

**The Actors Fund,  
for everyone  
in entertainment.**

## **SOCIAL SERVICES**

The Actors Fund provides confidential programs that address a wide array of challenges faced by people in performing arts and entertainment.

With respect and understanding, our professional social workers offer counseling and support groups, education, financial assistance and practical help—completely free of charge.

### **Programs include:**

#### **AMERICAN COMEDY FUND**

The American Comedy Fund is a partnership with the Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF), The Actors Fund and Motion Picture & Television Fund (MPTF) to provide the comedy community much-needed social services, emergency assistance, health care, insurance, housing, and employment and training services.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP)**

The unique circumstances of a career as an entertainment professional are managed through counseling, crisis intervention, advocacy and emergency financial assistance. Educational seminars and groups in financial planning, securing affordable housing and career transition are also available.



#### **SENIORS AND DISABLED**

People in the entertainment professions are known for their resiliency and survival skills, but sometimes age or disability requires them to reach out for assistance. Our services for seniors and the disabled help people maintain their independence while making sure they have access to all

programs—federal, state, local and not-for-profit—that can enhance their quality of life.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH**

Evaluations, crisis intervention, referrals and counseling that address such issues as depression, anxiety, eating disorders and post-traumatic stress are offered to individuals, couples and families. The Fund also helps manage such chronic challenges as housing and treatment issues for those struggling with long-term psychiatric disabilities.

#### **CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY**

Support during recovery helps achieve and maintain sobriety and abstinence while people learn coping strategies to build a future without mood-altering substances. Evaluations and referrals to treatment programs are offered, while counselors also help negotiate fees, coordinate care and work with in- and out-patient treatment facilities. The Fund also educates and works directly with employers when careers are jeopardized and assists union representatives, managers and agents in responding to substance abuse in the workplace.

#### **HIV/AIDS INITIATIVE**

Works with the newly diagnosed, those living and working with the virus, and those who are ill. The program includes supportive counseling groups, advocacy for public and private benefits, long-term financial assistance and linkage to health insurance, medical care and other local resources.



#### **FINANCIAL WELLNESS**

Through individual and couples counseling, workshops, groups and seminars, our Financial Wellness program promotes healthy financial self-care for those addressing the role of money in their lives. This program identifies strategies for solvent living, reducing or eliminating debt, and helping build a more stable financial future.

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### Programs Continued:

#### **PHYLLIS NEWMAN WOMEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE**

A breast cancer survivor, Phyllis helped us establish this program so women in our community know there is a safety net and a place to turn when they are faced with critical health concerns. We help women navigate healthcare systems and provide assistance so they can focus on getting well.



#### **THE DANCERS' RESOURCE**

Award-winning dancer/actress Bebe Neuwirth understands the stresses that come with not being able to dance—even more so after her own hip replacements. Together we created this program to be a support system for

dancers with injuries. We are helping dancers through peer activities, access to quality medical care, individual counseling and more.

#### **HOWL! EMERGENCY LIFE PROJECT (HELP)**

The HOWL! Project provides emergency assistance to performing artists from the NYC East Village Community whose work challenges the traditional boundaries of dance, theatre, music, multimedia and the spoken word. This program is especially focused toward participants in the annual HOWL! Festival.

#### **CONRAD CANTZEN SHOE FUND**

In 1945, actor Conrad Cantzen bequeathed his estate to help actors purchase shoes so they did not appear “down at the heels” when auditioning. We offer partial reimbursement for the purchase of a new pair of shoes annually.



Looking Ahead kids enjoy volunteering for community service projects like this recent “tree planting” in Malibu State Creek Park.

#### **FUNERALS & BURIALS**

Burying our colleagues with dignity was a founding service of The Actors Fund in 1882. We continue to provide a gravesite and headstone as well as assistance with the cost of cremations and burials to those in need.

#### **UNION / PARTNER PROGRAMS**

The Actors Fund contracts with 8 separate entertainment industry unions, health plans, employers and other organizations to provide member/employee assistance services.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD, FOR PROFESSIONAL YOUNG PERFORMERS**

Professional young performers face unique challenges—managing work and school, coping with unusual levels of rejection and attention, spending long periods of time away from peers and family and much more. In 2003, The Actors Fund partnered with SAG and AFTRA to create Looking Ahead as a way of helping professional young performers thrive amid these challenges, take time to just be kids and make a successful transition to adulthood—both in and out of the business.

Based in Los Angeles and focusing on youth ages 9 to 18, Looking Ahead plans social events, offers educational and emotional counseling, takes community service field trips and builds leadership skills. For more information, visit [www.lookingaheadprogram.org](http://www.lookingaheadprogram.org).

#### **UNCLAIMED COOGAN FUNDS**

Coogan Funds were set up to protect a portion of professional children's earnings. The State of California has named The Actors Fund as trustee of all unclaimed Coogan Funds. The funds are protected until they are claimed by the proper beneficiary. For additional information, please visit [www.unclaimedcoogan.org](http://www.unclaimedcoogan.org).