



ANNUAL REPORT

October 2024 – September 2025

OUR MISSION

To offer empathetic peer support to parents and their loved ones who are grieving the loss of a baby before, during, or after birth.



YEAR IN REVIEW

A Message from Our Board President and Vice President

Dear HAND Friends and Community,

In a world that often feels overwhelming—marked by uncertainty, division, and collective trauma—the work of showing up for one another has never been more vital. When families experience the devastating loss of a baby, they need more than platitudes or awkward silences. They need to be seen, held, and reminded that they are not alone in their grief.

This is the sacred work of HAND of the Bay Area.

For over four decades, our organization has been a lifeline for bereaved parents navigating the unimaginable. We exist because we understand—intimately and personally—what it means to lose a child. Every support group we facilitate, every brochure we deliver, every phone call we answer is made possible by the generosity and leadership of parents who have walked this path themselves and chosen to turn their pain into purpose.

The truth is, grief doesn't follow a timeline, and healing doesn't happen in isolation. In a culture that often rushes past discomfort and expects people to "move on," HAND creates space for the messy, non-linear reality of loss. We hold vigil for the babies who were loved but never got to come home. We witness the full spectrum of grief—the rage, the numbness, the unexpected moments of joy, the long road of integration. We remind parents that their child mattered, their grief is valid, and their capacity for wholeness remains intact.

We are deeply grateful to our generous donors and the more than 100 volunteers who make this work possible—parents who give their time, their hearts, and their hard-won wisdom to support families in their darkest hours. Your commitment to showing up, again and again, creates ripples of healing that extend far beyond what we can measure.

We also want to acknowledge the thoughtful feedback shared through last year's community survey. Many of you expressed hopes for expanded services and additional forms of support, and we want you to know that these voices matter deeply to us. While we were not able to bring all of these offerings to fruition within the past year, this feedback continues to actively inform our planning and priorities. These goals remain a work in progress, and we are committed to moving toward them with care, sustainability, and intention.

As we look toward the year ahead, we ask for your continued support. This may include volunteering an hour of your time to host informal in-person gatherings (e.g., coffee meetup, hike, or playgroup), facilitating support groups, making a donation, or simply sharing our services with others. Every contribution helps us answer more calls, train more facilitators, and ensure that no parent in the Bay Area has to grieve alone.

Together, we are building something profound: a community where love persists beyond loss, where pain is transformed into connection, and where the shortest lives leave lasting legacies.

With gratitude and hope,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Shapiro".

Sam Shapiro
President, Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Reina Cook-Remigio".

Reina Cook-Remigio
Vice President, Board of Directors

44 YEARS OF HELPING BEREAVED FAMILIES

HAND has been supporting bereaved families in the Bay Area for the past 44 years.

Hear from our founders and gain more insight into HAND's history through this [VIDEO](#) ▶



AREAS SERVED



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Sam Shapiro
- Reina Cook-Remigio
- Erica Terrell Hernandez
- Kristie Shulman
- Jonathan Aizen
- Aline Brown Copp
- Anne Shamiyeh
- Stephanie Vergara
- Abbie Endres
- Vanessa Guardado

"HAND has been an integral part of my survival [since my baby passed away]. Enormous thank you to all volunteers and bereaved parents."

HAND PARENT

* While HAND does not have chapters in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, families are welcome to attend HAND support groups.



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Summary



143

Support Group Meetings



260

Parents Attending Support Groups



53

Parent/Peer Support Matches



4

Families Assisted with Funeral Fees



3

Healthcare Sensitivity
Trainings Provided Live



2,318

Newsletter Subscribers
(Fall 2025 newsletter)



110

Active Volunteers



160

Service of Remembrance Attendees



343

Facebook Group Followers



15

Creative Honoring Workshop Attendees



10,313

Website Visitors



20

Volunteers Trained (two trainings)

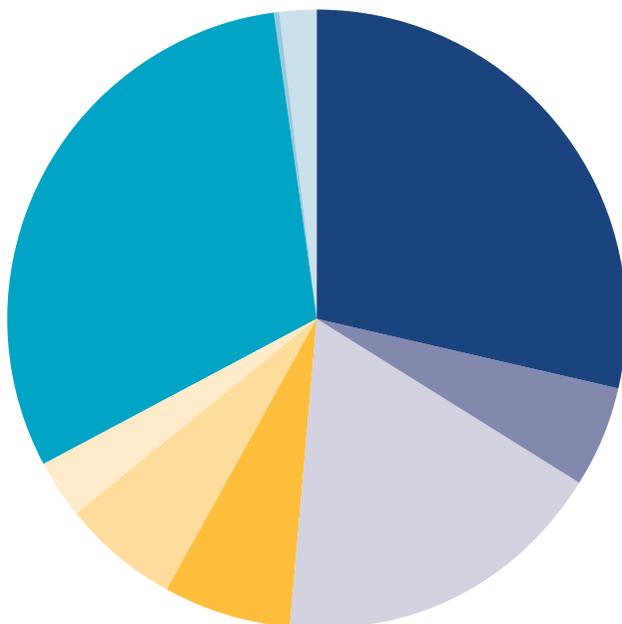
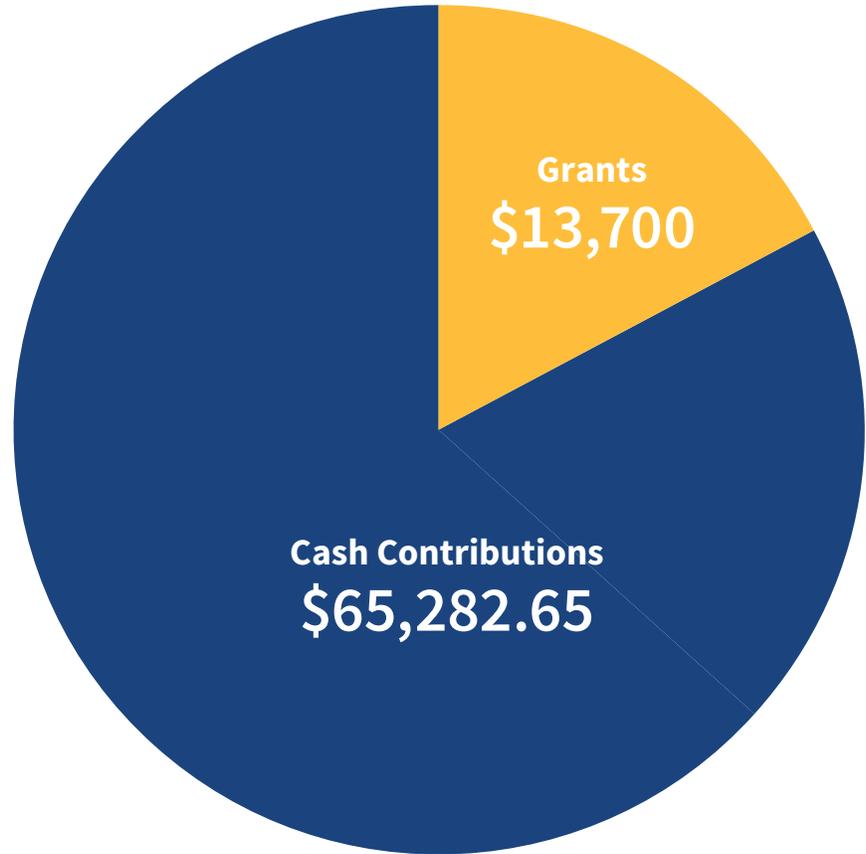


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Financials

Data reflects combined financials after the integration of HAND of Santa Clara into HAND of the Bay Area.

Total Donations
\$78,982.65



Total Expenses
\$16,216.65

Funeral Assistance	\$4,645
Insurance	\$857
Internet	\$2,870.93
Office Supplies	\$1,047.75
Software Expenses	\$1,000
Rent	\$492.79
Special Events	\$4,959.74
Taxes	\$49
Telephone	\$294.44



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Donors

(Alphabetized by First Name)

Abbie Endres and Michael Rihm

Alexa and Charlie Smith

Ali and Paul Kele

Alia Allison and Ryan Kulig

Aline and Josh Copp

Alvina and David Hou

Amanda Fisher

Amanda Mackay and Mathew Harmon

Amanda Price

Andrew Macintosh

Andria Lavine

Angela Tirion and David Lee

Apple Matching Gifts

Arielle and Daniel Harrison

Barbara and William Jones

Bonnie Fox

Britta Aldejohann

Bubbles Kale Adai Charitable Fund

Cate Murray and Adam Kennedy

Celia and Donald Hartnett

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Cristy Pollak

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Jenna Shlachter and Tim Rechetniak

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Jill Nelson and Joseph Twicken

Judy Kele

Karina and Aaron Rashba

Karissa Anderson and Kris DeMartini

Katharine Nice

Katharine Wong

Katherine and Alex Katz

Katrina Barnett and Zimran Ahmed

Kristen and Jordan Raetz

Lauren Luke

Lea Beauvais and Trinh Bui



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Donors

Lena Chavez and Luis Soria

Leslie and Frank Muennemann

Linda and Steven Copp

Lisa and Andrew Cope

Lisa Kirk

Liz and Sean De Winter

Maha Jastram

Manu Sharma

Martin Corpos

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Melanie Lorenzo and Jeric Lazaro

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Melissa Yeh and Warren Chiang

Michelle and Ryan Mathews

Michelle Chiang

Nancee Pham

Naveena Sankaranarayanan
and Venkat Rajagopalan

Nina Zoppi

Norma Quiroga

NVIDIA Corp.

Ofri and Jonathan Aizen

Pranesh Pandurangan
and Sandhya Ramanarayanan

Principal Financial Group

Rachel and Brandon Stone

Rachel Gogley

Rakuten Americas

Samantha Sias and James Wendt

Sara and Steve Doinidis

Sara Braden

Spencer and Stacey Sias

Susan Gulbe Walsh and Tim Walsh

Thomas Corso

Tracy Hohler

Virginia McCollum

William Niland

Yaribeth and Aaron Wynn

Yvonne Bergero

Several Anonymous Donors

Several Google Matching Gifts Programs

“A safe space, a place to find connection for what is otherwise the loneliest experience I’ve ever gone through.”

HAND PARENT