

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



Para Los Niños



PARA LOS NIÑOS

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

About Para Los Niños



The mission of Para Los Niños de Highline (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 other academic skills development, summer enrichment, as well as 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 individual 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 de Highline (PLN) serves growing Latino immigrant and refugee children and families from Mexico and Central and South America who speak Spanish and other Indigenous Latin American languages. These families live in South King County, with concentrations in the Highline Public Schools area (Burien, SeaTac, Tukwila).



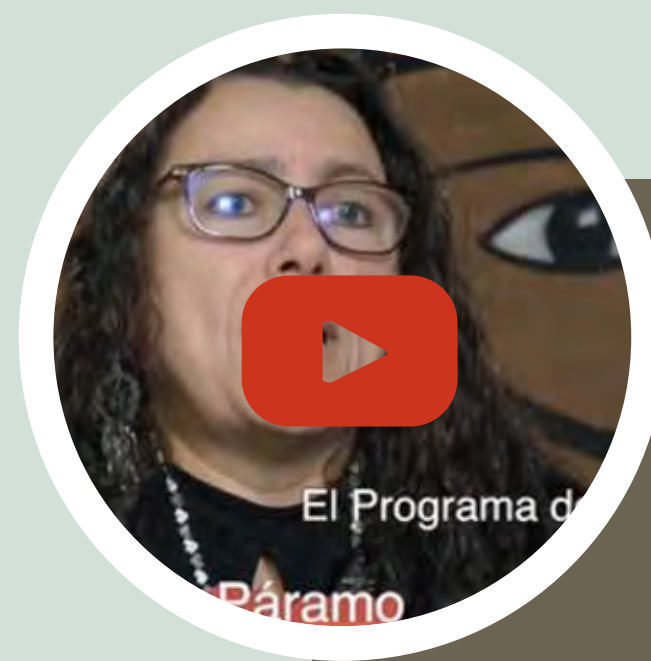
Growing and celebrating together in 2022

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“I don’t like fake people. I always like to help without expecting anything in return. I don’t like injustice; I consider myself a “warrior” woman and want to continue learning in order to improve myself. I study English and computing in PLN at the moment, which I know will be a great benefit to help my family and community since I love being attentive to what my family and community need.”

- Cecilia Morataya, PLN Leader



Watch our Legacy Video





“I came to the United States with many dreams and in order to help my family in Mexico. I am motivated to improve myself for my family, although I have found the language barrier a great challenge, though I do not view it as an obstacle. I like to fight against inequality and injustice. I would like to work in the community to advocate for security, hunger and for more opportunities to exist for equitable and fair lives for all.”

- Maribel Perez Tena, PLN Parent Leader



COVID-19 Response Work



In 2022, Para Los Niños de Highline supported four individuals to complete their certification in the Community Health Worker Basic Core Competencies program provided by the Washington State Department of Health and Public Health of South and King County. These individuals serve as trusted community leaders within the Latino community and continue providing and advocating for the health needs of the Latino community. **One of these graduates** started to work at PLN as a community health worker and has been able to expand opportunities for health care access and COVID-19 prevention resources to the Latino community in South King County.

PLN has continued to provide **pop-up vaccine and dental clinics** in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Health and Public Health of South and King County. At these clinics we are able to provide families with personal protection equipment like masks, hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes as well as inform them of the latest COVID-19 updates.

We conducted **workshops on COVID-19 prevention and treatment** in community meetings with partners including King County Public Health's Con Confianza y en Comunidad and connected families to other healthcare partners, including SeaMar. Our list of collaborators continues to grow in 2022 as we were able to work with great organizations like Molina Healthcare and Community Health Plan of Washington.

At PLN we are grateful to be able to serve the families of the Latino and Spanish-speaking community in the Highline area through our **Family Resources Office**, providing them with information on the different programs that we have at PLN as well as assistance with the needs they have for themselves and their children.

Through this office we have the opportunity to **interact closely** with families from different cultures, customs, and traditions, which allows us to identify with some shared experiences and learn from others as well.

Speaking Spanish unites and creates empathy so we can better identify and understand our community's needs and help them feel confident in achieving their objectives. We have also helped families apply for support programs for Latino immigrants.



Family Resource Specialist

Partnerships

Para Los Niños de Highline 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. One of our emerging partnerships in 2022 was with Public Health Seattle and King County Access and Outreach, who provided a mobile dental van that visited the PLN office every three months on a Saturday to provide dental services for our communities.

We continued working with and deepening our longstanding partnerships with the Highline School District, Highline Community College, City of Burien, Heritage Museum and LATINX Health Board, WAISN and Highline Area Food Bank to provide programs and services. 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.

We are building on partnerships with King County Public Health, Latinos Promoting Good Health, SW Youth and Family Services, REMITLY, Seahawkers Latin America Booster Club and the White Center Community Development Association to develop information and coordinate outreach strategies to best reach the Latino community.



PLN Programs

Aprendamos Juntos

Our program continues to be very successful as it integrates the learning and development of parents and children. Parents increase their knowledge of the English language while children receive academic, emotional support and find their different skills in arts and crafts through fun activities, taking place in a safe, pleasant and culturally appropriate place.

The program consists of 2 groups of parents and 5 groups of children, both the groups of parents and children are led by trained personnel in a location where Covid-19 safety protocols can be effectively followed.



Summer Programs

After 2 years of not carrying out our summer program due to the pandemic, in 2022 we had the opportunity to offer it and it was a complete success. We were able to care for and serve 50 children of different ages and cultures giving them once again the opportunity to interact and have fun together in person. They also were able to develop skills that strengthened their relationship to culture, emotions and academics.



“What I have found in PLN is support. While parents study, PLN supports us with the children’s homework. In the organization I have studied English, technology and Leadership Academy which has helped me a lot. I want to thank everyone who supports PLN. since that gives us more opportunities to study and overcome obstacles.”

– Maria Pineda, AJ Participant



Early Learning Program

During 2022 in the Early Learning program, the children had the opportunity to be in person with their classmates engaging in different playful activities where they learned the basic rules of coexistence and developed control of their movements by reinforcing their motor skills. It was wonderful to see the interaction of parents and children in the classroom. Each class reinforces the idea that parents and family caregivers are children’s first teachers. They take home games and tools they can use to stimulate their little ones’ development in safe and fun ways.

Latinx Youth Program

We revamped and expanded activities in our Latinx Youth Program in 2022. As a result, more young people participated. We offered different activities depending on the day of the week. For example, one day we focused on academic support and positive personal growth, and on another day we led community-building, creative art, and games. This has allowed for a stronger bond between youth organizers and youth, leading to a higher attendance rate. The space we provide our youth allows them to feel comfortable and safe, making them excited to come back every week.

Our youth know they have this safe space for any of their questions or concerns to be shared. The biggest accomplishment we always strive to reach is allowing the space for our youth to go from shy to confident beings. It feels as if with every new participant we get, that accomplishment is easier to achieve. Every single one of our students shows some sort of individual growth in each session attended.



“I got to know PLN when I was in the 2nd grade and enrolled in the Aprendamos Juntos program. While my parents attended English classes the teachers and assistants helped me with my homework. Now I support other children in this same program and participate in the Latinx Youth program. PLN has also had a great impact specifically on my family, as well as on other families, so it is important to support the organization to continue supporting the community.”

– Perla Ocampo, Latinx Youth Program

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, 90% of whom are women. After an intensive training course, the PLN graduates practice what they have learned by engaging in political advocacy and community organizing activities in the Latino community. PLN supports their leadership growth by helping them integrate into different committees and taking on various leadership roles. 160 immigrant leaders have graduated from our program.



“The biggest challenge that I have had to overcome in this country, apart from the language, is having left my relatives in Mexico and starting a new life from scratch. What motivates me the most to improve myself are my children. What I would like to change is the inequality in terms of educational, health and employment opportunities for the Latino community.”

– Benita Mendoza, PLN Leader

Community Organizing

During 2022 we initiated the Workforce Development Program. We focused on understanding the specific needs of Latinx workers ages 18 - 60 years old. We did this by talking to workers about their current lives and understanding their ambitions within the workforce and encouraged their leadership to empower them as workers and as community leaders. These one on one community member conversations guided the program and will help us plan for the future. The mission of the Workforce Development Program will be to lessen the barriers our community faces in the workforce and to further enrich their lives.



Technology Access Program

Programming Club is a program where 9th through 12th graders have the opportunity to learn how to program for free. They began by taking our level 1 course and graduated to our level 2 course. After only a year, our number of youth participants as well as class engagement has increased. Our average attendance rate was higher than 80%. To conclude a successful year, our youth had the opportunity to tour Google and build connections with software engineers. Though we provide our youth the opportunity to gain a new skill, the real accomplishment is seeing them develop a genuine career interest in programming. They always came to class excited to learn and grow.

Our computer class for adults is one of the popular programs here at Para Los Niños de Highline. Part of the reason for the popularity of this program is that we have childcare, which makes the class more accessible for adults with children. Our computer classes are divided into two different levels, level one, and level two. We opened our new course in September with twenty-two students, and by the end of 2022 we still had twenty adults attending the program, plus a waiting list of registered students who are interested in joining our program in 2023. Level one students started the course with the most basic material such as getting acquainted with the parts of a computer and learning how to use the mouse and keyboard.



By the end of the year, they knew how to create, send, and reply to emails. This includes special features like attaching images and documents within the emails. Even though level two students already knew a little about the function of Google Docs, we began in September by going more in depth on how to use the different tools that this word processor offers.

Throughout the rest of the year, these students also learned how to create and present material on Google Slides. They also learned how to save documents and images on Google Drive and on a portable USB. This program is addressing Inequities and disparities in technology for communities of color.



Promotoras de Salud

This program trains Latina Community Health Workers to provide multilingual, culturally relevant health and COVID-19 prevention information and resources to low income Latino immigrant families in South King County. We work in partnership with Seattle King County Public Health and other providers to supply Promotoras leaders with ongoing support and training regarding a broad range of healthcare topics, including vaccines, COVID-19, asthma, cancer prevention, oral health, and mental health.

Our Promotoras play a key role as trusted community leaders to educate and support the Latino community to advocate for their needs with healthcare providers to lessen the impacts of health disparities in our community. In 2022 4 health Promotoras completed trainings and certification as Community Health Workers.



“Since I learned about the programs, I began to socialize with more people. I told them about the programs and training that I attended, took my children to and talked about the benefit they will obtain for their future. I am motivated by wanting to learn and being able to share what I have now learned with the PLN community.”

– Marilu Acosta, Health Promotora

PLN Gala 2022

After two years of running a virtual event, Para Los Niños de Highline was very excited to have our annual fundraiser gala back in person this year with the theme **“Progreso”**. It was very special to bring together our PLN families, supporters, community partners and volunteers for a celebration of our work and impact. Our Keynote speaker was the new Highline Public Schools Superintendent, **Dr. Ivan Duran**.

Together, we raised **\$67,846** to support our programs and services to continue assisting over 1700 Latino households with food assistance, COVID-19 information and vaccines, rental assistance, school, sports, and art supplies, and cultural educational activities through our seven different programs.



PLN Leader Story

We also heard from one of our Para Los Niños de Highline leader's Concepcion Saaverdra, who was born in the city of Mexico and completed her Bachelors in Business Administration. She worked in public and private institutions for many years. In 2017, Concepcion and her husband Roberto decided to move to the United States so they could give their two children better opportunities. After researching, she found PLN and enrolled her children in the Summer programs where they made new friends and Concepcion had the opportunity to support her community by volunteering.

"I eventually started a volunteer relationship at PLN as an assistant to the instructors. Later I attended the different programs offered by the Organization. As they are: the English classes that are important to be able to communicate everywhere. The Health Promoters program where we contribute to the dissemination of information on preventive health care. Leadership Academy Program where we learn to recognize the needs that we have as individuals and as a community, as well as the way in which we have to organize ourselves and work together to achieve changes and improve our lives. I was a helper in Computer Classes where adults and the elderly learn to use the computer and different programs. I have also had the opportunity to develop personally within PLN by participating as an Instructor in the Aprendamos Juntos class where children develop their abilities and strengthen their skills in order to have a better personal performance."

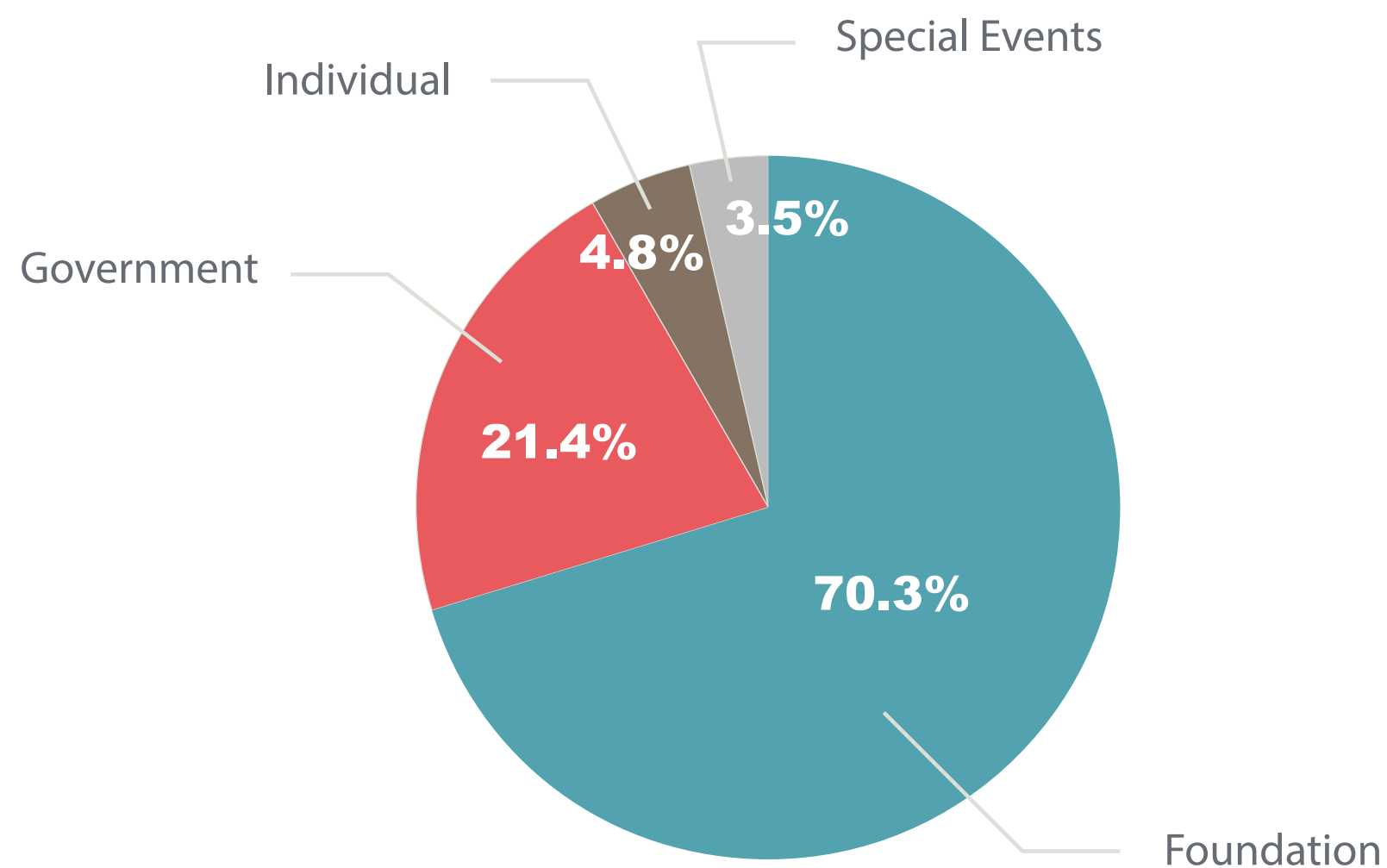
A portrait of Concepción Saavedra, a woman with dark, wavy hair, wearing a light-colored blazer over a white top. She is standing indoors, with a blurred background showing greenery and a window.

Concepción Saavedra
PLN COMMUNITY LEADER

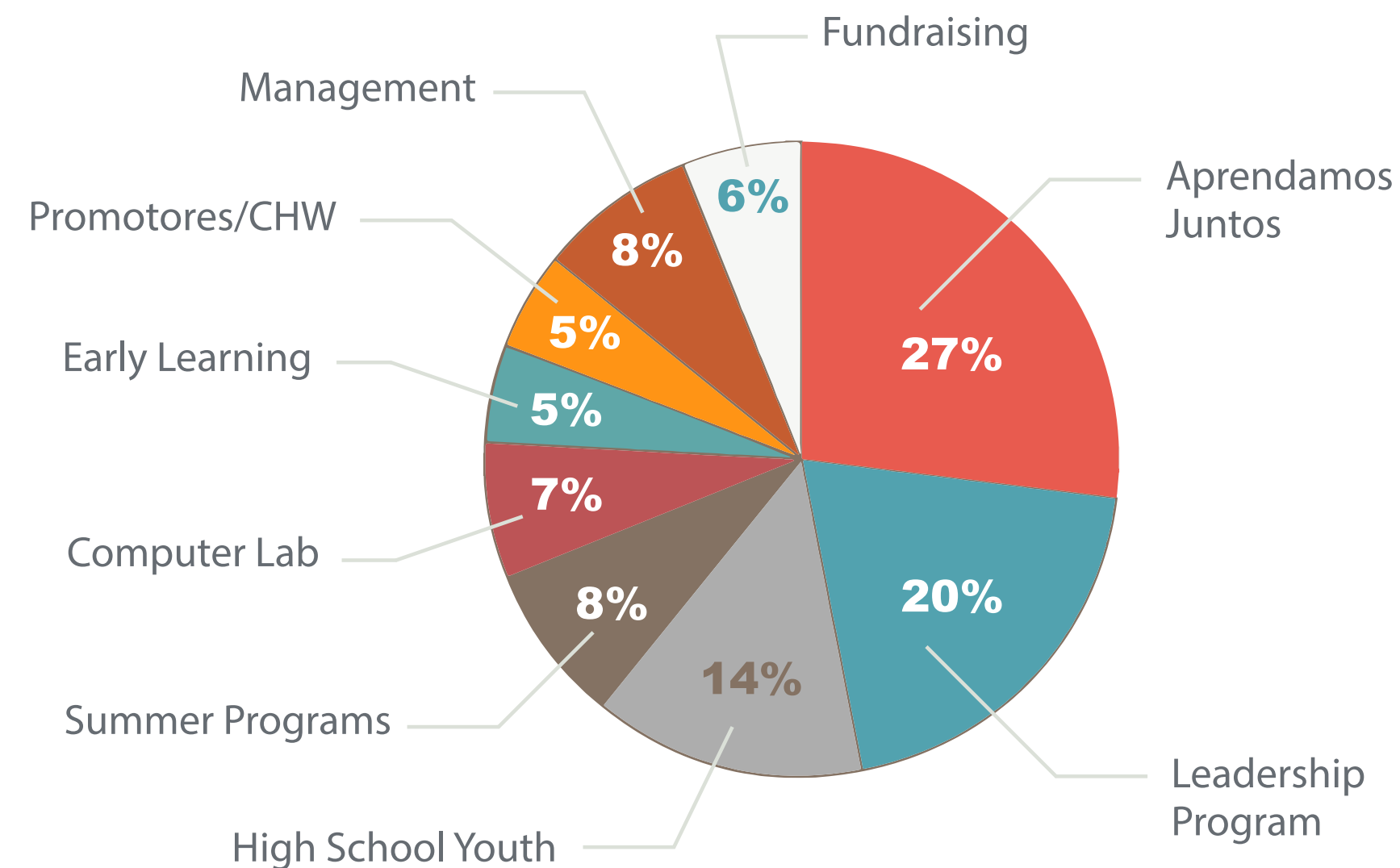
Our Finances

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.

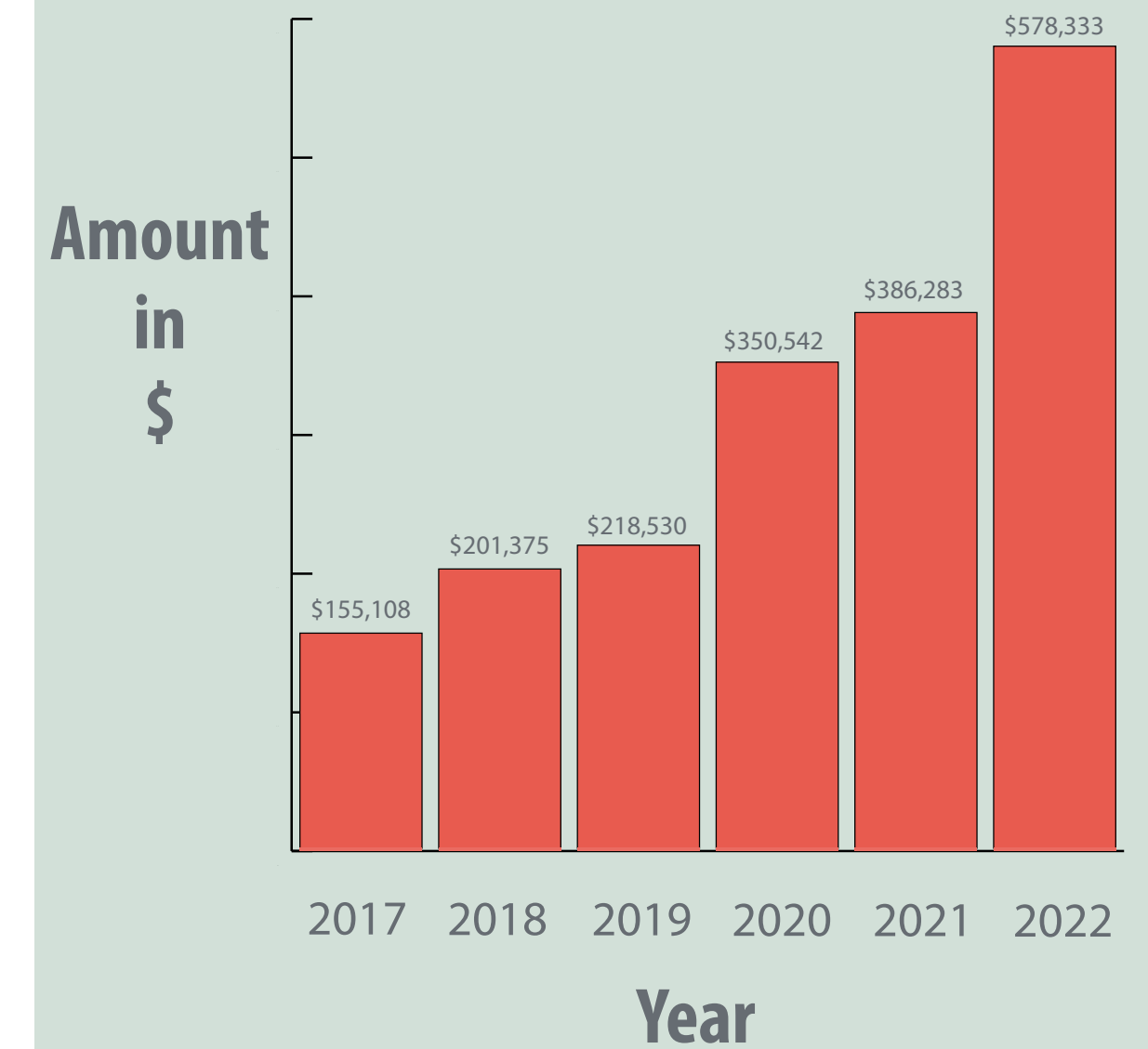
Funding Sources



PLN 2022 Expenses



Salary Increase Over the Years



\$1,331,467
2022 TOTAL INCOME

\$1,205,734
2022 TOTAL EXPENSES

Thank you PLN Funders

Public Health
Seattle & King County

Latino
Community Fund
WASHINGTON STATE



盧勝彥佈施基金會
SHENG-YEN LU FOUNDATION

King County
Elections

HIGHLINE
COLLEGE

COO
COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY



Burien

sowa
School's Out Washington

SEATTLE
FOUNDATION

King County
METRO
Moving forward together

STOLTE
FAMILY FOUNDATION

Highline
Heritage Museum

Safeco Insurance™
A Liberty Mutual Company

win|win
NETWORK

United
Way
United Way of King County

Satterberg
foundation

King County
Best Starts for
KIDS

PEK
FAMILY
FOUNDATION

WASHINGTON IMMIGRANT
SOLIDARITY
NETWORK

HealthierHere

Inatai
FOUNDATION

RENTON REGIONAL
COMMUNITY
Foundation

G2
GLOBALTOLOCAL

Liberty Mutual
INSURANCE

magic cabinet

WASHINGTON AREA
WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION 25
YEARS 1997-2022

Our Board of Directors

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Highline College Faculty

ALEXANDER FINALE



Secretary
Sr. Project Manager
Facebook Reality Labs

TANIA SANTIAGO



Treasurer
Municipal Relations Special
Projects Administrator
at King County Council

KRISTYN JOY



BoD Member
Highline College Adjunct Educator
and Union Activist

Our Staff



VIRGINIA HERRERA-PÁRAMO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ESTHER KIM

OPERATIONS MANAGER



BENNY MENDOZA

EARLY LEARNING SPECIALIST



VERÓNICA HUERTA

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER



JESÚS ROMO

YOUTH ORGANIZER
COMPUTER LAB COORDINADOR



JENNIFER RIOS

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER



GRABIELA GONZALEZ

APRENDAMOS JUNTOS PROGRAM LOGISTICS



SONYA YAHYAOU

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



EM BARRAZA

YOUTH ORGANIZER



MARGARET GLEESON

PROGRAM MANAGER



LILIANA PLAZAS

COMPUTER LAB TEACHER



GENESIS GONZALEZ

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER



REINA BLANDON

FAMILY RESOURCE SPECIALIST



OSCAR CISNEROS

COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

PLN Extended Team



Azuzena Muñoz



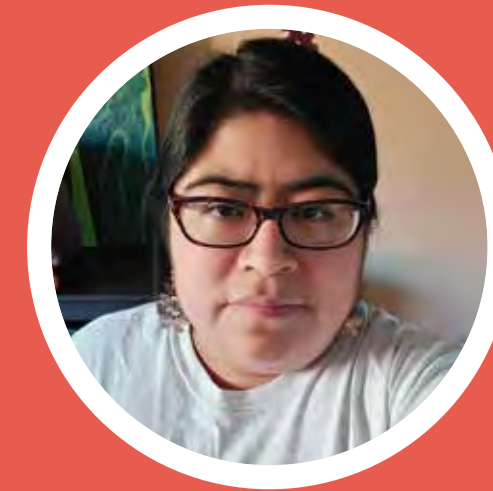
Concepción Saavedra



Sandra Simarra



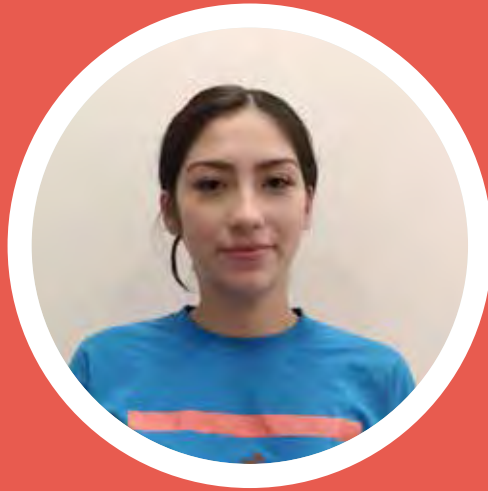
Marilu Acosta



Gloria Ramírez Santiago



Roberta Norda



Jasmin Olvera



Elizabeth Freeman



Andrew Orihuela



Berenice Hernandez



Karina Perez



Perla Ocampo



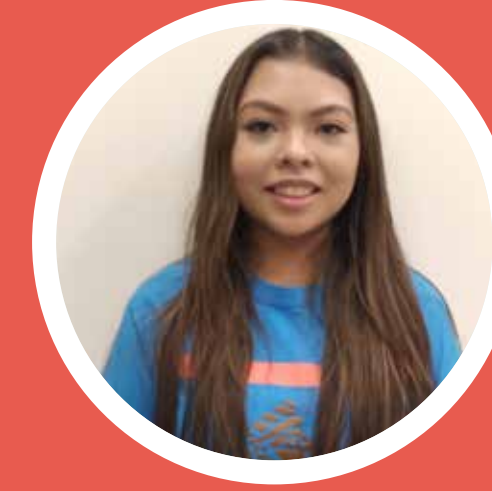
Felicity



Natalia Arana



Frida M. Hernández



Erica Refugio



Ernestina Arvizu

Staff Development

Relational Communications

Pronombres

National Community Schools and Engagement Conference

Virtual Youth Town Hall: How Adults can help Address Challenges

Bridge Conference: Illuminating Becoming

Burnout Prevention Training

Mental Health First Aid

YPQI Kickoff-Gold Cohort

Identidad de Género

Virtual Youth Town Hall: How adults can help address challenges in the new school year 2022 Bridge

Conference: Illuminating Becoming

CBPS & CCHC Orientation: BSK

BSK Kaleidoscope

Illuminating Becoming

Anti-Harassment

WAISN/ King County Immigrant Funds Orientation

Competencias básicas para promotores de la comunidad y Trabajadores de Salud Comunitaria.

Academia de Liderazgo

Con confianza y en Comunidad

Crimen de odio

Abuso sexual y derecho de las víctimas

Best Starts for Kids Open House Session on Technical Assistance

BSFK/Positive Family Connections

School Based SBIRT Planning Grants & Implementation

BSK OPEN

Liberation and Healing from Systemic Racism - BSK Open

School Based Health Centers

VEF Basecamp training-Vote

Commision Hispanic/Maria Siguenza

Workshop w/ Bolder Advocacy: Lobbying 101/ LFC

Semana Legislativa

Lunch and Learn w/ Alianza Alumni panel (Como redactar un Bill)

Testimony Workshop & Action Hour w/ Alianza

Healthy Equity for Immigrants with Luzmila Freese

Workshop w/ Bolder Advocacy: Yes You Can Say That

Taller con Progreso/Vote

Progreso/¡Ponte las pilas y únete!

Preocupaciones Vacuna Covid-19

Diversidad Cultural/PLN

Vaccine Equity in the Time of COVID: NoHLA

Relational Communications Workshop

America Votes Scriptwriting Workshop

VAN 102 Training

Taller de Comunicación y Liderazgo en Acción

Pronombres (Charla)

MiniVan 101 Training

Espacio Sano: Self Care for Social Justice

Leadership/IEL/California

La educación emocional es fundamental en el éxito escolar de los hijos

Using community organizing principles to build Community Schools for Racial & Education Justice

Identidad de Genero

HLP PP Meeting #1

Beyond Advocacy: How Parents Can Change Systems to Build a Supportive Community!

Building Community & Engaging Parent Leadership

Reflect. Transform. Soar. Washington Estate Breakouts

Developing Resilient, Caring, Collaborative, Communities Through Stories

Virtual Phonebank Training/WIN/WIN

WA GOTV Best Practices Training

Translation Equipment - Tech Support

SKEWL Virtual 1-1 Mental Health Supports

IEL. Innovation, Equity Leadership

CHW CARE & DOH Convening

Building an Anti-Racist Health Center

Washington State Department of Health

Cervical Health & Cancer Screening

Community Health Worker Meet & Greet

Lifting the Fog - COVID-19 and the Next Pandemic

2022 Partners in Care Conference

Navegador de información COVID-19 UW

Vacunas contra el COVID-19. ¿El Qué? 3 partes

Competencias Básicas para Promotora de Salud

Capacitación de Asma

Illuminating Becoming 2022

Latinx Health Equity Summit



Para Los Niños

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