



Dear Friends of Maryvale,

As we see a return to in-person work and social activities, it's a very hopeful time for so many around the world. But here at Maryvale, it's also an incredibly exciting time.

As Los Angeles County's longest-operating children's charity dedicated to serving children, youth and families since 1856, we spent the past year exploring ways to make a greater impact in the community by serving more people with a greater array of services as part of our three-year strategic planning process. Our opportunity was to envision the Maryvale of the future – the organization that will serve the needs of the underserved for the next 150 years.

With guidance from our board, several outside experts and a host of passionate supporters and community leaders, we authored a [strategic plan](#) that will shape the organization's near-term operations and long-term future.

Concurrent with this effort, Maryvale embarked on a brand strategy refresh to ensure our vision, mission, values, and marketplace positioning would both guide and propel us to the opportunities that lie ahead. We are so proud of the team effort and outcomes of these endeavors.

With more underserved children, families and individuals in need than ever before, we took a fresh look at ways to maximize our expertise and resources to make a greater impact on more lives.

The significance of the planning phase of our evolution was not lost on us. We closed our Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) last summer after much consideration -- a program with roots back to the original orphanage in 1856. This led both our team to ask, "What's next?" and "How do we serve the populations who need us most better and with the types of resources that will be most impactful?"

We are proud of the work we do every day to transform lives in the greater community. We will continue to offer and expand access to high-quality programs and services at our two campuses in Rosemead and Duarte, including early childhood education, before and after-school care, and mental health outpatient services for children and families in need. We are exploring the addition of child and adolescent substance abuse and dual-diagnosis outpatient treatment services to our offering to address the rapidly growing, unmet needs of our community. Timing for this would be the first half of 2022. And with a strong history and set of resources for the provision of transitional housing and support, we are committed to offering a continuum of housing solutions that provide shorter-term transitional housing to prioritized populations, while we also explore development of a longer-term community of support services.

As an example, earlier this year we partnered with non-profit Shower of Hope to provide temporary housing for female college students who were housing insecure. We hope to expand this meaningful program to enable more young women to achieve their educational and life dreams.

Most importantly, expansion creates opportunity: Opportunity to help more people, opportunity to employ more people. We will add a variety of staff as we expand our programs and services. We



anticipate a 15-20% growth in associates this year alone, with more to come.

Collaboration and partnership are other key aspects of our future. To fill the gaps of a fragmented societal infrastructure for the underserved, Maryvale will actively seek partners to expand the scope and reach of our programming and services, both on and off our two campuses. With this partnership and interest in becoming more connected with neighboring residents, schools, businesses and churches, we envision becoming a vibrant community hub for early education, parent and caregiver education, professional education, housing solutions, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and much more.

As we broaden and deepen the work we do, we are committed to serving the diversity of the region and will use principles of [diversity, equity and inclusion](#) and our own values as our guide. Additionally, as a steward of the planet, Maryvale will ensure that planning and operations incorporate and prioritize environmental sustainability.

Our work will be guided by our updated mission, vision and values, which you can find [here](#). While holding true to Catholic Social Teachings and the Vincentian values of our founders, we took inputs from key stakeholders and supporters and used those to shape the organization we want to become for the next century and beyond.

In closing, it is important for me to provide recognition and appreciation for all those who make our work possible. Our growth and long-term success are intrinsically tied to our government and private contracts, grants, and charitable donations. We are forever grateful for all those who help fund our programs and services, as some 84 percent of our students and clients are unable to pay in full for their services and need subsidized care.

We also deeply appreciate the commitment of our board of directors and the Daughters of Charity for their continued support of our work. Finally, I want to acknowledge all of our associates for the tremendous impact they make every day.

We are so eager to embark on this bold new journey ahead of us. The opportunity for Maryvale to change more lives has never been stronger. We are resolute in our commitment to help families in need grow and stay together, stronger than ever before, significantly improving the trajectory of those in our embrace.

Steve Gunther, MSW  
President and CEO