



The Ebell of Los Angeles Rest Cottage Association Awards \$161,000 to 12 Deserving LA County Charities

LOS ANGELES, April 14, 2023 – The Ebell of Los Angeles celebrated the recipients of its 2023 Rest Cottage Association (RCA) grant awards at a luncheon on Monday, April 10. In total, 12 charities providing critical support to women in Los Angeles County received grants totaling \$161,000.

“The 2023 grant recipients are a deserving and inspiring group of organizations that share in The Ebell’s mission to inspire and support women,” said Julie Barkan, Director of the Rest Cottage Association. “We are thrilled to see their work in action, making an impact through their innovative projects in the community.”

2023 Rest Cottage Association Grant Recipients

Critical Mass Dance Company, Women Empowerment Program

A women’s empowerment program that helps participants reconnect to their bodies, heal trauma and build resilience in community through dance.

Families and Criminal Justice, MIRACLE Project

A project providing relationship-based services such as child development classes, support groups, advocacy and social-recreational activities for young, incarcerated or formerly incarcerated women who are pregnant or parenting young children, and their families.

Journey House

A nonprofit providing support toward the education of youth who have aged out of foster care. The organization works to create opportunities for advancement in education, economic stability and a better quality of life for these youth.

Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice

An organization providing expert legal guidance and representation for victims of non-partner sexual assault. They aim to help survivors understand their rights and receive coordinated social services to aid in trauma recovery.

Journey Out

A nonprofit providing aid for victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking with an emphasis on career training for future success.

New Directions for Veterans

An organization providing housing and comprehensive support for homeless veterans and their families including transportation for female veterans from transitional housing to appointments to find supportive, permanent housing.

Mental Health Advocacy Services, Maternal Health Legal Project

A project providing dedicated legal advocates to low-income pregnant women and new mothers with mental health disabilities.

The FID Group (Friends in Deed), The Women’s Room

A drop-in facility for homeless women that provides supportive services and basic needs including showers, laundry facilities and healthy food. In addition, women enjoy access to computers and telephones, a place to nap, arts and crafts, nature and cultural field trips, games, and fresh clothing.

Treasures Ministries

A survivor-led organization providing care, recovery and emergency services to women in the sex industry and survivors of sexual trafficking.

Union Rescue Mission, Hope Gardens Family Center

A housing campus offering transitional and permanent housing and services to single women and children who are experiencing homelessness.

Upward Bound House/Bright Futures' Maternity Group Home

A residential program serving pregnant and parenting women aged 18-24 who are experiencing homelessness.

WeSPARK Cancer Support Center

A nonprofit providing free programs and critical resources for women, and the families of women, who have been diagnosed with cancer.

During Monday's Grant Awards Luncheon, representatives from the winning charities joined more than 90 members of The Ebell to celebrate the various organizations working for the advancement of women. In addition, two of the 2023 recipients presented to the group. Sophia Kozak, co-creator of Critical Mass Dance Company shared the company's mission and took the attendees through some of the "dance from the heart" exercises that the organization teaches to help reconnect with one's body and tap into one's dreams. Nayeli May, executive director of Journey Out, presented the organization's efforts to support survivors of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation and was joined by a staff member who shared her personal journey from victim to survivor.

The 2023 applications were reviewed by a panel of 20 dedicated volunteers from the RCA committee. The final 12 recipients were selected out of 22 total applicants. Applications for the 2024 RCA Grants will be accepted from May through July of 2024. Nonprofits whose mission is based on supporting women and are based in Los Angeles County are encouraged to apply at that time.

The Ebell Rest Cottage Association

The Ebell's Rest Cottage Association was founded in 1918 after Lillian B. Flanders deeded a home -- a "rest cottage" -- to a local hospital for the rest and recuperation of women in need. The home was run by volunteer members of The Ebell and later deeded directly to the organization. A larger home was commissioned in 1922 where the work on behalf of women continued for several more decades and was eventually sold. Proceeds of the sale were used to endow a fund to further the original mission of the Rest Cottage, to help provide care and necessities of life for women in need. The Rest Cottage Association has provided close to 150 grants to various organizations serving women in Los Angeles county.

About The Ebell of Los Angeles

The Ebell of Los Angeles is a nonprofit organization founded in 1894 by women for women. It is focused on providing a vibrant and inclusive arts and culture hub that fosters the educational, cultural, and social growth of women. At The Ebell, women convene to learn, create, collaborate, innovate, and champion one another to transform the lives of women. The organization's philanthropic efforts include the RCA endowment which awards annual grants totaling more than \$100,000 per year to various nonprofits that assist women and children in need, and the 104-year-old Ebell/Flint Scholarship that has awarded more than 5,000 scholarships to local college and university students. The group's historic campus located in the Hancock Park/Windsor Square area is an iconic landmark listed on the US National Register of Historic Places.

About The Ebell's Historic Campus

The historic Ebell structure and theatre were built in 1927 and designed by renowned architect Sumner Hunt. The campus originally served as a central hub for learning and arts lectures in support of the education of women; the Art Salon was one of the first art galleries in Los Angeles to showcase the work of female artists. With three levels and over 80,000 square feet, the renaissance-inspired building is a noted architectural treasure listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a designated Los Angeles Cultural Monument. The building includes a grand dining room, art salon, courtyard garden, 1,238 seat Broadway-style theater and dozens of smaller rooms filled with historical artifacts and original design details.

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