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★ ★ Fostering Community ★ ★

# David & Margaret

## Youth and Family Services

### QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

VOL. 4, ISSUE 4, DECEMBER 2020

# Support D&M Today!



Year-end Appeal



<https://bit.ly/DM-Give20>



Shop the Center

<http://bit.ly/DMYFS-store>

Bright Angel Scroll

<https://bit.ly/DM-Scroll>



Shop Amazon Smile



<http://bit.ly/Shop4DM>

## Stay in Touch!

Always be the first to know about what's happening at David & Margaret. Sign up for our mailing list and join our community however is easiest for you.

**Our website**

<http://bit.ly/DMupdates>

**or by calling**

**Maggie Bohlman 909-596-5921 x3246;**

**or by email**

[info@davidandmargaret.org](mailto:info@davidandmargaret.org)

Learn about new merchandise, specials and offers at Dave & Maggie's Center through their monthly e-flyer

<http://bit.ly/storenews>

## Our Mission

*David & Margaret empowers children, youth, and families through culturally diverse services that foster emotional, educational, spiritual, and identity development.*

### DAVID & MARGARET YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOB DALTON, President  
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THOMAS TAYLOR  
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JUDITH WAGNER  
AMARYLLIS WATKINS  
KAREN ZUBIATE-BEAUCHAMP





# A note from John Norton, Chair, Community Engagement

Dear Reader,

Welcome to David & Margaret's final newsletter of 2020. For those who don't know me yet, I am a member of David & Margaret's board of directors and the chair of the community engagement committee. In these combined roles I am privileged to help shape the external work of the agency. It seemed fitting that I reach out to you, our community, as this very unusual year comes to a close.

2020 and the COVID-19 Pandemic transformed David & Margaret and our personal lives in ways that none of us ever predicted. We were unable to gather as a community and missed too many opportunities for you to enjoy the beauty of David & Margaret's tree-lined campus and share in the joy of working together. Like the rest of the world, we focused on coming together, virtually, through zoom meetings, newsletters, blog posts and even phone calls. All of at David & Margaret appreciate each and every one of you and the ways you have chosen to stay connected to the youth and families served at David & Margaret. Because of your ongoing commitment and caring the youth and families at D&M know they are supported even during a pandemic.

As the year comes to an end I hope you have been able to join us at some of our virtual events this year, and if not that you will do so in early 2021. Our newly opened, COMPASS Point Drop-In center held quarterly resources fairs and virtual tours so you could see how D&M supports Transitional Age Youth in our community. The Foster Care and Adoption Agency is offering frequent Zoom orientations and you can find out about participants successes and other services that are offered on our website and blog. The pandemic has forced us to be creative, but it has not slowed us down.

There are many ways we are reaching out in this newsletter and beyond to ask for your continued engagement and support for the youth and families that rely on D&M. Our year end appeal is in full swing and if you are in a position to do so your support will be truly transformative. There is still time to purchase holiday gifts for children in foster care through the Bright Angel Scroll program, and if you shop on Amazon Smile for your personal holiday shopping a portion of the proceeds will come back to David & Margaret. Whatever you are able to do, even if it is to just be aware of the services being provided, it matters and it is truly appreciated.

On behalf of my fellow board members, the staff and the youth and families served, thank you for your ongoing engagement and connection with David & Margaret. I look forward to renewing our in-person connections when it is safe to do so, and until then all at David and Margaret are grateful for your support and ongoing efforts to stay connected.

Thank you. May you and your loved ones be safe and healthy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John".

John Norton  
Chair, Community Engagement Committee  
Member, Board of Directors



# DAVID & MARGARET

## *Philosophy of Care*

every individual is of  
**GREAT VALUE AND WORTH**

every individual has the right  
**TO LOVE AND BE LOVED**

every individual has  
**STRENGTHS**

every individual has the right  
**TO BE CARED FOR WITH DIGNITY AT ALL TIMES**

every individual has the right and freedom  
**TO MAKE CHOICES**

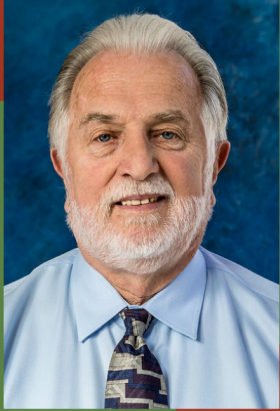
every individual has the right  
and the responsibility  
**TO ACTIVELY PARTNER  
IN THE PERSONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROCESS**





# MEET BRIAN BOWCOCK:

## D&M Board Member



Volunteer Spotlight :

**Board Member  
Brian Bowcock**



David & Margaret  
YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

### How did you first learn about David & Margaret?

Brian was first introduced to David & Margaret back in 1978 when he met Chief Executive Officer Bud Whitney through the La Verne Rotary Club. Bud had needed help with a water issue on campus and Brian went over to assist. Bud explained in detail to Brian about everything David & Margaret did and from that day on Brian and his wife have been a supporters and advocates. Brian's wife has mentored some of the young women over the years.

### Why did you decide to re-join the D&M Board?

I was on the Board for 2 previous terms and wanted to keep helping the young ladies pursue their dreams and get out of the "system".

### What is your current occupation?

I was the Director of Public Works for the City of La Verne (1978-2000) and I was elected to the Three Valleys MWD Board as a Director in 2001, representing La Verne and Claremont at the present time.

### Do you have a quote or saying that motivates or inspires you?

I have two - "Pursue your dreams, if you fall, pick yourself up and keep moving forward." "I will not fail"

### What is an interesting fact about yourself?

I have 3 children, 9 Grandchildren and 5 Great Grandchildren + another coming soon. Initially, I was going to be a police officer, most of my education was in Police Science. I started in the water field while in high school during the summer at 17 years old and loved the work. I ended up changing my major while half way through college, making water my career.

There are several new & returning members joining the David & Margaret board of directors this year. We hope you enjoy learning about our newest leaders, and discovering a bit about who they are and what led them to lead the organization during this transformative time. Today's interview is with returning board member Brian Bowcock.

### What is an accomplishment you are particularly proud of?

Attending the students' high school graduation at David & Margaret and working to convince the young ladies to attend Citrus College or Mt. SAC. Also, seeing the completion of the COMPASS Point Drop-In Center and being a part of it. I am always trying to make a difference in the community. I'm very proud to say I WAS THE GRAND MARSHAL in the July 4th parade in 2018.

### Do you have any hobbies or unique interests?

Water is my hobby for (60 years and still going strong), but giving back to my community is most important to me, whether at David & Margaret, the La Verne Chamber, Citrus Foundation, City of La Verne and community events such as the 4th of July committee (now in my 41st year), USC Engineering/Water Foundation and the Learning Center at the Fairplex. All of these have to do with helping young men and women achieving their goals through higher education.

### Where did you grow-up? Where is home now?

I was born in Ontario, Canada. came to Ontario, California in 1952 at the age of 10 and now live in La Verne and plan on staying here. I love this city.

### What skills/expertise do you bring to the D&M Board?

My whole life has been about water, construction & maintenance, buildings, management & budgeting. I am planning on continuing my efforts to help maintain and improve the buildings and grounds at David & Margaret to make them as nice as possible for the children, youth and families that use them.



# PROGRAMS & SERVICES



Supporting families through ongoing training, home screening & approval, around-the-clock support, child & family therapy, home visits, a monthly stipend and adoption services. The FFA works in collaboration with surrounding counties to place children awaiting homes with approved foster parents.

Twice a month our fost/adopt experts host a free Foster Parent Orientation on zoom! Join us the first Monday of the month for English and the second Tuesday of the month for Spanish. Or call 1-800-4-FOSTER and start your journey today!

## Foster Family and Adoption Agency

### New Beginnings Program

The New Beginnings Program provides a safe, loving & home-like environment to a small number of children, ages 6-17, coming into the country as they start a new chapter of their lives. The majority of these youth come to this country unaccompanied, without their parents, when their home country is no longer a viable option for them to live safely. Our team of trained, experienced and educated staff provide a nurturing experience while a suitable sponsor or guardian is located and verified to ensure the youth will receive all the care they need after leaving our program.



COMPASS Programs make up the various services offered by D&M, each supporting young adults who are aging out of foster care. Our dedicated staff provide individualized support to each youth, meeting their specific needs and providing the tools & support needed to transition successfully into adulthood. Services include career/college readiness, Workforce Training Program, COMPASS Point Drop-in Center, Supportive Housing, peer mentoring, paid internships and more! COMPASS Point Drop-In Center is now open by appointment only due to COVID-19 safety precautions .



**COMPASS Programs**

Creating Opportunities and Making  
Personal Advancements to Self Sufficiency



**COMPASS Programs**  
— at David & Margaret —





Joan Macy is a specialized, non-public school located in La Verne, Ca., serving at-risk youth grades 1st-12th in the surrounding communities. Students benefit from small class sizes, student-teacher relationships and individualized curriculums. A new semester has just begun! Do you feel your child could benefit in this kind of environment? If you'd like to learn more, contact your student's district or contact our registrar for more information! (909) 596-3173



## Joan Macy School

David and Margaret provides outpatient mental health services for Medi-Cal eligible children and youth up to age 21. Treatment plans vary depending on the individual. Services can include a professional assessment, individual, family, and/or group therapy, medication assessment & management, psychological testing, case management ,and rehabilitative services

David & Margaret also offers a Full Service Partnership Program for youth (ages 0-15) and families in need of intensive services. This program provides 24/7 crisis support, 3-4 weekly visits with a therapist and behavioral specialist, and more.

Our team of professionals offer in-person and tele-health appointments and are currently accepting referrals. Call 909-596-5921, x3510 to get support today!

## Mental Health Programs



## Dave and Maggie's Center

Dave and Maggie's Center provides the community with brand-name staple and other goods at deeply-discounted prices while providing paid internships to youth with a history of foster care.

New inventory hits the shelves every week, stop by Tuesday - Saturday between 10am and 4pm to see what's in store!



The LEC is open to the public and supports community members ages 3-99 with various difficulties by retraining the brain to accurately and effectively take in information, process it, and respond appropriately.

If you or your child experience difficulty concentrating, or struggle with reading comprehension, coordination, or short-term memory, the LEC is here to help. Call today for a free assessment!

909 596 5921 ext. 3152

## Learning Enhancement Center





# RENEW HOPE. INSPIRE CHANGE



*Because of you,  
Leslie is safe*

It's no surprise that as another year ends another year-end appeal has launched. The children, youth, young adults and families that rely on the services provided by David & Margaret Youth and Family Services are looking to you, to continue to support them.

So much of what is offered at David & Margaret Youth and Family Services only happens because of donors like you! The pandemic has made these programs and services even more critical for those that access them. With so many in our community being impacted by COVID-19 they need to know that they can rely on you and David & Margaret to provide mental health services, food distribution, housing, job training, paid internships and more. Your donations ensure these services can continue and are funded in such a way that they safely follow all social distancing and safety protocols.

Leslie, is one individual who needs you! She recently aged out of foster care without a family to call her own, nobody to offer her any support or guidance. She had a shared apartment and a job, and was getting by. But all of that changed when the pandemic struck. She lost her job, and the stability that came with it. Thankfully Leslie was able to get food and home essentials at David & Margaret thanks to donors like you. She was also able to access job training seminars and one to one support with a case manager to help her set goals and identify what she needed to do to navigate through the pandemic and beyond.

Leslie hasn't yet needed to find new housing or access counseling services, but they are available if she needs them. Again, those services are only here for the over 1,000 members of our community that rely on them because of donations like yours! Your gift renews hope and inspires change for those who need it most in our community.

**If you are in a position to do so, please donate to the David & Margaret Youth and Family Services year end appeal to make sure Leslie and others have access to life changing resources. You can make a donation at [www.DavidandMargaret.org](http://www.DavidandMargaret.org) or by mailing a donation to David & Margaret Youth and Family Services 1350 Third Street, La Verne, CA 91750.**

**Thank you for renewing hope and inspiring change this holiday season and beyond!**



# MILES MILESTONE

Miles came to the D&M Transitional Housing Program (THP) in March of 2019. He was eager to make changes in his life but really didn't know where to start or who could help him. Fortunately for Miles, he found the Transitional Housing Program at D&M. The staff at D&M saw an eager young man and were happy to support him in his journey. The THP program provides an apartment with a roommate to help young adults by providing a stable living environment. These apartments are based throughout the community to help participants integrate. The THP program also provides regular meetings with a social worker and other supportive staff as needed to ensure participants can access the tools they need to thrive.

Once Miles was settled into his apartment he was eager to find a job and start his adult life. He met with his social worker and discussed his goals and made a plan. His social worker introduced him to the David & Margaret Employment Specialist who provide coaching and the tools for Miles to hone the skills need to be ready to get a job. A result of his hard work and follow-through Miles was hired full-time at a gas station. Miles' confidence and bank account have grown as a result of his first full-time job. Miles continues to build on his success and is now working with his social worker on a plan to enroll in community college. He is considering several vocational tracks and taking the time to make sure he chooses wisely. When asked about Miles, his social worker had this to say " Miles' hard work throughout his time in the program is shown by always being punctual when it comes to



**COMPASS Programs**  
— at David & Margaret —

weekly sessions and showing determination through his work. He is not only capable of living independently but is exceptional when it comes to making his needs known to the David and Margaret staff. I am very proud of all he has accomplished."

Make no mistake these accomplishments are huge for Miles! He has gone from being unhoused and unemployed to a young man preparing to go to college and build a successful career for himself. Miles is a contributing and valued member of our community! We can't wait to see all that he accomplishes!

**If you would like to learn more about David & Margaret's Transitional Housing Program please see our website.**



## DROP-IN CENTER NOW OPEN BY APPOINTMENT

For current David & Margaret Participants



**COMPASS Programs**  
— at David & Margaret —

Due to COVID, COMPASS Point Drop-In Center is now open by appointment only for those Transitional Age Youth (TAY) currently enrolled in David & Margaret Services. The drop-in center provides a warm and welcoming location for TAY to access services and have a safe space to spend some time. They are able to have a hot meal, take a shower, do laundry, access a computer lab, and work one-on-one with social workers and other support staff to address any challenges they may be facing. COMPASS Point drop-in center also brings together community resources and services so that TAY are easily able to access them.

**For more information please reach out to us at [COMPASS@davidandmargaret.org](mailto:COMPASS@davidandmargaret.org)**







# FFA HOME STUDIES



**David & Margaret**  
FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION AGENCY

David & Margaret Youth and Family Services Foster Care and Adoption Agency (D&M FFA) offers many services that are designed to support the entire process of fostering and adopting. The goal of any child in foster care is to reunify with their biological family and the at D&M that is the focus of our work. The well-being of the children who are placed in foster care will always be what drives the work we do. Making sure that the children have loving and stable homes while they are in foster care means we are always looking for potential foster parents and families that will provide that loving and supportive home.

While a majority of the children will be able to return to their biological families there are some for who that is not an option. For these children the D&M FFA will work to find them forever homes though adoption. While many families want babies we urge families to consider adopting older children as well. There are currently 55,000 children in the California Foster care system, with 20,000 of them in Los Angeles County. Of those over 3,200 are not able to reunite with their biological families and are waiting to be adopted. About 1,500 children are adopted in Los Angeles County annually according to the LA Times.

For individuals and couples wanting to become foster parents they must complete a training process before they move on to their home study. This is a process that begins with an orientation, you can learn more about this process on the D&M website.

Some children will be available for private adoption, children placed for adoption by their biological parents and not through the child welfare system. These adoptions are often facilitated by a lawyer or social services agency that specializes in private adoptions.

For any type of legal adoption within in California a home study is required. The social workers at David & Margaret are well versed in this process and able to provide a home study for any type of adoption (not just foster to adopt situation). Interested families may contact the FFA to schedule an appointment to complete their home study.

The social workers at David & Margaret are trained in the process and are there to be as supportive and helpful as you need. It can be a daunting experience to have some much of your life looked in to, but they are there to address any issues help you be successful in your goal of adopting. Because they have completed so many home studies they bring many ideas and suggestions and know how you are feeling. They will be with you through out the process and make sure all your questions are answered.

**If you are interested in getting a home study completed or if you would like to learn more about fostering please find more information on our website or reach out to us at 1-800-4-FOSTER or [foster@davidandmargaret.org](mailto:foster@davidandmargaret.org)**

## Foster Parent Information Sessions

Learn everything you've ever wanted to know about becoming a foster parent! Join our expert staff as they answer any & all questions and discusses the steps and requirements to become a foster/resource parent!

Info Sessions offered two evenings a month and more by appointment!

[bit.ly/FFAinfosessions](https://bit.ly/FFAinfosessions)





Adopt a holiday wish list for a child in foster care  
or organize a holiday gift drive!

# BE AN ANGEL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE!

Sign up at [bit.ly/DMSroll](http://bit.ly/DMSroll)  
or email/call Ana 1-800-4FOSTER  
[DominguezA@davidandmargaret.org](mailto:DominguezA@davidandmargaret.org)



## CENTER NEWS Holiday shopping



Dave & Maggie's center is stocked and the staff is waiting to welcome you for your holiday and everyday shopping needs! You won't want to miss out on all the great deals. There are many many items that will make great holiday gifts, but hurry in as once our inventory is gone, its gone! There are new items hitting the shelves everyday and stopping by often is a great strategy to score some amazing holiday deals!

You never know what types of items you will find at the store. Some days you may find holiday gift wrap and decorations, name brand clothing and fashion shoes. Another you may find children's toys, fresh bakery items, and stocking stuffers. One thing for certain you will always find an amazing deal! The Dave & Maggie's team works hard to find the best products at the lowest prices. The staff is always happy to help you and are ready to answer any questions.

Did you know that when you shop at Dave & Maggie's Center you are supporting at-risk youth and families here in our community? The proceeds from your purchases directly support David & Margaret Youth and Family Services. Your purchases support children with a history in the foster care system, young adults aging out of foster care, school age children who rely on David & Margaret for mental health services and much more. When you shop at The Center not only do you find great deals for you and/or family but you are also supporting those in our community who need it the most!

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, policies and procedures have been put in place to ensure the safety of our guests and staff. Every morning from 10am - 10:30 am Dave and Maggie's Center is open to patrons over the age of 55 and those with a compromised immune system only. During regular hours,

the Center is allowing 15 guests to shop in the store at a time, ensuring customers have the space they need to properly social distance. Plexiglass partitions have been installed at check-out and all employees are provided with equipment to maintain the safest and healthiest environment for our community. Staff is also frequently cleaning to ensure a safe environment for all. And finally, masks are required via county orders.

**Dave and Maggie's Center is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10am-4pm, offering household items as well as perishables, pantry staples, over the counter medicine, apparel and so much more.**



David & Margaret hosts a food bank distribution with the LA Regional Food Bank. Food Bank distributions for qualifying members of the community will be held in December on 12/10 & 12/17 between the hours of 11 am and 3 pm.

For everyone's safety, the food bank distribution is now contactless. Simply drive-up to Dave and Maggie's Center, park in the designated area, and kindly open the trunk of your car.

**DRIVE-THRU  
FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION**





David & Margaret

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

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La Verne, CA 91750

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 Dave & Maggie's Center

YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING  
HEADQUARTERS

Shop for  
Good



Tuesday - Saturday  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
1351 Palomares  
La Verne, CA 91750



David & Margaret

FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION AGENCY



FOSTER  
PARENTS  
NEEDED

YOU CAN PROVIDE THE SAFETY AND STABILITY  
EVERY CHILD DESERVES

Call today to start your journey.  
1-800-4-foster