Jeff Bezos' Day 1 Family Fund Grants $1.25 Million To Time For Change Foundation

Time for Change Foundation (TFCF) has been selected by the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund to receive a $1.25 million grant to help provide much-needed services in the Bay Area and Inland Empire. The Bezos Day 1 Families Fund launched in 2018 to fund organizations that work to provide shelter and other support to families experiencing homelessness.

The Day 1 Families Fund issues annual leadership awards to organizations and civic groups doing this work, and the grants are unique in that there are “no strings attached” to them—we’re able to use these funds in the ways that will benefit our community the most. “I’m inspired by TFCF’s commitment to re-entry efforts and housing support for previously incarcerated women and their children,” said Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos. “I hope that this grant will help continue to serve families in the San Bernardino area during these challenging times.” The Bezos Day One Fund has selected Time for Change Foundation (TFCF) and their dynamic leadership team, Kim Carter – Founder and Vanessa Perez – Executive Director to be the recipient of the 2020 Day 1 Families Leadership Award of 1.25 million dollars.

The Day 1 Families Fund issues annual leadership awards to organizations and civic groups doing compassionate, needle-moving work to provide shelter and hunger support to address the immediate needs of young families. Currently, TFCF operates in 17 locations which spans from the Inland Empire to the Bay Area combating the effects of homelessness, family separation and the housing crisis. Since its inception in 2002, TFCF has helped over 1,700 women make the transition from homelessness and incarceration into self-sufficiency. More importantly, we have reunited 299 children from foster care back with their moms via our programs.

TFCF uses a three-pronged approach which includes direct services, advocacy, and community development. Dismantling structural racism and systemic barriers to housing and education while building the community economic infrastructure needed to support low-income families is what drives our passion and commitment to this work. “We are overwhelmed with the generosity of the Bezos Family Fund and humbled to know that the Founder of Amazon, Jeff Bezos, has truly committed his philanthropic efforts to helping address the housing crisis and supporting homeless families,” says Vanessa Perez, TFCF’s Executive Director.

TFCF is one of 42 nonprofits across the U.S. to receive the third annual Day 1 Families Fund grants, as part of a continuing commitment by the Day 1 Families Fund to help end homelessness for families. The Day 1 Families Fund issued a total of $105.9 million in grants this year. To learn more, visit our website www.timeforchangefoundation.org
From The Director

2020 was a year that allowed us to reflect and find what’s truly important in life, families staying together. We all had to learn how to adapt on the fly and although it was a trying year, we learned how strong and capable we are. At TFCF we found new ways to grow, new ways to help others and received new support from caring people who want to help those in need. We had many exciting things happen this year from receiving the donation of a restaurant to our new $1.25 million grant from the Jeff Bezos Day 1 Family Fund. We are truly blessed to be in a position to be able to help others in such an important time of need! We have added to the TFCF family by bringing in new staff and we are ready to continue moving forward in this new year. We have more growth to come in Southern California and we continue growing rapidly in our Bay Area location. Our annual Gala is coming in March, so be on the lookout for that! We have a lot going on in 2021 and we can’t wait to share it with you all! As always, we couldn’t do all of this without the wonderful help we receive from YOU, our partners. Thank you all so much for a successful 2020, bring on 2021!

Vanessa Perez

Client Spotlight: Ashley

Ashley has been with TFCF for just over 8 months. In that time, Ashley has done such an amazing job working for herself on her path to independence. She has been clean and sober since her release and has been fighting hard to get back full custody of her children. In November, she took another step closer to that goal by obtaining her own apartment! The 3 bedroom unit allows for her to have her own bedroom with each of her kids getting their own bedroom as well! We are beyond excited for how well Ashley is doing and we look forward to watching her grow even further. To see the story, check out the Docuseries we have about Ashley on our website blog!
Josephine's Story

Josephine came to Time for Change Foundation (TFCF) on August 11, 2020 after completing five months at Magnolia Drug Treatment Program. Since 2016 she has lived in various sober livings and has been in six different drug treatment programs throughout Humboldt County. Trying to maintain sobriety had been a struggle for Josephine, but her biggest motivator was her six-year-old son, Michael. Josephine heard about TFCF from another woman in the program and called immediately. When she called the staff conducted her phone screening and she entered into our Brighter Futures home for women and children a week later. Aside from trying to better herself, Josephine battled the child welfare system as she tried to regain custody of her son. Feeling like she was fighting alone, Josephine did everything she had to do to comply with what was asked of her and after only 30 days at TFCF she was able to bring her son Michael home. After two years of separation due to her addiction, Josephine finally got a second chance to be the mother her son needs. With the help of treatment and now having a stable home, Josephine has been able to remain clean and sober for seven months. “I’m so thankful for Time for Change Foundation, my son wouldn’t be as happy as he is here anywhere else,” Josephine share with us. When asked about what she likes best about TFCF she said, “I love everything about TFCF, everything they offer has helped me, I’ve been in every program, and nothing compares.” Michael loves his new home and expresses to his mom how happy he is now that he’s with her. Today Josephine is going back to school to get her GED and Michael is thriving in preschool.

Annual Gala Goes Online

Traditionally, we have held our annual Gala in person in April. However, due to the continued crisis of Covid-19, we have decided to take our Gala online! We will send out an e-blast when we have more information so stay tuned. If you are not signed up for our emails or digital newsletters, please visit our website and make sure to sign up so you don’t miss out!
www.timeforchangefoundation.org
Donations During The Holidays

This holiday season has come with dramatic changes to how TFCF typically operates. We were not able to accept used toys and clothing this year, but our supporters came through big with brand new toys, clothes, blanket and checks to ensure that many wouldn’t go without something this holiday season. We relied heavily on digital technology to accept donations through our website, Amazon Wish, and even Facebook donations. We still put on activities in our shelters and held our annual gingerbread house making contest, ornament making contest and gift giving days as well. Our mothers and children were beyond excited to receive their gifts thanks to generous donations from so many amazing people. Thank you to everyone who donated in 2020!
New Faces at TFCF

Time for Change Foundation is growing! On top of our expansion into the Bay Area, we have many new faces in our headquarters in San Bernardino. We want to welcome Amia Henderson, Veronica Rand, Aisha Esa, Tyra Lewis and Evan Morgan to the Time for Change Family.
Amia is our new program manager and will be overseeing many of our projects to ensure deadlines are met and our goals are being reached. Veronica was brought in to be a case manager and has been a blessing to our new clients coming on board. Tyra has a wealth of knowledge working with other non profits and we look forward to her sharing that knowledge with our Bay Area team. Aisha was a previous client that has overcome trials and tribulations to create a brighter future for herself and has grown into a valuable asset to our team. Evan has over 10 years of marketing experience as well as non profit experience that he brings to TFCF. We welcome all our new team members and look forward to a year of exceptional growth.
Public Policy Updates

ACA-6  What ACA-6 means for our clients is that they are now able to restore their right to vote if they are on parole. This is big deal as our client's voices need to be heard with their vote!

Senate Bill 555 will limit the amount that a county jail can charge for commissary and telephone calls. This bill helps our clients in jail or prison as it reduces their cost for making phone calls and personal use items without being overcharged for them.

Assembly bill 1196 is to stop the deadly force of a peace officer. A law enforcement agency shall not authorize the use of a carotid restraint or choke hold by any peace officer employed by that agency. There are other way to make an arrest without taking a life or using deadly force. This bill was in response to the death of George Floyd.

Thank You for Your Donations!

As always, we want to thank you all for your generous donations! Without you all, we would not be here and we wouldn’t be able to provide for our clients. You are all life saving heros! Many of you have signed up for our monthly contribution and it is a blessing to have donations coming in every month through this service. It allows us to continue to ensure our clients are fed and sheltered every month. If you would like to learn more about our monthly donation options, visit our website at www.timeforchangefoundation.org.

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To date we've helped over 1,700 homeless women and children reach self-sufficiency and have reunited 299 children out of foster care back with their mothers!

Jeff Bezos Day 1 Families Fund donates $1.2 Million to Time for Change Foundation!

"I've been reminding people that it's Day 1 for a couple decades...

JEFF BEZOS CEO AMAZON

Read more in our newsletter to see how Time for Change Foundation has been Day 1 from Day 1