



*¡Antes Muerta que Sencilla,
pero con Mascarilla!*



*El chisme está igual de caliente
a 6 pies de distancia.*



**¡TODOS PODEMOS
LUCHAR CONTRA
EL COVID-19!**

EL CENTRO, INC.

**ANNUAL REPORT
2020-2021**

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PRESIDENT AND CEO



Our 2020-2021 fiscal year was a year of a pandemic, economic troubles and deeply felt social and racial injustice. This pandemic revealed and further exposed preexisting inequities in housing, education, health care, food security, criminal justice, and employment. Yet, El Centro remained grounded in our commitment to recover and aid our communities.

Our families struggled with personal challenges including a number losing their jobs, loved ones and rising inequality renewed difficult conversations about race, diversity, inclusion and belonging. As I look back on the last fiscal year, it is remarkable how much as an agency we accomplished and grew. I am proud of what the agency and staff achieved, collectively and individually as they became a source of strength in difficult times for our community.

Our staff showed resilience, accountability, and compassion, supporting one another, our families, our communities, and partners. As we worked and learned, we adapted and grew. As an agency, we outperformed financially, making significant investments in staff, facilities, and technology, all the while, dedicated to supporting those most in need. El Centro did what we do best! We were there for families when they needed us the most.

I want to thank our health care workers, clinics, hospitals, and health departments and all who served on the front lines. You kept us safe and supported our services despite significant personal challenges. Guided by public health officials, we implemented health and safety precautions at every location, regularly tested for COVID and encouraged vaccines as they became available. COVID-19 remains a challenge and we will continue to focus on the safety of our clients, colleagues, and the communities we serve as we move into another fiscal year.

Over the course of our 45-year history, this year was one of the most challenging and the results demonstrated our strength. By leveraging the talents and resources of all sectors—public, private, and philanthropic—we did what none of us could achieve on our own. By uniting the passion and commitment of donors, partners, community leaders and organizations, we are creating sustainable solutions that will continue to affect the lives of our families for years to come.

Your support of our mission has meant so much to our team and the communities we serve. This Annual Report is a tribute to our collective impact.

Irene Caudillo
Irene Caudillo

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OUR MISSION

The mission of El Centro, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, is “strengthening communities and improving 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.

LATINAS LEADING DURING COVID: PERSPECTIVE FROM OUR CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER



¡Inscríbase!
¡Vacúnate!

I am proud to enter my 20th year of service with El Centro who enters its 45th year in operation.

This year was one like no other I have encountered! Being a part of the Latina Leadership during El Centro’s 2020-2021 fiscal year meant listening, being empathetic and moving toward empowerment. Even before COVID-19 entered our world, our organization, predominately led by Latinas and compassionate women, listened to the voices of our community. So, it was no surprise that centering families of essential workers, and many who became unemployed due to temporary business closures because of COVID-19, would be how we supported our community. In a volatile situation like the pandemic, a women led organization understood their roles and acted! We acquired greater influence while maintaining the trust of our community and built the partnerships needed to grow our capacity to meet the critical needs of today and those of the future.

It is through this consistent compassion that I am proud of the initiatives I developed to meet the needs of our community; the ¡Inscríbase! and ¡Vacúnate! Projects. The ¡Inscríbase! Project was created as a strategy to assist families with their health insurance enrollment needs, but quickly developed to include assisting families with enrollment in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition

Assistance Program), Child Care Assistance, WIC, Disability, Medicare, and ITINs. All these services and other public benefits help stabilize families and work to improve and sustain health in the state of Kansas. Our ¡Vacúnate! Project seeks to dispel the myths and misinformation around COVID vaccination among our Latino community, promote vaccine equity by reducing barriers Latinos face in accessing vaccines, and provide direct access to both COVID and flu vaccines by hosting and facilitating vaccination clinics with community partners.

Being a Latino led and Latino serving organization allows us the privilege to focus on improving equity for our community with a deeper insight and drive to fight the disparities and social injustices we face together. We recognize and celebrate the many partnerships and non-Latinos who support us, but as a Latina Leader, I commit to continue the important work to go beyond addressing the gaps highlighted by the pandemic, to embolden our communities to have their voices heard and demand change for future generations.

Erica Andrade
Erica Andrade

Cover photos by: Aaron Lindberg Photography in Partnership with BurningStar Studios, LLC



PROMOTORAS DE SALUD | Creating a culture of preventive health

6 Community leaders became a Promotora de Salud

8 Promotoras from Wichita participated in train the trainer on “Comprando Rico y Sano” and SNAP.

414 Participants were motivated by a Promotora to eat healthier food after six hours of virtual education in the “Comprando Rico y Sano” program.

1,815 Qualifying individuals were enrolled in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (Food Stamps)

911 Eligible children helped receive the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer P-EBT (temporary food benefits to families of children who normally get free or reduced-price meals at school).

414 Latinos participate in the “create a healthy menu with a minimum budget” workshop



HEALTH NAVIGATION | Increasing and improving access to quality, affordable healthcare services and coverage for our community.

2,637 Clients assisted with 3,947 services to access healthcare services and coverage.

488 Direct Services provided at a cost of \$120,000 to receive prescriptions, optical care, medical equipment, emergency dental care, and diabetes testing kits.

137 Billing Navigation services completed to help uninsured individuals apply for financial assistance and payment arrangements for their medical bills.

891 Insurance Navigation services provided, enrolling families into healthcare coverage through KanCare, Medicare, the health insurance Marketplace, and dental coverage.

354 Specialty Care services received by uninsured individuals needing surgeries, appointments, medical interpretation, and care coordination.

2,007 Public Services were received by families to help them apply for disability and Social Security benefits, food assistance, birth certificates, COVID testing and vaccines, an ITIN, and other community programs.



ACADEMY FOR CHILDREN | Creating a foundation for lifelong learning while embracing culture and diversity.

40 Children received high quality year-round, dual-language preschool education. Numbers were lower due to COVID-19 restrictions.

23 Children graduated ready for kindergarten.

25 Head Start positions were supported by our partners at The Family Conservancy. This is an increase from last year’s number of positions.

90 Hours of dual-language and social-emotional professional learning and coaching were attended by our teachers to ensure we provide the highest quality early childhood education.



ADVOCACY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT | Developing leaders to build power and assist in creating policy changes.

4 Community Leaders trained to implement community engagement around education, voter engagement, and our DACA and Naturalization clinics.

257 Latinos participated in the “Know your Rights and responsibilities as an immigrant” virtual presentations.

1,111 Parents participated in “Manos a la Obra” workshop.

82 Dreamers were assisted with filling their new application or renewal for DACA, receiving economic assistance for application fees.

22 Latinos residents applied for Naturalization, receiving economic assistance for application fees.



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT | Strengthening the family through economic empowerment and assist in the creation of financial goals.

\$379,800 Provided to 305 households for emergency rent/mortgage and/or utility assistance which removed the crisis the family was experiencing and ensured a safe and stable home.

606 Households comprised of 2,446 individuals were stabilized by removing the crisis the family was experiencing

1,306 Household taxes were filed through our VITA services offering free tax preparation to low income families.

\$1,225,258 Of tax refunds were received by these households which were reinvested back into our communities.

461 Individuals received one-on-one financial education over budgeting



2020-2021 FUNDING PARTNERS

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

ALMA
\$75,000 and above

- Community Catalyst, Inc.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EWDJT)
- Family Conservancy Head Start Contract
- Francis Family Foundation
- Hall Family Foundation
- Health Forward Foundation
- Johnson County Cares Act Funds
- Kansas Health Foundation
- PROCEED, Inc.
- REACH Healthcare Foundation
- Sunderland Foundation
- Unidos US (formally NCLR)
- Unified Government of Wyandotte County/KCK Cares Act Funds
- United Way of Greater Kansas City

CORAZÓN
\$15,000 – \$74,999

- Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas - Archbishop's Call to Share
- Community Builders Fund
- Stanley H. Durwood Foundation
- Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
- Frank & Margaret McGee Foundation
- Graham Family Fund
- Hispanic Federation
- Hispanics in Philanthropy
- Human Service Fund-Johnson County Government and
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Synchrony Financial: Adopt-a-Family Project Sponsors

- Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City
- Kansas Action for Children
- Kansas Children's Cabinet
- Kansas Department of Health Farmworkers Contract
- PNC Foundation COVID Relief Funds
- R & C Charitable Foundation
- Richard Ruiz & Associates
- Systems of Care Initiative
- W. K Kellogg Foundation Trustee Match

COMUNIDAD
\$1 - \$14,999

- Alliance Data Employee Match
- ASM Engineering Consultants
- BCCAT Family Foundation
- Breidenthal Snyder Foundation
- Capitol Federal Foundation
- Child Care Action Lab
- Childcare Aware
- Cloud L. Cray Foundation
- Commerce Bancshares Foundation
- Community Mercantile
- Data Locker, Inc.
- Dunn Family Foundation
- Emergency Food and Shelter Program
- Family Conservancy COVID Relief Funds
- First Federal Bank
- First State Bank Mortgage
- Francis Family Foundation - Discretionary Fund
- Garmin International
- Geiger Ready Mix, Inc.
- Genesis 10
- Hispanic Development Fund

- Kansas City Medicine Cabinet COVID Relief Funds
- Kansas Department of Children & Families Cares Act Funds
- Kansas Department of Children & Families Hero Relief Fund
- Keller & Owens
- KORE Lab Solutions
- KUMC Alzheimer's Project
- Laird Noller Ford
- Latino Health for All, Cares Act Partnership
- Mainstream Coalition
- McCamon Family Fund
- Menorah Legacy Foundation
- Mount St. Scholastica, Benedictine Sisters
- Neff Packaging Systems
- Olathe Mayor's Children's Fund
- Oppenstein Brothers Foundation
- Plex Capital
- PNC Staff Volunteer Hours
- PRIER Charitable Foundation

- Prime Health Foundation
- Riverview Health Services
- Rau Construction Company
- Shumaker Family Foundation
- Sisters of Charity – Leavenworth
- Edward A. & Beth K. Smith Education Fund
- Start Young Mini Grant
- Synchrony Foundation
- Unifed Government of Wyandotte County/KCK Health Equity Funds
- Unified Government - Hollywood Casino/Schlitterbahn Vacation Village Fund
- United Health Group Employee Match
- UMBFC Charitable Foundation
- UMB Employee Match
- Wyandotte Economic Development Council CARES Contract
- W.K. Kellogg Trustee Donor-Advised Fund

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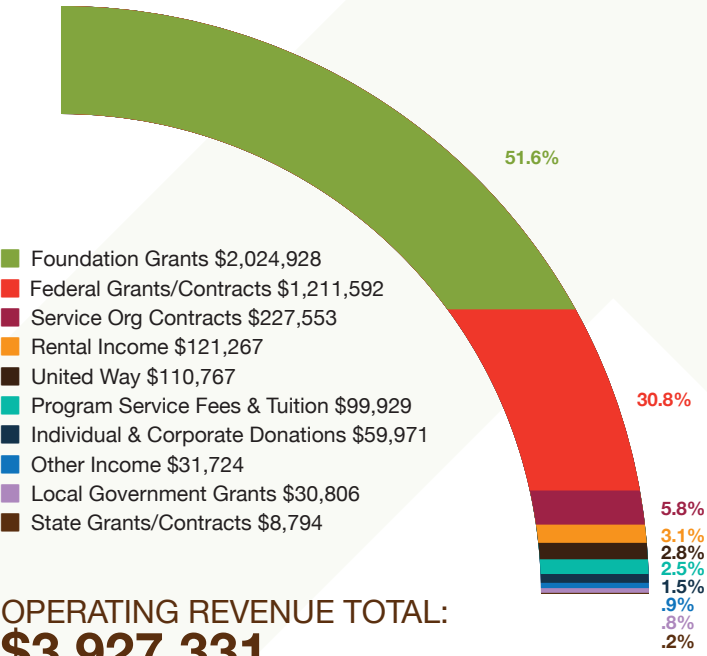
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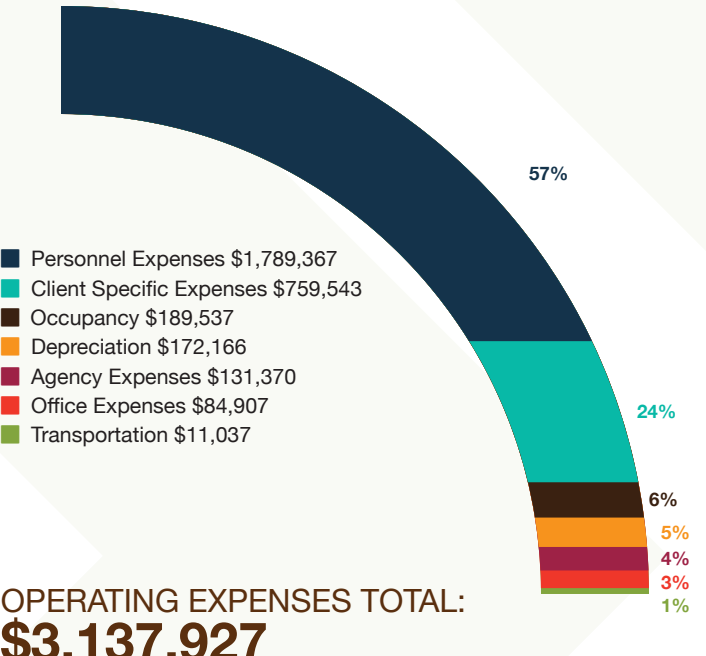
OPERATING REVENUE: FY 2020-2021



OPERATING REVENUE TOTAL:
\$3,927,331

Investment Return of \$1,715,027 not a part of operating revenue sources

OPERATING EXPENSES: FY 2020-2021



OPERATING EXPENSES TOTAL:
\$3,137,927



El Centro



SU CONEXIÓN A LA COMUNIDAD

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650 Minnesota Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66101

El Centro – Olathe

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Academy for Children

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This program is funded by generous donors
to the Archbishop's Call to Share.