



December 8, 2011

Dear Friend:

At 13, Josh is on the honor roll, loves to dance and dreams of all sorts of careers: as a scientist, mathematician or writer.

However, just two years ago, he wanted to kill himself.

That's when his loving aunt and legal guardian, brought him to the Child and Family Guidance Center in Northridge. For nearly 50 years, we've helped children and families deal with behavioral, emotional and mental health challenges.

In fact, our Center serves 21,000 children and families every year from across the San Fernando, Santa Clarita and Antelope valleys.

Some of these children suffer with diagnosis ranges from depression to schizophrenia. Others are victims of child abuse and domestic violence, or have been neglected or abandoned.

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Many but not all come from low-income families. Nearly all have nowhere else to turn.

At the Child and Family Guidance Center, we provide these children and their families with high-quality mental health care, supportive services and links to community resources—often at no cost.

Our comprehensive programs and services are nationally recognized and include individual, family and group therapy; parent education; gang prevention programs; in-school and in-home counseling services; community referrals and much, much more.

In addition, our exceptional school—Northpoint School in Northridge and Desert Pathways program in the Antelope Valley—serve children and teens whose needs cannot be met in traditional classrooms.

Josh, who had endured his mother's sudden death and his father's abandonment, found new hope soon after arriving at our Northpoint School.



**Josh, age 13
"CFGC saved my life."**

(over)

Child and Family Guidance Center

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“I saw a drastic change,” his aunt explains. “He stopped being so withdrawn. If he felt the need to hurt himself, he was able to voice it.” Soon, he was winning academic awards, performing in school talent shows and taking dance classes.

Without the extensive resources our Center provides, kids like Josh would never have the chance to heal and thrive. But to continue to provide these resources, we need your help.

Today, demand for our services is at an all-time high—just as government funding for mental healthcare is being cut dramatically.

Your contribution will help ensure that our critical services remain available for children and families in need. By investing in their health—and their future—you’re investing in the health and future of your community.

Without the extensive resources our Center provides, kids like Josh would never have the chance to heal and thrive.

As Josh puts it, “CFGC saved my life.”

On behalf of Josh—and all the children and families we serve—We deeply appreciate your support.

Sincerely,



Roy Marshall
President/CEO



Sari Scheer
Board Chair

P.S. – As we approach our 50th Anniversary year in 2012, demand for our services has never been greater. Please help us continue to provide critical mental health care to children in our community by making your tax-deductible gift today.



**Josh, age 13 and Aunt
“I saw a drastic
change.”**



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