

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND CEO



This year we focused on creating a more welcoming environment both physically and programmatically. If you haven't visited our offices in the past year, come see our new El Centro Welcoming Center. And just in time, too, as we continue to face forces causing fear and anxiety which presented difficult challenges to those we served and our organization this fiscal year. Yet, El Centro saw a resilient community, full of strength. We are equally proud of the delivery of the strong results to meet these demands and the needs of our clients. Through the value of customer

service, constant focus on our Theory of Change (ToC), and the full integration of quality programming, we provided more education, information and services than last year. So, where do we go from here?

Our board spent the better part of the 2018-2019 fiscal year reviewing opportunities and developing plans to answer this question. We are committed to growing El Centro in both services and programs! Our future includes workforce development, expansion of our financial literacy work and increasing our visibility and programming in Johnson County. This past year's growth and any future growth is a testament to the commitment and compassion of ALL our partners including financial supporters, allies, volunteers, and our staff. During the most difficult time for clients we have had to adjust our processes and make hard decisions, but now is not the time to stop. We've asked more from our supporters and are thankful for their decision to say, YES!

As you will see in this report, we believe in our organization, our families and our community! Thank you for the support.

Irene Caudillo

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OUR MISSION

Strengthening communities and improving the lives of Latinos and others through educational, social and economic opportunities.

OUR VISION

To be the premiere organization bridging Latinos and others, resulting in healthy, educated communities.





THEORY OF CHANGE





Promotoras de Salud

Promotoras de Salud (Health Promoters) promote community-based health education and prevention in a culturally-and linguistically-accessible manner. In addition to empowering community members with knowledge about healthy food programs and promoting active living that contributes to overall improved health. Promotras de Salud is a best-practice model for culturally-accessible community health education in the Latino community with success of avoiding chronic diseases. This year, Promotora's activities reinforced healthy behaviors to encourage a healthier Latino community to make healthy shopping choices. The program assisted a



total of 1,197 qualified Latino individuals enrollded in Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, (SNAP). In addition, 690 adults participated in "charlas", multi-session nutrition education classes in Wyandotte County and Johnson County, and 1,965 participated in related healthy-lifestyles educational activities. Lastly, 560 Latinos spent \$5,600 at local farmers' markets.



Health Navigation

Health Navigation increases and improves access to quality, affordable health care services and coverage for the uninsured and underserved in Wyandotte and Johnson Counties. Through one-on-one appointments clients learn more about the health system, receive assistance in their own language, and



are guided to resources that will improve their overall health and quality of life. During our fiscal year, we served over 2,270 unduplicated clients, a 19% increase from last year. Through community partnerships, we were able to help 574 clients with Directs Services to get prescriptions, optical care, and medical equipment. 88 clients were assisted with Billing Navigation, applying for financial assistance and making payment arrangements. 1,267 clients received Insurance Navigation, enrolling in KanCar, Medicare and the Marketplace. Through our Specialty Care Navigation, 96 clients were assisted with care coordination, surgeries, interpreting and cancer treatment. 361 clients were assisted with enrollment into Public Services.



Economic Empowerment

This interactive program works with families to give them emergency utility and/or rental assistance, skills in budgeting and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), to help break the cycle of poverty and become more finan-

cially-stable. During the 2018/2019 fiscal year, Economic Empowerment successfully helped 79 Johnson County and 38 Wyandotte County clients sustain utility service for a minimum of 30 days. All 117 clients completed the money smart financial literacy education session with 80% accuracy in the post assessment.



VITA

El Centro's VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program provides moderate-to-low-income people assistance in completing and filing income tax returns at State and Federal levels. The program also provides assistance in getting individuals ITINs (Individual Tax Identification Number). The program served more than 1,771 community members. During the 2018 tax season \$2,749,161 in Federal refunds were issued; money that is reinvested back into our community. Additionally, 224 ITIN numbers were prepared during the fiscal year.



Academy for Children

The Academy for Children (AFC) is the only program in Kansas City, KS that offers a dual-language, culturally responsive program and is one of only two preschools in Kansas City, KS accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). AFC is also a Head Start community partner. Last year our full-day, year-round program helped 115 children develop the academic, cognitive, physical, and social-emotional skills needed for future success.

In addition to gains, our AFC provided social and emotional development supports to all preschool children through the implementation of Second Step: a Violence Prevention Curriculum and Conscious Discipline curriculum. Along with the curriculum, we utilized small group facilitation from our Early Childhood Mental Health Professional.

In May of 2019, 36 children graduated from our AFC with 94% of the children demonstrating the communication, motor, cognitive, and social skills needed to be kindergarten ready. Engaged families are an essential part of our early childhood education program. Family engagement opportunities include conferences twice a year, monthly Family Fun Nights, field trips, and many other activities.

The School-Age Summer Enrichment Program helped stop the "summer slide" for 40 students in grades kindergarten through 5th grades and exposed them to a wide variety of cultural events and local attractions. Teachers use the Scholastic Guided Reading Program and the CAMS & STAMS (math) curriculum and 100% of the particulants maintained or improved in both reading and math over the past summer.





Advocacy & Civic Engagment

Our Advocacy and Engagement work is designed to engage our Latino communities in Wyandotte, Johnson, and Shawnee Counties by raising awareness, educating and creating change. Our purpose is to mobilize and motivate a positive change through our education and engagement efforts. These efforts include holding Citizenship, DACA Renewal, Know Your Rights, and Attorney Clinics, among others. Additionally, we host and attend various events with the objective of increasing voter engagement and voter registration among the Latino community in our target areas. During the fiscal year, this new program hosted and attended 25 community events, 7 voter canvassing and phone-banking events, and 2 Get Out To Vote events, resulting in 100+ voter pledges completed and 180 new voters registered. The program held 27 clinics and hosted 9 volunteer trainings with 20 trainees. Lastly, 26 individuals completed their citizenship applications during the time periods with the aid of the Advocacy and Civic Engagement department.

2018-2019 FUNDING PARTNERS

El Centro gratefully acknowleges the support of the following corporate, foundation and service donors.

PLATINUM SOCIETY

Platino \$20,000 and above

Archdiocese of Kansas City in KS

Archbishop's Call to Share

Community Catalyst, Inc.

Stanley H. Durwood Foundation

Early Education Funders Collaborative

Graham Family Fund Health Forward Foundation

Hispanic Development Fund

Human Service Fund-Johnson County Governments:

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- City of Edgerton
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- City of Westwood

Kansas City Kansas Public Schools Head Start Contract

Kansas Health Foundation

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

Latnix Education Collaborative

Johnson County Health Department Contract

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REACH Healthcare Foundation

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Unidos US (formally NCLR)

United Way of Greater Kansas City United Way of Wyandotte County





GOLD SOCIETY

Oro \$5,000-\$19,999

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Plata \$1-\$4,999

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Research Institute, Inc. Sub Contract Wyandotte Dems 3rd Saturday Breakfast

2018-2019 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

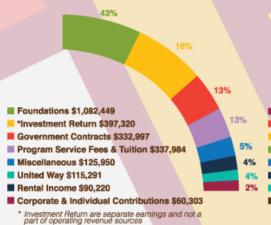
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Revenue Sources Total: \$2,542,514



Expenses Total: \$2,453,618



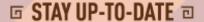
SU CONEXIÓN A LA COMUNIDAD

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