

# OPENING DOORS, CHANGING LIVES



## EARLY LEARNING

Although the pandemic is lifting, there are still hardships for the most vulnerable families PFS supports. Learn about how this family found the PFS Early Learning Center before COVID-19, navigated through distance learning during the shutdown, and how they are working towards recovery and stability.



## FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

Olivia, a participant in the Mature Worker Program, was laid off at the beginning of the pandemic. She persevered by attending online workshops and discussion groups through the partnership between PFS and Nova Job Center. Now her outlook is positive as she goes back to a fulfilling career.



## OLDER ADULT SERVICES

The PFS LGBTQ+ Book Club is five years old. The club offers companionship, inclusiveness, and diversity to participants. Throughout the years the LGBTQ+ Book Club has grown in popularity and has become an official group at the San Mateo County Pride Center. Learn more about what is to come in the future.

View full stories here: <https://www.peninsulafamilyservice.org/newsletter>



Dear Friends,

The last year has been difficult for all of us as we navigated a world of shutdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our neighbors have suffered deeply from: job loss, food insecurity, loneliness, isolation, and lack of early learning care. Their lives have been much more difficult because of challenges intensified by the pandemic.

I am proud of the many ways Peninsula Family Service (PFS) has continued our important programs and pivoted to add new activities over the past year. Our staff has risen to the occasion, putting participants and their needs first, while attending to their own challenges.

Please visit our virtual newsletter on our website to read about some of our participants and how they have managed to thrive during the hardships brought on by the pandemic: **[www.peninsulafamilyservice.org/newsletter](http://www.peninsulafamilyservice.org/newsletter)**

If you are moved to help individuals and families thrive when they cannot do it on their own, please consider a donation to keep our programs moving forward.

**[www.peninsulafamilyservice.org/donate](http://www.peninsulafamilyservice.org/donate)**

Together we are *Building Strength, Resilience, and Hope* during these uncertain times,  
*Heather Cleary, CEO*

Peninsula Family Service  
24 Second Avenue  
San Mateo, CA 94401