

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Stronger Together

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KFAM(한인가정상담소)'s 2021 Annual Report is out!!

In 2021, KFAM experimented with the new normalcy by creating hybrid services, created new programs to fill gaps seen during the pandemic and adapted to new technology to be more efficient. In 2021, the need of services exceeded KFAM's capacity. It was the most demanding, mentally and physically, and busiest year in our 38 year history. Our culturally competent and essential programs in Mental Health, Domestic and Family Violence, Asian Foster Family Initiative and Child and Adult Wellness served over 12,000 individuals in 2021.

In the second year of the pandemic, we had faced many challenges created by the pandemic, specifically the rise of violent hate crimes against the Korean and AAPI communities. In response, KFAM increased the following services for our clients: anti-violence advocacy, hate crime reporting training, mental health and racial trauma education, providing housing and grocery delivery services and training law enforcement on cultural competency.

We also tested the waters for a handful of our new programs, KFAM started a School Violence Prevention Program to reduce cyber-bullying and bullying, created parenting seminars, worked with survivors to build up their own businesses and focused on family preservation to prevent children from entering the foster system. KFAM continues to increase our range of services to cover a vast scope of work for the underserved and most vulnerable members of our AAPI immigrant community.

KFAM continues to be a safe haven for low-income, underserved Korean and AAPI immigrant families. Every day, we continued our work in mental health therapy and advocacy, housing for the homeless, domestic violence services and education, empowering survivors to get back up on their own two feet, training AAPI foster parents to provide safe, culturally sensitive and nurturing homes, and ensuring healthy nutritious meals for 3,000 children daily. KFAM remains to be the first and only AAPI focused foster family agency in the nation.

The pandemic changed life as we know it, but it has taught each one of us to be resilient and hopeful. KFAM is grateful for all the support and love received this past year, we are only able to uphold our mission and continue serving our community because of you. We truly would not be where we are today without the trust of our clients, hard-working staff, and the support from our generous donors. Thank you. We hope you enjoy learning more about our significant achievements and accomplishments in 2021 and thank you for helping us create bright futures in our community.

Sincerely,





Board of Directors

Charles Yoo, Chair, Capital Group

Eugene Kim, Vice Chair, Golf Co-Chair, Dr. Eugene Kim, Plastic Surgery **Lisa Yang,** Secretary, Golf Co-Chair, Governance, LimNexus LLP

Elisa Lee, Treasurer, JC & Associates

Jina Park, Event Co-Chair, PLUSH, LLC

Henry Byun, Event Co-Chair, Merrill Lynch

Anthony Kim, Hanmi Bank

Brian Choi, Centerstone SBA Lending, Inc.

Christine Oh, Open Bank

Jay Park, JPark Architects

Kenneth Seung, JR&K Properties LLC

Yun Kim, Emperor's College of Traditional Oriental Medicine





Changing <u>lives</u>, Strengthening Families

Since 1983

Our Mission

KFAM's mission is to
empower underserved
Korean American and
Asian Pacific Islander
families through
culturally responsive
programs.

Since its inception in 1983, KFAM has provided assistance to tens of thousands of Korean Americans particularly women, children, immigrants and low-income families.

KFAM specializes in providing **linguistically** and **culturally** appropriate services through its multilingual and multicultural staff.

Our History

KFAM was founded in 1983 by the vision of Dr. Tae Young Lee, Korea's first female attorney and an early advocate for women and children. KFAM opened its doors to help immigrant families devastated by economic hardships, immigration stress, and family strife.

The original mission and vision live on through KFAM's broad range of family intervention, mental health, and social services that provide an important safety net for

for community members. Our dedicated, skilled team of multilingual staff and volunteers serve over 10,000 adults and children each year with quality, culturally responsive services and passionate care that speak directly to the challenges among immigrant families undergoing trauma or adaptation stresses. Our services truly provide a vital safety net for resource-poor families without access to care.



2021 Pictures















































Volunteers

A PERSON WHO EXPRESSES A WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TIME, EFFORT OR TALENT TO MEET A NEED AND FARTHER KFAM'S MISSION



Groups

Bethany Church
Global Children
Foundation
Hwarang
Open Bank
St. James Episcopal
School
Umlaut Foundation Tutors
Youth4Ward

Individuals

Alexandra Park
Brendan Park
Cameron Choi
Carter Choi
EJ Shin
Ellen Lee
Emily Kim
Hannah Diep
Jaden Park
Jenny Seon
Jonathan Sheng

Lea Shin
Mildred Yi
Mina Yoon
Pearl Kim
Rachel Kwon
Sally Kim
Sam Ko
SoHyun Park
Soo O
Sophia Kang
William Choi







Staff

Alice Lee, MBA, AFFI Manager Amanda Jeon, AFFI Administrative Assistant Amy Yi, Finance Manager **Bola Kim, AMFT, Mental Health Therapist** Carol Sim, LMFT, Clinical Supervisor Catherine Feng, ASW, AFFI Social Worker Chloe Kim, LMFT, GBV Family Advocate Christine Chu, CCFP Home Manager Crystal Huang, MSW, AFFI Social Worker Emily Xu, AMFT, AFFI Social Worker Eric Chung, MSW Intern Erica Park, SAPC Manger Estee Song, Consultant **Eun Young Chung,** LMFT, Clinical Supervisor Grace Kim, GBV Coordinator Irene Chuang, MFT Trainee Jamie Yang, ASW, AFFI Social Worker Jane Park, AMFT, Case Manager and Therapist Jennifer Oh, LCSW, Deputy Director

Jennifer Yang, GBV Victim Advocate Jina Kim, AMFT, FFA Supervisor Joyce Kim, ASW, GBV Victim Advocate Katherine Yeom, MAT, Executive Director Kenneth Oh, Psychiatric Assistant Lauren Kwon, MEd, LMFT, GBV Supervisor Mi Young Kim, AMFT, Mental Health Therapist Na Young Ko, CCFP Center Manager Robyn Harrod, LCSW, AFFI Program Coordinator Seung Ryung Chang-Arredondo, GBV Victim Advocate Shana Lee, Development Manager Stephanie Choi, MSW Intern Sunhee Kim, LMFT, GBV Program Manager Susan Chung, MD, Psychiatrist Sylvia Kwon, LMFT, Mental Health Therapist Thomas Tae, DNP, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Yena Kim, Administrator Yumi Kang, GBV Victim Advocate Yunsook Choi, Office Support Specialist













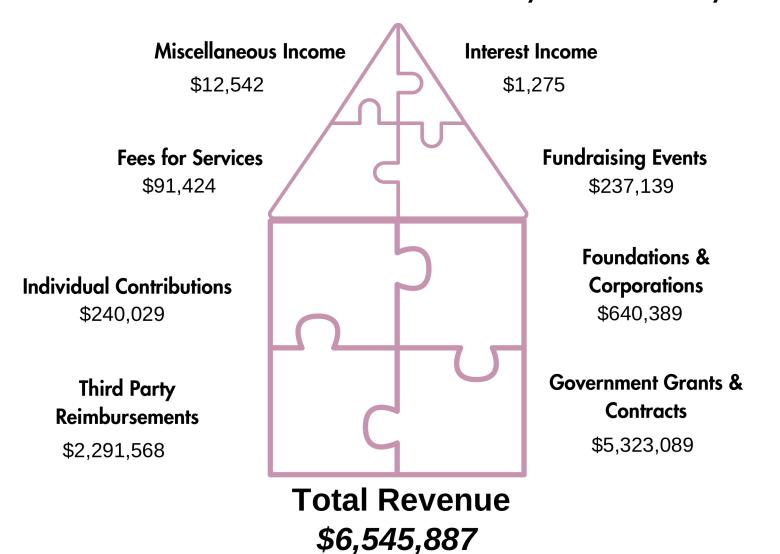






2021-2022 FINANCIALS

**New fiscal year June 2021-July 2022



GBV Program Services\$966,748

Child & Adult
Wellness Program
Services
\$2,842,587



General Admin & Fundraising

\$425,076

Services \$1,325,089



GOVERNMENT

California Offices of Emergency Services

California Partnership to End Violence

LA County 1st District Board of Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

LA County Department of Children and Family Services

LA County Department of Mental Health

LA County Department of Public Health

LA County Department of Social Services

Legal Aid Foundation Los Angeles

Orange County Children and Family Services

Overseas Korean Foundation

U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against

Women

\$200,000 AND UP

Albert Kim Foundation

Cedars- Sinai Medical Center

Hanmi Bank

\$50,000 TO \$199,999

Ahmanson Foundation

Calico CACC Co

Centerstone SBA Lending, Inc.

Helaina Foundation

JB & Emily Van Nuys Charities

Ralph M. Parsons Foundation

Santa Monica Nikkei Hall

Sierra Health Foundation

Thai Community Development Center

Weingart Foundation

\$10,000 TO \$49,000

Asian Pacific Planning & Policy Council

ACFLS Charitable Foundation, Inc.

AMKO Restaurant

Asian Pacific Institute

Bethany Mission Church

CALCASA

Capital Group

Cashstar, Inc.

CBB Bank

Children's Bureau

Christine Chang

Eugene Kim, MD

Henry Byun

KACF: San Francisco

Korean Consulate

Law Offices of Richard D. Hoffman

My Sister's House

**January 2021-June 2022

Oh Family Foundation

Open Bank

Dr. Samantha Han

Schwab Charitable

The Green Foundation

The Chung Family Inter Vivos Trust

ValorUS

Wells Fargo Bank

Woohyuck and Hye Jung Lee Foundation

Women's Foundation

Youngbum Song Foundation

\$5,000 TO \$9,999

Blue Shield of California Foundation

Charities Aid Foundation of America

Charles Yoo

Crowe LLP

Emperor's College of Traditional Oriental

Medicine

In-N-Out Burgers Foundation

JC & Associates

JC Sales

Jina and David Park

Jeremy Joe and Connie Chung Joe

JPark Architects

Kang Dream Foundation

Kwang S Chung

Lisa Yang

New Community SB Church

Small Rock Investments

The Chung and Soon Pak Family Foundation

United Way

\$3,000 TO \$4,999

Alvin and Joyce Kang

Angela Yoon

BCD Restaurants Inc

California Community Foundation

Cerritos Eye Medical Center, Inc.

CHA Hollywood Presbyterian Medical Center

Charles Yoo

Chung Suri Kim

City National Bank

Denise Lee

Emperor's College of Oriental Medicine

Jinzheng Group LLC

Jisun & Monica Ryoo

\$3,000 TO \$4,999 Continued

KABA Foundation LimNexus LLP Mindy Kim Saegil Christian Church SookYung Kim

\$2,000 TO \$2,999

AnnOne

Yun Kim

Asian Americans Advancing

Justice Bloomberg C.G. Kum

Joseph Young
Justin Surh

Pauline Panis

RocketCart Inc

Salesforce.com

Seum Church

Stephanie Onoshi

\$1,000 TO \$1,999

Abraham Nam Anthony Kim Scott Min Baroo LLC

Bohyun Bae

Brian Choi Caleb Liang

Calvin & Esther Lee

Chang Kyu Kim

Chang Lim

Charles Hung

Cindy Lee Dess, Inc.

Elisa Lee

Ellen Choi

Gallagher Bassett

Gary R. Davis

Harim Lee

Hey Jung Choi

Hyung Kim Jay Park

Jeanette J. Lee

Jina Park Jinna Kang

Jinro America Inc

Jongmin Kim

KABA

Kaye Kim

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods

Kenneth Seung

Legal Aid Foundation

Luci Kim

Mackone Development, Inc

Megan Moriarty Mijeong Bastian

Nancy Pak

Northstar Technology

OVW EMEN

Pacific City Bank

Park Dae Gam Ne, Inc.

Rebekah Chang

Rotary Club of Koreatown

Scott Kim

Seoul Medical Group, Inc The Dental Care Center The Spectrum of Hope

Foundation

Trauma Assistance Program

International

Tuffer Manufacturing Co

Yun Nam

\$500 TO \$999

Angie Chang Brian Choi Byung No Ree

Chung Min & Hwa Soon Lee

Dalae Management, Inc David Kim

EOHR Solutions

Eunjin Chu FALEO-LA

Inkook and Cathleen Chung

Jae Chung James Ko

Jenna & Jace Foundation

John Jin Kim Jungjae Kook

Korean Investor & Traders

Associate of Southern California

Lil Senseition Mark Demos Matthew Moy

Mixed Roots Foundation

Mixed Roots Foundation

Onp Construction, Inc.

Patrick Ban Paul Song

Peter Suh Richard Park

Salon Sona

Sara Lee

Shinae Kim

The Gathering

Vanguard Charitable

Wisekwak, Inc.

Woodmen of the World

\$200 TO \$499

Anthony Rosania

Arthur Heo

Barbara Sladeck

Charles Kim

Cliff Hong

David Han

Denny Han

Eduardo Garcia

Emily Kim

Emily Park

Erin Twitchell

Esther Yoon George Park

Hyesook Kim

Hyung Soon Chin

Irene Lee

Jaded Media, LLC

Jake Curtis

James Hann

James Ma

James Vasquez

Jane Kim

Jay Hong

Jean Kim

Jeannie Jung

Jechul Um Jennifer Chen

Jenny Park

Ji Young Hwang

Ji-Eon Jin John Choi

John Ok Joseph Lee



\$200 TO \$499 Continued

Ken Takada Kevin Mcnaney

Kiera Blake

Korean Cultural Center

Mathew Wang Michael Brett Michael M. Hong

Minae Yu

Milton Ordonez Moon Ja Chung

Nancy Lee Nicole Kim Pai Lien Du Peter Lee

Rachel Carfora Robert Chong Rohan Damani

Suk Yoo

Sukjoon Yoon Sung Chun Sungeun Yang Sunhee Kim Susan Palmer

The Wonderful Company

Foundation, Inc. Theodore Bang Tugba Kecik

\$20 TO \$199

Adam Amanse
Adam Waggoner
Alexander Ma
Alfredo Ok
Alicia Wright
Andrea Ra
Andrea Sung
Andrew Hong
Angel Aivazian
Angie Lee

Anna Gunning Anne Benedict

Annie Ree

Archstone Foundation

Austin Lyke Bo Shim Breezy Zhou Brian Byun Brian Choi & Yunsook Choi

Brian Kang Brian Wang Caroline Kim

Charlotte Duncanson

Choyeon Kim Christina Tortal Christine Han Christine Oh Cindy Lee

Cindy Yoo-Korneluk Dan Alexander

Daniel Park
Danielle Choi
Danielle Yu

Daphne Chantell del Rosario

David Lee

David Lim & Bong A Lim

David Ok David Park David Yang Diana Park Dong H. Ko Edward Han Elisa Lee

Emanuel Hahn
Emmy Tan
Eric Kim
Esther Lee
Eunice Lee
Eunsan Huh
Farah Joy

Farris Consulting, LLC

Frederick Ty Frontstream Ga Young Kim

Genever
Gi Song
Gloria Lee
Grace Lee
Gregory Chou
Harold Felton
Helen Kim
Helen Koo
Helen Yoo
Hyangmi Kim

Hye Kim

Hye Won Lee Hyun Oh

IAm Representatives

Association Ian Robbins Ivy Brown Jae Kim Jaebin Cha James Barr

James Barr
James Kim
James Lee
Janet Cho
Janet Yoon
Janice Lee
Jason Tomt
Jean Kim
Jeanie Cho
Jennifer Cho

Jennifer Chang
Jennifer Lee
Jesse Martin
Jessica Pak
Jia H. Jug
Jihee Huh
Jihyang J. Yi
Jiyoon Cha
Jocelyn Yun
Joel McLeod
John Chae
John Piccioni
Johnny Paik

Jonathan Park Joo Lee

Joo Yeol Park Joseph Kim JP Shelly Judith No Judy Chang

Julia Oppenheimer

Julian Ho

K. Freeman Lee

Karen Lee

Katherine Yeom Kathryn Kim-Zahedi Kathryn Legomsky

Kayeon Yoo Kelly Montez Ken Villa

Kevin Arceneaux

Kris Chau

Kristine Hong

Kyle Beeman

Kyoung Kim

Kyung Joo Kim

Kyungmi Shim

Laura Leung

Laura Miller

Lee & Han Construction Co

Lisa Sean Cook

Lorna Thompson

Louisa Wells

Lu France Interiors LLC

Lu Malvar

Lucy-Ellen Chun

Madison Smith

Marguerite Ho

Mark & Janice Hansen

Mary Bak

Mary Scelba

Megan Mercier

Mercedes Yvette

Mi Chung

Michael Cheng

Mightycause Charitable

Foundation

Mo Monte

Mina You

Minwoo Yoo

Miz Sensitiva

MIZ SELISITIV

Nate Rich

Nazareth Nirza

Network for Good

New Life Church of Irvine

Nick Bregman

Niki Shwarz

Pat Green

Pauline Yang

Peter Cha

Phillip Kim

Phillip Son

Poms & Associates

Public Media Group of

Southern California

Rachel Sullivan-Owens

Sally Dockery

Samantha Tran

Samir Alam

Samuel Pena

Sandra Lee

Sang Koog & Yoon Kyung Lim

Sang W. Ko & Na Y. Ko

Sarah Hong

Serapie Kim

Seyine Park

Sharon Cochran Jensen

Sheryl Hoffman Graham

Shojua Each

Soyoon Lee

Sooyoung Park

Stella Kim

Steve Chen

Steve Choi

Sujan Beck

Summer Dedick

Susan Dickie Farris

Tae Kim

Terry Shin

Tommy Han

Wan-Mo Kang

WE Drive-Ins

WE DIIVE

Will Park

William Peng

Xao Yang

Yeah Eun Kim

Yeji Mun

Young Chae

Youngwoo Lee

Young Sook & In Park

Yvonne Wu

IN-KIND DONATION

Aesop

Albert Kim

Angel City Brewery

Atomy USA

Baroo LLC

Buchalter

Centerstone SBA Lending

Christina Pou

CPR Creative Production Resources

Cutisus

Eugene Kim

Eve Hair Inc.

HiteJinro America, Inc.

Hope GOF

Hyojung Kim

ICSN, Inc.

Jeahee Pyo

K Boom Beauty Inc

Katherine Kim

KITA

Korea Ginseng Corp

Kristy Bae and Scott Kim

Lawrence & Linda Kim

Leslie Perry

Navien Inc

Nongshim USA

Michael Yi

Pura Collective, Inc

Scott Yang

Sohyun Park

Women's Foundation





Dear EFAM,

Many people have a fear that people will think they are crazy when they tell others that they are receiving therapy. People worry that they will be looked at differently. I also had these same thoughts when I first started therapy. I even regretted it after the first session. My whole life I kept the pain and suffering inside. I felt like I was the only one that was unhappy and going through struggles. I was constantly sad and filled with resentment. After 3 sessions, I began to see a small change in myself. After sharing the things that were weighing down my heart, I felt lighter.

나만 물병한 것 같고 의 나한테만 이런 시전들이 있는지

I was not able to look people in their eyes, but now I can look at them as I speak to them. And I have a lot more to say, even talking to people I don't know at the market. Not only did I get help with counseling, I also received help by receiving goods. They also helped me to get government assistance. It was my first-time receiving government assistance. At first, I was ashamed that I had to receive these things, but now I am so thankful. I decided to change my perspective to I will help later when I am in a better situation. Everyday that I felt uncertain and anxious, now I can breathe after accepting help. So now I look around me to see how I can help others and do what I am capable of.

Before getting therapy, each day was too difficult. Every night I thought to myself it would be great if I didn't wake up tomorrow; but if your mind changes, then your life can change as well. Of course, when you are in a good place, you don't need help. However, if your mind is in a dark place, it's hard to change by yourself. You are desperate for help. If you are not getting help because of fear or embarrassment, it's difficult to get out of the darkness. If you can have courage, get help and change your way of thinking like me then you can have the hope that tomorrow will be better than today. I no longer am sad or feel miserable. My life hasn't changed drastically, but my heart and mind have changed completely. I am confident that tomorrow will be better than today. Others may think that I am unfortunate or pitiful, but everyday I can say that I am happy. I want to truly thank the therapists that helped me change the way I think.



Asian Foster Family Initiative

KFAM's Asian Family Foster Initiative recruits, trains and supports Asian Pacific Islander (API) resource parents to provide culturally and linguistically sensitive homes to API foster children in LA and OC County. KFAM is the nation's first and only Asian Pacific Islander (API)-focused Foster Family Agency with services available in Korean, Mandarin, Cantonese, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

Programs and Services

Public Awareness Campaigns
Information Sessions and Orientation
API Language 20+ Hour Resource (Foster) Parent Training
Application Clinics
First Aid/CPR Classes
Case Management
Counseling with Positive Parenting Program
In-Home Support for Families

Foster Parent Support Group
Faith Based Support and Church Partnership
Referrals & Linkages
Volunteer Training and Respite Care
Gifts from the Heart: Backpack Drive
Holiday Gift Drive
Hanmi Dream Scholarship Program
Supervised Visitation

In 2021...

79 Resource Families Trained; 339 in total 36 Foster Children Placed; 127 in total 16 children adopted in total 3 teens moved to college













Child & Adult Wellness

KFAM's Child & Adult Wellness Program provides individuals with the tools, support and resources to meet their diverse needs and enhance their quality of life. We also connect our community members to a broad range of government, health, legal and social services to more comprehensively meet gaps in essential health and human services.

Programs and Sernces

Child Care Food Programs
Substance Abuse Workshops
Youth Mentorship and Health Education Program
College Readiness Workshop
Family Law Clinics
Financial Literacy Workshops
Tobacco Control Prevention and Policy
Senior Yoga

In 2021...

3,000 Children Served Daily 183 Providers 33 Community Based Workshops 9,348 Referrals made



Mental Health Counseling

KFAM's mental health services are culturally and linguistically tailored for adults and children. Our professional bilingual and bicultural counseling services promote recovery, resilience and positive change in the lives of our clients and their families. Our highly-trained counselors work with clients on personal conflicts, relationship problems, and other life challenges such as: depression, anxiety, grief, or loss, trauma, marital conflicts, parent-child conflicts, family violence, anger, acculturation stresses, and workplace issues. Counseling services are private and confidential. Our services are open to everyone regardless of income, insurance, immigration status, or other barriers.

Programs and Services

Child, Adolescent, and Adult Individual Counseling Couples and Family Group Counseling Psychiatric Medication Support Prevention and Early Intervention Services Integrated Services
1:1 Counseling
Parenting Class
Triple P: Positive Parenting Program

In 2021...
362 Clients Served
30 Seminars around Mental Health
982 Participants
32.3% Male and 67.7% Female Clients





Gender Based Violence

KFAM's Center for Women and Children provides free culturally specific and trauma-informed care support for family and domestic violence victims and families and victims of violence or crime. Our continuum of care – from crisis help, case management, to survivor support – helps them achieve safety, while empowering them as they journey toward healthy, violence–free lives. Our advocacy and prevention work involves training faith leaders to become first hand responders to victims of violence and partners in prevention education in the community. Recently, we have been expanding our victim services to include sexual assault and human trafficking survivors.



Counseling Services
Case Management and Advocacy Services
Public Benefits Assistance
Restraining Orders
Translation and Interpretation
Court/Policy/Hospital Accompaniment
Housing Assistance and Shelter Linkage

52 Weeks Batterer's Intervention Program
Teen Dating Violence Seminars
Financial Counseling & Workforce Development
40 Hour Domestic Violence Training
Life Beyond Weekly Survivor Support Group
Art Workshops for Exposed Children
DV Education and Training to Community/Faith
Leaders

In 2021...

193 Clients Served
170 Hotline Calls Received
58 Clients received Financial Support
90 Clergy Members Trained
7 Participants in 5 Small Business Training Classes



Events2nd Annual Golf Tournament





Share the Love

April 9, 2021









Events

38th Annual RISE TOGETHER Gala September 22, 2021























CLIENT TESTIMONIES

Joon came to KFAM when he was 9-years-old, he developed 12 different types of tics due to Tourette Syndrome that began due to the shock of his father's sudden death. His symptoms were caused by high stress and anxiety levels. He was very young and didn't understand why his father was not around anymore or why he couldn't see his father anymore. He woke up one day and lost his favorite person in his world. Joon was also very upset about the situation and started to resent his other family members.

Joon started to develop social problems; he was closed off from his family and friends and he was bullied at school for his tics. He was very shy at first and the goal for the first couple months was to work on stress management and grief processing together during the counseling therapy sessions. He started to show improvement after each therapy session. He was able to



discover what he liked to do, what he enjoyed doing, how it would make him feel and his counselor would repeat this process over and over to help him set up goals and treatment milestones for his tick disorder.

After a couple of months of sessions, he started to open up and smiles would appear occasionally during the therapy sessions. He started to pick 2-3 goals per week and wanted to continue being happy and finding different ways to bring himself happiness. The difference was very noticeable because he would be able to control and manage his tics, slowly one by one. With full support from his mom in implementing what he learned in therapy at KFAM, he would practice the skills at home. After eight months, Joon was able to eliminate all symptoms of his tics except for 1 or 2 minor symptoms. His therapy sessions around grief processing was also a success: Joon reported that memories of his father turned to good memories that he can cherish and remember and not to be stored as tragic ones. He was doing much better in school, he wanted to enroll in sports and re-developed his friendships at school.

ONE'S JOURNEY

I first met my husband in 2017 on my birthday through acquaintances. His bright smile and warmth reminded me of a young boy I knew in Korea. When I first met him, I thought we were destined to be together. After three years of dating, we decided to get married. I was in the United States on a visa and my husband was a citizen. After we got married, I was able to qualify to get a green card. **The first few months of our marriage were blissful** and we were busy moving into our new home to start our lives together. We spent the weekends buying furniture and glassware for our new house. However, shortly after, I noticed my husband would say things bluntly or choose words that would pierce through my heart like shattered glass. I just thought maybe I was being too sensitive and too reactive to his words and tried to not think about it in detail. He began to change, the sweet person who always showed me kindness turned cold and his interests were no longer in our relationship. I thought to myself if I try harder then I can change him back to the man I fell in love with.

My mother-in-law decided to move in with us and my husband agreed, so I agreed also. When my husband left for work, she would ask me why I wasn't cleaning or cooking and that my husband could have married someone better than me. She didn't like the way I cleaned the floors, or cut the green onions. Nothing seemed to please her. But, I kept my mouth shut and changed my ways and the things I did to make her happy and to keep her from shouting or yelling at me.

As time passed, it got worse, she started to throw things at me, push and hit me when my husband wasn't home. When my husband came home, she would tell him lies: like I only married him to get a green card to stay in the United States and that I mistreated her while he was away. I felt like it was my wrongdoing that was causing all our problems. I wasn't being a good wife or daughter-in-law. So, I tried my best to change and do everything perfectly for my husband, but I started to notice that he was an avatar controlled by his mother. They would say the same things, act the same way and started to treat me the same.





IN STARTING OVER

My husband decided it would be best to leave our home and live with his mother at her house and he would come to our home once a week. He said if I wanted to get my green card, I would have to listen to his demands. I felt alone and abandoned. But mostly ashamed and embarrassed, I had no one to turn to. I thought this only happened in Korean dramas, but it was happening to me.

What did I do wrong?

I was introduced to KFAM because of my legal status problem, but I learned they offered a wide range of programs that I could qualify for. I began receiving therapy, and learned that it wasn't my fault or my wrongdoing. This was my beacon on light and hope that I was searching for. Then, I began receiving services for Domestic Violence from a Family Advocate where I regained my confidence and wanted to become strong, independent and financially stable. I didn't know there was a place I could go, and they would believe me or help me. I felt saved and began building up my skills, to be able to stand on my own two feet. I knew I was rediscovering myself....

To the person I want to be.





3727 West 6th Street, Suite 320 Los Angeles, CA 90020 Monday-Friday: 9:00AM - 5:30PM

Office: 213-389-6755 Toll-Free Crisis Hotline: 888-979-3800 www.kfamla.org

KFAM Annual Report 2021