



Gratitude

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

GRATITUDE.

How else to describe our utmost appreciation to our donors during a challenging year?



**FAMILY & YOUTH
INITIATIVE**

YOU *make the difference*

To say that the social, emotional, and economic impacts of a global pandemic were much greater for young adults who have aged out of foster care would be a huge understatement. The data show just how hard 2020 was for these young adults.

The difference for DCFYI youth? YOU. Because of you, DCFYI youth have the same emotional and financial support other young adults receive from family.



Take Takia, for example. Takia turned 21– and aged out of care – weeks before COVID hit. Aging out is a shock under any circumstances. “You

don’t know what you’re getting yourself into,” Takia says. “I had to be out on my birthday.”

Always resourceful and industrious, Takia has worked consistently since she was a teenager. But almost as soon as the pandemic hit, she was laid off. She found another position but

had to give it up because transportation cost too much and was unreliable (bus drivers were allowed to skip stops if the bus already had a certain number of passengers onboard); other jobs ended when COVID restrictions changed or didn't deliver the full-time hours she needed. In between were long stretches of job hunting with nothing to be found, which depleted her savings.

It's been a rollercoaster, and frustrating. Takia could not tap into the same family resources available to a young adult who didn't grow up in foster care, yet she had the usual expenses: rent, transportation, food, phone.

While Takia now has a steady job, she is still recovering from the economic damage of 2020. Fortunately, DCFYI was there to

The pandemic negatively impacted the lives of young adults who had aged out of foster care. Over two-thirds of the respondents of a national survey conducted by FosterClub lost employment (became unemployed, had their hours reduced) due to the pandemic.

*How has COVID impacted your employment?
(youth could select more than one answer)*

<i>Employed Young Adults</i>	<i>#</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>I am not sure yet of the impact</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>I was laid off because of the crisis</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>My employment status has not been impacted</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>My gig work has decreased</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>My hours have been severely cut</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>41</i>

provide financial assistance through our *Fund for Critical Needs* – paying for groceries, covering some transportation, and helping with rent. This allowed Takia to buy food, get to new jobs, and to stay housed when she was at risk of eviction.

Takia contrasts DCFYI with her other experiences through 14 years in foster care. “I’ve seen a lot of people come and go,” she says. “A lot of people turn their heads.”



Takia and Bill at brunch, a favorite thing to do.

One person who has never turned his head is Takia’s DCFYI mentor, Bill Trunk. He has been there every step of the way: giving advice and support during regular phone contact, while sharing meals and on trips to buy needed groceries. “I love my mentor. He’s really good to me,” she says. “I’m not scared to talk to him; I can be my natural self and just be me.”

Her closeness to DCFYI Director Susan Punnett, who is saved in Takia’s phone as “Grandma,” has been another constant. “Miss Susan is family,” Takia says. “It’s a different type of love. It’s irreplaceable. When I turned 21, she didn’t tell me I had to leave the program. She talked like this would be my forever home.”

Our Mission

DCFI creates a supportive community and lasting relationships for teens and young adults who are in or have aged out of foster care.

DCFYI responded to the challenges of COVID-19 by adapting programming due to safety concerns while still fulfilling our mission. We held full events in January and February before the COVID-19 outbreak and then shifted to virtual events. In the fall, we were able to hold some small outdoor events. Given safety uncertainties around in-person meetings and the inability to match new teens, we placed a temporary hold on new teen referrals. As a result, the average age of participants increased, with more of them aging out of foster care.

Despite COVID-19, we continued to recruit and train new volunteers.

Current volunteers more than stepped up to the challenges faced by DCFYI youth, providing even more support to both those in foster care and those who had aged out.

	2020	2019
Teens in program	18	27
Young adults aged out of foster care in program	18	13
Prospective volunteers who attended orientation session	58	79
Youth (teens and young adults) matched with mentors	25	28
Teens matched with host families	1	2
Teens placed for adoption	2	0
Teens whose adoption was finalized	1	1

DCFYI

INCOME STATEMENT (Profit & Loss)

	2020	2019
REVENUE & SUPPORT		
Grants	\$60,000	\$35,000
Contributions from Individuals	\$100,602	\$76,280
Contributions from Organizations/Foundations	\$33,246	\$19,312
Contributions from Fundraising Event	\$47,500	\$63,309
Other Income (includes Employer Match and Interest)	\$7,943	\$7,156
TOTAL REVENUE & SUPPORT	\$249,290	\$201,057
EXPENSES BY PROGRAM		
Program Services	\$150,395	\$124,074
Management and General	\$7,164	\$6,275
Fundraising	\$40,302	\$49,379
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$197,861	\$179,728
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$51,429	\$21,329

DCFYI

CASH BALANCE STATEMENT

	2020	2019
END-OF-YEAR CASH BALANCE	\$186,807	\$135,368
CASH BALANCE AS % OF TOTAL ASSETS	94%	93%



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