

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



SEEN52.ORG | [@SEENFIFTYTWO](https://twitter.com/SEENFIFTYTWO)

"While participating in the program, I got to show a part of me that many people don't really get to see... Another feeling was happiness because it was really cool to see my projects come together."

- Christina

Note from our Founder/Executive Director, Junia Kim

Love is a tricky concept. Often it can feel overused as a term, underapplied in action, or simply misused in general. The word is often left out of professional training for youth workers and educators, and yet, we know that care without love won't stick. Seen52's name stems from how we believe we can consistently and accountably apply love: making sure our youth are seen individually and known deeply 52 weeks out of the year, aka all year round. (Also, as fellow 90's kids know, the 52 makes a heart).

What began as a thought experiment of how we might marry social work and education to better support our most vulnerable students budded quickly into this year's pilot, Project re:Fresh. Thus began a fast-paced journey of learning, exploring, piloting, and pivoting. In the 2021-2022 school year, Seen52 opened two learning hubs in Oakland and Hayward, shut down after the first week because of COVID Delta, reopened, and hit the ground running. We provided programming through winter break, learned to bring our program to shelters, coached our youth through conflict resolution from field trips and other social mixers, and hired more staff through our youth-led panel interviews. By summer, our team of 2 coaches and one volunteer experienced 400% growth (or eight employees and a solid pool of fingerprinted volunteers), and we were able to run two full-time summer programs in Oakland and Hayward.

To be honest, I am still processing this jam-packed year, but I am also looking forward to this upcoming one, where we can begin to hone down on the best parts of what we've learned and truly optimize our program into one that continues to increase youth engagement and connect them with quality adults who truly see them.

With love,
Junia

Our Programs

Project re:Fresh

After a year of distance-learning, Alameda County contracted Seen52 to pilot a new program, Project re:Fresh, to support youth after the pandemic. This program provided learning hubs in Oakland and Hayward that gave middle and high school-age youth the opportunity to “refresh” their social muscles and build academic skills within a community.

Summer re:Fresh

Summer re:Fresh was a full-day, 3-week summer camp extension of Project re:Fresh. Our deep dive this year was Rocketry, where youth, from day one, began designing rockets, observing their results, and iterating on them. Youth practiced collaboration, design-thinking, and failing forward through the process of building paper rockets, water-fueled rockets, and eventually actual fuel rockets.

[Seen52.org/summer](https://seen52.org/summer) has all of their individual learning journals. We encourage you to go check them out!

Satur-Dives

Seen52 provides monthly field learning experiences or “deep dives” where youth can engage in spaces they might not otherwise have access to. From bouldering with Oaktown Boulders, to designing headdresses at Mannequin Madness, to completing a Game Design challenge at Visual Concepts, youth participated in place-based learning experiences and many social learning opportunities. Satur-Dives was our most popular program in 2021.

“Seen52 was an amazing partner and was integral to the success of our non-digital game jam at the 2K Games Novato office. Seeing the kids engage in the creative process would have been great enough, but on top of that, all the kids made a cohesive board game in less than 6 hours! Being able to help navigate the kiddos through the design process was extremely rewarding and fulfilling. I look forward to collaborating with Seen52 in the future and to continue helping their efforts to really make a positive impact on systems impacted youth.”

- Nathan Craig, 2K/Visual Concepts Unplugged Game Jam



What We Do

Our Mission

Seen52 seeks to provide a joyful, stable environment, trauma-informed community, and meaningful learning pathways to young people impacted by the child welfare system so that each youth is empowered with the tools necessary for thriving, healthy independence.

Our Vision

We are a ripple effect of empowered individuals who significantly impact generational trends within the Alameda County child welfare system and bring joy and agency to the greater SF Bay Area and beyond.

60.1%

Of participants are current and former foster youth.

55+

Youth served in the 2021-2022 school year.



Our Leadership

Seen52 began as almost a thought experiment of what could be if we married education with social work. Our founding team made this initial experiment into a reality by using their diverse professional experiences and their passion for working with youth to make them feel seen 52 weeks a year.



Junia Kim
*Executive Director &
Founder*



Taylor Anderson
*Lead Coach/Hayward
Summer Site Director*



Jennifer Sanchez
*Oakland Summer Site
Director*



Gabrielle Medellin
Administrative Assistant



Anjeliqueca Bajita
Coach



Jeanette Chow
Coach



Doris Flores
Coach



Jen Emmett
Coach



Jane Southwick
Outreach Coordinator



Sarrah Bagadi
Outreach Coordinator



Anna Harrison
Volunteer



Darin Wong
Volunteer

Our Advisory Board



Arielle Kovacs
Board Chair, governance



CJ Connolly
Board member, governance



Aatash Parikh
Board member, finance



Tina Diazdeleon
Board member, outreach

I have had the privilege of seeing the evolution of Seen52 since its conception in 2020. In 2021 I am proud to have contributed to the birth of Project re:Fresh to serve Alameda County in unique and impactful ways. As a board member I feel joy witnessing the transformation youth experience with support from Seen52 programming. Project re:Fresh has received positive and powerful responses showing the participants personal growth and describing feelings of trust and connection with staff and other participants. I am looking forward to continuing to work with the Seen52 community as we build on our successes in 2022.

With care and esteem,
Arielle Kovacs – Board Chair

Our 2022 Goals

At Seen52, we understand the power of providing youth with the tools they need to grow and develop as successful adults. Next year we are dreaming big! Our goal is to optimize our organizational capacity to position us to better serve more students.



Diversify our funding sources

While we are grateful for the various seed grants and the Alameda County Office of Education's energetic partnership, to maintain open enrollment for all youth, we want to think creatively about how we can expand our funding streams for the long run.



Increase program oversight

In our board's second year, we are planning to tighten accountability measures, more strategically handle partnerships, and optimize our finances.

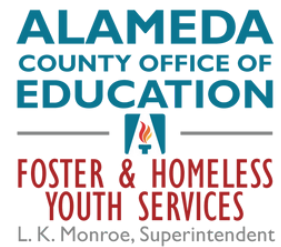


Grow Staff & Youth Empowerment

In the last year, our staff stepped up to provide socio-emotional check-ins to youth and lead long-term projects and field trips, while our youth leaders were the main drivers of our summer hiring search. Next year, we aim to create a youth action squad to give more power to our youth and support our growth.

Thank You to Our Partners and Supporters!

Your support made it possible for us to provide young people impacted by the child welfare system with the support and knowledge necessary for thriving, healthy independence.



Thank you to our donors

- Karen Yim
- Claire Huebler
- Don Nguyen
- Leona Han
- Nadia Tsado
- Katherine Suyeyasu
- Leanne Ebalang
- Daniel Mao

Get Involved

Help us provide a joyful and stable environment and meaningful learning opportunities to youth impacted by the child welfare system. With your support, we can empower our youth with the tools they need to thrive.

Donate.

Your donation will go towards making our programs free to any young person in Oakland who desires to attend.

- Donate \$150 to cover meals for a week for all youth.
- Donate \$100 to cover the transportation costs of youth for a month.

Volunteer.

Commit a year to investing in our youth!. We are looking for volunteers who can monthly attend field trips or regularly mentor a special youth.

If you are interested in becoming part of our board, Applications are open for a 22-23 year-long commitment.

Host a Satur-Dive!

We have so much gratitude to the folks who reached out and worked with us to create deep, impactful learning experiences for our youth. The variety and diversity of opportunities made it so that our youth could access opportunities for futures that they didn't know were possible!

- Oaktown Boulders
- Mannequin Madness
- Outward Bound California
- Visual Concepts (2K Games)
- Girls Garage
- Surgical Theater
- Special thanks to Yoots (yoots.org) for their support with transportation

Contact us to learn how you can partner with us to host a Satur-Dive!



**We couldn't have
done it without your
generous support.**

**Thank you to all our
donors, company
matches, and
volunteers.**

Please follow our journey and help
us spread the word about our work.



hello@seen52.org



www.seen52.org



[@seenfiftytwo](https://www.instagram.com/seenfiftytwo)



[/seenfiftytwo](https://www.facebook.com/seenfiftytwo)



"Thank you so much for caring and listening to me when I was having a hard time. I really appreciate it for helping me when I was struggling."

- Ivette





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L. K. Monroe, Superintendent

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