

2025 Annual Report

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025



Promoting Wellness, Dignity, & Independence for Older Adults

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Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, we think of growth. Not necessarily growth in the sense of expanding services, but rather in terms of numbers and volume, which we achieved this past year. But growth in the sense of maturity and building upon what the organization has learned over 53 years of service in the heart of San Francisco.

Curry’s staff continues to ask questions, evaluate their work, and incorporate patient feedback and client participation in all that we do. This approach leads to learning, adapting, and modifying programs to make them more effective. This past year has demonstrated how these changes have led to effective changes for the organization, and, in turn, positive change for the older adults Curry serves.

Thanks in part to funding from City Bridge Laguna Honda, Curry established a new Health Education Department – or as some say – bringing older adults together in groups to “socialize for good health”. The Health Education team is led by a staff member who has been at Curry for over ten years! With this new team, additional health and nutrition classes were added.

Curry’s first venture into publishing was a resounding success, with our book, “Do Ask, Do Tell,” featuring first-person stories from LGBTQ older adults. The book launch was celebrated at the Tenderloin Museum and Cadillac Hotel. Some of the older adults featured in the book gave emotional readings of their experiences in a world that was often hostile to who they are.

The Tech Navigators, Case Managers, and Health Navigators continue to provide daily assistance, connecting individuals to services such as healthcare appointments and community events. With the continuous engagement from this team, Curry’s efforts to reduce social isolation have shown enormous success.

Thank you to all for staying with us and our goal of providing access to care, reducing isolation, and improving the quality of life for older adults in the Civic Center and Tenderloin neighborhoods of San Francisco.

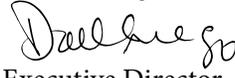
With much appreciation,

Shirley Quitugua,



President Board of Directors

David Knego,



Executive Director

Technology-based Intervention Improves Quality of Life for Low-Income Older Adults in San Francisco

Findings from a study of Senior Vitality, a digital literacy program developed at Curry Senior Center showed improved quality of life for racially and ethnically diverse residents of the Central City by reducing loneliness, increasing social connections, increasing healthcare self-management, and improving self-rated health. Participants were provided iPads, digital scales, and Fitbits, equipment often beyond the means of older adults. They attended classes in person and online for one year, with a second year of the program offered for continued education. At the end of the first year, 100% of the 90 study participants were using their iPads, and 94% expressed confidence in using them. Health coaching was also provided to support health self-management.

T. Anne Richards, lead author and Research and Evaluation Consultant at Curry, reports that the program had life-changing effects on many of the participants. Some considered the program to be “a lifeline,” bridging them into contemporary life. One participant said: “I think I’m a lot better because of the program. It got me out of the isolation, and it got me happier, more involved with life when I was just saying, ‘I don’t want to wake up anymore.’”

Statistical data showed significant impact in the measures of well-being and were verified and supported by qualitative focus group data in which participants described the program’s impact on their daily lives. The primary aims of the program were accomplished, improving quality of life through the development of digital literacy, increases in social connectivity, reduction of loneliness, increases in healthcare self-management, and strengthening self-efficacy, the belief in one’s ability to impact one’s own health. The study was published May 2025 in the *Journal of Applied Gerontology*.



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Healthy Food & Health Education

New Health Education Department

Curry Senior Center has created a separate Health Education Department thanks in part to a new grant from CityBridge Laguna Honda. While health education has been a programming pillar for many years, Curry now has three full-time staff devoted to various nutritional and social opportunities to improve health.

Humberto Pinon, a long-tenured (over 10-year) bilingual (*Spanish*) staff person was promoted to Health Education Supervisor and both leads and oversees classes, workshops, and health coaching. Health Services include Food Smarts Cooking Classes (a 6-week program); Food Pharmacy (two 10-week workshops); DEEP (Diabetes Empowerment Education - 10-week class); “Walk with Ease,” an evidence-based program developed by the Arthritis Foundation, and a Community Grocery program.

Curry is also proud to have our city contract for Curry’s **Community Grocery Program** was just renewed through 2029. The Contract has increased the number of low-income seniors served to 200 individuals receiving farmer’s market-style groceries offered three times a month.



Humberto Pinon teaches a Food Smart class, which is designed for seniors in single room occupancy (SROs) who don't have access to a traditional kitchen and may cook with a hotplate or microwave



A volunteer from Home Instead hands out groceries to a client at our Community Grocery Program

Curry Services by the Numbers: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

- 64,615 *Congregate Meals served*
- 10,943 *Visits to the Curry Clinic*
- 3,226 *Visits to the Drop-In Center, a respite for homeless and marginally house older adults, including meals, activities, and translation support*
- 1,994 *Home visits from Peers outreach team*
- 1,635 *Activity hours, including activities in seven different languages and cultural and holiday celebrations*
- 1,499 *Grocery bags disbursed from the Community Grocery Program*
- 1,266 *Hours of SENIOR VITALITY technology training and support*
- 444 *Hours of Food Pharmacy client health coaching*
- 348 *Clients enrolled in LGBT+ Telehealth mental health services*

Increasing Housing and Stabilization Supports

Housing stabilization is one of the core results of Curry's services - supporting older adults who live alone with limited resources - either financial or familial. San Francisco has limited subsidized or supportive housing for low-income older adults or people living with disabilities. Nearly half of all homeless individuals in California are over 50 years of age.

Housing stabilization starts with Curry's Officer of the Day providing housing information and counseling to every client who walks in the door, and is the biggest need expressed by older adults. Applying for housing requires extensive support and guidance from Curry staff. During this past year Curry's PATH funding - Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness - program has a new navigator whose duties include steering clients through the housing bureaucracy - online applications, waitlists, housing lotteries, interviews, translation support.

Curry also provides supportive housing case management and nursing services at two Single Room Occupancy hotels (SROs) for 175 formerly homeless seniors. Curry staff helped more than 150 formerly homeless seniors stabilize their housing over the year.



One of Curry's seniors in his SRO at the Cadillac



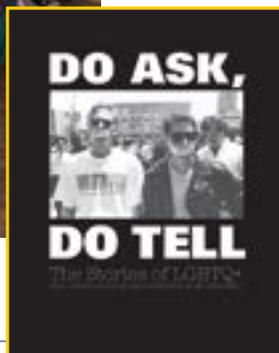
Morning Star, who is featured in "Do Ask, Do Tell" and spoke at the book launch, poses with long-time Curry client Miguel-e

Special Event: "Do Ask, Do Tell" Book Launch

Curry Senior Center, in partnership with the Tenderloin Museum, launched the book "*Do Ask, Do Tell*," a collection of stories from LGBTQ+ older adults in San Francisco. Some of Curry's seniors read their stories from the book and took questions after the reading. Following the success of *The Life Stories Of: Curry Senior Center Clients*, a book focused on the African American experience of Older Adults and sponsored by a Dream Keeper's Initiative grant from the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, Curry turned its attention to its diverse LGBTQ+ community.

Volunteers sat down with an assigned Older Adult to explore their honest and compelling stories, which were recorded and later transcribed to create the book. The interviews allowed our seniors to make an emotional connection with the volunteers and provided an opportunity to educate younger generations about their community's past. The book project was met with such enthusiasm that it's no surprise that there are seventeen LGBTQ+ Older Adults on a waitlist for the next book.

With support from Horizons Foundation, a community foundation focused on strengthening LGBTQ+ culture and securing its future, "*Do Ask, Do Tell*" serves as a refreshing reminder of one simple fact: the human experience is far more similar than it is different.



Community Programs

Curry's Community Programs provide a variety of classes, events, and groups that bring together different communities to celebrate their cultures while learning new skills and making friends. The Community Programs are offered in Cantonese/ Mandarin, Laotian/ Thai, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. Community Programs also provides translation services in the health clinic and case management, helps seniors with filing medical/ Cal Fresh and other forms, and helps with passport and immigration paperwork.



Celebrating Día de los Muertos at Curry Senior Center

Curry recently added two new Peer-led programs this year. **Fiesta de Karaoke** is a peer-led karaoke event celebrates the joy of music in a multitude of languages, offering a unique opportunity for older adults to sing their hearts out in Spanish, English, Tagalog, or any preferred language! **TODOS LATINOS (Español)** is a monthly group that brings together older Latinos in a friendly and supportive environment to share stories, create a sense of belonging, and enjoy a meal together!

Curry's New BHSA Program Manager



Victor Sucy has a long history of working with the low-income senior community and is proud to be part of the Curry Senior Center family, as the new BHSA Programs Manager. He oversees the Drop-in Center and Peers Supportive Services Programs. His deep passion for helping individuals overcome barriers throughout their senior journey is the driving force to ensure the diverse community we serve fosters a safe space for clients to be their best selves. He excels at supporting efforts to reduce loneliness and isolation among seniors, inspiring social connectedness and enhancing their well-being.



Ladies from the Tagalog-speaking class putting together the center pieces for Curry's Carnival for a Cause fundraiser



TODOS LATINOS participants enjoys a BBQ at Golden Gate Park

Reducing Social Isolation

Care Navigator For Substance Use Disorder Program

Building up on Curry's three pillars of access to healthcare, we received funding to hire a Care Navigator for its Substance Use Disorder Program. The new Behavioral Care Navigator, Jonathan Garvin, has increased outreach to clients and program enrollments. The Navigator conducts an initial intake assessment, allowing for human connection and trust to be established. Client retention in the SUD program has increased. The Navigator arranges transportation for clients, some of whom are blind, have mobility limitations, or have dementia. This ensures clients make it to group or one-on-one appointments. One SUD client is a street corner regular a block away, and the Navigator walks to meet him and escort him back to his therapy session. The navigator is averaging 60-65 client contacts each month.



Enjoying a meal and conversation at Curry's Dining Room

Curry assigned staff hosts to learn seniors' names, welcome clients, share information on Curry resources, lead Cultural events and activities, and build community. Regular activities, like popular Zumba classes, help engage clients further. Over the past six months, more older adults have stayed in the Dining Room to enjoy a meal, rather than take food back to their SROs.

Photo to the right: Seniors taking their Zumba class seriously

San Francisco's Aging Services CBOs and providers have worked for decades to build trust and encourage older adults, seniors, and people with disabilities to access care, meals, and socialization. The COVID-19 pandemic contravened this effort, with providers forced to tell vulnerable seniors to shelter in place. The pandemic is over, but encouraging older adults to go out again, socialize, and use local services has been an ongoing staff objective.

Curry has provided meals to the Tenderloin neighborhood's older adults since 1972. The purpose of congregate meals and the fulfillment of seniors' basic nutrition needs is to connect older adults with friendship and help reduce the morbidities caused by social isolation. At the start of this year, many older adults took meals to go, still wary of COVID-19.



Carnival For a Cause September 18th, 2025



Curry's volunteer and staff getting ready for the Carnival!

Curry's 2025 gala fundraiser was a carnival-style event at Bimbo's 365 Club, an iconic and historic venue where entertainers from many genres have performed, and it was amazing! Guests were greeted with carnival games, a strolling magician, and tarot card readers. Delicious libations were served, including Curry's signature cocktail, the Big Top Curry Drop, as well as excellent food, catered by CHEFs, a program through Episcopal Community Services that trains formerly homeless individuals to enter the food service industry.

The highlight of the evening was the ladies of the Grant Avenue Follies. The Follies is comprised of retired dancers from San Francisco Chinatown's golden nightclub era (1940s to 1970s), who put on a dazzling show of dance and performance.

Due to the overwhelming enthusiasm for the change of venue and event from our guests, Curry will host our next fundraiser at Bimbo's next September. Stay tuned!



The Grant Avenue Follies in a stunning performance of dance and costume.

Vera Haile Dalenberg Award - Patty Clement and Valorie Villela

Combined, Patty Clement with Catholic Charities and Valorie Villela On Lok's 30th Street Senior Center have dedicated 78 years of service to San Francisco's most vulnerable older adults. Patty supervised Catholic Charities' aging programs, including Adult Day Care in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center, Case Management, and Community Services for the OMI Senior Center. Patty played an invaluable role on the sub-committees that created San Francisco's Strategy for Excellence in Dementia Care.

Valorie ended her career as the Director of WELL Senior Programming at On Lok. Valorie's contributions extend beyond On Lok, notably through the "Mission Nutrition" program, which has delivered meals to over 3,000 low-income San Francisco seniors. Her advocacy on food insecurity among older adults has been invaluable.

Left: Valorie Villela & Patty Clement accepting their award with Curry's Executive Director Dave Knego



Diane Dwyer was the MC at the Carnival

Joseph Mignola, Jr. Award - Zen Caregiving Project

Zen Caregiving Project, formerly known as Zen Hospice Project, was founded in 1986 to address suffering in San Francisco. Their caregivers support those living with chronic and terminal illnesses. With a mindful and compassionate approach to palliative care, it is core to the organization's Mindful Caregiving Education. Zen Caregiving Project is there for the most vulnerable population during the end of their lives.



*Roy Renner, Executive Director of
Zen Caregiving Project*

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Dr. Francis J. Curry Award - Home Instead

Home Instead helps older adults age with greater hope and success, with tailor-made in-home senior care with a compassionate touch. They believe everyone deserves to age with grace and dignity and strive to make that vision a reality by creating a world that's ready to care for each other. Home Instead's services for older adults includes respite care, 24 hour and live-in care, and Parkinson's care. Curry honors the important work they do for the community's older adults.



*David Ramirez, Executive Director of Home Instead
San Francisco, accepts the award*

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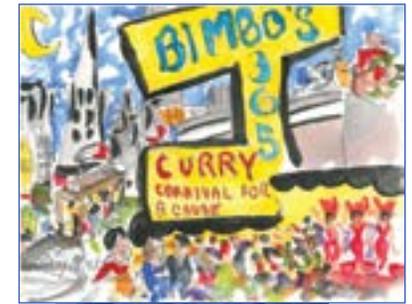
An elegant Grant Avenue Follies dancer



Kerry Dantzig, from Heffernan Insurance Brokers, bids on a live auction item



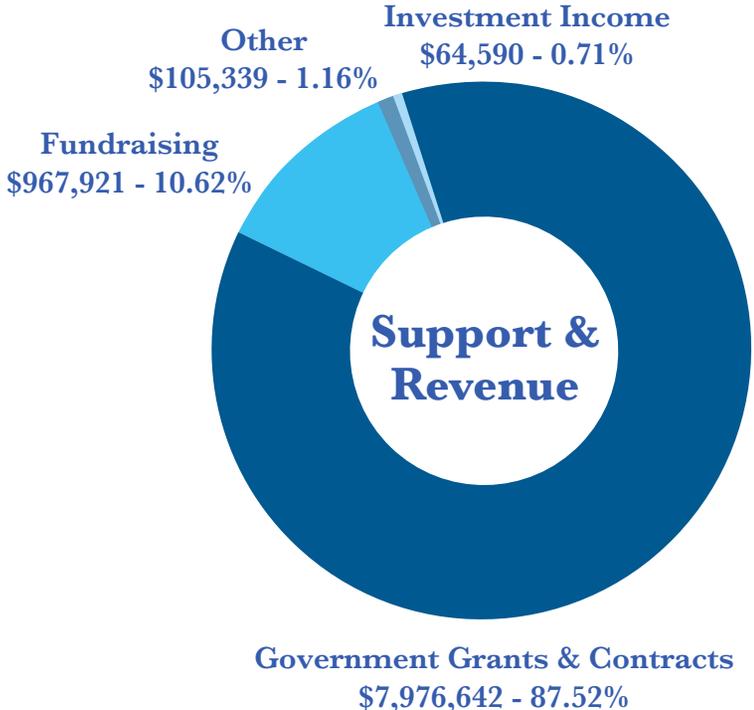
John Quitugua and Vinod & Asya Kripalani



Artist extraordinaire and bartender at Bimbo's 365 Club, Saul Levy, captured the Carnival in this beautiful watercolor

Year End Financials

July 1, 2024—June 30, 2025



Government Grants & Contracts	\$7,976,642	87.52%
Fundraising	\$967,921	10.62%
Other	\$105,339	1.16%
Investment Income	\$64,590	0.71%
Total Revenue	\$9,114,492	100.00%

Curry is proud that over 83% of our budget is spent on Programs and Services. According to the Better Business Bureau and Charities Review Council, at least 65% of a budget should be spent on programs and services, with the remaining percentage allocated towards administrative costs and fundraising efforts; a higher percentage, closer to 75%, is considered highly efficient for a non-profit organization.



Programs & Services	\$7,525,764	83.37%
Management & General	\$985,530	10.92%
Fundraising	\$515,407	5.71%
Total Expenses	\$9,026,701	100.00%



333 Turk Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Special Thanks to Comcast

Thanks to the support from Comcast, Curry was able to hire a Cantonese-speaking Tech Navigator to provide equitable services to Cantonese-speaking older adults and Adults with Disabilities in the community. Funding also supported the Senior Vitality program by adding staffing for Tech Navigators, who help address the identified needs of seniors, including drop-in tech support, home visits, home internet information sessions, workshops, classes, tutoring, and tablet programs.

The Tech Navigator will also make home visits to seniors who are unable to attend classes due to mobility and/or transportation issues. Home visits extend beyond mobility/transportation issues; every client has the opportunity to have at least one home visit, which can include setting up internet, connecting devices to the internet, and configuring smart TVs, among other tasks.



Vietnamese seniors listen intently in their computer class



Terri Li helps a Curry senior with her computer



Garrett Swing is thrilled to receive a new tablet at Curry Senior Center