



**CONNECTING
AND STRENGTHENING
COMMUNITIES**
IMPACT REPORT **2019**



Waymakers

WaymakersOC.org



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Waymakers has been both an invaluable resource and partner in having a **positive impact on the youth in our community**. Waymakers has given the Laguna Beach Police Department the ability to **engage youth during critical times in their lives** so that they can see law enforcement as their guardian in finding a healthy future. Waymakers is a true partner in creating a healthy community!”

—LAGUNA BEACH POLICE CHIEF LAURA FARINELLA

CONNECTING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

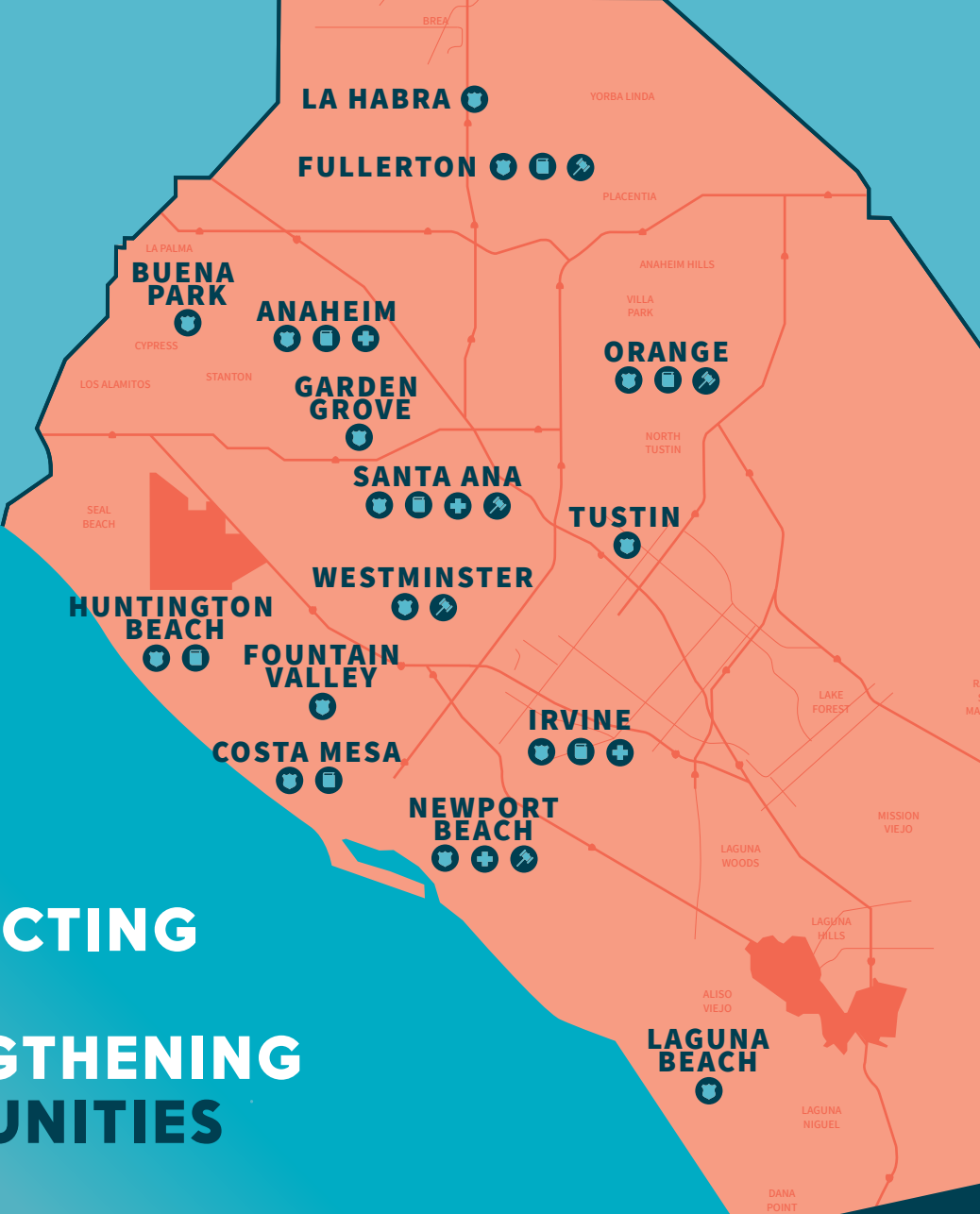
Law Enforcement


Educational Facilities

Health Care

Other Criminal
Justice Providers

Waymakers and our partnering organizations provide members of Orange County's diverse communities with opportunities that guide positive and lasting change. We work together to deliver programs that are innovative and assistance tailored to meet individual needs. Waymakers' team members and partners are located throughout the County, so no matter where you are, help is nearby.





Waymakers builds **safer communities** by **helping individuals** make their way through conflict and crisis to a place of **strength and stability**.

SHELTERING CHILDREN



Waymakers shelters children who are homeless, who run away, are abused, or struggling with mental health issues. To resolve the crisis and create a foundation for long-term stability, we connect families to community resources to create healthier situations at home.

1,694 youth and family members served

94% of youth successfully reunified with their families

SUPPORTING VICTIMS



Waymakers works to alleviate the trauma and devastating effects of crime. Collaborating with community partners, our victim advocates support those who have been impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, homicide, gang-related incidents, human trafficking, mass victimization, or other crimes.

22,399 crime victims served

\$1,876,031 financial restitution secured for victims

COUNSELING FAMILIES



Waymakers counseling programs guide families in developing communication, coping and decision-making skills. For the youth and families who arrive through school referrals, child welfare, juvenile justice, law enforcement or children's mental health systems, Waymakers counseling programs enable families to create more secure futures.

15,721 youth and family members served

25,157 counseling hours provided to youth and family members



RESOLVING CONFLICTS



Our mediation and restorative justice services have been life-changing for adults in conflict, as well as for young people beginning to adopt delinquent or disruptive behaviors. Trained Waymakers volunteers and staff find sustainable solutions that encourage positive behavioral change and improve Orange County neighborhoods.

4,120 disputing parties

62% cases successfully resolved

EDUCATING COMMUNITIES



Waymakers education and prevention programs work with a diverse network of community partners and media outlets to help mitigate risk factors and promote constructive decision-making. Programs span from deterring gang activity and sexual assault to reducing problems associated with alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

14,860 individuals received education trainings

163,315,286 impact/reach of media campaigns



STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Waymakers provides wraparound services by collaborating with our network of partners. From addressing basic needs such as housing and food to providing criminal justice advocacy, from assuring access to mental and physical health care to the opportunity to participate in enriching activities that range from education to workforce development, Waymakers wraps individuals and families with the resources and support needed to make their way forward with hope.

INTERVENING TO REDIRECT VULNERABLE YOUTH

By working to build safer communities, Waymakers plays a key role in mitigating gang participation. Part of a team led by the Orange County District Attorney's Office and partnering with Orange County police departments, school districts and other nonprofits, Waymakers focuses on positive outcomes for youth and their family members. In recent years, increased collaboration between community policing and gang prevention in Orange County has produced significant results for youth and their families. The youth we support are at high risk for gang involvement due to a multitude of factors. In the last year, 77% of youth served demonstrated improved school attendance, 60% reported improved resiliency and 60% of their parents reported improved family function. ▶

RECOGNIZING AND ENCOURAGING POTENTIAL

Adrian is an example of how Waymakers helps at-risk youth on a path to reach their highest potential. Adrian has been involved with Waymakers for two and a half years. He meets with his coordinator each week and attends workshops and events put on by community partners, including cooking lessons and sobriety groups. He is approaching two years of sobriety and credits the program as a "big part" in his success. He learned valuable job skills through a work experience program and secured a job with our partner, Monkey Business. Adrian used that experience to move through the ranks at Café Primo, where he is a cook. Working with community partners, he has found a passion for providing superior service and delicious food to customers. His future goals include becoming a chef and managing his own restaurant. ▶

PROVIDING A PATH FOR CHANGE

Waymakers fosters lasting change by helping individuals make their way past situations in which they were victims of crime. A young woman named Janine was born to a drug-addicted mother and a father who was in and out of prison. Janine's aunt and uncle adopted her and they worked hard to provide a loving home environment and an extended family, while helping her maintain a relationship with her mother. But Janine was haunted by the trauma of her childhood. Soon, her aunt and uncle began receiving calls from the school about Janine's disruptive behavior. Despite their best efforts and family therapy, Janine ran away. On the streets, she was targeted and swept into "the life" by a human trafficker. Janine was referred to Waymakers by GRACE Court. Through GRACE Court, Waymakers work closely with probation, social services and defense attorneys to aid human trafficking victims like Janine with family counseling, drug treatment, criminal justice support and case management. Janine, with Waymakers and her family by her side, is progressing on her journey of transitioning from "the life" to a new, more positive path. ▶

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