

## We Welcome New President & CEO

*“Throughout their history in Southern California, Lutherans have been involved in improving outcomes among the most vulnerable in our population. I look forward to broadening CLH’s collaboration with the many community and church organizations that we work with.”*

**Deacon Nancy Ackerman,  
CLH President and CEO**

Last spring, we welcomed Deacon Nancy Ackerman as president and chief executive officer. We extend our utmost gratitude to former CEO Bill Jennings, who continues to serve as director of special projects.

Nancy Ackerman joins us after serving on our board for the past two years. Her background is a great blend of ELCA congregational and synodical ministry, fundraising, and a love of the Lutheran Church. Her goals mirror CLH’s mission.

A minister of Word and Service, Nancy is rostered with the Southwest California Synod, where she assisted the bishop in overseeing corporate operations, stewardship and finances, policy and personnel, property management, legal matters, and more.

She’s a certified fundraising executive with 30 years of experience. She has led multi-million-dollar fundraising campaigns and provided organizational strategic planning, executive coaching, interim department leadership, assessments, training, and more. Most recently, she was a vice president at Netzel Grigsby Associates (NGA), a California-based fundraising consultancy.

“We couldn’t have found a more valuable asset than Nancy,” said Board President Robert Chillison. “She has dedicated her career to making a difference for those in need, both in the church and in the world. She is already making a difference at CLH.”

### A Message from the CEO *Continued from cover*

Change fosters growth. As you’ll read in this newsletter, CLH has expanded its ownership of properties to invest in community organizations with similar missions. We are providing “homes” for The Biddy Mason Charitable Foundation, and OC United, so that they can carry out their missions to advance foster youth and those who have been emancipated from the foster system.

Change also presents opportunities. Our mission to strengthen congregations is served by partnering with the Rev. Dr. Marj Funk-Pihl and Living the Resurrection. CLH is

proud to be able to subsidize the process for pan-Lutheran congregations within Southern California synods and districts. Please read more about it in these pages and consider whether your congregation is suited for change.

As we continue to navigate change, we’re bold and courageous, filled with the Spirit. We give thanks for all of you who support our mission with your prayers and financial gifts. Because of you, we are prepared to serve as change presents opportunities.

### Did you know?

From Santa Barbara County to Orange County, CLH has helped provide 100 affordable housing units, serving seniors, veterans, and former foster youth and their families.



## Biddy Mason Celebrates First Anniversary in New Home

The Biddy Mason Charitable Foundation, one of our ministry partners, recently celebrated the first anniversary in its new location in the Kinney Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles.

The location that Biddy Masson now calls home was purchased by CLH as a new home for Biddy and rented it to them for \$10 a month. “We don’t think of CLH as our landlord,” said Jackie Broxton, executive director of Biddy Mason. “They’re our collaborative partner.”

“Having a permanent home changed our whole trajectory,” added Broxton, who had been working from her



garage since co-founding the organization in 2013 to support foster youth. “CLH has a commitment to ending homelessness, and their purchase of this property gave us a beautiful place to do our work, host foster youth for events, or just let them hang out,” she said.

This unique CLH and Biddy Mason partnership is a good collaboration. The needs of foster youth are growing in the Los Angeles area. With more than 30,000 children and teens in foster care, it’s the largest program in the country. Foster children and former foster youth are in crisis, according to Broxton, who said approximately 9,000 new cases are evaluated each month.

The house also has an apartment where Biddy Mason plans to let four female college students live after the pandemic abates. The organization hosted its annual scholarship awards presentation in July, and a new event, The Exchange, last October, inviting youth to eat a meal together, play games, watch movies, talk, and hang out.

Biddy Mason grew out of a desire of members of First AME Church of Los Angeles and the greater Los Angeles community to provide support to foster youth. The Foundation is a 501c3 independent nonprofit.

Who was Biddy Mason? Find out here. [www.Biddymason.com](http://www.Biddymason.com)

*“Our partnership with Biddy Mason exemplifies CLH’s mission to help provide more affordable housing to those in need, as well as to lift up foster youth and support faith-based communities,”*  
**Deacon Nancy Ackerman  
CLH President and CEO**

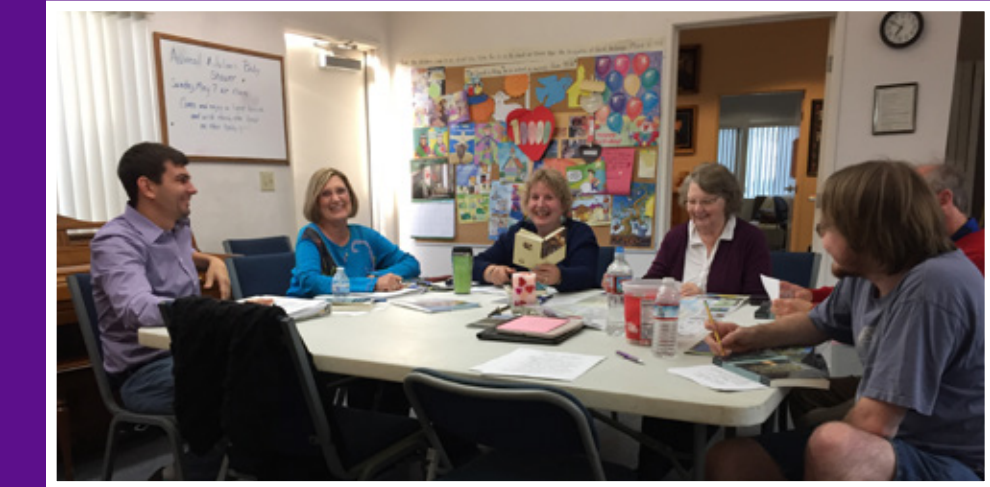
ONLY 50% OF FOSTER YOUTH graduate from high school

ONLY 3% OF YOUTH WHO AGE OUT of the foster care system graduate from college

1/4 OF THOSE WHO AGE OUT are incarcerated within two years

7-IN-10 GIRLS WHO AGE OUT become pregnant

CHILDREN AND TEENS IN FOSTER CARE are diagnosed with PTSD at twice the rate of U.S. war veterans.



## CLH Partners with Living the Resurrection for Congregational Vitality



*Congragations working the process*

In November, CLH begins a collaboration with Living the Resurrection, a vitality initiative to help Southern California pan-Lutheran congregations thrive through processes, workshops, keynotes, consultations, and coaching.

CLH funds the cost of a Living the Resurrection vitality program to make it more accessible to small-to-medium-sized congregations. The funding covers everything except a small materials fee. This congregational process helps churches explore the passions and struggles they face in diverse and changing neighborhoods. CLH funding will reduce the cost of the program for congregations in the Southwest California and Pacifica synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and the Pacific Southwest District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS).

The Living the Resurrection program provides eight workshops over 18 months to help congregations discern where God

is building connections, along with developing momentum for change, according to the Rev. Dr. Marjorie Funk-Pihl of the ELCA, founder and facilitator.

“CLH’s mission is to support Lutheran congregations in the regions we serve,” said CLH President and CEO Deacon Nancy Ackerman. “Our funding of Living the Resurrection is designed to help congregations be more vital and better equipped to do God’s work in their neighborhoods.”

Pastor Funk-Phil developed Living the Resurrection while serving the Southwest California Synod as director for Evangelical Mission. Although she had led medium-sized congregations for more than 20 years, she was challenged by how to help smaller monocultural congregations located in large multicultural neighborhoods. She created Living the Resurrection to help these congregations.

“Many of our congregations are in buildings designed for 150 to 200 people, but often have 30 to 50 people in worship on a Sunday,” said Pastor Funk-Pihl. “We want to help these congregations be more relevant and vital. Many congregations want to learn how to change but have little access to resources that will help them. We’re blessed and thankful to CLH for making this available.”

For more information and registration, visit [www.livingtheresurrection.com](http://www.livingtheresurrection.com). Contact Funk-Phil at [marj@livingtheresurrection.com](mailto:marj@livingtheresurrection.com)



## Mission Statement

California Lutheran Homes provides funding and other assistance for those in need of housing and human services through partnerships with congregations, community-based organizations and local agencies.

## Fundraising Organization Honors CLH and its President & CEO

Congratulations to both CLH and Nancy Ackerman, who were honored by the Association of Professional Fundraisers, Greater San Fernando Valley Chapter at its annual awards ceremony.

CLH was lauded as the Outstanding Foundation, and Nancy was honored as the Outstanding Professional Fundraiser.

The awards were given Nov. 4 in a National Philanthropy Day luncheon at California State University, Northridge.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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We're launching a website soon.  
[www.californialutheranhomes.org](http://www.californialutheranhomes.org)

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## Is a Charitable Gift Annuity Right for You?

Did you know that your donation could be beneficial to both you and CLH? A charitable gift annuity lets you accomplish just that. This type of gift is a win-win because you benefit, too. You can leave a legacy to an organization that is close to your heart and supplement your own income.

In general terms, a charitable gift annuity allows a donor to make a generous gift to a nonprofit with cash, securities or other assets. The donor takes a partial tax deduction for their donation and receives a fixed income stream from the investment for the rest of their life.

When you give a charitable gift annuity, CLH invests it in a separate account. In return, you receive a fixed monthly or quarterly payout from the investment account for your entire life. The payout amount is based on your age at the time of the gift. At the end of your life, the remainder of the gift goes to CLH.

In addition to the income stream, a tax deduction at the time of the original gift may be available. The deduction is based on the estimated amount that will eventually go to CLH after all annuity payments are made. A portion of the payments you receive may also be tax-free for a period of time based on statistical life expectancy.

We know this can be complicated to understand. We're happy to sit down and discuss it with you. For more information, contact President and CEO Deacon Nancy Ackerman at [nackerman@clh.us](mailto:nackerman@clh.us), or call 818-434-4264.

## Charitable Gift Annuity Rates

Age	61-62	64-65	66	67	68	69	70
Rate	4%	4.2%	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%	4.6%	4.7%
Age	71	72	73	74	75	76	77
Rate	4.8%	4.9%	5.1%	5.2%	5.4%	5.6%	5.8%
Age	78	79	80	81	82	83	84
Rate	6%	6.2%	6.5%	6.7%	7%	7.2%	7.4%
Age	85	86	87	88	89	90+	
Rate	7.6%	7.8%	8%	8.2%	8.4%	8.6%	

# Today

FALL 2021

California Lutheran Homes and Community Services

## Biddy Mason Celebrates New Home



*The Biddy Mason Charitable Foundation, one of our ministry partners, celebrated the first anniversary in its new location in the Kinney Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles. Seen here are the Foundation's scholarship recipients and a few photos of the new offices. Read more inside.*

*“CLH has a commitment to ending homelessness, and their purchase of this property gave us a beautiful place to do our work, host foster youth for events, or just let them hang out.”*

**Jackie Broxton**  
Executive Director  
Biddy Mason Charitable Foundation



## A Message from the President & CEO

2021 has been a year of change for the world and for CLH. Entering the second year of Covid-19 restrictions, we sought innovative ways in which to continue addressing the primary areas of our mission – affordable housing, and congregational strength and legacy.

In March, former CEO Bill Jennings stepped down after years of strong and faithful leadership. Bill continues with CLH as director of Special Projects. He is a trusted adviser, and his experience is invaluable to me and to the board. Thank you, Bill.

Among the most noticeable changes are our new logo and newsletter design. These will soon be followed by a new website and other materials.

STAY TUNED.

*Continued on inside page*