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Form **990-EZ**

# Short Form Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No 1545-1150

**2009**

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)  
▶ Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds and controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990. All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$500,000 and total assets less than \$1,250,000 at the end of the year may use this form.  
▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

**A For the 2009 calendar year, or tax year beginning** , 2009, and ending , 20

<b>B</b> Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	Please use IRS label or print or type. See Specific Instructions.	<b>C Name of organization</b> <b>SOAR for Youth</b>		<b>D Employer identification number</b> <b>26-4425202</b>
		Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite <b>PO Box 1291</b>	<b>E Telephone number</b> <b>510-632-0888</b>	
		City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 <b>Berkeley, CA, 94701</b>		<b>F Group Exemption Number</b> ▶

• Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ).

**G Accounting Method**  Cash  Accrual  
Other (specify) ▶

**I Website:** ▶ <http://soarforyouth.org/>

**H Check** ▶  if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

**J Tax-exempt status** (check only one) —  501(c) ( 3 ) ◀ (insert no)  4947(a)(1) or  527

**K Check** ▶  if the organization is not a section 509(a)(3) supporting organization and its gross receipts are normally not more than \$25,000. A Form 990-EZ or Form 990 return is not required, but if the organization chooses to file a return, be sure to file a complete return.

**L Add lines 5b, 6b, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts; if \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ** ▶ \$ 0

## Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (See the instructions for Part I.)

		1	2	3	4	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	6c	7a	7b	7c	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21					
Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received						14,286																									
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts						0																									
	3	Membership dues and assessments						0																									
	4	Investment income						1																									
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory																															
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses																															
	c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)							0																								
	6	Special events and activities (complete applicable parts of Schedule G) If any amount is from gaming, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>																															
	a	Gross revenue (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1)																															
b	Less direct expenses other than fundraising expenses																																
c	Net income or (loss) from special events and activities (Subtract line 6b from line 6a)							0																									
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances																																
b	Less: cost of goods sold																																
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)							0																									
8	Other revenue (describe ▶ _____ )							0																									
9	<b>Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6c, 7c, and 8							14,287																									
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (attach schedule)						0																									
	11	Benefits paid to or for members						0																									
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits						0																									
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors						9,014																									
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance						273																									
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping						419																									
	16	Other expenses (describe ▶ <b>Incorporation \$1808, Insurance \$972, Mis Camp Cost \$1214</b> )						3,994																									
17	<b>Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16						13,700																										
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)						587																									
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)						0																									
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (attach explanation)						0																									
	21	<b>Net assets or fund balances at end of year.</b> Combine lines 18 through 20						587																									

## Part II Balance Sheets. If total assets on line 25, column (B) are \$1,250,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ.

(See the instructions for Part II.)

		(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22	Cash, savings, and investments		897
23	Land and buildings		
24	Other assets (describe ▶ <b>Undeposited Funds</b> )		200
25	<b>Total assets.</b>		1,097
26	Total liabilities (describe ▶ <b>Reimbursements Payable</b> )		510
27	<b>Net assets or fund balances</b> (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)		587

For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Cat No 106421

Form **990-EZ** (2009)

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**Part V Other Information** (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)

		Yes	No
<b>33</b>	Did the organization engage in any activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of each activity . . . . .		✓
<b>34</b>	Were any changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes . . . . .		✓
<b>35</b>	If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, attach a statement explaining why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T.		
<b>a</b>	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more or was it subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements? . . . . .		✓
<b>b</b>	If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on <b>Form 990-T</b> for this year? . . . . .		
<b>36</b>	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N . . . . .		✓
<b>37a</b>	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions. ▶ <b>37a</b> 0		
<b>b</b>	Did the organization file <b>Form 1120-POL</b> for this year? . . . . .		✓
<b>38a</b>	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the period covered by this return? . . . . .		✓
<b>b</b>	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved . . . . . <b>38b</b> 0		
<b>39</b>	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
<b>a</b>	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9 . . . . . <b>39a</b> 0		
<b>b</b>	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities . . . . . <b>39b</b> 0		
<b>40a</b>	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 ▶ 0 ; section 4912 ▶ 0 ; section 4955 ▶ 0		
<b>b</b>	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or is it aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .		✓
<b>c</b>	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 . . . . . ▶ 0		
<b>d</b>	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization . . . . . ▶ 0		
<b>e</b>	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T. . . . .		✓
<b>41</b>	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed. ▶ <u>California</u>		
<b>42a</b>	The organization's books are in care of ▶ <u>Diana L. Brown</u> Telephone no ▶ <u>510-632-0888</u> Located at ▶ <u>PO Box 1291, Berkeley, CA</u> ZIP + 4 ▶ <u>94701</u>		
<b>b</b>	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? . . . . .		✓
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for <b>Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts</b> .		
<b>c</b>	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U.S.? . . . . .		✓
	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: ▶ _____		
<b>43</b>	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of <b>Form 1041</b> —Check here . . . . . ▶ <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year . . . . . ▶ <b>43</b> _____		
<b>44</b>	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		✓
<b>45</b>	Is any related organization a controlled entity of the organization within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ . . . . .		✓

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.** All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 46-49b and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

	Yes	No
<b>46</b> Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>47</b> Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>48</b> Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>49a</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>b</b> If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**50** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
None				

**f** Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . **None**

**51** Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
None		

**d** Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . . . **None**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

**Sign Here**

Signature of officer: *Diana L. Brown* Date: 3/30/10

Type or print name and title: **Diana L. Brown, President**

**Paid Preparer's Use Only**

Preparer's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check if self-employed:  Preparer's identifying number (See instructions): \_\_\_\_\_

Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4: \_\_\_\_\_ EIN: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone no: \_\_\_\_\_

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . .  **Yes**  **No**

**SOAR for Youth**  
**EIN# 26-4425202**  
**IRS Form 990 EZ Attachment**  
**For Fiscal Year ended on December 31, 2009**

**PART III - What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?**

SOAR for Youth was established to provide foster youth with high quality support, opportunities, and rapport that they would have (otherwise) received from their loving parents, in order that the teen-aged foster youth served by SOAR can become independent and productive citizens of our society.

**PART III - Line 28**

**I. 2009 Accomplishments**

With financial support from and through collaborative efforts with the members of the community, four months after its incorporation SOAR hosted the first foster youth summer camp at the University of California at Berkeley in late June, at no cost to the ten participating youth or their legal guardians. The camp curriculum included:

- An academic enrichment program – Fifteen hours of writing, math, and science workshops (for each youth) were held to sharpen the youth's mind.
- Post-secondary education orientation – Two and a half hours of higher education orientation (for each youth) focusing on college admission requirements, financial aid availability, and campus life was provided to show the youth a new horizon and path ways to it.
- Outdoor camps selected from Cal Adventures Outdoor Camps – Fifteen plus hours of outdoor activities were arranged for each youth. These included hiking, sea kayaking, rope course, windsurf, and sailing to enable the youth build trust, learn teamwork and gain self-confidence.
- Presentations from former foster youth – Seven former foster youth came and shared their life stories and survival tips with the camp youth, setting examples for the camp youth to succeed in life.
- Social and life skills training – This included “How to Lead and Follow”, “Thrive Factor”, “Learn that Beat”, yoga classes, a 3-hour camp youth talent show, and a art/craft class allowing time for renewing and acquiring tools to navigate in life.

The first Prepare to SOAR camp was a huge success. Selected teens enjoyed the residential camp held on the University of California at Berkeley campus where academic growth, enhanced self-esteem, cultural and higher education awareness were all promoted in a diverse and supportive environment. The youth loved the fun and self-confidence building outdoor activities selected from Cal Adventures Outdoor Camps. The teens built great rapport and said that they would recommend others “to join because you can conquer fears”, “could really just not feel alone”, and “it was a great experience and you learned a lot from it”.

**SOAR for Youth**  
**EIN# 26-4425202**  
**IRS Form 990 EZ Attachment**  
**For Fiscal Year ended on December 31, 2009**

Having witnessed the transformational changes taken place in their youth, after attending the camp completion celebration, several of the foster parents and social workers expressed interests in volunteering at 2010 camps and helping out with fund-raising for SOAR to host more youth!

The ethnicity breakdown of the 2009 summer camp youth is:

African Descent	30%
Asian	0%
Caucasian	10%
Latino/Hispanic	30%
Multicultural/Ethnic	30%

Nineteen volunteers donated their time to serve SOAR camp youth last summer. With support from these volunteers and contracted staff SOAR provided 24X7 supervision while the youth were at the camp.

By creatively leveraging the work efforts and facilities in existing community resources, SOAR has intentionally and successfully kept its general operating costs and its camp costs to a minimum. As a result, 86 cents of every dollar donated to SOAR in 2009 (excluding donations from officers for start-up) directly benefited the foster youth we served.

In addition to the summer camp, there were follow-up activities for the youth to stay connected throughout this academic year. In doing so, we have made available a home base for teenage foster youth to look forward to returning to, provided a peer group that they feel secure in connecting with, and created a program that reminds them of those who care.

## **II. Long-term Goals**

Through summer residential academic enrichment programs, counseling, outdoor adventure camps, collaboration with the University of California at Berkeley, community foster youth organizations, and Bay Area children services agencies, we aim to make a life long impact on the foster youth we serve. Our organizational goals are to:

- Offer opportunities for foster youth to grow in mind, body, and spirit.
- Help foster youth realize their full potential.
- Enable foster youth to contribute and succeed in our society.
- Make a difference in the lives of youth we serve by giving them hope and confidence in their future.