

# Personal Focus. Broad Impact.

**ANNUAL REPORT 2022** 



## Personal focus.

Those we serve are at the core of everything we do at BALANCE. Our devotion to meeting the financial empowerment needs of each individual we help has fed into educational and counseling approaches rich in empathy, versatility and personalized solutions. The BALANCE mission of ending intergenerational poverty begins with one interaction with one person and grows until it raises the standard of living for entire families for years to come.

## Broad impact.

By taking the time to create techniques and tools for caring guidance, we build connections that drive results on a large scale. With more than 100,000 people in need helped in 2022, BALANCE improves the quality of life and makes dreams possible for a broad swath of the population.



## **About BALANCE**

Established in 1969, BALANCE is a national non-profit organization breaking the cycle of generational poverty by empowering individuals and families to take control of their financial lives.

Through partnerships with Government-Sponsored Enterprises, municipalities, employers, credit unions, EAPs, non-profits and banks we help consumers nationwide achieve financial wellness with end-to-end financial education and counseling:

#### Money management and debt reduction

- · Budget development
- · Debt repayment strategy
- Student loan counseling

#### Credit report education

- · Credit report review
- · Identity theft prevention and solutions

#### Housing and homeownership

- Pre-purchase
- · Foreclosure prevention
- Rental
- · Reverse mortgage
- Smart Money coaching A San Francisco based financial coaching program aligned with social services
- Youth financial education
- Workshops and webinars nationwide

## Chairman's Report

As the Board Chair for BALANCE, I take immense pride in sharing the progress, accomplishments and positive impact we have

made in helping individuals and

families better manage their financial health over the past year. In presenting the Annual Report for 2022, we reflect on the challenges and triumphs that have defined the work we do at BALANCE, which remains as vital today as it was when we first opened our doors in 1969.

Over the past 50+ years, the personal financial landscape in America has evolved in many ways, presenting new complexities and financial challenges for consumers. In 2022, we witnessed tensions brought on by the emergence from the Covid epidemic that led to higher inflation as well as increases in interest rates that negatively impacted personal debt for mortgages, auto loans and credit cards. Many Americans faced increased financial stress as a result, as distressed mortgages persisted in many states, and a significant number of individuals struggled to cover even a small emergency expense.

At BALANCE, we recognized these pressing issues as a call to action—a responsibility to foster positive change in the financial lives of the people we serve. Throughout the year, we forged new partnerships with organizations that complemented our services, allowing us to extend our reach and provide essential financial education in workplaces, communities, online and in classrooms.

In addition to serving those facing financial hardship, we continued to expand our efforts to support those pursuing financial milestones, such as purchasing a first home, seeking higher education and planning for retirement. Our dedicated team of counselors worked tirelessly to offer guidance, build budgets, handle debt, improve credit and help people achieve their financial goals.

Our partnerships with non-profit organizations, financial institutions, employee assistance programs, employers, government agencies, and municipalities played a crucial role in our ability to provide comprehensive financial services. We are grateful for their continued support in realizing our mission and objectives.

In 2022, BALANCE celebrated its 53rd year of service, a testament to our commitment and dedication to empowering individuals and communities financially.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on our purpose: to make financial empowerment a reality for individuals from all walks of life. We will continue to foster positive change in the financial lives of individuals and families nationwide, providing essential financial counseling, education and support to create financially healthy communities.

On behalf of the BALANCE Board of Directors, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our partners, clients and employees for their unwavering dedication to our mission. Your support and commitment have been instrumental in helping us navigate through challenging times and to make a positive impact on the lives of so many.

Sincerely,

Thomas Layman,

BALANCE Board Chair

CEO/Founder, Global Vision Group

## A Message from the CEO

2022 was a significant year for me, personally and professionally. It was the year I lost my wife of over 30 years to cancer. So many of the BALANCE community – from the board to our business partners to our team- provided comfort and support through the worst time of my life, and I genuinely appreciate it.

I've always considered myself empathetic to our clients' struggles – after all, I wouldn't have committed my career to helping people if I wasn't. But when, for the first time in decades, I had to deal with the household finances – figuring out where everything was, making sure I had due dates straight and automatic payments set up on the correct accounts, and the dozens of other things my wife did every day to ensure our household finances ran smoothly - I had

a new perspective into the stress many of our clients deal with regularly. I talked to our team about it, and we even created a new workshop, Surviving the Death of a Loved One, to help other families undergoing the same significant life adjustment.

Our coaches and educators approach each of our clients with this same level of empathy and a client-focused perspective. The humanity they bring to every call, meeting, workshop, and coaching session allows them to make a difference in the lives of the families we serve. This humanity and empathy underscores what we do each day. Through over 50 years of serving our community, we've learned that every one of our clients has a story to tell – and each needs to be heard with our hearts and minds open to help these families overcome the obstacles they've encountered and move toward financial wellness. It's a privilege to be part of so many of these stories.

Warm Regards,

Enrique C. Delgadilla

Enrique C. Delgadillo President and CEO

## **Housing Counseling**

Our HUD-certified counselors and educators help families with one of the major milestones of financial wellness—homeownership. Through pre-purchase and post-purchase counseling, along with foreclosure prevention education, we work to ensure our clients are prepared for successful homeownership.

For families not quite ready to purchase but in need of safe and secure housing, we help with rental counseling and connections to rental assistance programs. And for families ready to take advantage of the equity they've built in their home over the years to secure their financial wellness in retirement, we provide reverse mortgage counseling.





## Financial FitnessCoaching and Education

Through partnerships with credit unions, banks, employers, non-profits and EAPs we provide counseling and education nationwide to help the families they serve achieve financial wellness – however that looks for them:

- Manage money
- Repay debt
- Establish savings
- Take control of student loans
- Understand credit reports and scores
- Overcome identity theft
- Buy a home or keep the one they have
- Plan for the future

## **Financial Fitness Testimonials**



#### Sandra

Working in a financial institution I assumed I knew all there was to know about budgeting, saving money, and getting a higher credit score. I learned that I may have all the tools to help others but when it comes to taking the same advice I give to others, I fail to act on them myself.

My financial coach gave me monthly goals, budgets, and other tools to help me along my journey.

There were many moments when I felt defeated and doubted myself, like there was no way I would overcome all these obstacles and I ultimately wanted to call it quits but kept going. I started out not knowing the benefits of budgeting, my bad spending habits, and the importance of managing my credit to benefit me.

I created a budget for the first time, raised my credit score and increased my savings by \$4,522.





### **Alyssa**

Throughout my experience with BALANCE, I can honestly say it was something that changed my life.

My coach gave me the tools to learn how to budget, and plan for my future. With the help of my coach, I was able to save a lot of money toward my wedding and pay off a good chunk of debt!

I am confident with the tools I was provided that I will now continue with a better financial future for myself and my family! Whenever I come across family, friends or members I always let them know all the benefits BALANCE can provide!"



## Smart Money Coaching

With many San Franciscans still looking to find their financial footing due to the effects of COVID-19, our team continued to serve as a lifeline for many families and individuals. Those facing inflation, stagnant wages and astronomical housing prices knew they could turn to us for help with the resources they needed to lead a life of safety, comfort and dignity. Keeping our focus on reaching more residents of the city with the highest quality empowerment tools possible, we did more to than ever to bring people out of the financial cold.

## **Smart Money Coaching Testimonials**

I was homeless and receiving food stamps and Medi-Cal. I learned about Smart Money Coaching through the San Francisco Human Services Agency and although I was not required to attend, I decided that it could help me manage my growing debt. It would be an understatement to say that it changed my life. It has empowered me to find new income, reduce or eliminate my interest rates, move out of my car and into a home, and start keeping a budget again.

I had no good way of cashing checks except for check cashing and I saved money under mattress. My coach was patient, persistent, and offered many resources. I paid off old debt, removed fraudulent debt, and improved my credit score by 155 points. I went from feeling overwhelmed and powerless to now moving into an apartment, starting a business, and feeling financially secure."



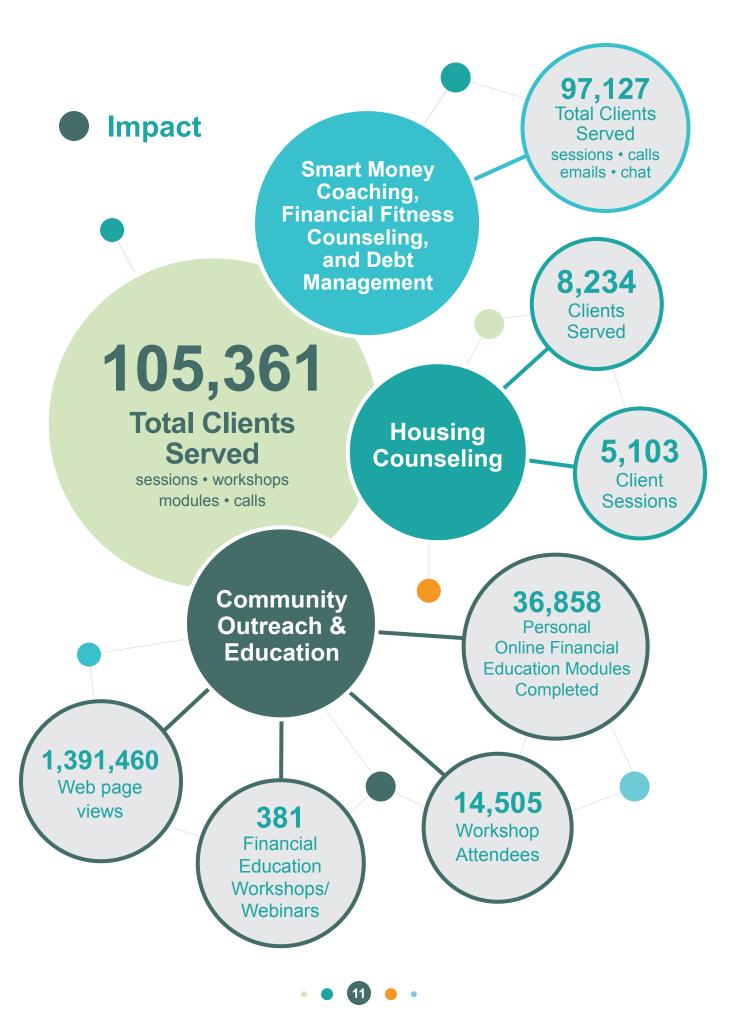
My coach created a safe space to talk about my finances with no judgement. I knew it was ok to drop the shame I felt about the position I was in. The follow up calls with my coach to review and update the plan have really helped me turn things around. I am deeply grateful for being part of this program. It feels like my coach has walked this journey with me every step of the way. I really appreciate his demeanor. He's very pragmatic and positive and I am getting results.



Before, I was afraid to talk about my finances. My coach helps me share honestly about my finances and teaches me about financial management without ever seeming condescending or judgmental. He helps make me more aware of what actions I have control over and how they contribute to my finances. Having someone to talk to regularly to assure that I'm keeping up with my goals has been extremely valuable. I'm not sure that I would have been able to follow through with my goals otherwise.



I was in a ton of debt and in need of assistance understanding how to navigate my budget in the absence of cash flow and housing. My coach did a fantastic job helping me navigate my financial situation and created an action plan that truly helped set me up for success. I highly recommend his services. He is a professional who understands the stress of getting back on your feet and the importance of effective financial coaching and empathy.



## **Net Promoter Score**

## BALANCE 2022 cumulative Net Promoter Score: +66.75

Net Promoter Score, or NPS, is a tool used by companies and other organizations looking to evaluate the experience their clients have in using their products and/ or services. Essentially, NPS measures satisfaction and loyalty. The data used in compiling the score comes from client responses to a single question on how likely the client would be to recommend either a specific product or service, or the entity as a whole, to a friend or colleague.

The range of NPS scores is -100 to +100, with a higher score reflecting more satisfaction. According to Retently, a customer experience management company and recognized expert in NPS, between +30 and +70 is considered a "great" score and anything above +70 is in the category of "excellent."

Respondents give a rating between 0 (not at all likely) and 10 (extremely likely) and, depending on their response, customers fall into one of 3 categories to establish an NPS score:



Promoters respond with a score of 9 or 10 and are typically loyal and enthusiastic customers.



Passives respond with a score of 7 or 8. They are satisfied with your service but not happy enough to be considered promoters.



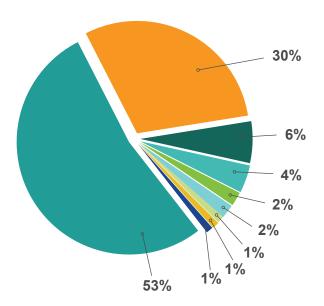
Detractors respond with a score of 0 to 6. These are unhappy customers who are unlikely to buy from you again and may even discourage others from buying from you.

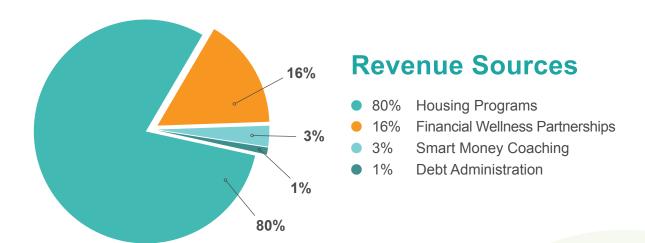
It's simple to calculate your final NPS score – just subtract the percentage of Detractors from the percentage of Promoters. For example, if 10% of respondents are Detractors, 20% are Passives and 70% are Promoters, your NPS score would be 70-10 = 60.

## Financials 2022

## **Expenses**

- 53% Sub-Grantee Awards
- 30% Personnel
- 6% Facilities
- 4% Technology
- 2% Program Expense
- 2% Other
- 1% Depreciation
- 1% Telephone
- 1% Professional Fees





## Funder and Partner Organizations

As a national non-profit, collaborations and partnerships are critical to our success. We are grateful for the support for our mission from these organizations.

- Alice Griffith Apartments
- Arriba Juntos
- Bayview Senior Services
- California Housing Finance Agency
- Capitol One
- Citi Group
- City of San Francisco
   Mayor's Office of Housing and
   Community Development
- City of San Francisco Office of Financial Empowerment
- Freddie Mac
- Framework Homebuyer Education
- Homeless Prenatal Program
- The Late Layman Foundation
- Mercy Housing
- NeigbhorWorks America

- Potrero Bridge Housing
- Robert Pitts Apartments
- San Francisco Human Services
   Agency 170 Otis Service Center
- San Francisco Human Services Agency – Mission Workforce Development Center
- San Francisco International Airport
- San Francisco Public Library –
   Main Branch
- Sunnydale YMCA
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Young Community Developers
- Westside Court Apartments
- The Women's Building

## **Board of Directors**

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Secretary Vice President, Visa Identity & Authentication Products, Visa, Inc.

#### **Enrique C. Delgadillo**

Officer

President & CEO, BALANCE

#### **Darrell B. Christoff**

Officer
CIO, BALANCE

#### **Cynthia Campbell**

Officer CXO, BALANCE

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Retired Vice President, Westamerica Bank

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Compliance Specialist, Maryland State Department of Education Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services

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#### Michael Covert | Director

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#### Tristram Coffin | Director

CEO, Self Employed, CDFI Executive

#### Darren Albert | Director

Senior Director, HR Business Partner, LinkedIn Corporation

#### Ruben Sanchez | Director

Senior Director, Head of Global Pricing/Commercial Operations Strategy (NA & LCA), Visa, Inc.

#### Kimberly L. Range | Director

Department of Health and Human Services

## Certifications

- Certified Financial Counselor from the National Association of Certified Credit Counselors
- Fair Credit Reporting Act Certification from the Consumer Data Industry Association
- NeighborWorks Center for Homeownership Education and Counseling (NCHEC)
   Certifications from NeighborWorks America
- Accredited Financial Counselor (AFC®) from the Association for Financial Counseling and Planning Education
- HUD Certified Housing Counselor from the Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Money Coach®

## Credentials

- Non-profit 501(c)3 organization
- Accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children
- Adopter of the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education and Counseling
- Approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide housing counseling

## Security

- PCI DSS Compliant
- SOC II Type II
- Risk Mitigation
- Control Activities
- Trust Service Categories:
  - Security
  - Availability
  - Processing Integrity
  - Confidentiality
  - Privacy













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