

FAIRPLEX LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER IMPACT REPORT 2025-2026





Contents

Letter from Leadership	5
What We Do	6
Our New Visual Identity	10
Learning Highlights	12
Who We Are: Facilities	16
Who We Are: Programs	18
Top Funders and Donors	26
Thank You from the Board of Directors	28



Letter from Leadership

Dear Friends and Partners,

It is my pleasure to share our 2025–2026 Impact Report. This past year we accomplished so much! We strengthened our abilities as a community-based educational organization and, given our recent merger, we refined together what it means to unify under one vision.

Because of the extraordinary commitment of our staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, community partners, and generous donors, we provide programs that serve children, youth, and families—building the foundation for lifelong learning, inspiring curiosity, and fostering academic and career success.

This report goes beyond numbers and accomplishments to share stories: young children discovering the joy of learning, high school students preparing for meaningful careers, students on field trips learning about California agriculture, and families benefiting from the programs that help their children with school and confidence.

We are proud of what we have accomplished and we know how much more there is to do. **The educational needs of our communities are always changing, and FLDC is committed to responding.** We seek to expand access to innovative, equitable, and high-quality learning experiences that prepare individuals for success in school, careers, and life. **We believe that by investing in learners of all ages, we strengthen our communities.**

As we look ahead, we remain focused on strengthening our impact through strategic partnerships, program innovation, and responsible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us. **We invite you to be part of this journey as a key partner of ours.**

On behalf of our Board of Directors and the entire FLDC team, thank you for your continued belief in our mission and for helping us create brighter futures through education.

With gratitude,

Roberto Viramontes

Executive Director
Fairplex Learning and Development Center

What We Do

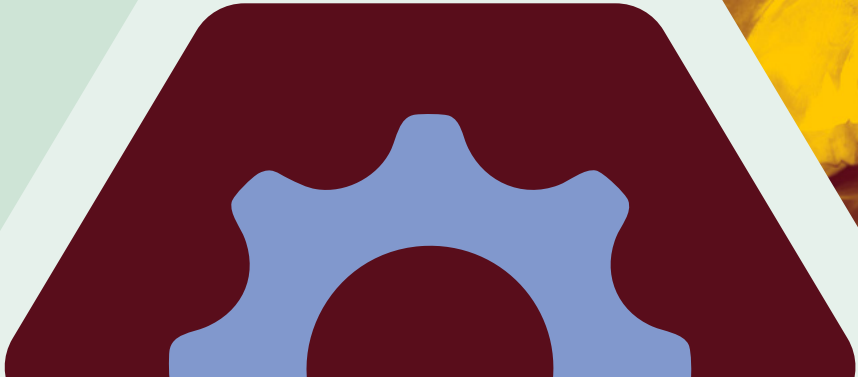
The Fairplex Learning and Development Center (FLDC) addresses unmet educational needs by expanding learning and career opportunities for children and youth.

We provide **nurturing, hands-on technical, artistic and agricultural learning experiences** through our **early development, out-of-school enrichment and career exploration programs**.

We empower participants by improving career readiness, fostering growth, and inspiring enthusiasm.

FLDC creates stronger communities across greater Los Angeles County by preparing learners of all ages for lifelong success.

From cradle to career to community.





“One of our students, for his personal project, **welded goal posts for his church soccer field.** He was able to make and see a difference in his **community with the skills he learned.**”

- Staff Member, CTEC

“You have this **beautiful integration generationally**, people with various skills coming together. It’s a **living laboratory.** We’re trying things every day.”

- Staff Member, The Farm at Fairplex

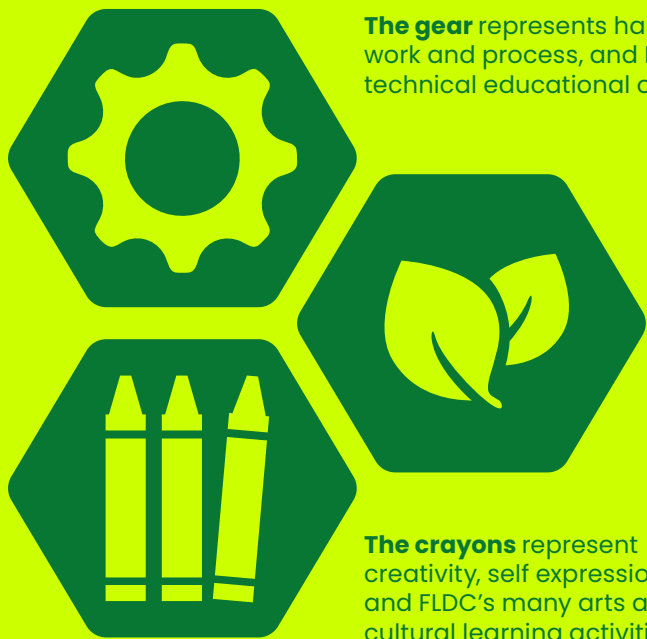
Our New Visual Identity

In 2025, the **Fairplex Learning and Development Center (FLDC)** was formed through a merger between **The Learning Centers at Fairplex** and the **Child Development Center**. FLDC strengthens the non-profit educational capacity at Fairplex by streamlining administrative, programmatic, and fundraising capacities.

Design Collaboration

Hester Tittmann and Andrea Castro of **Rabbit Rabbit Studio** and Carolina Ibarra-Mendoza of **IMCarolina** developed the new visual identity for FLDC. The designers facilitated a process from summer 2024 to fall 2025 that engaged staff, board members, and the broader community of partners to ensure the branding effectively captured the organization.

Rabbit Rabbit Studio and IMCarolina applied the learnings and graphics generated through the visual identity process to produce this impact report—the organization’s first. The team worked with FLDC and Fairplex leadership to create the structure, write the copy, and develop the design to best convey FLDC’s impact over the last year.



The gear represents hard work and process, and FLDC’s technical educational offerings.

The plant represents growth, new beginnings, FLDC’s early education and agricultural learning experiences, as well as land history.

The crayons represent creativity, self expression and FLDC’s many arts and cultural learning activities.



Logo

The honeycomb symbolizes the organization as a whole. Taking inspiration from the Beekeeping lessons held at The Farm, the honeycomb motif speaks to how FLDC is both complex and cooperative with many individuals working together to create something beautiful, sweet and lively.

Tiles

FLDC is made out of many individual pieces that remain distinct and legible but together create a unified whole. Taking inspiration from Millard Sheets’ practice, especially his Home Savings Bank mosaics, we created a set of tiles to describe FLDC’s various programming.

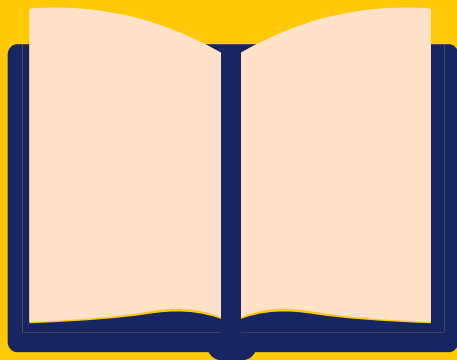
These tiles express the kinds of learning experiences and spaces and can be used to convey distinctions between the many activities that take place at FLDC.



Learning Highlights

Hands-on learning is at the heart of FLDC.

The facilities at FLDC are designed to facilitate **project and experience-based learning**, where participants of **all ages** benefit from the committed engagement of their instructors.



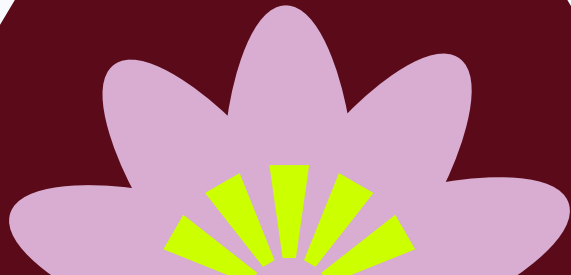
"I hosted my very first bookbinding workshop and I'll forever be grateful for the support I received. I love that this studio is close to campus."

**Sumin, Cal Poly Pomona Student
Millard Sheets Art Center**



"Students stepped into the fields to try new foods and learn about their nutritional value. Each student proudly took home their own cauliflower plant to continue nurturing."

**Staff, Options for Youth,
San Gabriel Public Charter Schools
Farm Field Trips**



"The special handshakes you created with our children each morning made each child feel seen, important and connected."

**Parent
Child Development Center**



"I really enjoyed being able to **throw pottery with my daughter** in a supportive and caring environment."

Ceramic Class Participant
Millard Sheets Art Center

"Wow, after 16 years I'm finally saying goodbye. **All four of our children have gone through the program.**"

Parent, at Graduation
Child Development Center

"I get **hands-on learning working with the kids every week**, forming a bond with them, discussing with the teachers while learning the psychology of child development and the sacrifices made for kids."

Jolene T., Child Development Pathway Student
Career and Technical Education Center

"The program has had a great impact on my mental health because Ms. Franco would **constantly have beneficial workshops for us**, which is not common because counselors at my school are often not present."

Gabriela M., Child Development Pathway Student
Career and Technical Education Center

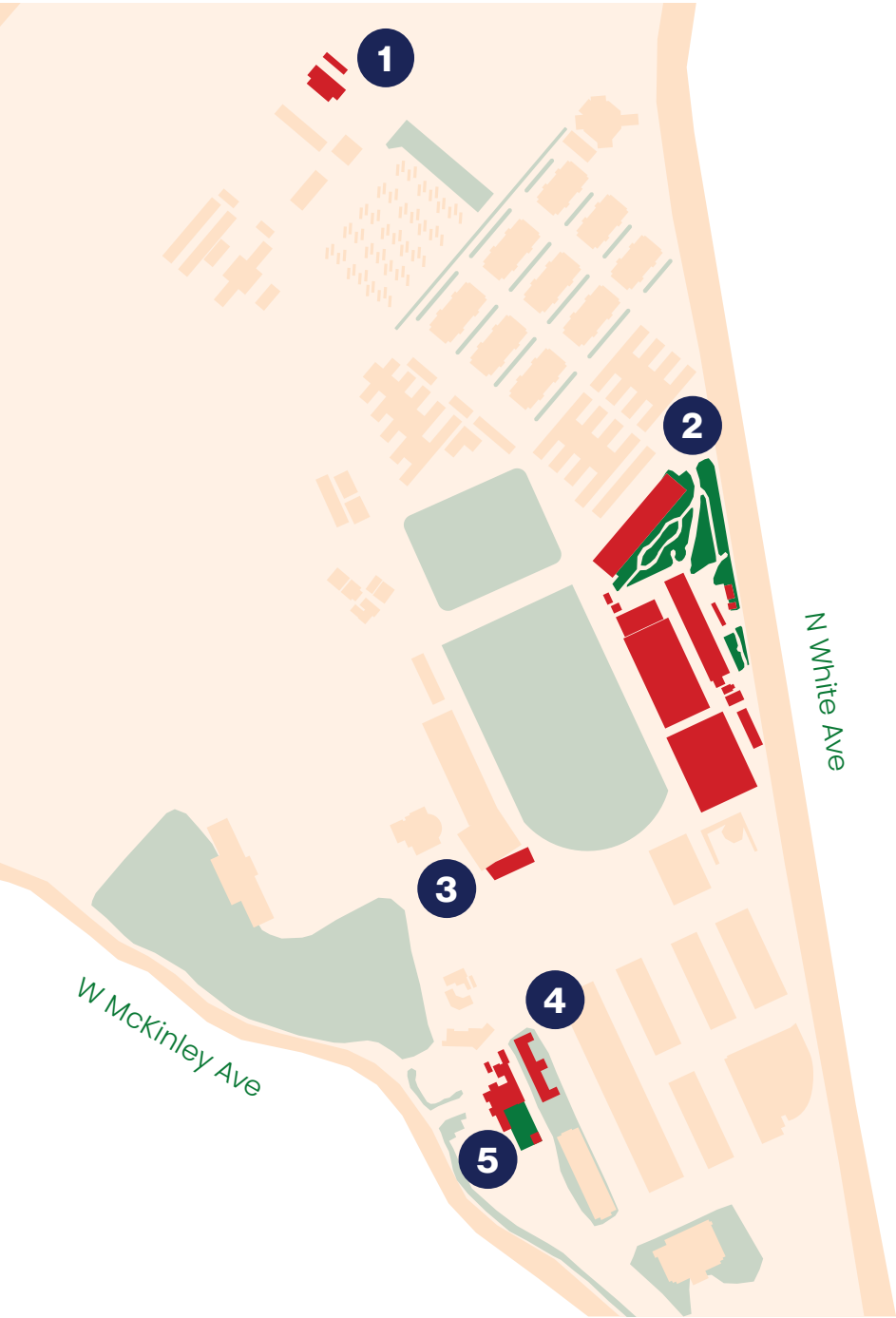
"My favorite was **taking out the transmission of a Toyota Tacoma** because it made a great story to tell my boyfriend and family."

Adam B., Automotive Pathway Student
Career and Technical Education Center

Who We Are: Facilities

The Fairplex Learning and Development Center (FLDC) operates five facilities at Fairplex, the nearly 500-acre campus that annually hosts the LA County Fair.

The Fairplex Learning and Development Center resulted from a merger between the Child Development Center and The Learning Centers at Fairplex. The Learning Centers was the third iteration of an educational non-profit at Fairplex, first known as the Fairplex Education Foundation in the 1990s and then the Foundations at Fairplex in the 2000s. While FLDC may be new, many of the facilities have been serving the region for a decade or much longer.



- 1

ALEX XYDIAS CENTER GARAGE
 - Automotive Pathway (CTEC)
 - Welding Pathway (CTEC)
- 2

THE FARM AT FAIRPLEX
 - Farm-Based Community Education
 - Farm Field Trips
 - Urban Agriculture Pathway (CTEC)
- 3

FAIRPLEX LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT CENTER BUILDING
 - Ambassador Volunteer Program
 - FairKids Field Trips Program
 - Youth Outreach
 - Green Utilities Pathway (CTEC)
- 4

MILLARD SHEETS ART CENTER
 - Open Studio
 - Ceramic Class
 - Exhibitions & Events
- 5

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
 - Infant Classrooms
 - Toddler Classrooms
 - Preschool Classrooms
 - Kindergarten Classroom
 - Child Development Pathway (CTEC)

Who We Are: Programs

FLDC programs have provided hands-on learning opportunities for thousands of participants in the 2025-2026 year alone.

FLDC has welcomed learners and their families from across Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Orange Counties. Programs support participants as they learn new skills, expand their horizons, and ground themselves within their communities. Successes are thanks to our dedicated staff and strong regional partnership network.



230
children
enrolled



87
subsidized
families

The Child Development Center

Dedicated staff and leadership create a safe, nurturing, and high-quality learning environment for children, families, and educators.

The Child Development Center was formed in 1980, when the fairgrounds were developed into Fairplex, and became a nonprofit in the 1990s. Specially designed infant, toddler, preschool and kindergarten classrooms provide developmentally appropriate experiences. Children are admitted regardless of income, religion, ethnicity, gender, culture, language, or developmental differences, based upon enrollment space availability.

Successes

78 children graduated.

“You hold such a precious ability to make a lasting impact on each child and family who is so lucky to walk through your doors!” – CDC Parent

The CDC maintains best practices by using the Desired Results Developmental Profile to assess student learning progress.

Partners

15 University of La Verne Students participated in their school’s professional development program for early childhood education located at the CDC.



FairKids + Farm Field Trips

School trips for thousands of local and regional students connect youth to the LA County Fair and The Farm at Fairplex.

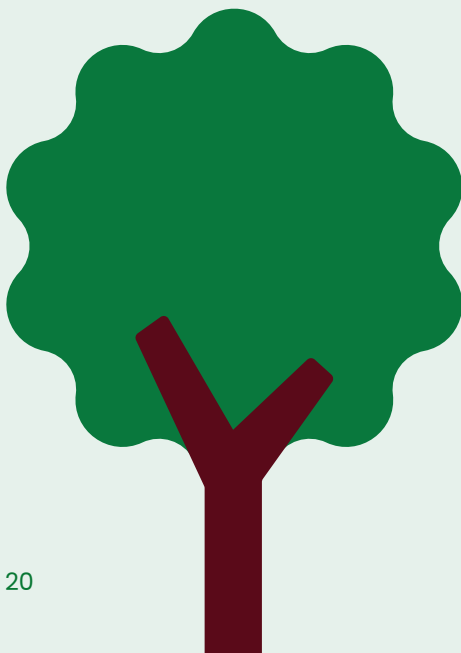
Successes

260 School Districts served with both programs.

37 Farm field trips with **33** different **activities** supported by **283** **volunteer** engagements.

FairKids Partners

Partners that made field trips possible included the **LA County Water and Sanitation District, Carollo Cares Engineers, Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare, Jimmy John's, LA Natural History Museum, California Botanic Gardens, Ontario Museum of History and Art, School of Arts and Enterprise** and **We2Compost**.



19,700
FairKids
participants

15,961 lbs
food waste
composted



1,917
Farm Field Trips
participants

10,000+
visitors and
participants



The Farm at Fairplex

As FLDC's largest living classroom, The Farm at Fairplex is an innovative agricultural business and educational resource that provides hands-on education that brings farm, food, nutrition, and science to life.

This program grew out of its 1950s iteration, Storybook Farms, a demonstration farm for the Fair. Over the last two decades, thanks to funding from the California Department of Food and Agriculture and Fairplex, The Farm at Fairplex has grown to 5 acres.

Successes

250 California Specialty crops produced and cultivated.

9,000 seedlings produced in the nursery and light room as field crops, field trip plant giveaways, and plant sales.

40+ animals cared for (chickens, rabbits, and one turkey).

15,961 lbs of food scraps composted on site. The waste is collected from the Fairplex-based hotel and restaurant, diverted from the landfill and adding nutrients back to the soil.

Owl West Education Garden expanded.

California Producers' Certification obtained.

Partners

Partners included **Rio Hondo College** (profiled The Farm at Fairplex's Hops in the Brew Master Program), the **Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF)** and the **California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)**. "I couldn't have imagined a better setting... such a gracious host and partner." – CDFA Staff

At the Culinary Farmhouse "the kids made many great memories and adults made some great connections." – **California Specialty Crops** Staff

29 partners provided educational activities during Fair and Fall in The Farm at Fairplex including **Master Food Preservers, Master Gardeners, OPARC Adults with Disabilities** and the **Chino Basin Water Conservation District**. Farm workers included two Federal work-study-employed students from **University of La Verne**.

The Career and Technical Education Center

The Career and Technical Education Center supports students on their path to high school graduation, connecting them to career opportunities in growing industries while also providing essential soft skills training.

The Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC) was started in the 2000s in response to a reduction in vocational education in the region. Credentialed CTE instructors and a college and career services counselor provide students with real-world skills in Automotive Technology, Child Development, Green Energy, Welding and Urban Agriculture pathways through classroom learning, engagement with local industry experts, and work-based learning experiences.

Successes

Students completed **17,100** total training hours and earned **1,140** graduation credits.

4 mock interview sessions.

35 workshops on career readiness.

Partners

The 2025–2026 school year had **6** guest speakers, including **Athens Services**, and **4** field trips to visit industry partners.

225
students from
38 high schools

65
systems-
impacted
youth

Youth Outreach

Youth Outreach provides systems-impacted youth with the tools, connections, and guidance needed to reach their educational, vocational, and personal goals.

The Youth Outreach program was started in 2025.

Successes

50 students assisted in remaining enrolled in school.

20 high school seniors supported in achieving their graduation goal.

18 students supported in starting or completing the FAFSA application process.

17 students enrolled into community college.

51 individualized Goal Plans: educational, personal or vocational.

10 families linked to critical community resources.

13 students enrolled in CTEC pathways.

Partners

Youth Outreach partnered with **America’s Job Center of California** (AJCC), **LA County Fair** (vendors and security), and school district employment for job referrals and employment. The program also built a direct pipeline to program services with **Park West High School** (Pomona Unified School District) for at-promise youth and strengthened wrap-around support for youth navigating complex personal and systemic challenges with **Just Us 4 Youth**.

17
School
Districts
Served

**Bonita,
Claremont,
Chino, Covina,
West Covina,
and Pomona
participants**



Ambassador Volunteer Program

The Ambassador Volunteer Program strengthens our community connections, increases program capacity, and plays a vital role in advancing our mission.

The Ambassador Volunteer Program, begun in the 2010s, extends our impact to affect thousands of participants.

Successes

186 active volunteers contributed over **20,000 hours of service**, supporting programs, events, community outreach, and visitor engagement throughout the year.

Partners

Volunteers joined from community groups and corporate teams, including returning groups such as **OPARC** and **Target** and new groups including **The Good Stewards Club** and **Jimmy John's**. CTEC students also volunteered their time.

23
new
Ambassadors

877
program
participant
visits

20,746
volunteer hours

40
ZIP codes
represented

Millard Sheets Art Center

The Millard Sheets Art Center (MSAC) offers community-oriented, meaningful, and inspiring experiences in the visual arts through exhibitions, educational programs, events, and workshops.

MSAC began as the Millard Sheets Art Gallery in the 1990s and is housed in a building that has served as the Fine Arts Center for the Fair since 1937. Key programming includes free Open Art Studio and Clay Play Program (LA County Fair) as well as Paint & Sip and a ceramics class. MSAC's programming increases arts-based experiences for residents of the Pomona Valley area.

Successes

"The Art Studio is very welcoming to all skill levels. I would encourage you and a friend to come out and give it a try!" – Christina

"Great space to be creative and work alongside other talented artists!" – Hailey

Partners

Mid Valley Art League's 70th Annual show, the first exhibition outside the Fair, welcomed 476 guests.

Top Funders and Donors

Thank you to these top funders and donors who gave to FLDC during our 2025–2026 fiscal year.

Educational & Industry Partners

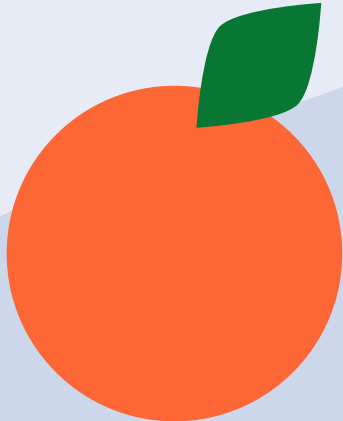
- ACG Orange County Inc.
- American Welding Society
- Athens Services
- Casa Colina Centers for Rehabilitation
- Dr. Martha Garcia, Mt. San Antonio College
- First 5 LA
- Haas & Wilkerson Insurance
- Oak View Group
- Southern California Edison
- Southern California Gas Company
- University of La Verne

Individual & Foundation Partners

- Michelle Jumper and Ray Adamyk
- Amity Foundation
- Saralee M. Baldwin
- Jeanne and Mike Beckman
- Barbara and Bernard A. Bernstein
- E. Burdette & Helen H. Boileau Endowment Fund
- Laura and Bo Bollinger
- Michele Broadnax
- Vicky and Charles E. Cable
- Val and Rich Crean, Crean Family Charitable Fund
- Sylvia Mendoza and Michael Driebe
- Mary and Bob A. Dukes
- Irene and Jimmy Espinoza
- Heidi Gallegos, Aligned Insight Consulting
- Tyler Gentry

- Jeff Grant
- Heidi and Dan Hanson
- Nena Hernandez
- Sherrill and Gilbert F. Ivey
- Monica Johnson
- Dulce and Kevin Kearney
- Allison and John Landherr
- Janell and Randall Lewis
- Sarah and Arthur J. Ludwick, In memory of Judge Thomas Nuss
- Monica and Walter Marquez
- Elva and Richard Martinez
- Louise McCarthy
- Trudy and Bob Mendez
- Tami and Mike Mitsumori–Miller
- Tomás Morales
- Ken O’Donnell

- Betty and Mike Ortiz
- Linda Bosserman–Piatt M.D. and Ted Piatt
- Rodri Rodriguez
- Anna and Darrel Saucedo
- Janis and Stuart Simon, Buchalter
- Jack and Jil Stark
- Christine Suh
- Alejandra and Edward Tessier
- Lieueen and Gary L. Thomas
- Julie and Todd Wagner
- Sharon and Tom Warner
- Pat and Mark A. Warren
- Kiana Webb
- The Webb Family Fund Parity – a Donor Advised Fund at Inland Empire Community Foundation
- Debbie and Ben Wong



Thank You from the Board of Directors

The 2025–2026 year marked another defining chapter for the Fairplex Learning and Development Center. During our second year as a unified organization we continued to build a strong foundation for the future.

We introduced a new organizational identity through a comprehensive rebranding effort and expanded our educational reach through the growth of our Youth Outreach programs.

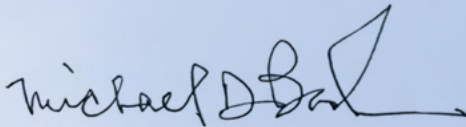
At the same time, we continued to strengthen our longstanding programs in early childhood education, career technical education, and hands-on agricultural learning.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication of our staff, volunteers, partners, donors, and community supporters. Your commitment has helped shape FLDC into a dynamic organization that provides meaningful educational opportunities from cradle to career.

As we celebrate the progress we’ve made and look toward the future, we invite you to remain part of our journey. Whether you volunteer your time, mentor a young person, advocate for our mission, or invest in our work through philanthropy, your support helps ensure that FLDC can continue creating life-changing learning experiences for generations to come.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for believing in our mission and for helping us build brighter futures through education.


Bernie Bernstein
Board of Directors Co-Chair


Mike Beckman
Board of Directors Co-Chair

Join Us

Partner with us by reaching out to fldc@fairplex.com

Keep up with us at fairplex.com/fldc

Support us by donating [here](#).