



Para Los Niños



PARA LOS NIÑOS
2021
ANNUAL REPORT

"Fostering academic success for every Latino student through parent and community involvement"



A CELEBRATION OF THE SUCCESS AND RESILIENCE OF THE ENTIRE **PLN** COMMUNITY IN 2021

“PLN helps me to be involved as a leader in my community to prove that the Latino community does count and deserves a place in this country. The biggest challenge I have ever had to overcome has been the fear of the culture and the language, and to a certain point fear of discrimination for being a Latina woman.”

- Martha Vasquez, PLN Leader



Para Los Niños

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04 About Para Los Niños

06 COVID-19 Response

08 Partnerships

10 PLN Programs



14 Our Impact in 2021

15 PLN Gala 2021

18 PLN Leader Story

20 Our Finances

22 Thank You PLN Funders



ABOUT PARA LOS NIÑOS

The mission of Para Los Niños (PLN) is to foster academic success for every Latino student through parent and community involvement. From birth and beyond, PLN supports and empowers the entire Latino family through early learning, literacy and academic skills development, summer enrichment, and social justice parent leadership programs. PLN believes that all Latino children are capable of excellence,

and we achieve that goal by building culturally relevant programs upon a foundation of love and respect, supported by a community leadership model that recognizes the talents and skills of each person. We believe in the inherent value of all Latino children, and help create a world that celebrates the beauty and brilliance of our community.

Para Los Niños (PLN) serves low income Latino immigrant and refugee children and families from Mexico and Central and South America who speak Spanish and Indigenous Latin American languages. These families live in South King County, with concentrations in the Highline Public Schools service area (Burien, SeaTac, and Tukwila).



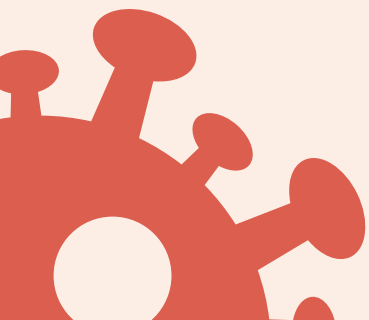
In the year 2000, I immigrated to the United States, then later on, I moved to the Burien area. I joined a group of parents called “Para Los Niños” by being an active community member helping with childcare and the after school programs, participating in the English classes, and being involved in a movement to help our children.



COVID-19 RESPONSE WORK



The challenges of the pandemic continued in 2021, and Para Los Niños continued to provide basic needs support, financial and food assistance, accessible learning opportunities, and resources to support the physical and mental health, and well being of the Latino immigrant community. We also worked to promote leadership, advocacy, and inclusion in decision-making for Latino immigrant families in the Puget Sound being impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.



PLN has had to continually adapt our work to meet the **urgent needs** of families facing so many challenges during the pandemic and keep our program as accessible as possible under changing conditions.

We focused on providing **educational support** for parents and children as they navigated the changing learning environment, and pandemic precautions continued as programs started up again in the new school year.

We understand that during this time of great challenge, our programs have to be accessible, flexible, relationship-centered, and fun for families to participate. We also understand that the **mental and physical health** of our young people must be prioritized, so we brought in mental health support.

A new PLN Community Resource Specialist began providing resources and information for families, and at the request of our parent leaders, PLN launched a **pilot Promotoras de Salud project** to train Latina leaders to provide basic COVID-19 and healthcare information for the Latino community.

We are also building on our long partnership with the **Highline School District** to address the unique educational needs of Latinos throughout this crisis, and to bring both students and parents to the table with administrators to make learning as accessible as possible for families, despite the great inequities in technology access for the **Latino community**.



In 2021 PLN served over 250 children and families in our main programs.



Our Community Resource Specialist provided resources and assistance to 169 families.



We helped over 2,500 families with rental assistance, cash assistance, gift cards, emergency food, supplies, and over 11,000 people with personal protective equipment.



We partnered with Seattle & King County Public Health to provide vaccine clinics that reached 325 people, including children and youth, and made vaccine appointments for over 650 more.



PARTNERSHIPS

Para Los Niños has many strong community partners who collaborate with us to make our programs successful and share our collective vision for uplifting the voice and power of the Latino community, especially our children. In 2021 we both deepened our connections with key partners and established new connections to respond to emerging community needs.

Our core partnerships with the Highline School District and Highline Community College are long-established and adapted in 2021 to meet the food and educational needs of our community through the challenges of the pandemic. We built partnerships with King County Public Health, Latinos Promoting Good Health, SW Youth and Family Services, La Roxay Productions, and the White Center Community Development Association to develop information and coordinate outreach strategies to best reach the Latino community.

We also refer families to partners in Alimentando El Pueblo, a food resource available for Latinos in South King County, and other PLN partners and programs.



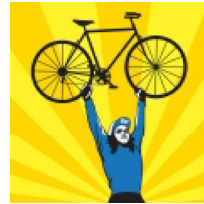
OUR PARTNERS



HIGHLINE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Tukwila Pantry
Lead. At Heart. Feed. At Highline.



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters.**
OF AMERICA



**WHITE CENTER
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION**



**King County
METRO**
Moving forward together



**RESOURCE
MEDIA**

**HIGHLINE
COLLEGE**



RENTON REGIONAL
**COMMUNITY
Foundation**



Liberty Mutual.
INSURANCE

ballmer
GROUP



PLN PROGRAMS



Aprendamos Juntos

Our flagship after-school program improves the academic performance of Latino children while simultaneously supporting parents to build English literacy and develop leadership skills to advocate for their children's education.

Parents build an understanding of child development milestones, early learning goals, community resources, and educational systems to help them forge a path for the academic and life success our Latino children so well deserve. We began meeting in person again, with precautions, at the start of school in 2021.

“After finishing the Leadership Academy workshop, I did some volunteer hours at Para Los Niños. I really like their work and the effort with which they helped us.

And what better way to learn from them -- my children were in after school classes while I was in English classes. I would like to help them take care of children while other people learn English.”

- Silvia Tellez, AJ Participant

Summer Programs

Descubriendo Nuestra Cultura and Around the World are culturally-aligned summer education programs for pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade children that provide arts, cultural learning, physical fitness, and academic skill building.

Children and youth are immersed in Latin American culture, art, language and history and demonstrate cultural pride.

Latinx Youth Program

We provided youth in grades 9-12 with social-emotional learning activities, community programming, mental health support, and art and cultural activities. Our major success has been incorporating mental health support and art and artistic expression as tools for learning, health, and healing with our youth. We continued to incorporate individual and collective art projects and art therapy tools into our programming, which the youth loved.



Early Learning Program

PLN ran a virtual Play and Learn group twice a week with parents and toddlers with fun activities designed to foster children's development, help social and emotional development, and build relationships between children and caregivers. We also gave away free educational materials, activities, and developmental toys for parents to utilize with their children at home.

Parent Empowerment Programs

PLN's Parent Leadership Academy is a year-long investment in the leadership development, confidence, skills, and civic engagement of Latino parents in our programs, 90% of whom are women. We continued to advocate with the Highline School District to be more responsive to the needs of Latino immigrant children and families during the pandemic.

PLN parents also stepped up as community leaders, offering their time and energy as volunteers with our partners to support food distribution programs, vaccine clinics, and represent their community to the City of Burien Parks Department of Recreation and Cultural Services and the King County Metro Parks & Recreation.

Community Organizing

Leaders from the PLN Parent Leadership Team were a powerful force in 2021, creating and conducting a community survey that garnered responses from 122 families and over 175 students in 31 schools in the Highline School District. We supported the rise of Latina leaders from small Latino Indigenous communities, increasing our multilingual outreach and engagement.

We had many conversations with our community, building relationships and garnering support for PLN's ongoing advocacy work. We compiled the survey results and are using them as a basis for a series of meetings with Highline School District administrators. We will be presenting the issues of primary concern for the Latino community and making a series of requests and recommendations for systemic changes that increase Latino leadership and influence within district leadership.



"I decided to enter the Leadership Academy at Para Los Niños to be able to learn and obtain more tools to keep achieving my goals, and at the same time help other people. Presently I study English, and on April 6, 2021, I got my High School diploma to help more people."

- Claudia Mata, PLN Parent Leader

Technology Access Program

PLN is breaking down the digital divide through the development of culturally-aligned technology resources specifically for Latino families. The program includes computer classes, ongoing training to learn technology tools, on-call computer support, and a Learning Lab for parents to gain technology skills and reduce the barriers to technology access.

Families are gaining skills to become comfortable and competent in navigating school programs, checking email, applying for jobs, doing basic research, and assisting children with homework assignments.

Quotes from PLN Technology Access Programs:

"The class hours help me greatly to attend right after work, and the teacher is very flexible."

"I was able to support my daughters with their homework and projects from school, thanks to the virtual computer class."

"Thank you PLN for teaching me the basic functions of the computer!"

"I loved that I was able to present my graduation project to my class, and to learn how to use Google Slides."

Promotoras de Salud

PLN leaders launched the Promotoras project to get training on basic COVID-19 and healthcare information for the Latino community. Six Latinas, three of whom are graduates from our Leadership Academy, received training from the King County Health Department and Promotores Network and worked with them to expand opportunities for healthcare access and COVID-19 prevention resources for the Latino community in South King County.

We provide them with ongoing support and training regarding vaccines and other COVID-19 prevention information and resources. They will play a key role as trusted community leaders to educate and support the Latino community to advocate for the needs of the Latino community with healthcare providers to lessen the impacts of COVID-19 in their community.



OUR IMPACT IN 2021

Para Los Niños made new paths forward in 2021, providing creative ways for children and families to thrive, even during the pandemic.

4,200

Volunteer hours representing the labor of 30 PLN parent leaders, young adult program graduates, and community allies.

Leadership Academy

12

Leadership Academy Graduates empowering themselves and our community.

25

Technology Access Program Beneficiaries navigating the new digital world.

1,700

Latino households assisted during the pandemic

6

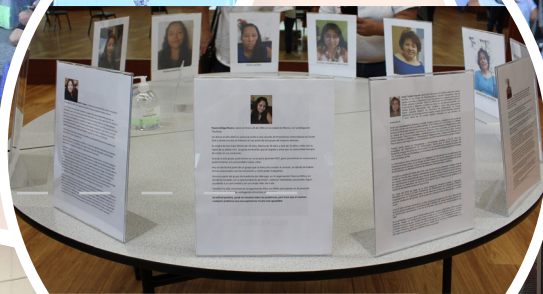
New Promotoras de la Salud. Providing multi-lingual, culturally specific information.

7

New Partners amplifying PLN's impact in new places.

1

New Community Resource Specialist meeting the needs of PLN families where they are at.



"My gratitude to the Leadership Academy of Para Los Niños for making appropriate cultural education for different ages possible."

- Gloria Ramirez/Lenguaje de la Lluvia



PLN GALA 2021

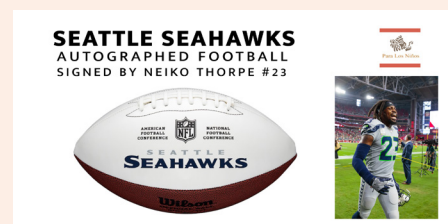


The Para Los Niños fundraising gala is an annual event to bring together PLN families, supporters, community partners, and volunteers for celebration and learning about the impact of our work. The theme of 2021's gala was "Unidos" held virtually to ensure the safety of our community.

People gathered to connect and hear first-hand testimony from PLN parent leader Doris Anabel Castro Reyes about the impact of our programming on her life and community.

\$41,250

The amount we raised in support of our programs and services. People's generosity and involvement make it possible for us to continue assisting over 1,700 Latino households.



“UNIDOS”

The primary purpose of the event is to raise funds for our work and to share PLN accomplishments with the broader community. We will also build relationships across programs, and between PLN leaders, community allies, and supporters to understand the importance of PLN work. Together, the community that is the heart of Para Los Niños is a powerful and engaged force UNIDOS so that Latino children and families can thrive and have the academic and life success they so well deserve.



Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Lonnie Tristán Rentería



Featured Family:
Doris Castro

PLN LEADER STORY

Hello, blessings to everyone. My name is Doris Anabel Castro Reyes and I am from Honduras. Thanks to God I had the opportunity to arrive in this country in 2014. During that time I arrived alone as I left my kids at my mom's house in Honduras, but in 2017 I had the privilege of being able to bring my kids to this country, and later in 2018 my sisters and nephews arrived too. That is when I started

worrying and was concerned about how I was going to help everyone, especially since we were living in a very small place with 18 people. That is when I made the decision to go to the Highline School District office and ask about programs my children and nephews could participate in. They referred me to the organization of Para los Niños and I went to the address they gave me and was welcomed.

They told me about each of the organization's programs and I enrolled my two children and three nephews to the summer program. They felt very happy as the organization made them feel accepted, valued, and respected. The organization helped teach them the importance of values and respect no matter the conditions or circumstances. They also learned new cultures and values from different countries and their delicious foods.



**Doris Anabel
Castro Reyes**

Academia de Liderazgo Program
beneficiary.

This program is very important for our children because it helps us to reinforce our culture and language making them feel proud of their roots. Thank you to all the teachers who focus on teaching the importance of our cultures. I also had the opportunity to join the preschool program, Play and Learn, and I enjoyed attending with my four little nephews - they loved to go every morning and they would even rush me to leave.

In 2020, I was invited to participate in the Academia de Liderazgo, also known as Leadership Academy and I accepted the invitation. It was one of the best decisions I have made. Since that moment, I realized that there are many things that as a woman we have to know, value, and learn from every opportunity that is offered to us for our children.

I also learned to have better communication with my family, organize and manage my time, and support the community. All of this helps us grow as a person and as a family. Para los Niños has given me the opportunity to see in myself what was hidden. Additionally, I was given the opportunity to work together in the 2020 Census as a trusted messenger in which I learned to realize the importance of each member of our community and that we all deserve to be part of the growth.

The most beautiful thing about this organization, Para los Niños, is their approach to help us grow as people, and they take into account our opinions and suggestions. With their programs and classes they help support our children and us, as parents. I give thanks to God for giving me the opportunity to be part of this beautiful organization that I love, and I am grateful to Para los Niños.

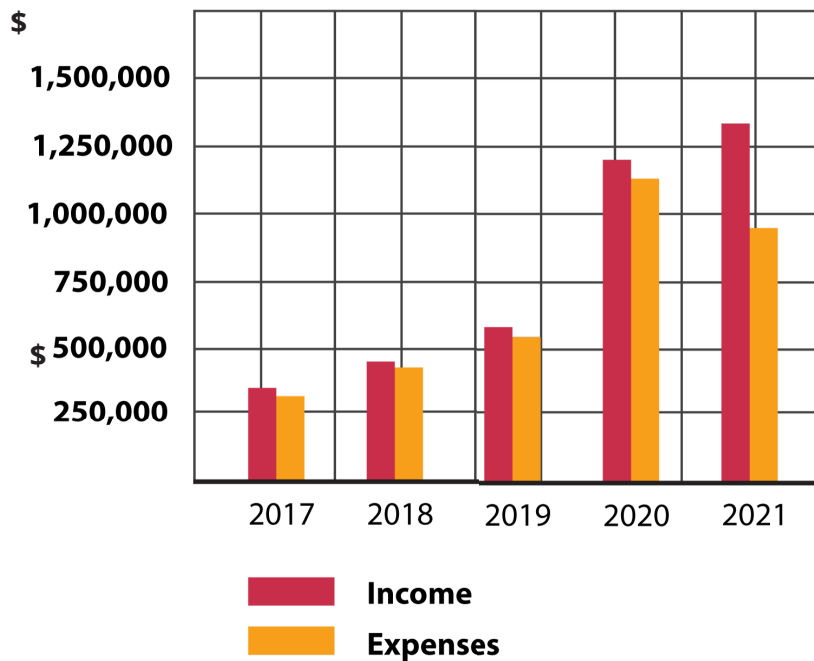


OUR FINANCES

PLN is growing every day, serving more families and responding more fully to the community's strengths and needs. We offer our deepest gratitude to the individuals and foundations who contribute to our success, from PLN families to community allies. We would like to give special recognition to the monthly donors, our Madrinas and Padrinos! Thank you, we depend on your support to do our work.

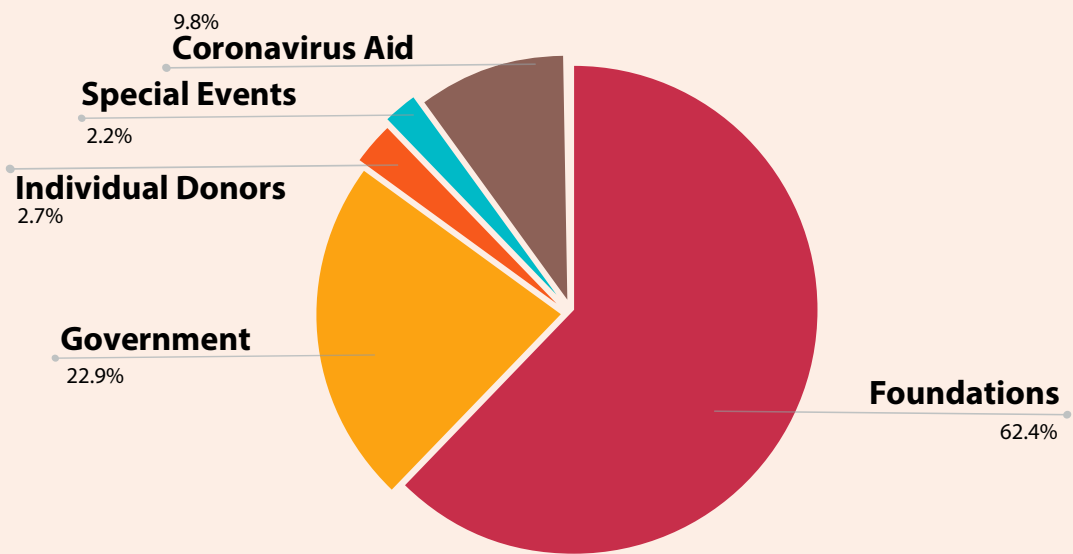
Para Los Niños Budget Growth 2017 – 2021

In 2020, over \$200,000 went back out into the community as emergency financial support

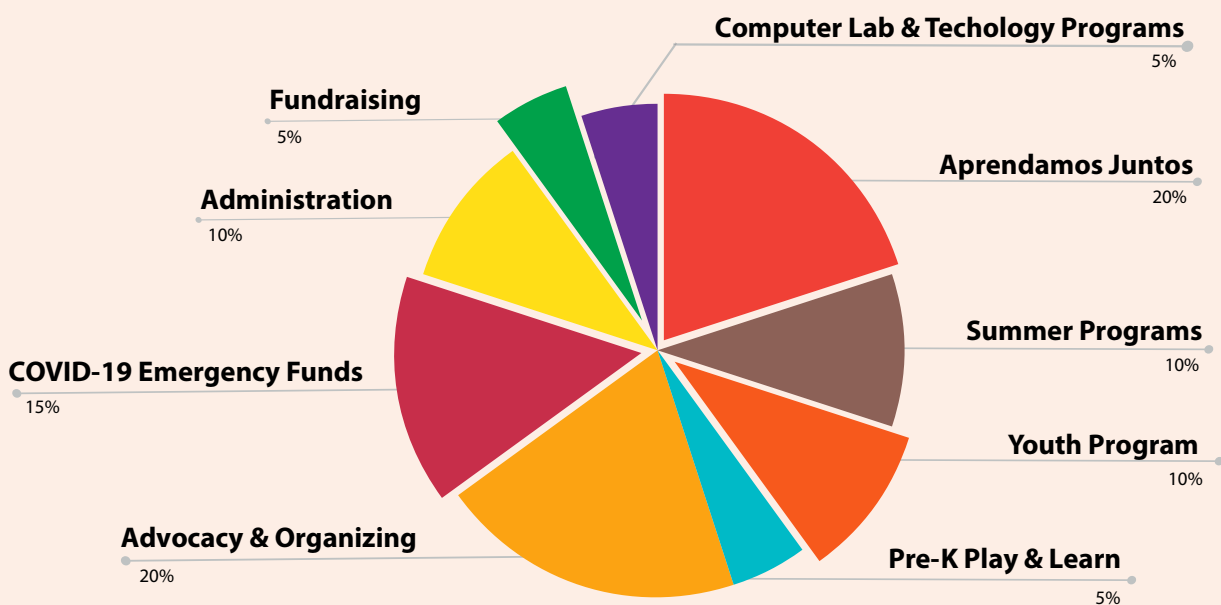


PLN 2021 Funding Sources

The challenges of the pandemic continued in 2021, where Para Los Niños continued to provide basic needs support, financial and food assistance, accessible learning opportunities, and resources to support the health, mental health, and well being of the Latino immigrant community. We also worked to promote leadership, advocacy, and inclusion in decision-making for Latino immigrant families in the Puget Sound being impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.



PLN 2021 Expenses



THANK YOU PLN FUNDERS





OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chair: Bevin Taylor
Faculty Highline College



Treasurer: Jasmine Sears
Research Scientist, Facebook
Reality Labs



Secretary: Alexander Finale
Sr. Project Manager, Facebook
Reality Labs



Member: Tania Santiago
Municipal Relations Special
Projects Administrator, King
County Council

OUR STAFF



Executive Director
Virginia Herrera-Páramo



Operations Manager
Esther Kim



Early Learning Specialist
Lorena Merlín



Community Organizer
Verónica Huerta



Community Resources Specialist
Enid Baerga Carrasquillo



Aprendamos Juntos Program
Gabriela Gonzalez



Youth Organizer
Emily (Em) Barraza

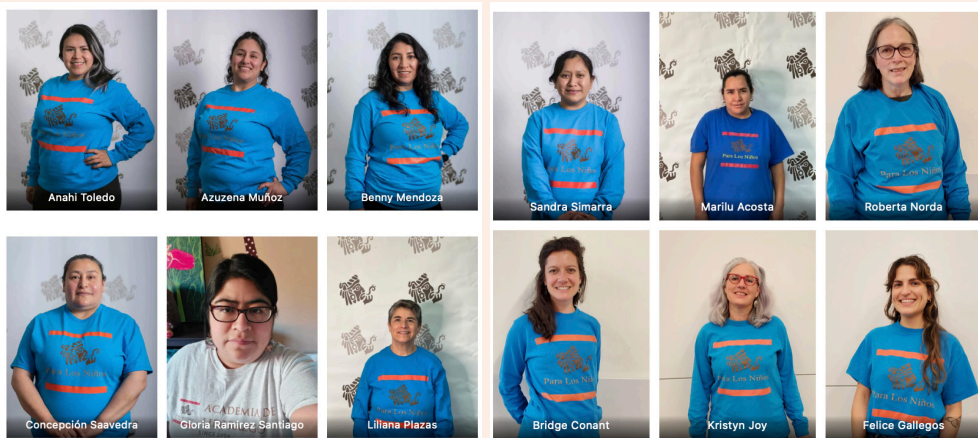


Community Health Promoter
Marcos Valenzuela



Youth Organizer/Computer Lab Coordinator
Jesus Romo

OUR EXTENDED TEAM



tree $|E| = |V| - 1$

$\Phi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} (1 - \frac{1}{p})$

$(5)(5)(5)(3)(2)(2)(2)$

$(n) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} = \binom{n}{r}$

K_5 pis prime

$b \neq 0 \rightarrow b^{p-1} \equiv 1$

$A \cdot B = |A||B| \cos \theta$

$|A \times B| = |A||B| \sin \theta$

$F_0 = 0$
 $F_1 = 1$
 $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$

s_1, s_2, s_3





PARA LOS NIÑOS

www.plnwa.org

Address:

15220 6th Ave SW Burien, WA

Phone:

(206) 241-7900

