



LEVITTQUINN
ADOPTION PROJECT
REPORT
2022

Sponsored by **SIGNATURE** RESOLUTION
FAMILY LAW

BACKGROUND

LevittQuinn's adoption services protect children

Nationally, at least one in four children have experienced child neglect or abuse at some point in their lives, and one in seven children experienced abuse or neglect in the last year.

Low-income children who experience abandonment and neglect suffer higher rates of life-long negative consequences.

Since its inception, the Adoption Project has helped to finalize thousands of adoptions for financially vulnerable families.

LevittQuinn's Adoption Project seeks to improve outcomes for children by using our legal expertise to create stable, permanent, and loving homes through independent (non-Dependency) and step-parent adoption.



We are the only organization in LA County providing free and sliding scale private adoption legal services to protect vulnerable children from entering foster care.

WHO WE SERVED

Our clients come to us from throughout Los Angeles County, and beyond.

\$5,549

Average gross monthly household income

4.12

Average client household size

29%

Prefer to communicate in Spanish

71%

Male

63%

Renters

39

Employed

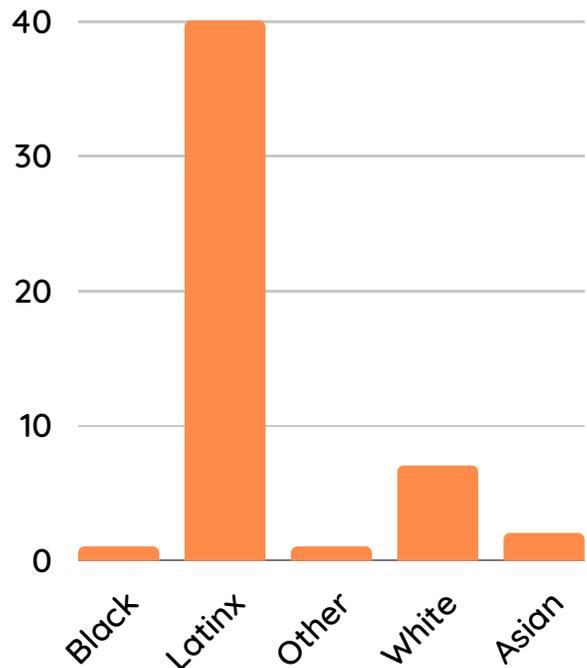
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Employed and receive food stamps

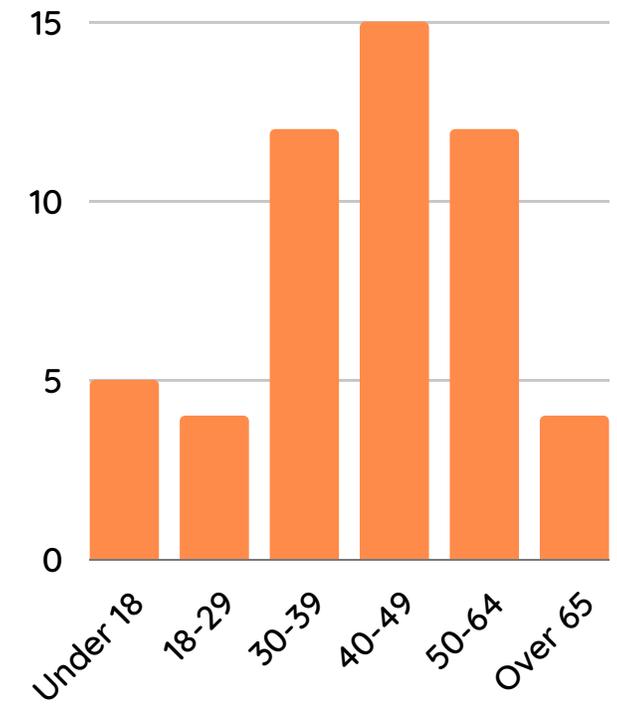
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Identify as having a disability

Race/Ethnicity



Age



HOW WE HELPED

Tracking our impact.



51

clients served



100

minors impacted



COVID and the resulting impacts on the court made it harder for people with very low-incomes and unreliable internet access to get legal help and meaningful relief. The effects of the pandemic continued in 2022.

Signature Resolution, Adoption Project sponsor, made it possible for us to serve 29 of those 51 families we helped in 2022. Those families received a legal assessment and in-depth consultation and advice. We prepared documents for 26 of those families and represented 2 in court. As a result of those services:



29

Understood their rights and responsibilities



26

Gained fair access to a court hearing



24

Successful adoptions



24

Improved familial relationships

REPRESENTATION MATTERS

Finding child-centered solutions.

In addition to our programs, judges appoint LevittQuinn to represent adults and children in high-conflict adoption and family law cases. Last year, 20 court-appointed families benefitted from our adoption expertise, including 5 child clients.

Three years ago, the Court appointed LevittQuinn Legal Services Director, Lucia Reyes, to represent a maternal grandmother in the adoption of the grandchild she had cared for since birth. The presumed father had been in and out of jail for continuing violence against the child's mother. The mother was unwilling to raise the child, and although the father had no relationship with the child, he contested the adoption from prison, refusing to cooperate. Then, on the eve of trial, the father finally consented.

Lucia with the happy adoptee



The family came to the finalization hearing with friends and a professional videographer. The child wore a fancy dress she picked out to celebrate her big day. After the hearing concluded, the grandmother told Lucia, "I remember the day the court appointed you to represent me. I was waiting in the hall for my case to be called. I was so nervous. I saw you walk out (not knowing who you were yet) with a very emotional woman. I saw that woman give you a big hug and thank you."

"When the judge called my case and I learned she appointed you to represent me, I knew in my heart everything would be okay."

VOLUNTEER

We'd love to have you join our efforts.

Interested in volunteering at LevittQuinn? You can see how your donation impacts people every day and help us serve more Kids Fund clients. Together, we can create a safe and useful opportunity to fit your schedule and interests.

Visit www.levittquinn.org/volunteer to learn more.

