

#### **Celebrating Halloween**

This year's Halloween was filled with laughter and joy. PVSA volunteer Max and Joy Market Club members prepared Halloween goodie bags for our clients!



#### **Ascend Los Angeles: Inspiring Across Generations 2025**

Thank you to Ascend LA for inviting Deputy Director Jennifer Oh to be part of the keynote panel and to share about how we can all work together for a better future. It was amazing to see so many people looking to help and learn.



## **DONATE TO ENTER!**

- ★ Join our Instagram

  Live on 12/2/25
- See the rules on our Instagram @kfamla!





KFAM office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

November 27 to 28, 2025



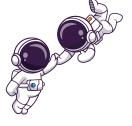
#### **Celebrating Thanksgiving**

This Thanksgiving season, KFAM partnered with Nongshim to bring warmth, joy, and delicious food to 250 members of our community!

Nongshim brought their signature food truck to share noodles and snacks and handed out gift care packages!



#### Fall Science Camp: Aerospace Adventures



KFAM is excited to partner with the California Science Center to offer Fall Science Camp: Aerospace Adventures. This hands-on experience gives youth the chance to explore, create, and dream big about space through interactive activities that spark curiosity and inspire future innovators.





# **ANNUAL REPORT IS OUT!**

CHECK OUT THE DIGITAL VERSION ON OUR WEBSITE!



KFAM supported thousands of children, families, and individuals through adoption and foster services, child and adult wellness programs, gender-based violence advocacy, and mental health care.



# **Holiday Cheers**



### From KFAM to our Community

We are planning a holiday pop up event in December! KFAM will be decorating, setting up the camera, everything studio ready for families to take beautiful holiday photos.

Stay tuned!

## **AFFI Foster & Adoption**

November is adoption awareness month



Catch up on KFAM's episodes about AFFI and adoption on our YouTube channel **@KFAMLATV!** 

# Holiday cheer for foster children and families...

If you would like to support AFFI families and children this holiday season, please donate to www.kfamla.org/donate.



## Mental Health







# The next generation of mental health professionals...

Mental Health intern Melody has successfully completed her training with KFAM and the team celebrated all she accomplished serving the community here the past year.

# Making in-language & culturally competent care accessible

KFAM Mental Health team was at the Yonsei Health and Wellness Expo. Making meaningful connections with 850 community members that came to the event and we are grateful to have had the opportunity to answer questions and share resources.

## November is National Adoption Month

KFAM wanted to share a story about how **forever homes** are created through our AFFI Department.

### "I ALWAYS THOUGHT I'D BE A DAD."

In my mind, I could see it so clearly, teaching my child to ride a bike, cheering them on from the sidelines, and holding their tiny hand as we crossed the street. But life doesn't always follow the plan or direction you dream up. After years of trying, countless doctor visits, and more heartbreak than I care to remember, my wife and I had to accept that we couldn't have children of our own.

Still, the desire to be a father never went away. It wasn't just about having a child in the house, it was about pouring our love into a life that needed it. We began talking about adopting and giving love to the children who didn't have anyone in their lives. After deciding that adoption was the path they wanted to take, he began searching online for resources and organizations that could guide them. That's when he stumbled across AFFI. The words on the screen seemed to speak directly to him, about culture, safe, and the power of giving a child a home where they feel truly understood. It felt less like a coincidence and more like a sign. Without hesitation, he called the number, not knowing that single act would change all of their lives forever. That's what brought us to fostering.

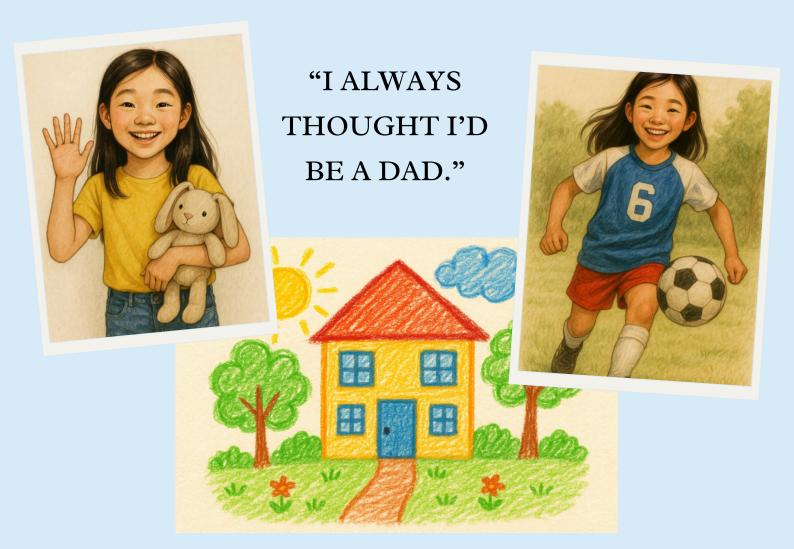
I'll never forget the day the call came. A one-year-old girl. Malnourished. Hurt. In need of a safe place. The caseworker's voice was steady, but her words hit me like a punch to the chest. When they placed that little girl in my arms, I felt my whole world shift. She was so small, far too small for her age. Her bones pressed against my hands through the thin fabric of her clothes. Small, round scars circled her wrists, cigarette burns. She didn't cry, didn't reach for us. She just stared at me with eyes that seemed older than they should be, as if she'd already learned that life could hurt you. Without thinking, I pulled her closer. My wife wrapped her arms around us, and the three of us stood there in the quiet, holding on. In that moment, I made a promise, no one would ever hurt her again. Not as long as I lived.

The first weeks were slow and careful. She barely ate at first, so we celebrated every spoonful she took. She hardly made a sound, so the first time she laughed, really laughed, it felt like sunlight breaking through a storm. My wife and I took turns rocking her to sleep, singing softly until her tiny body relaxed in our arms.

As the months passed, the changes came little by little. Her cheeks filled out. Her legs grew strong. Her eyes began to sparkle. Soon, she was running through the backyard, chasing bubbles, tumbling into our arms with unsteady toddler steps. Every scraped knee, every birthday cake, every bedtime story was another stitch in the life we were building together.

Now, years later, she's a completely different girl. She's healthy. She's strong. She plays soccer with a competitive grin and comes home flushed with excitement, chattering about goals scored and friends made. She laughs easily, so much so that sometimes I catch myself just watching her, amazed that this radiant, smiling girl is the same one who once fit, trembling and silent, in my arms.

The day we adopted her; she wore a bright yellow top, blue jeans and clutched her favorite stuffed bunny. As we left the courthouse, she slipped her hand into mine and said, "I love you, Daddy." My throat tightened so much I could barely answer. That night, as I tucked her into bed, she gave me the same smile she wears on the field and whispered it again, "I love you, Daddy." I kissed her forehead and thought back to that promise I made on the day we met. No one would ever hurt her again. Not as long as I lived. And I knew, without a doubt, she would be my daughter, for the rest of my life.



Gender-Based Violence



#### She's Club wraps up this season in preparation for next year

Inviting Korean community leaders to organize small group meetings that encourage open conversations about domestic violence and promote awareness in the community. Wrapping up 2025, members reflected on their time together and discussed how they can continue to raise

awareness in their community.

## 2-Day Retreat: Domestic violence case workshop and healing art session

Engaging in discussions based on adapted real-life cases to explore how to better support survivors. Sharing their experiences and reflecting on their own emotions through a healing calligraphy session.



## Outreach at the Youngnak Church

GBV Director Sunhee Kim and Supervisor Lauren Kwon spoke at Youngnak Church, sharing insights on building healthy parent-child relationships.

We hosted a tabling outreach to engage with the community and share about KFAM's in-language programs & services.



### Building a network of community first responders to domestic violence

16 participants—including pastors, students studying social work and counseling, and social service professionals—joined this fall's 40-hour Domestic Violence Advocate Training.

KFAM GBV will continue its efforts to train community advocates who can support domestic violence survivors and to raise awareness about domestic violence in the Korean American community.