

# COMMUNITY CONSCIENCE

SUPPORTING HUMAN SERVICES UNDER ONE ROOF

## Annual Nonprofit Report 2025



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## Mission

The mission of Community Conscience is to provide a single location where human service programs are available and accessible at no cost to recipients and to maximize coordination among agencies.

## Message from the Executive Director

As the needs in our community continue to grow, the Human Services Center remains a vital hub where individuals and families can access life-changing support in one location. In 2025, we welcomed two new nonprofit tenants—MANDO Youth Development Group and Community Action Ventura County—and expanded space for the Conejo Free Clinic so they can provide even more essential services.



Community Conscience supports our nonprofit partners by providing rent-free space at the Human Services Center. Each year, our tenants report that this support is critical to their survival. By eliminating the burden of rent, organizations are able to direct more of their resources toward programs, staffing, and services that directly benefit those in need.

Today, fourteen nonprofit organizations work side by side within the Human Services Center, creating a collaborative environment where individuals can access multiple services in one place. Through these partnerships, veterans receive help with housing, food, transportation, and medical equipment. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities participate in life skills training, volunteer opportunities, and employment programs that foster independence and community engagement.

The Center is also home to organizations that provide counseling and trauma-informed care for survivors of family violence, child abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse. Low-income seniors receive assistance with essential home repairs that allow them to remain safe and independent in their homes. Uninsured and underinsured individuals can access free medical, dental, and legal services that might otherwise be out of reach. Underserved youth receive positive mentorship and training programs to help them transition into adulthood.

Additional services include grief counseling and hospice support for individuals and families navigating loss, as well as advocacy, education, and peer support for those living with mental illness. Programs focused on kindness, inclusion, and bullying prevention help create safer and more compassionate schools and communities. Expectant parents receive pregnancy education, medical guidance, and infant supplies to help them prepare for welcoming a child.

The Human Services Center also ensures that community members have access to harm-reduction resources, including lifesaving overdose reversal medication, fentanyl test strips, and connections to detoxification and rehabilitation services.

An annual survey of our tenant organizations shows that about 88% of those served are low-income or living in poverty, highlighting the critical role the Human Services Center plays in supporting our most vulnerable neighbors.

We are deeply grateful to our donors, sponsors, and community partners who make this work possible. Your generosity ensures that essential services remain accessible to those who need them most and that the Human Services Center continues to be a place of hope, support, and opportunity for our community.

*Robin Britt*, Executive Director

## What is Community Conscience?

Community Conscience is dedicated to strengthening the safety net of services available to individuals and families in need throughout the Conejo Valley. We own and operate the **Human Services Center**, a 22,000-square-foot facility in Thousand Oaks that provides rent-free space to fourteen nonprofit human service organizations.



By eliminating the burden of rent, these organizations are able to focus their resources on delivering programs and services rather than fundraising to cover facility costs. This model also allows nonprofits headquartered elsewhere in California to maintain a local presence in the Conejo Valley, expanding access to critical services for our community.

In addition to rent-free space, Community Conscience provides shared operational support for our tenant organizations, including landscaping, building maintenance, janitorial services, security patrol, and access to meeting and conference space. Each nonprofit tenant is an independent 501(c)(3) organization with its own board of directors, mission, and funding sources. Together, they offer a wide range of services and collaborate closely, often referring clients to one another so individuals can receive comprehensive support.

Housing multiple organizations in one location is especially valuable for those seeking assistance. Many clients rely on public transportation, rides from friends or family, or must walk to appointments. Accessing multiple services at a single location removes transportation barriers and makes it easier for individuals and families to get the help they need.

The Human Services Center also includes the **Ventura County Human Services Agency**, which leases space through a cooperative fair-market agreement that helps support the operations of the building. This partnership provides convenient access to important government programs such as CalFresh, Medi-Cal, CalWORKs, employment services, and a job resource center. The agency also refers many of its clients to the nonprofit organizations within the Center for additional assistance.

Community Conscience also provides a referral service that connects individuals and families with the help they need during difficult times. Many people reach out seeking assistance with rent, utility bills, or housing after experiencing financial hardship or homelessness. Each day, community members call or walk into our office unsure where to turn. By listening and guiding them to the right resources—both within the Human Services Center and throughout the community—we help ensure that no one has to face these challenges alone.

Through the Human Services Center, Community Conscience helps ensure that essential services remain accessible, coordinated, and available to those who need them most.

# **The organizations operating at the Human Services Center in 2025**

**Community Action Ventura County**

**Community Conscience**

**Conejo Free Clinic**

**Conejo Health Harm Reduction Vending Machine**

**County of Ventura - Human Services Agency**

**Creative Steps – Aurelia Foundation**

**Gold Coast Veterans Foundation**

**Holy Family Services**

**Hospice of the Conejo**

**Interface Children and Family Services**

**NAMI Ventura County**

**MANDO Youth Development Group**

**Ohana Health Clinic**

**PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center**

**Senior Alliance For Empowerment**

**Villa Esperanza Services**

## 2025 Mardi Gras Ball King and Queen

Each year, Community Conscience honors two individuals for their exemplary community service at our most successful fundraiser, the Mardi Gras Ball.

**Queen Patricia Jones** has dedicated her career to strengthening the Conejo Valley through arts, service, and advocacy. As President and CEO of the Alliance for the Arts (1996–2010), she helped build community support for the Civic Arts Plaza, expanding arts programming and educational opportunities for children while supporting local arts organizations.

A member of the Thousand Oaks Rotary Club since 2010 and President from 2023–2024, Patricia led successful fundraising events including the Chili Cookoff, Wine Festival, and Thousand Oaks Street Fair, raising record funds for Special Olympics and 44 local nonprofits. She also launched the “Don’t Bottle It Up” campaign to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health support.

Patricia has long championed seniors, serving on the Board of Directors of Senior Concerns from 2013–2023, including as Chair. Today, as Director of Special Projects for the New West Symphony, she continues to enrich the region through arts initiatives and youth music education programs that inspire and connect the community.



**King Jeff Blum** is a dedicated community leader, longtime Conejo Valley resident, and United States Air Force veteran who earned four Air Medals during his 4½ years of service. After returning home, he built a successful career in financial services and currently serves as Vice President of Investments at Raymond James and Associates.

Deeply committed to community service, Jeff has served as President of two Rotary clubs and is an active member of the Conejo Valley Rotary Club. He is also involved with the Calabasas Chamber of Commerce, serves as a Commissioner for the Goebel Senior Center, and is a Board Member of the Santa Monica Mountains Fund. Jeff has helped initiate many beloved local events, including the 10x10 series, the Calabasas Pumpkin Festival, Hands Across the Parklands, and the Senior Congress. He has been recognized twice by the Acorn Newspaper as a Top 10 Community Leader and received the Spirit of Calabasas Award.

Jeff enjoys spending time with his wife, Penni, their two children, their Australian Cattle Dog, and being a proud grandfather.

# 2025 Mardi Gras Ball Major Sponsors

## Platinum

**Athens Services**

## Gold

**Barbara Ashcraft, George & Jeannette Hutchison,  
Joanie & Richard Young, California American Water,  
Manchester Financial Inc., Ventura County Credit Union**

## Silver

**Fran Brough & Chuck Cunningham/ Ron & Pat Grant,  
Comfort Keepers, General Pavement Management Inc.  
Larry Marquart, Montecito Bank & Trust**

## Bronze

**City of Hope Thousand Oaks, Gerry & Laura Conway  
Grand Canyon University, Hospice of the Conejo, Sherrill Hyink,  
J Blum & Associates – Raymond James Wealth Management  
John & Maria Prescott, Wayne & Phyllis Rickert,  
PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center,  
Kim Flintoff Charitable Giving Fund**

## Special Sponsors

**Live Auction Sponsor: Jacque Turner Lockwood  
Photography Sponsor: Cecilia & Frank Bellinghiere  
Wine Sponsors: Cheryl Klepper, State Farm Insurance – Tom Metzger**



# City of Thousand Oaks Community Environmental Enhancement Grant

The beautification landscaping project adds a cheerful welcome to visitors.

We thank the City of Thousand Oaks for this opportunity!



**Before**



**After**



## Combating the Opioid Crisis through Harm Reduction



The Conejo Valley welcomed its first Harm Reduction Vending Machine, an innovative initiative led by Conejo Health, a valued community partner working to address the growing threat of fentanyl overdoses in the region.

The machine provides free access to life-saving and harm-reduction supplies, including Narcan (naloxone) to reverse opioid overdoses, fentanyl test strips to detect the presence of fentanyl, and medication disposal packets that safely render unused medications inert.

In addition to these resources, the program provides information on accessing medical detox services to help connect individuals to pathways toward recovery. By making these tools readily available, this initiative aims to reduce overdose deaths and equip community members with the resources needed to protect themselves and others.

## New Nonprofit Tenants to Serve the Community



**Community Action of Ventura County** provides a vital pathway out of poverty by helping individuals and families with utility bills, rental assistance, and home insulation to improve energy efficiency. In 2025, the organization was allocated 262 square feet of office space on the second floor in Suites 205A and 205B. Previously, East County residents had to travel to Simi Valley or Oxnard to access these services. With this new location in Thousand Oaks, much-needed assistance is now more accessible to local families.

### **Community Action Ribbon Cutting**

Executive Director Susy Lopez-Garcia was presented a commendation by City of Thousand Oaks Mayor David Newman in February 2025.



**MANDO Youth Development Group** is doing crucial work to uplift young people and create pathways to a brighter future. Our community faces significant challenges, including youth violence, gang involvement, and incarceration. MANDO works directly with at-risk middle and high school students, showing them that positive change and second chances are possible.

In July 2025, Community Conscience completed a major renovation of Suite 150, a 1,750 square-foot space that now serves as MANDO's headquarters. The renovation included the addition of a restroom, new office areas, updated flooring,

improved HVAC systems, and fresh paint. With this expanded space, MANDO has grown its mentorship and training programs. Staff and volunteers remain deeply committed to breaking down barriers, fostering positivity, and empowering youth to redefine their futures. Also in July, the Executive Director of MANDO, Marcos Aviles, was honored as one of the top 40 Under 40 in the Conejo Valley, nominated by Community Conscience. We greatly appreciate the tireless efforts of Marcos Aviles and are delighted the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce chose him as an honoree.



**Conejo Free Clinic** continues to expand its impact in the community. Last year, the clinic provided free medical, dental, and legal services to 3,397 uninsured and underinsured individuals—serving more people each year as community need continues to grow. To support this increasing demand, the clinic was granted additional space at the Human Services Center. In 2025, renovations began to add two new medical exam rooms, an additional dental operatory, and expanded workspace for its dedicated network of volunteer doctors and nurses.



Pictured here, sewer pipe replacement and connecting to the adjoining suite began in the last quarter of 2025.

## Maximizing Coordination of Services

Tenant Networking & Communications Meetings continued throughout 2025, providing valuable opportunities for staff, volunteers, and new employees to connect with one another and learn more about the services offered throughout the Human Services Center. These well-attended gatherings encourage collaboration and strengthen relationships among organizations serving our community.

Community leaders and partner agencies also participate in these meetings. Their involvement helps strengthen communication between nonprofit agencies and local leadership. Attendees report that these meetings help them build stronger partnerships with fellow service providers, enabling them to better assist the individuals and families they serve.

In May, we hosted a Spring Lunch in partnership with **Ventura County Credit Union**. During the event, each tenant organization shared a brief presentation about its programs and services. The gathering provided a valuable opportunity to increase awareness of available resources while fostering meaningful connections among agencies and community leaders. Also in attendance were the Mayor of **Thousand Oaks**, city council members from **Agoura Hills** and Thousand Oaks, and a representative from Supervisor Jeff Gorell's office.



On October 22, tenants and staff came together to celebrate **Unity Day**, a national initiative led by **PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center** to promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. Participants wore orange in support of bullying prevention and gathered at the Human Services Center monument sign for a group photo to show solidarity with this important cause.

Later that month, PACER closed its local office. Their presence and advocacy for youth and families made a meaningful impact at the Human Services Center, and their contributions will be greatly missed.

In November, we hosted our annual "GivingThanks" Luncheon to express our gratitude to the staff and volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year to serve those in need. We served a full Thanksgiving dinner, including turkey, all the trimmings, and pie, at the Thousand Oaks Inn and Banquet Center. We had 90 attendees. This event provided an opportunity for our Major Sponsors, Trustees, Advisory Council, and tenants to get to know one another in a relaxed, casual setting. The tenants were delighted to have a delicious feast and enjoyed interacting with each other.



## 2025 Organizational Governance

Community Conscience has a Board of Trustees that dedicates its time on an entirely volunteer basis. The Board of Trustees meets bi-monthly. All members are highly active in the organization, participating in various activities such as networking, updating our website and social media, fundraising, and project development. The following is a list of 2025 members.



### Executive Committee

Woodrow Brokenburr, President  
Larry Marquart, 1st Vice President  
Mike Cox, Treasurer  
Diane Milavetz, Asst. Treasurer  
Fran Brough, Secretary  
Dee Crawford, Past President

### Board of Trustees

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Barbara Ashcraft      | Natalie John   |
| Laura Conway          | Aaron Kitzman  |
| Dave Freeman          | Cheryl Klepper |
| Pat Grant             | Mina Layba     |
| Norbie Gregory        | Lauren Lerch   |
| Ella Hanstead-Meadors | Tim McDougall  |
| Stephen Hagey         | Don Phillipson |
| Sherrill Hyink        | Jacque Turner  |

### 2025 Advisory Council

Community Conscience has an Advisory Council, comprising of community leaders. The purpose of the Advisory Council is to provide guidance and direction appropriate to the mission and operations of the organization. Advisory Council members are invited to participate in the organization's activities and events, including Board meetings, where they hold a non-voting status. Members serve a one-year term and may be reappointed annually with no term limits imposed.

|                    |                  |                 |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Leonard Alexander  | June Glasmeier   | Maria Prescott  |
| Frank Bellinghiere | Susan Holt       | Phyllis Rickert |
| Danielle Borja     | George Hutchison | Hugo Roche      |
| Grant Brimhall     | Ricki Mikkelsen  | Ed Sahakian     |
| Chuck Cohen        | Peter Mogg       | Joan Young      |
| Frank Dawson M.D.  |                  |                 |

### Staff Members

Executive Director: Robin Britt  
Administrative Assistant: Marlene MacAulay

### City of Thousand Oaks Liaison

Sarah Mailes

## Financial Overview

Community Conscience is sustained by two primary revenue sources: the Mardi Gras Ball and a lease agreement with the County of Ventura. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, proceeds from the Ball and year-round donations have grown, strengthening our financial foundation and expanding our impact.

In 2025, we invested in our facilities by renovating Suite #150 for MANDO Youth Development Group. An unexpected HVAC replacement also added to expenses. While these costs increased short-term spending, they reflect our long-term commitment to quality space for our nonprofit partners.

The Mardi Gras Ball shows activity for the fiscal year 2025. Deposits for the event are received in advance and applied to the following year’s event, which helps with continuity and planning. Any income received in the previous fiscal year for the upcoming event is not included in this report. The net proceeds for 2025 were \$68,522.

Collaboration remains central to our model. Nonprofit tenants contribute \$0.35 per square foot toward utilities, covering 81% of total costs, while Community Conscience funds the remaining 19% as part of our commitment to shared resources and partnership.

Together, with our donors, partners, and tenants, we are building a stronger, more sustainable future for the Conejo Valley nonprofit community.



HVAC Replacement  
Following a Catastrophic  
Unit Failure

### Income

|  |                  |            |
|--|------------------|------------|
| <b>Interest &amp; Dividends</b>            | <b>\$8,953</b>   | <b>2%</b>  |
| <b>Donations &amp; Grants</b>              | <b>\$34,940</b>  | <b>8%</b>  |
| <b>Ventura County Lease Agreement</b>      | <b>\$163,944</b> | <b>39%</b> |
| <b>Utility Reimbursement Contributions</b> | <b>\$40,921</b>  | <b>10%</b> |
| <b>Mardi Gras Ball 2025</b>                | <b>\$148,087</b> | <b>35%</b> |
| <b>Other Fundraisers</b>                   | <b>\$ 24,629</b> | <b>6%</b>  |

### Expenses

|                                 |                  |            |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| <b>Payroll Related Expenses</b> | <b>\$119,041</b> | <b>23%</b> |
| <b>Administrative Costs</b>     | <b>\$ 33,967</b> | <b>6%</b>  |
| <b>Building Insurance</b>       | <b>\$ 18,307</b> | <b>3%</b>  |
| <b>Utilities</b>                | <b>\$50,786</b>  | <b>10%</b> |
| <b>Building Maintenance</b>     | <b>\$189,745</b> | <b>36%</b> |
| <b>Fundraising Expenses</b>     | <b>\$ 2,653</b>  | <b>1%</b>  |
| <b>Mardi Gras Ball 2025</b>     | <b>\$107,477</b> | <b>21%</b> |

## Facility Improvements: A Call to Action

For 38 years, the Community Conscience Human Services Center has served as a vital resource for individuals and families. To ensure the building continues to support our mission for years to come, several important upgrades are needed.

The northeast side of the building has experienced structural shifting—resulting in cracked windows and wall fractures—with a measured movement of nearly five inches. Underpinning will realign and strengthen the foundation. In addition, the original cast-iron sewer pipes have deteriorated significantly, leading to recurring clogs and service disruptions.

To address these improvements, we launched a GoFundMe campaign with a \$100,000 goal, including an immediate need of \$15,000. Every contribution helps preserve and strengthen this essential community resource for the future.



## Ways You Can Help

There are many ways to support Community Conscience, a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit organization, TIN #95-3310410. Please check with your tax advisor.

**In Memorial and Honor Gifts:** Your charitable gift is given to honor the memory or perpetuate the memory of a loved one. Following this donation, a letter will be sent to the designated person or family notifying them of your caring contribution.

**Monetary Donations:** Your gift of cash, check, or credit card payment can put your money to work immediately to help people in our community who are in need. This help is through programs offered at the Community Conscience building. You will be provided with a letter for income tax purposes.

<https://communityconscience.org/donate/>

**Matching Gifts:** Double or triple your gift through company matching gift programs for employees and retirees. To determine if your employer offers a matching gift program, please contact the Human Resources Department. You can maximize the value of your donation by following the company's procedures and identifying Community Conscience as the recipient.

**Donations of Stock:** Contribute stock that has appreciated in value and is eligible to receive a tax deduction for the full market value. This will eliminate the capital gains taxes you would have incurred from a routine stock sale. The stocks must have been held for at least one year. If you own stocks or other investments that have decreased in value, you may consider selling them and donating the proceeds. You may be able to deduct the loss from other income for additional tax savings. Together, the two deductions may be worth more than the current value of the investment. Please check with your tax advisor.

**Real Estate Donations:** Gift a second home or other real estate to Community Conscience either outright or by bequest. You can preserve your cash assets, receive significant tax and income advantages, and make a charitable gift at the same time. The gift of a remainder trust of your property allows you to continue to live in the residence for the rest of your life.

**Donations of Tax-Deferred Retirement Plans and Life Insurance Policies:** Donating retirement assets is one of the best ways to avoid costly income and estate taxes for your heirs. Naming Community Conscience as a beneficiary (or contingent beneficiary after the death of your spouse) of all or a specified percentage of any retirement plan assets can save your estate both income and federal estate taxes. You may also designate Community Conscience as the sole, partial, or contingent beneficiary of a new life insurance policy or one you and your family no longer require.