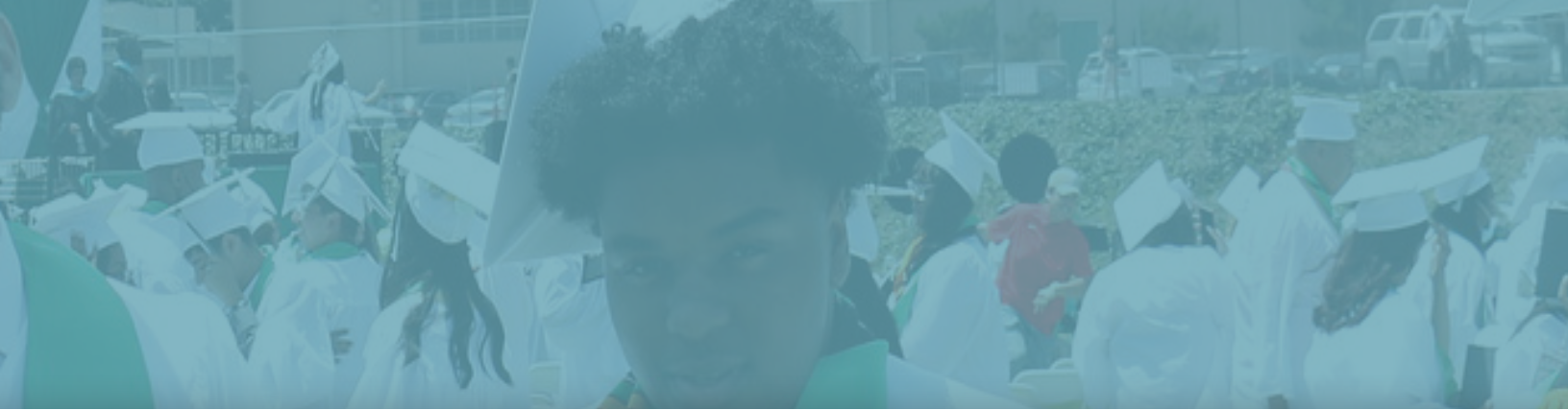
2021-2022

CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

We successfully transitioned our program from offering single-subject courses at the end of the school day to delivering a comprehensive, credit-eligible College and Career Development course. Principal at Angels Gate, Paul Valanis, said **“I love the new program structure and curriculum and it is working extremely well for us.”**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SCHOOL PROGRAM...

- Students completed personal inventories that matched their interests and skill sets to potential career paths.
 - Students successfully led service-learning projects including trash clean-ups in neighborhoods, mural paintings and landscape beautification projects.
 - The first Workforce Development focused field trip took place to visit and learn from ABC SoCal, a national construction industry trade association offering a variety of apprenticeships.
 - Instructor-Mentor, Phonnyta, launched and hosted a mentoring group throughout the year to both support and increase the number of mentees served.
- 



A CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT'S STORY OF SUCCESS

Juan enrolled in Sharefest's credit recovery elective class before graduating from Angel's Gate Continuation High School in the Spring of 2022. During his time with Sharefest, he requested mentorship and help developing his post high school plan.

Juan had the drive and confidence to pursue a career in the construction industry, but was overwhelmed by the number of pathways available. The Sharefest team introduced Juan to HireLAX's pre-apprenticeship program which he completed. He interviewed with and was sponsored by the carpentry union. Juan is proud to report he is currently employed by Hensel Phelps. During a recent follow-up with Neil, Sharefest's Case Manager, Juan expressed deep gratitude to Sharefest for helping him get on a path which led to his immediate success after graduation.





SUMMER 2022

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMER PROGRAM

Summer 2022 marked the launch of the first ever Sharefest Workforce Development Summer Program. The goal was to help graduates successfully make the transition to post-high school life. Youth met at the Lundquist Youth Leadership Center 4 days a week. For many, the commitment to the program required a personal sacrifice as they had to miss shifts at work, time with peers and family obligations.

DURING THE 5 WEEKS TOGETHER YOUTH...

- Completed a work readiness assessment.
- Enjoyed presentations from local organizations such as the YouthSource Center, Pacific Premier Bank and Work Long Beach.
- Gained valuable skills to prepare for a career including professional communication, resume building, goal setting and financial literacy.
- Received a head-to-toe professional outfit from Working Wardrobes.
- Participated in mock interviews with industry professionals.





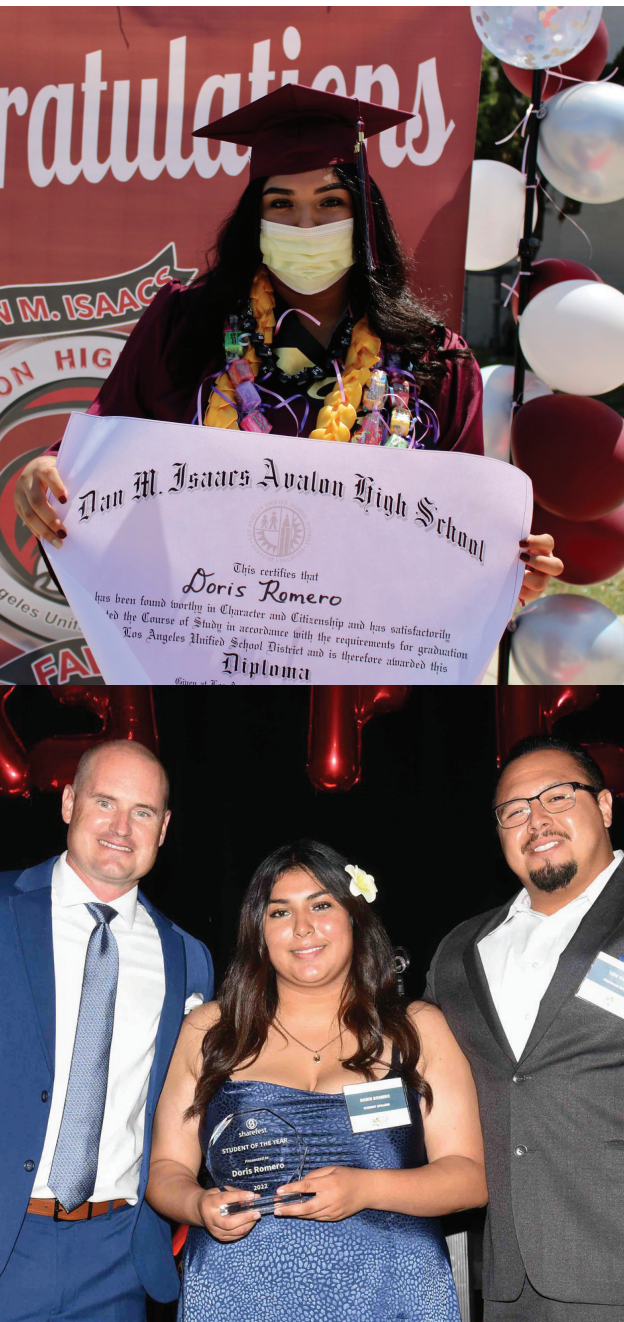
A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMER PROGRAM STUDENT'S STORY OF SUCCESS

Jonathan met Sharefest at Simon Rodia Continuation High School in the Spring of 2022. Jonathan proactively sought out mentorship and guidance from Sharefest to help him get started on a career in construction.

He completed Sharefest's Summer Workforce Development Program where he was introduced to HireLAX. Jonathan successfully completed their 8-week pre-apprenticeship program where he obtained OHSA, CPR and first aid certifications. He has an apprenticeship lined up with the drywaller's union and is ready to start as soon as he obtains his driver's license. Fortunately, HireLAX is helping him to get his license so he can get to work! Jonathan continues to receive mentoring and support from the Sharefest team as he enters the workforce.



SHAREFEST STUDENT OF THE YEAR DORIS ROMERO



When Doris first met Sharefest, she had almost given up on herself. Her mom passed away when she entered high school. Doris' support system slowly collapsed as her brother was away at college and her grandmother was sick at home. Doris lost focus on school and her future. As a result, she transferred to Avalon Continuation High School in 2017 where she began taking Sharefest courses.

Doris says Sharefest became her support system, like family. She recalls one day Instructor-Mentor, Luis Guererro, overheard her saying she didn't think she could go to college. Luis quickly cut her off saying, "No, Doris. You are going to college!" He was right.

Doris earned her high school diploma in 2020 and became a student at Los Angeles Harbor College. To date, Doris has earned two associates degrees, one in health and fitness and the other in math and natural sciences. She is pursuing a career in nursing and recently applied to the nursing program at Los Angeles Harbor College. While pursuing her nursing degree, Doris is working for an organization that provides behavioral therapy to students with autism in LAUSD. She credits much of her passion to care for others to the experiences she had with Sharefest.

***"I AM PROUD OF HOW FAR I HAVE COME AND
I CAN SAY SHAREFEST MADE A HUGE IMPACT
ON WHERE I AM TODAY!"***



SHAREFEST 2021-2022 CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL LOCATIONS

WHAT'S NEXT... 2023 AND BEYOND

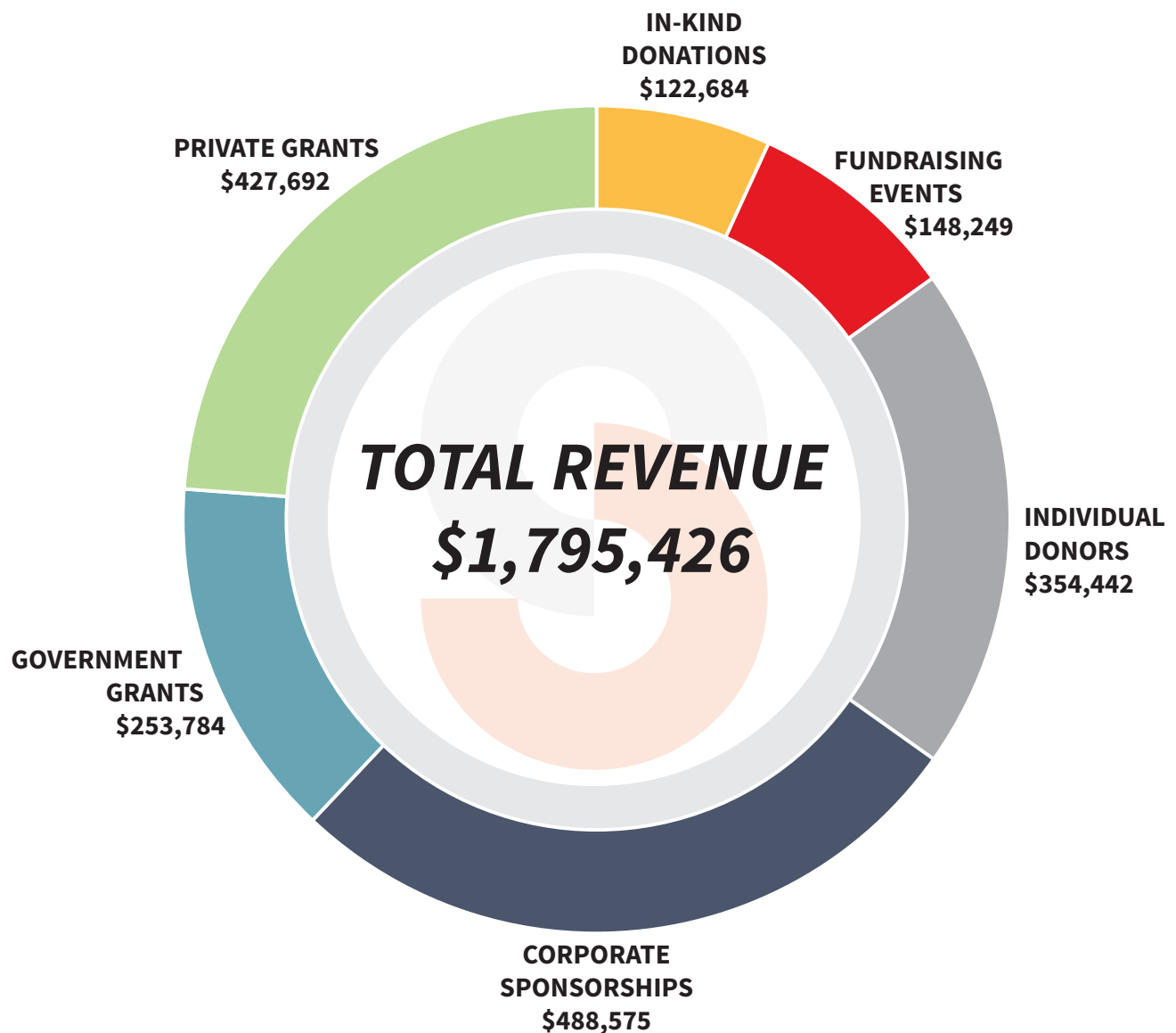
2023 will mark our 20th year as Sharefest! We are looking forward to celebrating the accomplishments of the past 20 years while also continuing to dream big for our future.

HERE ARE A FEW THINGS WE ARE WORKING ON FOR 2022-2023...

- We will be building partnerships with training programs and corporate partners so we can place students directly into career pathway internships and jobs that do not require a college degree.
- The Sharefest Workforce Development Summer program will be held again! We are actively building partnerships with other area schools who have students who would benefit from this program designed to help them transition successfully into post-high school life. Our goal is to fill at least 2 cohorts next summer!
- Our team will be continuing to build and revise our curriculum based on the learnings from the 2021-2022 school year. Additionally, we will be updating our logic model and evaluation framework.
- We are working on expanding our school services to add an additional 1-2 schools!

With our partnerships, supporters and students, the future of Sharefest is bright! We look forward to another year of learning and making an impact.

2021 FINANCIALS



Sharefest's work requires a tremendous investment. We pour more resources into each individual student than many schools and other organizations are able to. Why? Because we've found that following a student from high school into post-secondary pathways is simply the most effective way for youth to truly mobilize from poverty.

"OF ALL MY PARTNERSHIPS I FEEL THE PARTNERSHIP WITH SHAREFEST HAS BEEN THE MOST SUCCESSFUL AND BENEFICIAL TO MY STUDENTS."

- PAUL VALANIS, ANGEL'S GATE CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



CORPORATE PARTNER

MARATHON PETROLEUM CORPORATION



Marathon has been a loyal supporter of Sharefest for many years. In 2022 alone, they have completed 3 huge beautification projects, made a significant contribution directly to the Workforce Development Program and sponsored the Sharefest Grad Night Gala. *Their contributions in 2022 total \$134,000!*

Marathon's investment in community projects and local nonprofits is the type of partnership required for lasting community change. Each time Marathon takes on a project, not only does a school and surrounding community receive an incredible gift, their investment also funds the essential work Sharefest provides to youth.

Olga Chavez is the ESG & Stakeholder Engagement Rep at Marathon and is the real champion of these projects. She understands the essential connection between bringing pride and joy to a community through beautification projects while also ensuring students who often feel forgotten receive the resources and opportunities they need to transform their future. The partnership Marathon and Sharefest have cemented demonstrates how a day of service can become life change for vulnerable youth.



**“MARATHON IS COMMITTED TO INVESTING IN OUR
COMMUNITY. WORKING WITH SHAREFEST IS ONE WAY
WE FULFILL OUR COMMITMENT TO MAKING
PEOPLE’S LIVES BETTER.”**

- OLGA CHAVEZ

A SHAREFEST SUPPORTER'S STORY

LOREN SWEET

When Loren's father retired from Dupont, he began mentoring youth at a local school. He found it so rewarding that he began recruiting other retirees to join in the work. This memory is just one of the reasons Loren has been actively involved with the youth in the Los Angeles area for over 20 years.

Loren's first foray into LAUSD schools began at Carnegie Middle School in the 1990s where he funded their yoga program. He followed the principal from Carnegie to Avalon Continuation High School where he continued to support the students and leadership. It was at Avalon where Loren was introduced to Sharefest.

When COVID hit, Loren was struck by how much more impacted the students at Avalon were than others and wanted to do more. It was then he first partnered with Sharefest to fund the Alumni Program and has been a loyal supporter and contributor since. Loren believes there are many resources available for tangible items such as laptops. What's harder to find are organizations committed to helping students build supportive networks in their community and extending that support into college or career pathways. Loren sees the Sharefest team's empathy and ability to connect with the barriers students are facing as critical to students' successful launch into their adulthood.

“NOTHING IS MORE REWARDING THAN WHEN YOU SEE A KID WHO HAS GONE TO A CONTINUATION HIGH SCHOOL, MAKE IT THROUGH THE PROCESS TO GRADUATE AND THEN BECOME A COLLEGE STUDENT. SEEING KIDS WHO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY THEY OTHERWISE WOULDN'T IS TRULY INSPIRATIONAL.”

Chad & Loren look on at the 2021 Avalon Graduation



Sharefest's work is only possible with the generosity, support and partnership of individuals, organizations and businesses who believe that empowering youth will transform our collective future.

***THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR FUNDERS WHO GAVE
\$15,000 OR MORE TO MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE***

Angell Foundation

Annenberg Foundation

Balfour Beatty

CalCRG

California Community Foundation

California Department of Education

Chris & Rebecca Chapman

Cornerstone Construction Group

Crail-Johnson Foundation

Debi Raasch

Dwight Stuart Youth Fund

Fast Lane Transportation, Inc.

Fielding Electric

Golden State Water Company

Greater Los Angeles SIOR Chapter

Green Foundation

Janet Johnson

Jessica and Bernard Ibarra

JG16

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LA City Councilman Joe Buscaino

LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn

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Marathon Petroleum Corporation

Maureen & Stanley Moore

Melanie & Richard Lundquist

Pacific Premier Bank

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Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.

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Watson Land Company

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Youth Reinvestment Grant

Yusen Terminals

EMPOWERING YOUTH. TRANSFORMING FUTURES.

