

Para Los Niños de Highline 2024 Annual Report



Supporting the success of the Latin American community by building leadership skills, celebrating diversity, promoting art expression, and cultivating lifelong curiosity.



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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters,

2024 was a landmark year for Para Los Niños de Highline. We saw transformative growth in our programs, community partnerships, and organizational capacity. Most notably, we purchased our first permanent building — a milestone that strengthens our foundation and secures our long-term future in Burien. This space is already increasing access to programs for our children, families, and elders, serving as a central hub for education, arts, culture, and now, environmental justice.

This progress came at a time when our families faced growing challenges. Rising anti-immigrant sentiment, policy shifts, and economic pressures continue to impact our communities deeply. We also know that environmental disparities, including air and water quality, housing hazards, and limited access to green spaces, are affecting the health and well-being of our families. Despite these obstacles, we remain steadfast in our mission — to build leadership, celebrate our culture, and foster lifelong curiosity.

This year, we launched our Salud en Comunidad (Health in Community) environmental justice initiative to support families in understanding and addressing the environmental conditions impacting their lives. At the same time, our Help Me Grow and Kaleidoscope Play & Learn programs deepened support for early learners and caregivers, emphasizing cultural relevance, connection, and developmental equity. We hosted our most successful Gala ever, raising \$88,548 with support from partners like the Gates Foundation, Sea Mar, and the Inatai Foundation. Finally we welcomed over 250 youth and children into culturally grounded summer programs and expanded adult digital literacy and promotoras-led wellness initiatives.

Owning our building is more than a milestone — it's a strategy for thriving and sustainability. With community visioning, we've begun making urgent repairs and planning renovations that reflect our values: accessibility, safety, energy efficiency, and cultural relevance. This space is becoming what our community deserves — a vibrant, resilient, and welcoming home.

Thank you for standing with us. Your support is not just appreciated — it's transformative.

With deep gratitude,



Virginia Herrera-Páramo
Executive Director





About Us

Founded by Latino immigrant parents in 2003, Para Los Niños de Highline uplifts the South King County Latino community through education, advocacy, environmental justice, and cultural connection. We believe in the inherent brilliance of every Latino child and the power of family leadership. Our programs foster joy, resilience, and equity by centering bilingual education, arts, and intergenerational learning in every space we touch.

We operate from a community-owned facility in downtown Burien, which serves as a safe haven and gathering place for immigrant families navigating poverty, displacement, climate stressors, and systemic barriers. We exist to support and celebrate our culture and to create the conditions for Latin American children and families to thrive.



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**Our programs
foster joy,
authenticity,
and equity**



2024 Program Highlights



Aprendamos Juntos & Early Learning

Our intergenerational education programs served dozens of families with bilingual, culturally relevant content. Parents and children learned together, strengthening academic skills and family connection. Adult language learners practiced the English they need to navigate complex systems and for self-defense. Latino identity, language, and storytelling are central to every classroom experience.



Kaleidoscope Play and Learn

Our culturally grounded play-based learning program supported the development of children ages 2 to 5. All sessions were conducted in Spanish and emphasized culturally responsive curriculum, school readiness, and caregiver connection. Parents noted strong social, emotional, and cognitive growth in their children.



Help Me Grow

We onboarded new families into our navigation and resource referral program, helping caregivers access early childhood services, health care, and essentials like diapers and food. We also offered monthly caregiver workshops on emotional regulation, family communication, and child development.



Summer Programs (K-12)

Over 100 students participated in enrichment programs filled with art, music, sports, robotics, field trips, and cultural learning. Youth explored their identities, built new friendships, and overcame fears in supportive, joyful spaces. This year included a mural project with a local Latina artist and folkloric dance classes.



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This program has been a great help because I learned more than I thought I knew, like many Google tools I didn't know existed and that are very useful.

”

**Thank you so much!
You contribute greatly
to the physical, social, and
emotional development
of the youth.**



2024 Program Highlights



High School Youth Programs

Teens engaged in social justice education, robotics, peer leadership, and food heritage projects. They practiced sports with UPower coaches and visited museums and colleges. Paid internships introduced youth to career pathways, personal storytelling, and public speaking.



Adult Digital Literacy & Community Health

Our adult learners continued to excel in computer literacy courses. Promotoras (community educators) expanded health and wellness access through Zumba, vaccine education, and food security support. Many participants are elders or parents navigating complex systems with limited language access.



Environmental Justice: Salud en Comunidad

We launched a new two-year initiative to support Latino families in addressing environmental disparities. With community guidance, we are developing multilingual materials on air quality, energy use, healthy homes, and climate resilience. Youth, parents, and promotoras are co-leading this effort to ensure families are informed, equipped, and ready to act.



Cultural Leadership and Advocacy

At Para Los Niños, cultural preservation and civic engagement go hand in hand. We hosted public celebrations such as Día de los Muertos and La Posada, created community art with local Latino artists, and held dialogues with civic leaders like Justice Mary Yu and Monserrat Padilla. Our families serve on policy councils, hiring committees, and nonprofit boards across the region. We are cultivating a new generation of Latinx leaders who organize, speak up, and shape the systems that impact their lives.



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Today, we are anchoring our presence in a region where families are increasingly displaced by gentrification and rising costs.



Building Purchase: A Permanent Home

In December 2024, we finalized the purchase of our headquarters at 15220 6th Ave SW in Burien — a 6,000-square-foot facility that now belongs to the community we serve. This building is more than a physical space: it is a statement of belonging and resilience. For years, we operated without long-term security. Today, we are anchoring our presence in a region where families are increasingly displaced by gentrification and rising costs. We will begin emergency repairs, with a phased renovation plan that includes plumbing, HVAC, ceiling stabilization, ADA access maintenance, and energy-efficient improvements. These investments ensure that our programs can continue uninterrupted and that our children, elders, and staff can gather in a safe, dignified environment. This home is an investment in equity, culture, and our future.

Gala Celebración: Community in Action



With over 200 attendees and heartfelt performances, our 2024 Gala Speakers included Washington State Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu and Community Leader Emma Osorio.

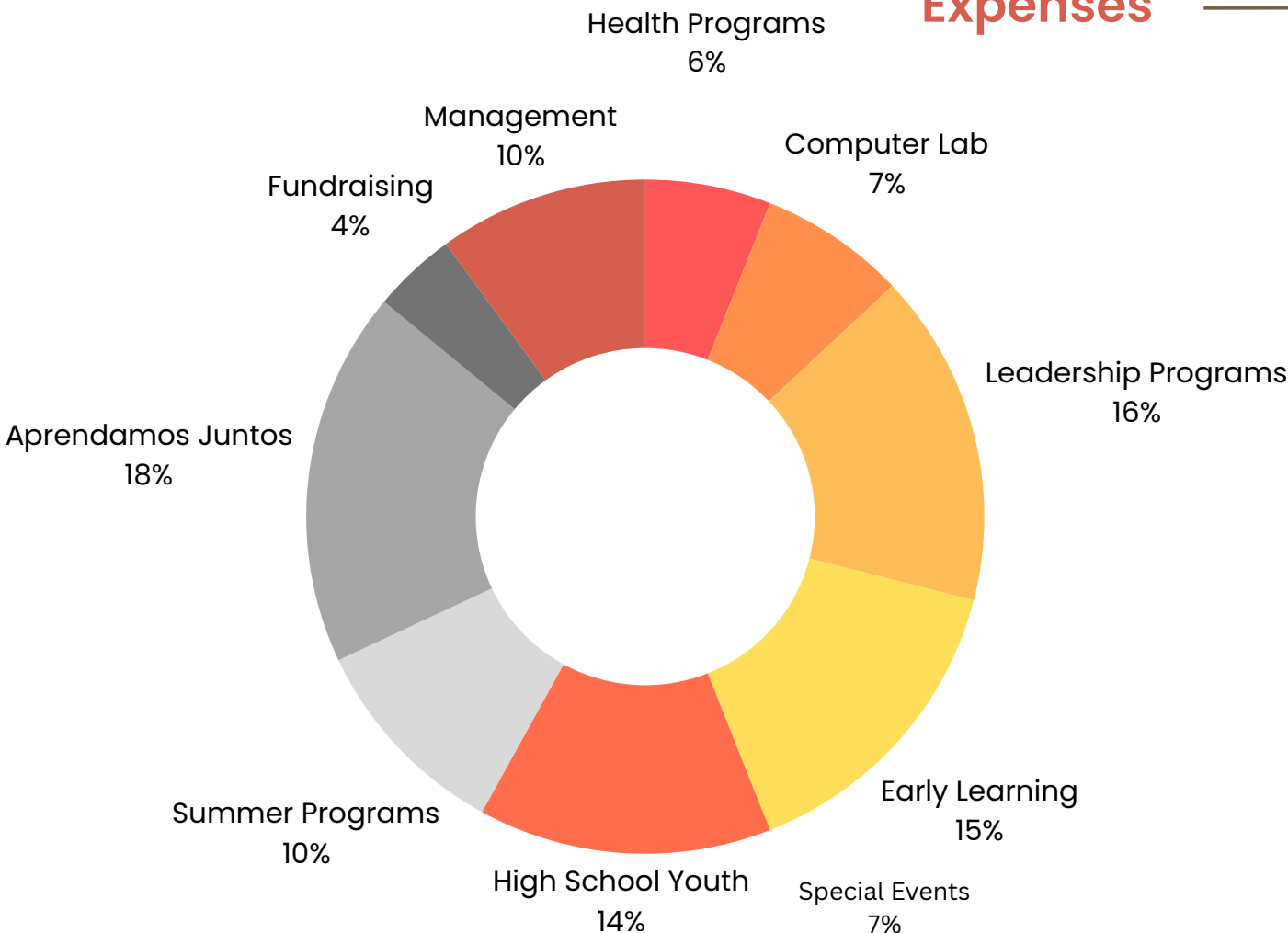
Thanks to sponsors like the Gates Foundation, Inatai, Sea Mar, and local families, we are entering 2025 with renewed energy and deeper roots. Every dollar raised supports the growth of our seven core programs.

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**I truly enjoyed
being at the
gala and left
quite inspired**

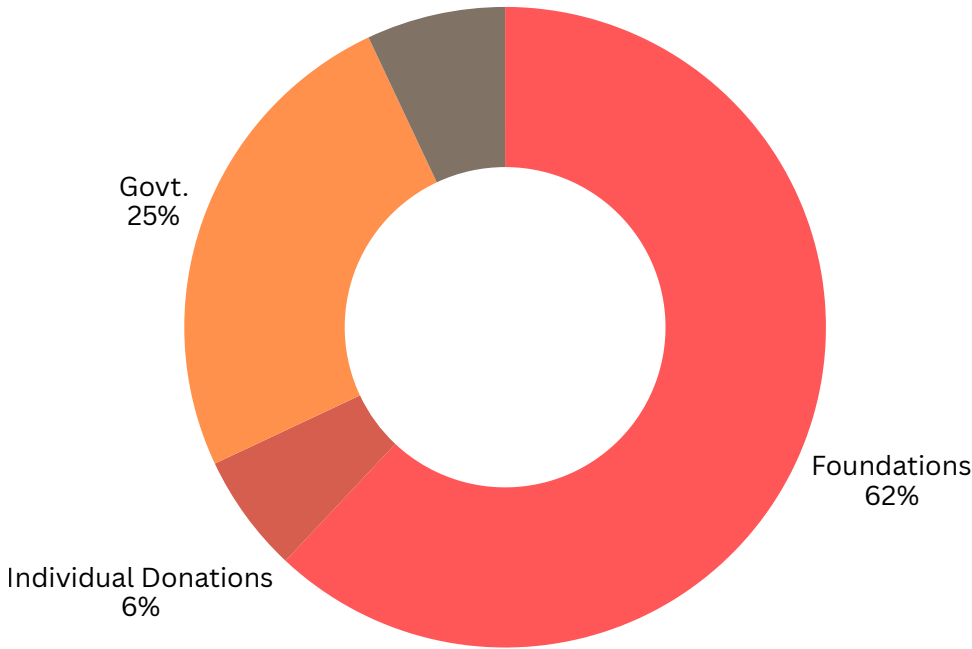


Financial Overview

Expenses



Income



Board of Directors



Samantha
Rosas



Bevin
Taylor



Carolina
Guzmán



Alexander
Finale



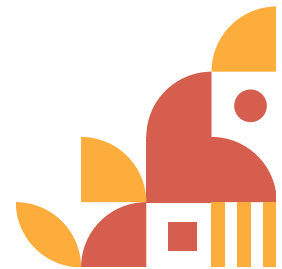
Jake
Garcia



Virginia
Herrera-Páramo

Staff & Collaborators

Led by Executive Director Virginia Herrera-Páramo and a passionate team of educators, organizers, community, and support staff.



THANK YOU



To our donors, sponsors, community partners, and volunteers: you are the heart of our work. Together, we are building a future where every Latin American family in South King County feels seen, supported, and celebrated.

Contact Us

Para Los Niños

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Instagram @plnwa

