



# Para Los Niños de Highline 2025 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,

2025 was a year of deepening impact and steady transformation for Para Los Niños de Highline.

After securing our permanent home in late 2024, we spent 2025 activating that space — expanding programs, stabilizing operations, and strengthening the systems that allow our families not just to participate, but to lead. Our building has become what we envisioned: a vibrant hub of education, environmental justice, cultural celebration, and intergenerational connection and community safety.

We have been doing this work at a time of increasing uncertainty. Immigrant families continue to face economic instability, housing displacement, climate-related stressors, and shifting policies that directly impact their safety and access to resources. These conditions are not abstract, they are shaping the daily realities of the families we collaborate with.

In response, Para Los Niños strengthened both our programs and our organizational capacity. We expanded our environmental justice work under Salud en Comunidad, strengthened early learning pathways, increased youth workforce development opportunities, and worked on our promotoras-led health initiatives. At the same time, we invested in the internal systems and infrastructure needed to sustain this work long term.

Despite facing difficult and frightening conditions, our families continued to step into leadership, support one another, and actively participate in shaping their communities.

Every milestone in 2025 reflected collective effort - from staff, volunteers, board members, donors, youth leaders, and families working side by side.

Thank you for believing in our community's brilliance and self-determination.

With gratitude,

Virginia Herrera-Páramo  
Executive Director

# About Us

Founded by Latin American immigrant parents in 2003, Para Los Niños de Highline uplifts and celebrates the South King County Latin American community through education, advocacy, environmental justice, and cultural connection.



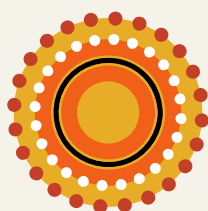
## Our beliefs

### Brilliance



The inherent **brilliance** of every Latin American child

### Leadership



The **leadership** power of families

### Preservation



Cultural **preservation** as a form of resistance

### Education



Bilingual **education** as an equity strategy



# 2025 Program Highlights

## Early Learning & Family Engagement

### Kaleidoscope Play & Learn

Our Spanish-language, culturally grounded early learning program continued to support children ages 2–5 through play-based curriculum focused on school readiness, social-emotional growth, and caregiver connection. Families reported measurable gains in language development, peer interaction, and confidence.

### Help Me Grow

We expanded navigation services for families seeking early childhood resources, healthcare access, and basic needs support. Monthly caregiver workshops focused on emotional regulation, child development, and family communication. Workshops strengthened protective factors to help Latin American families manage the increased stress they are facing.

### Aprendamos Juntos

### Learning Together

Our intergenerational learning model brought whole families together in bilingual academic enrichment spaces. Adult English language learners increased confidence navigating schools, healthcare systems, and workplace environments, and they strengthened their social safety networks.



# 2025 Program Highlights

## Youth Development (K-12 & High School)

In 2025, youth programming deepened its focus on leadership, career exposure, and identity development through continuous connection to our cultural heritage and native languages. Highlights of our youth programs include:

- Expanded robotics and STEM programming
- Youth-led cultural storytelling and food heritage projects
- College visits and career exploration workshops
- Paid internships supporting workforce readiness and cultural connections
- Public speaking and civic engagement training

Youth in our programs felt more confident and able to take on new challenges, strengthened their ability to work in teams, and developed personalized higher education plans.

## Summer Enrichment Programs

- Arts projects
- Folkloric dance and cultural performance
- Field trips to colleges, museums, and parks
- Sports in parks and leadership development
- Interpersonal relationships and new friendships
- Intercultural exchanges
- Environmental learning activities

Despite the external uncertainty our families face, PLN's Summer Program continues to be a safe, joyful, and culturally affirming space for our children to explore their identities and strengthen their academic readiness.



# 2025 Program Highlights

## Environmental Justice: Salud en Comunidad

In 2025, Salud en Comunidad (Health in Community) moved from launch to implementation and realized our vision of supporting Latin American families to learn about and respond to the environmental conditions that impact our lives.

Key accomplishments included:

- Community workshops on air quality, healthy homes, and climate preparedness
- Multilingual and culturally appropriate environmental education materials
- Youth environmental leadership projects
- Promotoras trained to support families in navigating energy efficiency resources
- Partnerships with regional environmental justice coalitions

Salud en Comunidad helped families increase their knowledge of environmental issues and become strong advocates for healthier living conditions and climate endurance.

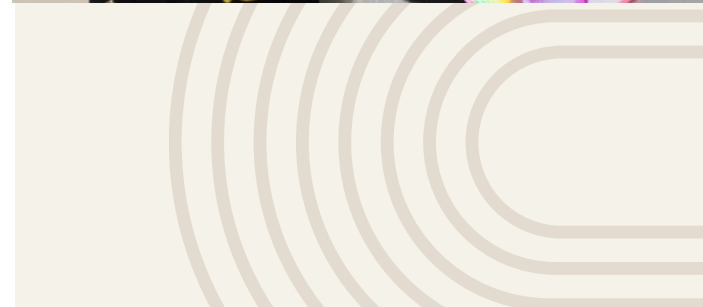
## Adult Digital Literacy & Community Health

Our adult digital literacy program helped parents and caregivers increase their comfort and proficiency with new technology by expanding course offerings to include:

- Google Workspace and online safety
- Job search and resume building tools
- School portal navigation
- Telehealth access

Our community-trained Promotoras led several grassroots wellness initiatives included:

- Preventative health education
- Vaccine & public health information sessions
- Food security coordination
- Cancer & Dental Mobile Clinics





”

*Este programa es muy importante para nosotros porque nuestros hijos tienen la oportunidad de aprender cosas nuevas.*

”

*Excelente programa, tomando en cuenta la comunidad hispana, ayudando a que los niños no olviden o conozcan más de nuestras raíces, mucha convivencia con sus compañeros conociendo cosas nuevas y motivándolos a participar en todas las actividades.*

”

*The help we received, the fact that we were listened to, and the connections made with different organizations to access needed resources were a great help in improving the quality of life for our daughters and our whole family.*

# Academia de Liderazgo (Leadership Academy)

Academia de Liderazgo is a year-long program supporting Latin American parents – particularly women – to develop leadership skills, confidence, and civic participation.

In 2025, the program engaged a cohort representing families with children from early childhood through high school. Ten Leadership Academy graduates spent twelve weeks together studying the school system, local government, and advocacy skills in order to exert more agency over their children’s education and other institutions that impact their lives.

After completing the Academy, graduates immediately put their leadership skills to work by joining or becoming more active in their local PTA’s and serving as guest speakers at PLN events. Graduates also stepped up their participation in PLN programs, initiating new community-based projects and/or supporting existing ones.

Through Academia de Liderazgo, **families increased their participation** in school systems and other civic spaces, **leading to stronger connections** between families and the institutions that serve them.

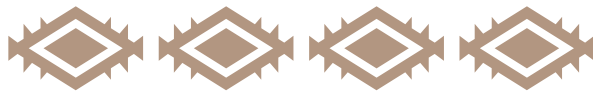


# Cultural Leadership & Civic Engagement

Our Latin American culture, as always, remained central to our work.

In 2025, we:

- Hosted Día de los Muertos and La Posada community celebrations
- Convened civic dialogues with regional leaders
- Supported parents serving on advisory boards and policy councils
- Elevated youth voices in public forums



**Our community is not only participating in systems - it is shaping them.**



# Our Permanent Home: Growth & Stability

2025 marked the first full year operating from our community-owned building.

Owning our space has strengthened our organizational stability, improved program scheduling flexibility, and deepened community safety and belonging.



# Gala Corazón: Community in Action



The evening celebrated youth performances, promotoras' leadership, and community resistance - a powerful reminder that this work belongs to all of us.

Sponsors, foundations, local businesses, and individual donors made it possible to sustain and expand our seven core programs.



“Congratulations on a fantastic event!  
It was the best-organized gala we've ever attended, and  
we had an excellent time.

Next time, we're staying for the dance! Bravo!”

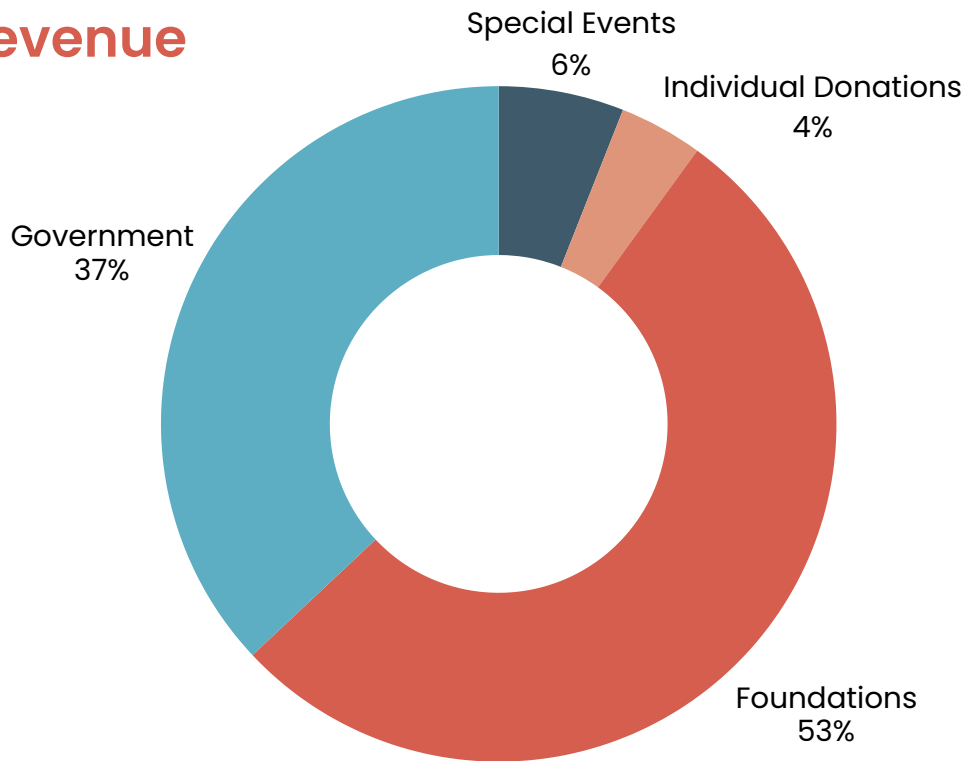
MS & MR

**Our 2025 Gala  
brought together  
over 250 attendees  
and raised \$73,000.**

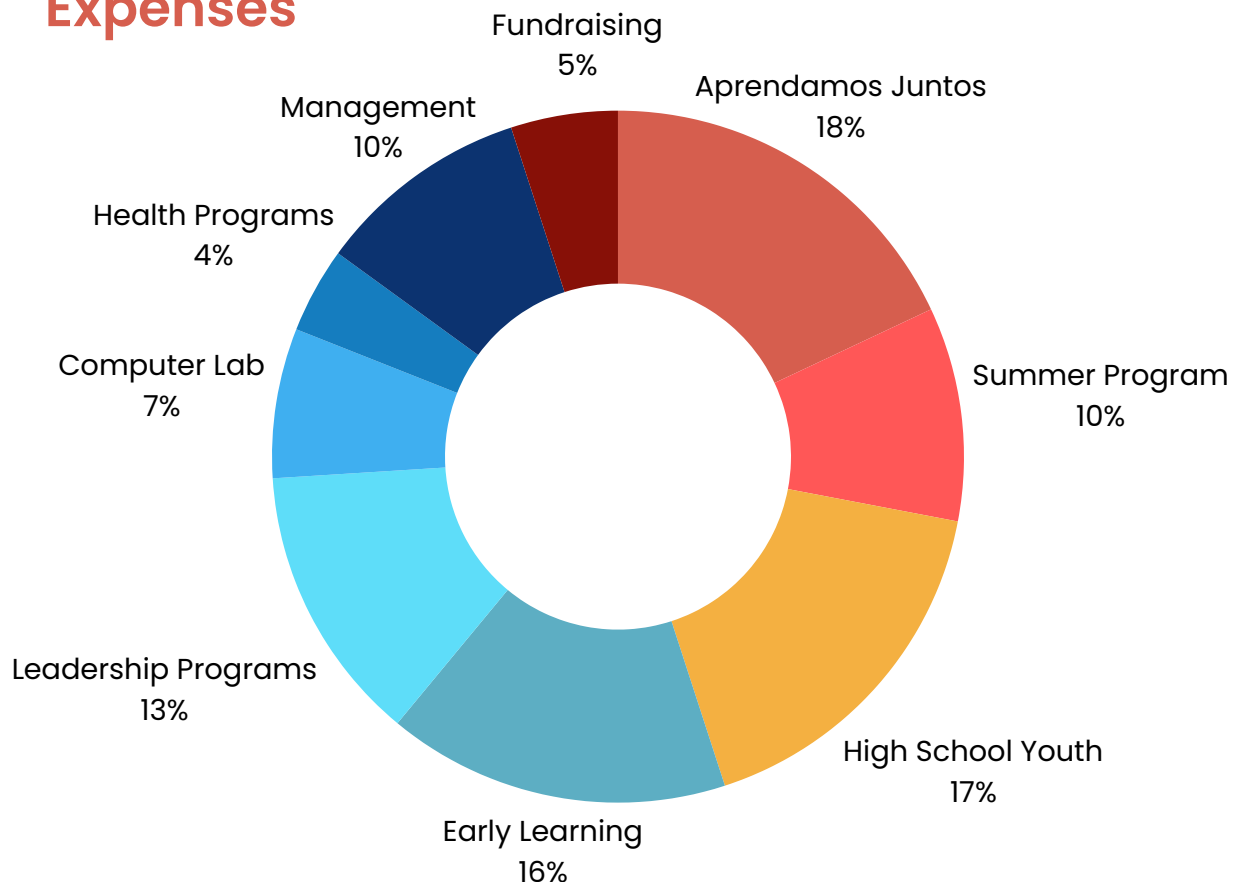


# Financial Overview

## Revenue



## Expenses



# Board of Directors & Staff



**Alexander Finale**  
Member



**Bevin Taylor**  
Secretary



**Carolina Guzmán**  
Treasurer



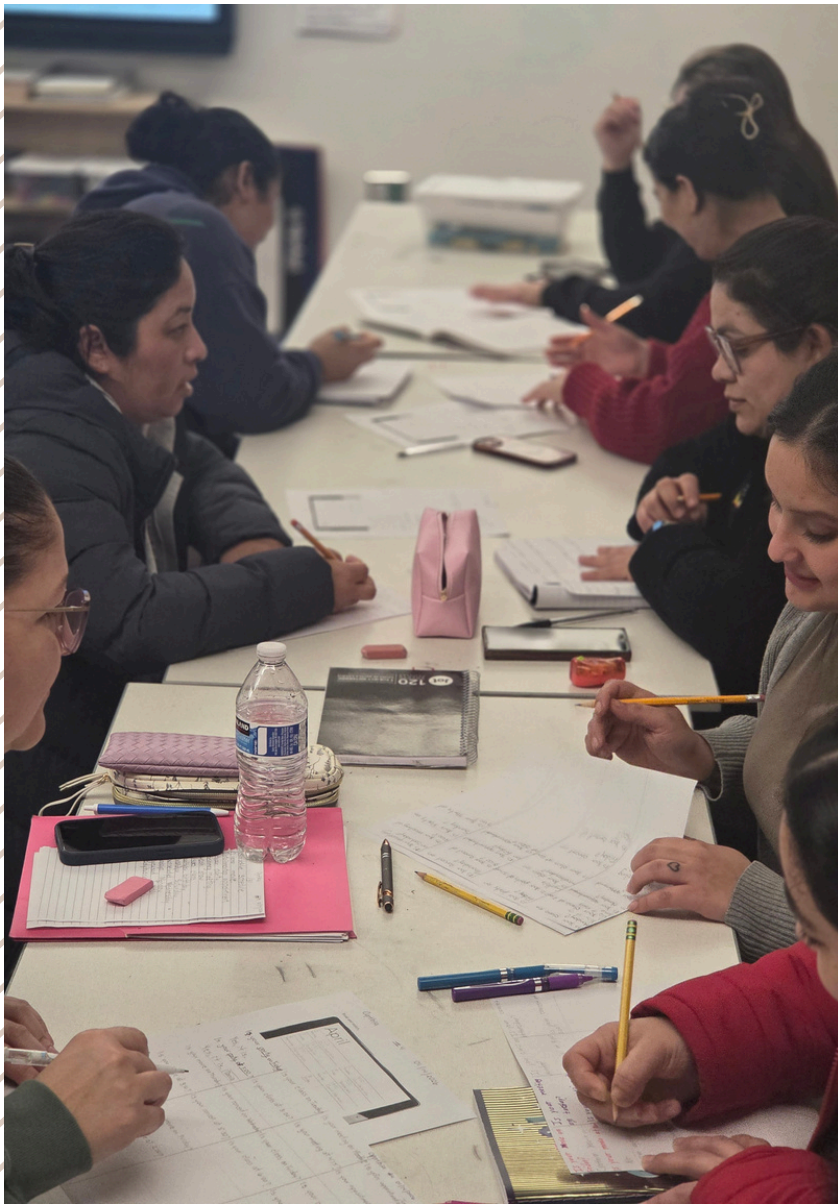
**Samantha Rosas**  
Chair



**Virginia Herrera-Páramo**

Led by Executive Director, PLN's board and staff continue to reflect the cultural, linguistic, and lived experiences of the community we serve.







## Thank you

To Highline Public School, Highline College, REC, the City of Burien, our donors, volunteers, partners, promotoras, youth leaders, and families.

### **You are the heart of this work.**

Together, we are building a future where every Latin American family in South King County feels seen, supported, protected, and celebrated.

