

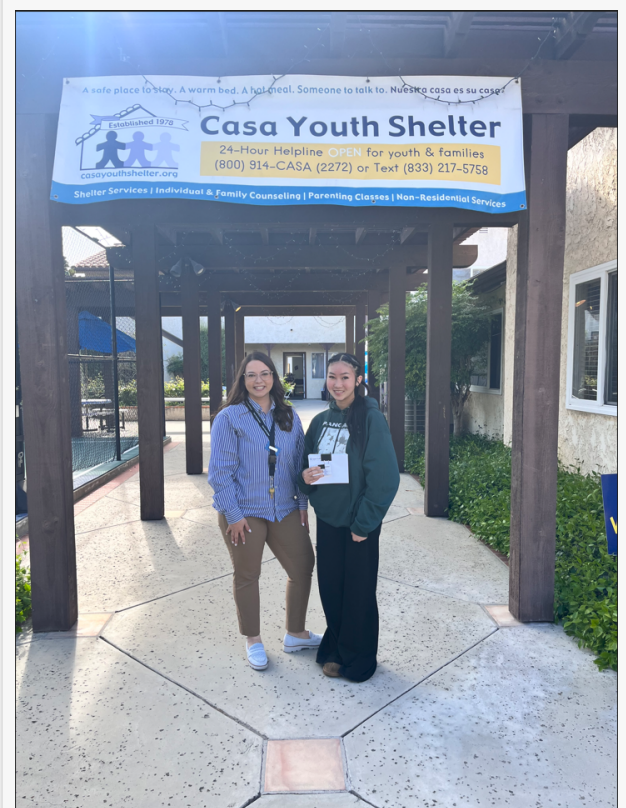
Gumbiner Grant Empowers Casa Youth Shelter to Launch Casa Cares

Casa Youth Shelter received a life changing \$350,000 grant from the Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation to fuel the nonprofit's new Long Beach based programming

LOS ALAMITOS, CA, UNITED STATES, September 26, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Casa Youth Shelter](https://www.casayouthshelter.org) receives over 800 calls each year from Long Beach youth in crisis who are eligible for services, yet only about 200 follow through on what can be life-sustaining support. Too often, young people feel their situation “isn’t bad enough” or experience a temporary reprieve in unsafe homes, delaying help until another crisis strikes.

Educators share similar frustrations, often hesitant to file reports out of fear that youth will be returned to unsafe environments with no follow-up. This reflects a system that reacts to crisis rather than preventing it—an alarming gap that led to the creation of Casa Cares. Thanks to a \$350,000 grant from the Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation, Casa Youth Shelter is launching Casa Cares: a trauma-informed, real-time response program that bridges the space between mandated reporting and meaningful intervention for youth ages 12–17 in the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD).

The program will: Deploy trained staff to schools when child abuse reports are filed, providing on-site crisis response and intake options; Offer counseling and stabilization services for youth and families, reducing the chance of recurring abuse; Provide court-approved parenting workshops focused on communication and de-escalation; Equip educators and mandated reporters with trauma-informed training and continuing education; Allocate resources for high school students 18 and older who fall outside of shelter eligibility but still face urgent needs.



Jennifer Ramirez, Development Manager, Casa Youth Shelter and Ava Samonte, Casa Youth Shelter Youth Leadership Program Member.

"As someone who went through every grade in the LBUSD, I know how urgent it is for Long Beach youth to have immediate help in their darkest moments. Thanks to the Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation, Casa Youth Shelter can respond quickly in times of crisis, not only for young people, but also for the teachers, counselors, and caring professionals who are often the first to reach out for help. Together, we are making sure no child in Long Beach faces crisis alone." -Lupita Gutierrez, Executive Director, Casa Youth Shelter

About Casa Youth Shelter:

Founded in 1978 by Myldred E. Jones, Casa Youth Shelter serves and nurtures youth in crisis with shelter, counseling, and support services. The nonprofit focuses on empowering youth to move through their crisis with increased confidence, stability, and tools for continued growth. The organization's vision is to create a community where all adolescents in crisis have a safe place to stay, in an environment that promotes personal growth and healthy relationships. Thanks to Myldred's vision, today Casa Youth Shelter thrives as a safe haven for a growing population of at-risk teens. Since opening April 7th, 1978, Casa Youth Shelter has never been closed, and continues to offer all services free of charge to any youth and family in need. Her inspiration lives on in the shelter's countless volunteers, donors, and friends. Casa Youth Shelter is located at 10911 Reagan St, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

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