

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT







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Maria Matos, **President & CEO**

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

For over 50 years, the Latin American Community Center has been serving the Latino community in Delaware, and 2022 was no exception.

Going into the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic, we got the Latino community vaccinated and up-to-date on their boosters, all while continuing construction on our two new Early Learning Centers.

We remain committed to providing comprehensive school readiness, preparing children to start kindergarten ready to learn and achieve. The Infant and Toddler Center will expand early childhood services for our youngest students through a new two-and-a-half-story facility on the corner of 4th and Van Buren Streets. The 239 Christiana Road center in New Castle will serve infants through preschoolers and meet the community need for bilingual early childhood education beyond Wilmington's city limits. These new centers will provide more families the opportunity to enroll their children in high quality early childhood education programs.

Success is never possible without the support of our community partners and there are many who deserve special thanks for their contributions in 2022. This brief letter does not give me enough space to thank them all. Here are but a few:

The Rotary Club of Wilmington provided practical and enormously beneficial help to parents and teachers in the Early Childhood Services Department. Rotarians delivered food to the Center each week to help families offset the high cost of groceries. The Rotary Club covered membership fees for teacher to join deaeyc (Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children) and provided funds to install an outdoor water line for our new community garden. Our garden project had numerous supporters including Sprouts Farmers Market, and Healthy Communities Delaware. Corteva not only awarded a grant for the garden, but also sent volunteers to help build it!



*Maria Matos*  
PRESIDENT & CEO

As always, the Delaware community responded generously to our call for funding our capital campaign. We are humbled and beyond grateful for the incredible support we received. We were able to raise over \$10 million, not including the \$3.5 million our congressional delegation successfully earmarked for us. In addition, generous support from PHMC (Public Health Management Corporation) and the CDC Foundation enabled us to deliver culturally competent COVID-19 prevention and vaccine education through our ConeXiones program. In the midst of the worst public health crisis in generations, it is not an exaggeration to say that funding from PHMC and the CDC Foundation was potentially lifesaving for members of the Latino community.

July 2022 also brought a lot of excitement to our center when our Recognition and Accreditation applications were approved by the Department of Justice. Now, as a Recognized Organization with an Accredited Representative on staff, we are able to provide Family Immigration Services to our immigrant population in Delaware. I look forward to watching this program continue to grow in the coming years.

As we look towards what is next in 2023, I am incredibly touched by all of your contributions and commitment to our goals which has made this year of great growth possible. I look forward to all we will be able to achieve in 2023 and beyond thanks to our incredible supporters.





# Adult Basic Education

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES



# 225

Students enrolled in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes

# 57

Students enrolled in civics classes to prepare for the US Citizenship Test

# 78

Students enrolled in Adult Digital Literacy (ADL) classes

# 9

Civics students became US citizens during 2022



## Program Achievements



# Adult Basic Education

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

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### English as a Second Language (ESL)

Nasheila enrolled in our program in July of 2022 to improve her English and develop a Career Plan. So far, she has attained a Certificate of Attainment (COA), starting at ESL Level 5, and now studying ESL Level 6, making excellent progress.

Upon entering the program, Nasheila was carrying personal burdens. Her father was going through serious heart surgery, which required her to travel back and forth to Puerto Rico to help her family. She faced the challenges of caring for her father and family while, at the same time, working and studying English.

Nasheila's motivation, dedication, and hard work make her an exceptional person, bearing all the marks of an outstanding student. She uses her experiences and accomplishments in her job and daily life. She plans to return to college soon, where she will also apply the knowledge she has gained from the program.

When asked what her education's value is, she replied: "It is valuable in that it has helped me to develop as a person. It has empowered me to face the challenges of work, education, and daily life experiences where knowledge of English is required."

### Client Stories



### Adult Digital Literacy (ADL)

My name is Noemi. I am 41 years old, and I am from Puerto Rico. I am the mother of 2 daughters, and 1 of them is a girl with disabilities. I came to live in Delaware in 2018, although I had come to visit before. I moved to access better doctors and education for my daughter. I came to the Latin Center thanks to my neighbor, who entered English classes. I decided to visit it to get information about the classes. I started studying ESL in August of this year. Two months passed, and they offered me admission to computer classes. The computer course has helped me learn what is necessary about how to use the keyboard correctly, identifying its symbols, and recognizing the parts of computers, among other things. Knowledge of these tools helps us in our daily and future life. Also, it benefits us for work and studies. Thanks to the computer course and everyone involved in it for the opportunity it has given me to learn and the help it has given us to adapt to this world that is becoming dependent on technology. What I have learned has been very applicable in my life.



# Breastfeeding Peer Counseling

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

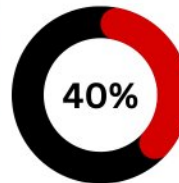
## Program Achievements

# 159

Mothers participated in the program

### Client Story

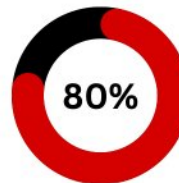
"I express my most sincere and deep appreciation for the generosity of your organization. You selflessly work hard every day to help us with donations, events, and provide free courses that are easily accessible to us. Your contribution has been to encourage me as a beautiful mother. The program helps me continue with great encouragement through this beautiful stage and unstoppable work of being a mother. This work never stops and is forever. Like me, I am sure that your actions, events, and support will make us get out the most out of the early stages of motherhood, which is invaluable for all the mothers who belong to this program." – Beatriz



Program participants attended in-person activities



of clients that participated in the program's activities at the Delaware Art Museum found them to be enjoyable



Of Mothers we're provided with diapers, breast pumps, and bath kits



Increase in referrals of Hispanic mothers to WIC





# Family Immigration Services Program

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

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**LATIN AMERICAN  
COMMUNITY  
CENTER**

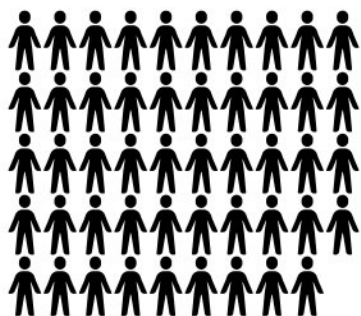
Family Immigration Services Program

### Program Achievements

#### Client Story

“I am writing this letter to thank Yina, a LACC worker, for helping me complete the citizenship application. She is a very good worker and an excellent person, highly recommended by me. I also would like to thank her for her help preparing me for the interview. At first, I was a little nervous, the words did not flow when I had to answer in English, but she had the patience and was there until I was able to do it. Thanks to that, today, May 18, 2023, I have managed to pass the citizenship test. Thanks to the LACC for the very good immigration program they have. When I found out about this program, I decided to be here and fulfill this goal. Now I can say that thanks to the help that the LACC has given me, my daughter will automatically become a citizen as well, and our lives will change for a better future.” – Delia

**49**



Consultations provided to individuals seeking immigration services

**15**



Clients represented by the LACC program in filing their cases

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**The program also formed partnerships with other entities/organizations to best serve individuals in need of legal immigration services.**

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**In July 2022, the LACC received Recognition and Accreditation from the Department of Justice to provide Family Immigration Services.**

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# Los Abuelos Program

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

### Program Achievements



of seniors participated in the Alzheimer's prevention walk



of seniors participated In Prevention Programming



of seniors participated in talks, games, and walks



Seniors participated in recreational, educational, and mental agility-focused activities. These were offered in partnership with the YMCA, University of Delaware, and Delaware Art Museum





# Adult Basic Education

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES



22



Trips were offered with a 70% attendance rate. Trips included guided tours, movies, the YMCA, and Philadelphia

### Client Story

“ I am happy to participate in the program. It keeps me active and my self-esteem high. Thank God and what makes it possible for us to participate. I am very grateful to those who run the program, and thanks to Neila and Bianca for their excellent conduct. We learn many crafts. Thank you for all your attention, and make the program possible.”



# Domestic Violence Program

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

### Client Story

“The program has made me stronger, improving my skills to deal with difficult situations and been positive and able to find solutions for anything affecting me, my life has been really hard without my children, I lost their custody after having DV issues with my husband. But I am almost getting them back. That will be possible because I got the support needed from the DV Program. I believe that everything is possible when we are focus on it. Thank you to the LACC DV program for being there for me.”



### Program Achievements

**119**

Women participated in the program in 2022

**100%**

of clients improved their knowledge about domestic violence as a legally condemned behavior as well as its consequences

**100%**

of clients developed a safety plan and understood how to act in any emergency situation.

**100%**

of clients learned the international emergency sign of help, showing their hands

**80%**

of clients have been able to establish financial independence and provide for themselves and their families through working full-time jobs

**70%**

of clients participated in 26 educational and self-disclosure support groups

**60%**

of clients attended therapy services and learned to manage emotional and psychological feelings



# Victims of Crime Program

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

### Program Achievements



### Client Story

“ I have been a victim of a crime in the past, and unfortunately, I was victimized again. The first time I was a victim of a crime, I had no support or idea of where to go and how to obtain help. Later on, through the different outreaches and information the program shared, I learned about the different resources available to victims. Unfortunately, again I was assaulted and robbed by a group of people, but this time, I had knowledge of the resources available and where I could go to get help. I went to LACC to ask for help, and they referred me to their Victims of Crime Program. The advocate contacted me, and he was very friendly, and it made me feel safe talking to him. The advocate was with me throughout the entire process, and I was able to obtain the help that I needed to be able to live a normal life again. Thanks to the program coordinator, I was referred to the VCAP Program and legal aid services, and now I'm in the process of obtaining legal status. ”

**42**

Clients served by the program in 2022

**42**

Victims of crime have a better understanding of the US criminal justice system

**29**

Applications were submitted for the Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP)

**36**

Victims of crime filed a police report



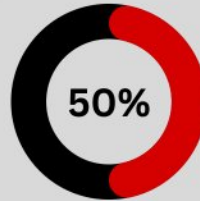
# Workforce Development Program

## FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

### Program Achievements

**282**

Clients served in 2022



of the jobs clients were placed in provided them with health benefits and/or an increase in their annual income

**131**

Clients received assistance to build/update their resume and cover letter

**486**

Job applications were submitted by program participants



**108**

Clients were placed in new jobs

**89**

Community outreach events were attended by the Workforce Development Manager

### Client Story

I received the information about the LACC's WFD program when I stopped by DHSS for assistance with obtaining Medicaid. My background is as an Assistant Teacher, but I really wanted a career change. My employment specialist provided me with so many options when I thought I would be lost going into a new role. Our coaching and interview sessions were invaluable to me, and some of the jobs had applications that were a bit more intense than what I was used to. She helped me gain confidence and truly assisted me with cover letters, customized resumes, coaching sessions, and just an over all smile. They really helped me, and I just secured a job with the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services as a Social Worker/Case Manager in their Eligibility Department. I increased my income, and now I have a pension and benefits which I have never had before. Thank you, LACC. - Jasmine



# Before and After School Program

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## Program Achievements

# \$ 11,277.21

in financial assistance was provided to students enrolled in Before and After School Community Learning Centers and Summer Camp.

100%

Community outreach events were attended by the Workforce Development Manager





# Summer Camp

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

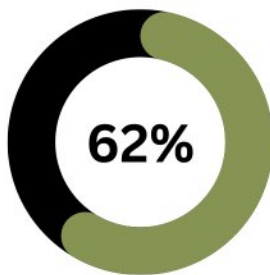
## Program Achievements

### Total Hours Completed Of Each Subject

**ELA: 5,200 hours**

**Math: 3,000 hours**

**Social Emotional Learning: 5,200 hours**



of students finished summer camp reading at or above their grade level





# Youth Achievement Center

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## Program Achievements



100%

of students were promoted to the next grade. Both high school seniors graduated

**\$ 100,000**

2-year grant from the New York Life Foundation  
Aim High Program was awarded to YAC to  
increase supports for middle school students



# High School Credit Recovery

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## Program Achievements



4

**HIGH SCHOOL  
UNDERCLASSMEN  
WERE PROMOTED TO  
THE NEXT GRADE  
LEVEL**

100%

**OF HIGH SCHOOL  
SENIORS  
SUCCESSFULLY  
GRADUATED WITH  
THEIR CLASS**

## Client Story

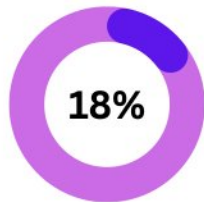
I wanted to reach out to you to let you know just how grateful I am for the High School Credit Recovery program at LACC. My daughter has just successfully completed her Senior year early with your help. She was in your program for her 11th and 12th-grade years after being diagnosed with depression as well as anxiety because she could not physically cope with the stress of in-person learning. Our children have to go through so much more than we had to in the days before Facebook etc. If we left on a Friday and came back Monday to find a schoolmate had died, it was because of something like a car accident, not because our friend was shot over the weekend. These times are very hard, and unfortunately, our children are suffering. The guidance and support your program provides is priceless, and I wanted you to know just how appreciated you are and that you are making a difference. – Jasmine



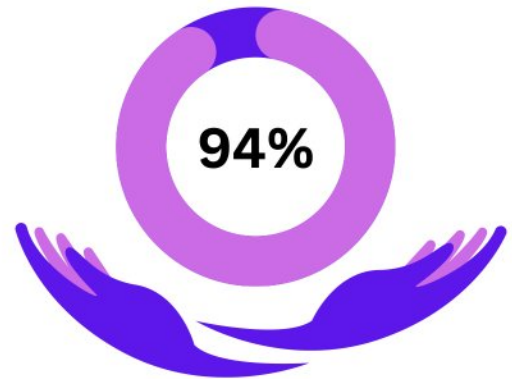
# Early Childhood Services

EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

## Program Achievements



children enrolled in LACC Early Childhood Services have a diagnosed disability



of graduating LACC preschoolers who began kindergarten met expectations for their age according to Delaware's State Assessment

**143**

Children and families were served

**44**

Children enrolled in Early Head Start

**44**

Children enrolled in the Redding Preschool Program

**14**

Children enrolled in the Early Childhood Assistance Program (ECAP)



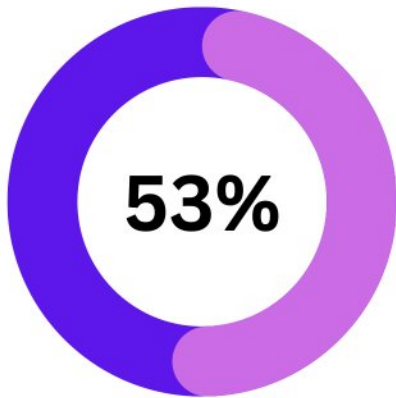
**\$ 19,000**

Was provided to families for tuition relief through scholarships and sliding fee discounts



# Early Childhood Services

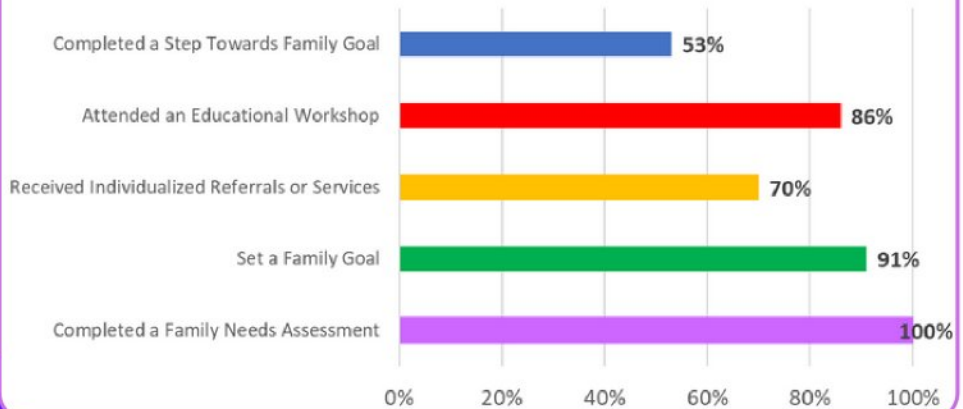
## EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES



**of Families Enrolled In State-Funded Early Childhood Program Completed A Step Towards Their Family Goal In The 2022 School Year**

### Program Achievements

#### State-Funded Family Service Outcomes



### Client Story

“My husband and I are two parents who migrated from Mexico. Because there are few opportunities in Mexico, our parents brought us to the U.S. for a better future. But there are times when that better future seems out of reach. The day that the LACC came to me, and I say, “came to me” because it is the greatest blessing that could have happened to me. Many doors had closed for me but the LACC received me with open arms. Without having to say a word or ask for anything, the LACC supported me. For me, the LACC is not just a childcare center. For me, it is family. I call them guardian angels. Enrolling my four children at the LACC was the best decision I could have made. I know that when I drop off my children, I am leaving them somewhere where they are prepared for a better future and treated with love and respect like all children deserve. But the LACC has not only taught my children, they have so many programs that have helped me as a parent and taught me so many things that I didn't know. I know that I can trust the LACC with my eyes closed.” – Erika





# Conexiones

PREVENTION & ADVOCACY

## Program Achievements



**48**

Monkey Pox (MPX)  
vaccines administered

**56**

Flu vaccines  
administered

**447**

COVID-19 vaccines  
administered

**840**

PCR COVID-19 tests  
administered

**2,728**

At-home COVID-19  
rapid tests distributed

**4,700**

Individuals reached  
through events &  
initiatives



# Prevention Promoters

## PREVENTION & ADVOCACY



### Program Achievements

5

Alcohol & Drug Free events

8

New business initiative partners

31

Referrals to counseling services

66

Community members attended educational sessions

165

Individuals attended Alcohol & Drug events



# Healthy Homes

PREVENTION & ADVOCACY

## Program Achievements

**15**

Safe cleaning sessions hosted

**15**

People participated in educational sessions.

**33**

Outreach events attended

**99**

Phone Consultations

**111**

Families Provided With Safe Cleaning Supplies

**548**

Individuals completed a health risk assessment

**751**

**PEOPLE ENGAGED  
THROUGH OUTREACH  
EVENTS**





# HIV Early Intervention Services

PREVENTION & ADVOCACY

## Program Achievements

36

INDIVIDUALS  
CONNECTED  
WITH PREP

2

INDIVIDUALS  
TESTED HIV-  
POSITIVE

#LGBTQ

314

INDIVIDUALS  
TESTED FOR HIV

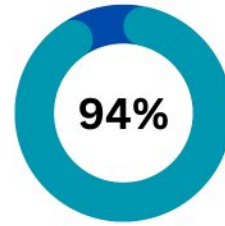




# Stand by Me Childcare initiative

PREVENTION & ADVOCACY

## Program Achievements



94%

Returned for 1 or more additional sessions

384

Clients served

383

Clients created a budget

126

Clients were able to increase their savings

199

Clients reduced their debt

86

Clients were able to increase their credit score

## Client Story

Esther, originally from Venezuela became a Stand by Me client a few years ago. During her time in the program, Esther reached various goals. She was able to learn how finances work in the USA. She had no credit or credit experience when she moved to the USA. Through working with the program, Esther established credit, got her first credit card (secure), and obtained her first installment loan to purchase equipment for her small business that she started while in the program. She continues growing. She learned to prepare her budget and saved money for her closing. Esther was pre-approved for her mortgage and became a homeowner on 10/7/2022.



# Stand by Me Hispano

PREVENTION & ADVOCACY

More than

200

Clients improved or  
established their credit

100%

Clients completed a  
budget

25

Clients purchased a  
home

25

Mind Over Money  
Workshops hosted across  
New Castle County

30

Clients obtained a  
business license

50

Clients completed  
personal taxes

50

Clients obtained a  
personal small-loan  
or a business loan

## Program Achievements

### Client Story

“Angel, originally from Colombia, came to the United States intending to stay for a short period and make some money. However, over time, he settled down and ended up starting his own cleaning business, three years after his arrival. Despite facing challenges due to his immigration status and language barrier, he obtained an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) and received valuable guidance from a Launcher course to start his own business. Initially, Angel struggled to secure loans from banks due to his immigration status. However, participating in the Launcher Program gave him essential knowledge and a business loan. In 2018, he obtained his Social Security number, which further facilitated his business operations. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Angel faced hardships and had to take up additional jobs unrelated to his cleaning business, such as working for Amazon Flex and DoorDash, to sustain himself. Nonetheless, his cleaning business eventually recovered, and he now employs approximately 33 people, including family members. Angel takes pride in giving back to the community and offering support to others, especially to his predominantly Latino workforce. Angel believes that the United States offers ample opportunities to everyone, regardless of their immigration status. He encourages others to seize these opportunities and pursue their dreams. While he still aspires to become a citizen, he remains focused on growing his business for now.”



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Thank you



# Financials

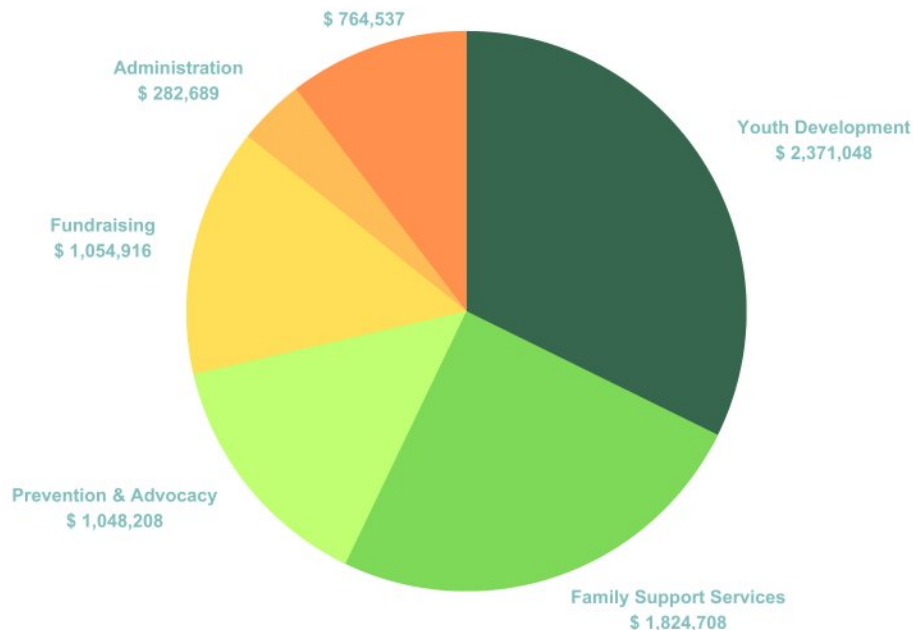
## Revenue

Grants & Contributions	\$ 10,727,093
United Way of Delaware	\$ 169,624
Program Service Fees	\$ 352,243
Special Events	\$ 49,544
Other Revenue	\$ 611
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 11,163,745</b>

## Expenses

Early Development Center	\$ 2,371,048
Youth Development	\$ 1,824,708
Family Support Services	\$ 1,048,208
Prevention & Advocacy	\$ 1,054,916
Fundraising	\$ 282,689
Administration	\$ 764,537
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,341,106</b>

<b>Net Assets (Beginning of Year)</b>	<b>\$ 7,588,060</b>
<b>Net Assets (End of Year)</b>	<b>\$ 11,410,699</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,822,639</b>







*Thank  
You*

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