

EXCEPTIONAL MINDS

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EXCEPTIONAL MINDS

- aka EM
- Sherman Oaks, CA
- www.exceptional-minds.org
- **** 818-387-8811



View GuideStar Profile



MISSION

Exceptional Minds, a California non-profit of the year, is an academy and studio preparing young adults on the autism spectrum for careers in animation, visual effects, 3D gaming, and other related fields in the entertainment industry. Exceptional Minds provides critical technical and work readiness training customized to help its students achieve their full artistic and professional potential, creating a new pipeline of talented artists, and fostering inclusive hiring practices. Exceptional Minds and its partners are building a future where neurodiverse perspectives are vital to the advancement of a more empowered and inclusive society.

EIN

80-0392843

RULING YEAR

2009

IRS SUBSECTION

501(c)(3) Public Charity

FOUNDING YEAR

2009

MAIN ADDRESS

14144 Ventura Blvd Suite 100 Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

AFFILIATION TYPE

Independent Organization

CONTACT

Mr David Siegel, Executive Director david@exceptional-minds.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David Siegel

BOARD CHAIR

Patricia Turney

SUBJECT AREA

Autism

Vocational rehabilitation

NTEE Code

Specialized Education Institutions/Schools for Visually or Hearing Impaired, Learning Disabled (B28)

Other Youth Development N.E.C. (O99)

Scholarships, Student Financial Aid, Awards (B82)

PROGRAMS

1. Core 3-year Vocational Program

Population(s) served:People with intellectual disabilities, Young adults

2. Prep and Private Programs

Population(s) served:People with intellectual disabilities, People with disabilities

3. Summer Workshops

Population(s) served: People with intellectual disabilities, Adolescents

4. Apprenticeship Program

Population(s) served: People with intellectual disabilities, Adults

POPULATIONS SERVED

- 1. Children and youth
- 2. People with intellectual disabilities
- 3. People with psychosocial disabilities
- 4. Students
- 5. Young adults

COMPLIANCE

- ✓ IRS Pub 78 Verified as of November 2025
- ✓ IRS BMF 509(a) (1) as of November 14, 2025
- ✓ A-133 Audit Required/Performed?
- ✓ Conflict of Interest Policy
- ✓ Written whistleblower policy

Section 509(a)(1) organization as referred to in Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

TRANSPARENCY MEASURES

- ✓ Board Practices Reported?
- ✓ Diversity Data Reported?
- 11 Number of Independent Board Members

Programs & Results

PROGRAMS

Source: Self-Reported by Organization, August 2022

Core 3-year Vocational Program

Population(s) Served:

People with intellectual disabilities Young Adults (20-25 years)

EM's core program provides young adults (18–35) with 3-years of full-time training in digital arts leading to possible job placement. During that time, students learn technical best practices, necessary software programs and obtain Adobe software certification, a critical credential that communicates technical and professional proficiency to future employers.

Each participant is provided with an individualized Career Planning (ICP) an essential evaluation component of this program. The ICP process, created by Exceptional Minds, brings together the student, the student's family, the Principal, the Autism Behavioral Specialist and the primary instructor to create a road map for realizing each student's career goals. The ICP provides an ongoing framework used to monitor technical and work readiness development and EM has created rating scales to track progress in all areas.

Prep and Private Programs

Population(s) Served:

People with intellectual disabilities People with disabilities

The Prep program is comprised of one to three weekly sessions, throughout the school year, where young adults have an opportunity to discover their areas of interest and develop their talents. The program consists of one-on-one instruction in the morning, small group instruction in the afternoon, and socialization at lunch and throughout the day.

Students work on their technical and social skills, and learn strategies to cope with their behavioral challenges. The Prep Program will run along side the full-time program, allowing students to benefit from guest lecturers and industry visitors.

Summer Workshops

Population(s) Served:

People with intellectual disabilities Adolescents (13-19 years)

The popular Summer Workshops offer a series of 2-week classes in digital animation, video game development and visual effects.

Apprenticeship Program

Population(s) Served:

People with intellectual disabilities Adults

In June 2018, EM instituted the Apprentice Program (AP) for graduates needing further experience in specific employment prerequisite technical/behavioral skills. Apprentices receive, at no charge, intensive one-on-one instruction with the objective of moving them into jobs at EMS.

One quarter of apprentices received financial aid at the Academy.

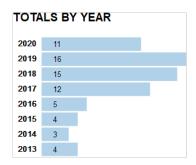
To implement the AP, we have added a studio supervisor and two top teachers. The program follows EM's instructional design—working individually with apprentices on behaviors, concepts, systems, and specific software via a cohesive curriculum. Instruction hours are from 10:00am-4:00pm and each discipline has its own classroom. Behavioral training is embedded in all instruction/practice and reinforced in personal sessions.

From 4:00pm-6:00 pm, artists practice their skills in the Apprentice Lab. Instructors assign

practice projects, assisting wherever necessary. Apprentices have thus far advanced to the point that they are currently working with EMS on movie titles. The AP is designed to be a fluid program whereby apprentices can work for the EMS in areas they have mastered, while receiving additional training/monitored practice in those where they need improvement.

RESULTS

Number of students who receive scholarship funds and/or tuition assistance

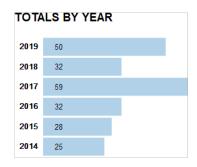


Population(s) Served: Adolescents (13-19 years), Adults, People with intellectual disabilities

Related program: Core 3-year Vocational Program

Notes: Tuition assistance was instituted in 2011 Since then 108 tuition assistance awards have been given. In 2021 thus far, 20 awards have been made.

Number of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) developed

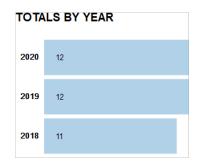


Population(s) Served: People with disabilities, People with intellectual disabilities, People with learning disabilities

Related program: Core 3-year Vocational Program

Notes: Ours, is not a typical IEP. We're a program, using an ICP (Individualize Career Plan) suited to our population focusing on technical, artistic and behavioral development evaluated weekly.

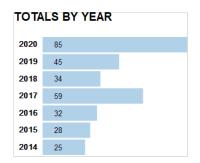
Number of teachers retained after 12 months



Population(s) Served: No target populations selected

Related program: Core 3-year Vocational Program

Number of students at or above a 90% attendance rate

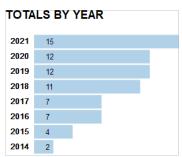


Population(s) Served: People with disabilities, People with intellectual disabilities, People with learning disabilities

Related program: Core 3-year Vocational Program

Notes: Virtual training has reduced absences.

Number of teachers involved in school-wide decisions about student learning



Population(s) Served: People with intellectual disabilities, People with learning disabilities

Related program: Core 3-year Vocational Program

Notes: EM's growth initiative will increase the number of instructors to 20 by 2025. All faculty and studio supervisors have in put into our educational model, curriculum, and methodology.

CHARTING IMPACT

What is the organization aiming to accomplish?

Exceptional Minds' (EM's) primary goal is for all of our graduates to obtain and sustain gainful employment. EM's Academy provides visual computer arts training in visual effects, animation, 3D, gaming, and motion graphics through customized, hands-on applied learning, interweaving work-readiness instruction throughout every class. Job Placement is an essential aspect of the EM Vocational Program. EM's in-house, professional Visual Effects and Animation studios are a cornerstone of EM's innovative model for success. These state-of-the-art studios provide graduates with paid on-the-job training in an environment similar to media industry workplaces. They also build material for their demo reels and legitimate credits for their resumes. Students continue to receive Employment Services: internships/job placements, job coaching and career planning.

Exceptional Minds' corollary goal is to increase the representation and inclusion of neurodiverse artists and workers in entertainment, media, tech, and other industries. Every graduate working helps to widen the perspectives of all employers concerning the capabilities of individuals on the autism spectrum.

What are the organization's key strategies for making this happen?

Traditional educational models focus on training youth and adults on the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) for menial jobs that have no relationship to individual's capabilities, preferences, or cognitive abilities. EM is unique in the comprehensive methodology of our program. All programs begin with a presumption of competence, incorporating individual strengths into customized training paths and employment planning. The academy combines the skills of artists, instructors, technicians, and behaviorists into an exclusive, individualized curriculum based on proven principles of autism education. We completely integrate technical and behavioral/vocational training to assist artists in navigating long-term careers.

The COVID-19 pandemic jumpstarted EM's remote instructional model, whereby artists were trained entirely virtually. As a result, EM now trains young people across America and in several other countries. We are at the beginning of a growth period whereby we will offer hybrid training that is on-site and also serves virtual students with the same courses side-by-side with their in classroom colleagues.

Our programs benefit individuals of any race, sex or ethnicity who have a diagnosis of autism. Applicants showing interest and aptitude in art, graphics, design, and computer animation prepare for careers in the above-listed fields. We serve young adults (18-35) and we offer private tutoring, after-school and summer workshop to youth as young as 12.

EM multi-pronged approach prepares students for success in the workplace. With two clear pathways to employment--customized and/or supported employment in outside facilities and independent contract work provided and supervised by Exceptional Minds Studios. EM focuses on preparing youth and young adults on the spectrum for 21st century jobs in computer-based graphic design, visual effects, 3D, and animation.

As a part of this growth initiative, EM will be developing new career tracks with industries that exist all around the country: tech, advertising, etc. Exceptional Minds anticipates more than doubling the number of students and artists served within the next five years while expanding target industries to provide those students with more opportunity.

What are the organization's capabilities for doing this?

Education – EM's flagship program is the post–secondary, three-year, full-time Academy (generally ages 18–24) where young adults become proficient computer artists specializing in visual effects, animation, motion graphics, or gaming/3D career tracks. Behavioral and work–readiness skills instruction is wholly interwoven with applied technical training. In their second year, students identify a career specialty and EM's Employment Support Team begins to prepare them for and usher them into related internships and employment. Current Career Tracks include Visual Effects, Animation, and the new Gaming & 3D arts. The Academy has a 96% graduation rate.

Our Part-Time Programs offer out-of-school Private Tutoring, Small Group Instruction, Saturday Workshops, and Art Labs to facilitate both technical and vocational skills acquisition. The Extensions Program is designed as Academy prep, individual project fulfillment, job testing prep, enrichment, or to accommodate those students for whom the pace of the regular Academy is too fast or too slow.

In EM's popular Summer, After-School, and Saturday workshops (ages 12 and up), adolescents with autism gain experience with the latest software used in professional studios. Workshops introduce teens to the possibility of careers in computer visual arts, in addition to improving academic skills.

In response to COVID-19, EM transitioned to providing technology/vocational instruction and on-the-job training remotely. We loaned computers to students/studio artists lacking adequate equipment, provided remote access to on-site computers, and rose to the teaching challenges with all hands on deck. Success in this virtual format propelled EM to offer its annual summer workshops virtually. Doing so resulted in a surge of applications and all sessions were waitlisted. Total enrollment ultimately increased by 20%.

As a result of this success, and an increasing number of film and tech industry partnerships, Exceptional Minds has launched a five-year Growth Initiative by which we will double enrollment. A major foundation has provided funding toward upgrading EM's existing remote instruction capabilities to an easily scalable virtual workstation model designed to not only enable increased student access, but also to enhance educational practice by allowing teachers to "reach into" student computers and control a pen, brush, or mouse in order to better illustrate a technique.

Exceptional Minds Studios provide initial employment/paid on-the-job training for Academy graduates. EM's Visual Effects studio artists have worked on every Marvel film since its founding as well as multiple Oscar-nominated and winning films: Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker Green Book, Black Panther, and First Man. EM's Animation Studio has created Emmy-nominated animation for Sesame Workshop/Special Olympics videos and main title credits for Netflix series Atypical.

What have and haven't they accomplished so far?

EM was founded by parents, educators, and entertainment professionals to address the 80% unemployment rate among America's almost five million adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The diagnosis rate has risen 34% since 2012. Chronic joblessness/underemployment leave much of this underserved population in poverty, distanced from full membership in our community.

EM opened its three-year training Academy in 2011, in-house Visual Effects Studio in 2014, and Animation Studio in 2016. We have achieved a national, award-winning reputation for quality outcomes in arts and special needs education, as well as becoming a respected Hollywood vendor of visual effects and animation services. Studio clients include Marvel, Netflix, Disney, Amazon, and many others.

Exceptional Minds has built its base of support to include the studios listed above, plus ViacomCBS, WarnerMedia, etc. EM also receives significant financial backing from two of the world's largest tech companies and multiple national and local private foundations.

Participants:

- 100% diagnosed with autism
- · 48% non-Caucasian
- Full-Time Academy ages 18-24, Youth Programs 12-18, Part-time classes 12 and up, Studio artists 22 and up
- 52% receive financial aid
- 70% male (boys are diagnosed four times more than girls). In the past two years, EM has grown our female student body from 16% to 30% and continues to conduct outreach to students from all backgrounds.

Impact:

- EM has served almost 2,000 participants in its first decade and, as of 2021, serves 300 per year
- EM has instituted a Capacity Building Initiative that will double the number of individuals served within five years.

• Since the onset of the pandemic, EM has expanded service delivery through a new technology system that allows students and artists full remote participation in both classes and paid studio work.

- This technology has pushed enrollment up by 20% in Summer Youth Workshops, 33% in Part-Time programs, and 20% enrollment overall.
- and part-time enrollment by 33%.
- Historically, EM has placed 32% of graduates into off-site entertainment employment (on par with other arts institutes), 13% worked as freelance artists, more than 45% at our in-house Studios, and 8% have found places in other industries. Five-year goals include increasing off-site employment to 40-50% and contracting for more professional projects as the number of studio artists grows.

You have a lot more power than you think. I know day-to-day things can be really difficult, that you can get down on yourself and you don't necessarily know where you're going. But in the right setting, with the right people supporting you—you can be incredible.

-Exceptional Minds Student

Financials

FISCAL YEAR START: 07/01 FISCAL YEAR END: 06/30

✓ Financials audited by an independent accountant

FINANCIALS QUICK VIEW

Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements	\$4,581,422
Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements	\$3,749,301
Surpluses in last 5 years	3
Negative Net Assets in past 5 years	0

Created in Partnership with



Financial Trends Analysis

Business Model Indicators

Profitability	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Unrestricted surplus (deficit) before depreciation	\$90,628	-\$586,704	\$520,048	\$1,470,706	-\$114,677
As a % of expenses	2.9%	-16.4%	13.6%	36.0%	-3.1%
Unrestricted surplus (deficit) after depreciation	\$52,136	-\$654,017	\$490,485	\$1,456,745	-\$167,288
As a % of expenses	1.7%	-17.9%	12.7%	35.5%	-4.5%
Revenue Composition					
Total revenue (unrestricted & restricted)	\$3,034,300	\$3,381,253	\$4,177,097	\$5,375,664	\$4,581,422
Total revenue, % change over prior year	16.2%	11.4%	23.5%	28.7%	-14.8%
Program services revenue	56.8%	48.5%	42.7%	40.3%	49.8%
Membership dues	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Investment income	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%
Government grants	0.9%	0.3%	0.0%	6.2%	5.5%
All other grants and contributions	41.8%	51.3%	54.0%	34.5%	43.9%
Other revenue	0.1%	-0.2%	3.2%	18.8%	0.0%
Expense Composition					
Total expenses before depreciation	\$3,097,870	\$3,577,422	\$3,834,359	\$4,089,857	\$3,696,690
Total expenses, % change over prior year	14.3%	15.5%	7.2%	6.7%	-9.6%
Personnel	70.9%	73.1%	52.6%	64.7%	67.1%
Professional Fees	8.3%	1.9%	4.1%	4.2%	8.4%
Occupancy	8.1%	7.3%	6.0%	10.6%	8.9%
Interest	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Pass-Through	0.0%	0.0%	6.8%	6.4%	6.2%
All other expenses	12.8%	17.8%	30.6%	14.0%	9.4%

Financial Trends Analysis, continued

Moving Toward Full Cost Coverage

Full Cost Components (estimated)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Expenses (after depreciation)	\$3,136,362	\$3,644,735	\$3,863,922	\$4,103,818	\$3,749,301
One Month of Savings	\$258,156	\$298,119	\$319,530	\$340,821	\$308,058
Debt Principal Repayment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$44,839
Fixed Asset Additions	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$320,648
Total Full Costs (estimated)	\$3,394,518	\$3,942,854	\$4,183,452	\$4,444,639	\$4,422,846

Capital Structure Indicators

Liquidity					
Months of cash	1.0	5.3	7.2	8.5	11.4
Months of cash and investments	5.8	5.3	7.2	8.5	11.4
Months of estimated liquid unrestricted net assets	5.2	2.5	4.0	8.1	7.5
Balance Sheet Composition					
Cash	\$258,072	\$1,574,443	\$2,289,103	\$2,901,839	\$3,500,078
Investments	\$1,243,390	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Receivables	\$138,865	\$377,519	\$100,638	\$473,842	\$138,062
Gross land, buildings, and equipment (LBE)	\$426,365	\$427,168	\$427,167	\$427,167	\$760,536
Accumulated depreciation (% of LBE)	72.4%	87.1%	94.0%	97.2%	63.2%
Liabilities (as % of assets)	13.9%	36.6%	34.1%	16.3%	32.9%
Unrestricted net assets	\$1,468,214	\$814,197	\$1,304,682	\$2,761,427	\$2,594,139
Temporarily restricted net assets	\$84,147	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Permanently restricted net assets	\$0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total restricted net assets	\$84,147	\$480,939	\$303,629	\$118,733	\$824,728
Total net assets	\$1,552,361	\$1,295,136	\$1,608,311	\$2,880,160	\$3,418,867

Key Data Checks

Material Data Errors	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	No	No	No	No	No

Note: This issue is relevant to a small number of organizations: The nonprofit subject(s) of this report may have affiliates. The Form 990 data may not include information about any or all potential affiliates. If an organization does have affiliates and these affiliates have substantial financial activity, the financial data in this report may not present a comprehensive picture of the nonprofit's financial condition. Please consult the 990s of any potentially related affiliates for additional information.

- ☑ <u>'Key Revenue & Expense Data from Form 990'</u>
- 'Key Balance Sheet Data from Form 990'

Operations

Source: Self-Reported by Organization, August 2022

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr David Siegel

☑ LinkedIn profile

GUIDESTAR PRO REPORT

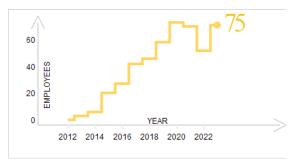
David Siegel is the Executive Director of California nonprofit of the year Exceptional Minds - an academy and studio preparing people on the autism spectrum for careers in animation and the digital arts.

A former Disney cast member of nearly a decade where he led marketing for Disneytoon Studios, Siegel began his career in talent representation at the William Morris Agency before segueing to a producing deal at a major studio and film financier.

Throughout his career, Siegel has also served as an advisor to world-class media companies having crafted branding, marketing, and new business strategies for a portfolio of clients that have included award-winning marketing and licensing agencies, leading animation studios, Universities, and technology start-ups. As an active philanthropist and social entrepreneur, Siegel, in partnership with his author/philanthropist son Dylan, has raised \$1.5 million toward eradicating glycogen storage disease.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

Source: IRS Form 990



BOARD CHAIR

Patricia Turney

Arcutis

Term: 2018 - 2022

BOARD MEMBERS

Michael Murguia

Gold Coast Healh

Susan Capps

Invitae

Mollie Keith

Entrepreneur

Amy Schonfeld

Neuropsychologist

Richard Gasparian

Professional Animator

Helen Wu

J. Arthur Greenfield & Co.

Dan Glasser

National Ability Center

Cuong Do

BioVie Inc

Patricia Turney

Arcutis Biotherapeutics

Charles Alpuche

Insulet Corp

Alyse Bass

Attorney

David SiegelEXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CEO\$181,272\$8,27Charles AlpucheBOARD MEMBER\$0\$3Alyse Sue BassBOARD MEMBER\$0\$3Susan CappsSECRETARY\$0\$3Cuong DOBOARD MEMBER\$0\$3Richard GasparianBOARD MEMBER\$0\$3Daniel GlasserVICE CHAIR\$0\$3Mollie KeithBOARD MEMBER\$0\$3Michael MurguiaBOARD MEMBER\$0\$3Amy SchofeldBOARD MEMBER\$0\$3Patricia TurneyBOARD CHAIR\$0\$3					
Charles Alpuche BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$9 Alyse Sue Bass BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$9 Susan Capps SECRETARY \$0 \$9 Cuong DO BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$9 Richard Gasparian BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$9 Daniel Glasser VICE CHAIR \$0 \$9 Mollie Keith BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$9 Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$9 Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$9 Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0	Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
Alyse Sue Bass BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Susan Capps SECRETARY \$0 \$3 Cuong DO BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Richard Gasparian BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Daniel Glasser VICE CHAIR \$0 \$3 Mollie Keith BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0	David Siegel	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CEO	\$181,272	\$8,270	\$0
Susan Capps SECRETARY \$0 \$ Cuong DO BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Richard Gasparian BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Daniel Glasser VICE CHAIR \$0 \$ Mollie Keith BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0 \$	Charles Alpuche	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cuong DO BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Richard Gasparian BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Daniel Glasser VICE CHAIR \$0 \$ Mollie Keith BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0	Alyse Sue Bass	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Richard Gasparian BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Daniel Glasser VICE CHAIR \$0 \$3 Mollie Keith BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$3 Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0	Susan Capps	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Daniel Glasser VICE CHAIR \$0 \$ Mollie Keith BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0 \$	Cuong DO	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mollie Keith BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0	Richard Gasparian	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Michael Murguia BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0	Daniel Glasser	VICE CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Amy Schofeld BOARD MEMBER \$0 \$ Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0	Mollie Keith	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Patricia Turney BOARD CHAIR \$0 \$	Michael Murguia	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Amy Schofeld	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Patricia Turney	BOARD CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Helen Wu TREASURER \$0 \$	Helen Wu	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0

Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
David Siegel	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	\$146,461	\$7,274	\$0
Dana Rubin Until 1121	DIRECTOR, FINANCE & OPERAT	\$96,308	\$0	\$0
Patricia Turney	BOARD CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Daniel Glasser	VICE CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Helen Wu	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Susan Capps	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Richard Gasparian	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ron Burns	BOARD MEMBER (UNTIL 1/1/22)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mollie Burns Keith	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Michael Murguia	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dr Amy Schofeld	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Charles Alpuche	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Alyse Sue Bass	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cuong DO	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0

Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
David Siegel	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	\$131,330	\$4,133	\$0
Dana Rubin	DIRECTOR, FINANCE & OPERATIONS (AS OF 1/1/21)	\$57,001	\$0	\$0
Patricia Turney	BOARD CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Daniel Glasser	VICE CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Helen Wu	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Susan Capps	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Richard Gasparian	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ron Burns	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mollie Burns Keith	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Michael Murguia	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dr Amy Schofeld	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0

Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
Jeffrey Shapiro Until 1230	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	\$166,315	\$5,851	\$0
David Siegel As Of 0101	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	\$43,366	\$1,312	\$0
Patricia Turney	BOARD CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Daniel Glasser	VICE CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Helen Wu	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Richard Gasparian	SECRETARY	\$0	\$0	\$0
Susan Capps	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ron Burns	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mollie Burns Keith	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Michael Murguia	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0

Name	Title	Compensation	Other	Related
Jeffrey Shapiro	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	\$46,116	\$550	\$0
David Shladovsky	BOARD CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Patricia Turney	TREASURER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Yudi Bennett	VICE CHAIR	\$0	\$0	\$0
Helen Wu	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ron Burns	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mollie Burns Keith	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0
Michael Murguia	BOARD MEMBER	\$0	\$0	\$0

Professional fundraisers

FISCAL YEAR 2022

Fundraiser name	Type of service	Gross receipts from fundraising	Retained by organization	Paid to fundraiser
JANICE VELA	GRANT WRITER	\$100,000	\$72,399	\$27,601

Professional fundraisers

Fundraiser name	Type of service	Gross receipts from fundraising	Retained by organization	Paid to fundraiser
JANICE VELA	GRANT WRITER	\$60,000	\$39,489	\$20,511

Paid Preparers

FISCAL YEAR 2023

Firm Name	Firm EIN	Firm Address	Firm Phone
LEWIS SHARPSTONE & CO	83-4701972	5850 CANOGA AVE SUITE 400, WOODLAND HILLS CA 91367 USA	818-570-1960

Paid Preparers

FISCAL YEAR 2022

Firm Name	Firm EIN	Firm Address	Firm Phone
EVERGREEN ALLIANCE PROFESSIONAL CORP	86-1400078	4332 CERRITOS AVE SUITE A105, LOS ALAMITOS CA 90720 USA	714-372-8110

Paid Preparers

Firm Name	Firm EIN	Firm Address	Firm Phone
EVERGREEN ALLIANCE PROFESSIONAL CORP	86-1400078	4332 CERRITOS AVE SUITE A105, LOS ALAMITOS CA 90720 USA	714-372-8110

BOARD LEADERSHIP PRACTICES

GuideStar worked with BoardSource, the national leader in nonprofit board leadership and governance, to create this section, which enables organizations and donors to transparently share information about essential board leadership practices.

BOARD ORIENTATION & EDUCATION		
Does the board conduct a formal orientation for new board members and require all	Yes	
board members to sign a written agreement regarding their roles, responsibilities,		
and expectations?		
CEO OVERSIGHT		
Has the board conducted a formal, written assessment of the chief executive within	Yes	
the past year?		
ETHICS & TRANSPARENCY		
Have the board and senior staff reviewed the conflict-of-interest policy and	Yes	
completed and signed disclosure statements in the past year?		
BOARD COMPOSITION		
Does the board ensure an inclusive board member recruitment process that results	Yes	
in diversity of thought and leadership?	-	
BOARD PERFORMANCE		

No

Has the board conducted a formal, written self-assessment of its performance within

the past three years?

Organizational Demographics

Who works and leads organizations that serve our diverse communities? This organization has voluntarily shared information to answer this important question and to support sector-wide learning. GuideStar partnered on this section with CHANGE Philanthropy.

Leadership

The organization's leader identifies as:

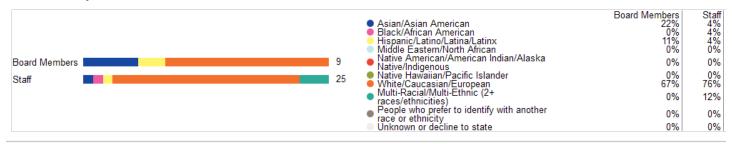
Race & Ethnicity White/Caucasian/European

Gender Identity Male, Not transgender

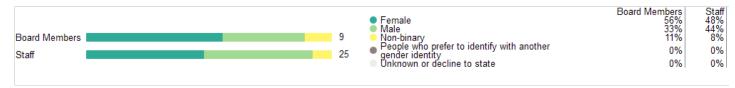
Sexual Orientation Heterosexual or Straight

Disability Status Person without a disability

Race & Ethnicity

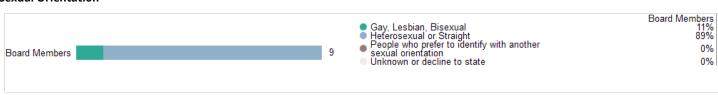


Gender Identity



Transgender Identity

Sexual Orientation



Disability



Appendix

Key Documents	
IRS Forms 990	[2] <u>2023 990</u>
	Z 2022 990
	Z 2021 990
	Z 2020 990
	Z <u>2019 990</u>
IRS Forms 990T	Not Available
Audited Financial Statements	☑ 2020 Audited Financial Statement
Audited Financial Statements	 2020 Audited Financial Statement 2020 Audited Financial Statement
Audited Financial Statements	
Audited Financial Statements Key Organization Documents	☑ 2020 Audited Financial Statement
	 2020 Audited Financial Statement 2019 Audited Financial Statement
	 2020 Audited Financial Statement 2019 Audited Financial Statement Letter of Determination

GuideStar Charity Check

EXCEPTIONAL MINDS

Aka EM

14144 Ventura Blvd Suite 100 Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

- ✓ Foundation Status Code: PC*
- ✓ Public charity described in section 509(a)(1) or (2)

IRS Publication 78 Details

Verified IRS Pub 78

Organization name Location Most recent IRS Publication 78

Exceptional Minds Sherman Oaks, CA September 2025

EIN Deductibility status description Verified with most recent Internal Revenue Bulletin

80-0392843 A public charity (50% deductibility limitation). November 17, 2025

IRS Business Master File Details

IRS BMF 509(a)(1)

Organization name Most recent IRS BMF Reason for Non-Private Foundation Status

EXCEPTIONAL MINDS September 09 2025 Section 509(a)(1) organization as referred to in Section

170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

EIN IRS subsection Ruling date 80-0392843 This organization is a 501(c)(3) Public Charity 09/2009

Foundation Code Description

15 Organization which receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or the general public

This organization was not included in the Office of Foreign Assets Control Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list.

On September 8, 2011, the IRS issued regulations which eliminated the advance ruling process for a section 501(c)(3) organization. Learn more

* The Foundation Status Code is the code that foundations are required to provide for each grantee annually on part XV of Form 990PF. Note that this code cannot be derived in some cases (e.g., supporting organizations for which 'type' can't be determined).

<u>IRS Revenue Procedure 2011-33</u> allows grantors to rely on third-party resources, such as GuideStar Charity Check, to obtain required Business Master File (BMF) data concerning a potential grantee's public charity classification under section 509 (a) (1), (2) or (3).

GuideStar Charity Check Data Sources

- -GuideStar acquires all IRS data directly from the Internal Revenue Service.
- -<u>IRS Publication 78 (Cumulative List of Organizations)</u> lists organizations that have been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions.
- -The <u>IRS Internal Revenue Bulletin</u> (IRB) lists changes in charitable status since the last Publication 78 release. Between the release of IRS Publication 78 and the subsequent IRS Internal Revenue Bulletin, the IRB date will reflect the most recent release date of IRS Publication 78.
- -The <u>IRS Business Master File</u> lists approximately 1.7 million nonprofits registered with the IRS as tax-exempt organizations.
- -The I<u>RS Automatic Revocation of Exemption List</u> contains organizations that have had their federal tax-exempt status automatically revoked for failing to file an annual return or notice with the IRS for three consecutive years
- -The Foundation Status Code is a value derived by mapping the codes found on the <u>990PF filing instructions</u> to the corresponding codes in the IRS BMF. Note that not all codes are able to be mapped due to insufficient data.
- -The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) <u>Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) list</u> organizations that are owned or controlled by targeted individuals, groups, and entitles, such as terrorists or narcotics traffickers. Their assets are blocked and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from dealing with them.