



2024

IMPACT

REPORT



Casa  
de esperanza

# *Looking Ahead With Purpose*

## *Dear Friends and Supporters,*

Casa de Esperanza's mission would not be possible without the unwavering support of our incredible community. For 43 years, your generosity has provided a beacon of hope for children and families facing crisis. Whether through fostering, adopting, volunteering, or giving, you have played a vital role in ensuring that children are safe, loved, and given the opportunity to thrive. We are continuously reminded of the power of community—parents who trust us with their children, families who open their hearts and homes, and donors who make it all possible. It is this shared commitment that strengthens families and allows us to continue breaking the cycle of child abuse and neglect.

As we reflect on this past year, we celebrate the lives changed through your love and dedication. The success stories within these pages are a testament to the impact of your support—providing safety, stability, and hope to those who need it most. As we move forward, we look ahead with purpose, striving to make an even greater impact in the lives of the children and families we serve. With ongoing changes in the child welfare system, we remain committed to navigating these shifts with care and intention, ensuring that Casa de Esperanza continues to be a place of refuge, healing, and opportunity. Thank you for being the heart of our mission.

*With sincere appreciation,*



**MELISSA L. SIMON, MSW, CFRE**

*Chief Executive Officer*

## ***MISSION***

Casa de Esperanza de los Niños strives to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect for at-risk infants, children and their families by providing comprehensive residential and family support programs that transform people and communities.

## ***VISION***

Every child deserves a home that provides safety, health, permanence, and hope.



# Who You Helped Us Serve Through Foster Care

# IN 2024

## CHILDREN'S ETHNICITY

**42%**

African American

**24%**

Hispanic

**18%**

Multiracial (Hispanic)

**6%**

Multiracial (Non-Hispanic)

**9%**

Caucasian

## AGE AT ADMISSION

Newborn to 12 months

**33%**

2 years of age

**21%**

3 years of age

**18%**

4 years of age

**18%**

Between the ages of 1 to 2 years old

**9%**

**33**

children received **4,894** days of foster care



## PARENT CIRCUMSTANCES:

**33%**

Homeless

**27%**

Were in Foster Care

**39%**

History of Mental Illness

**45%**

Criminal History

**39%**

No High School Diploma

**45%**

History of Substance Abuse

**94%**

Unemployed

# OUR PROGRAMS

## ***FOSTER CARE***

**Our Foster Care Program** offers safety and loving care for children aged newborn to six years old who are at risk for abuse and neglect. Children receive care in trauma-informed, loving homes where we address their basic needs including healthcare. Individualized plans are followed to help them reach appropriate developmental milestones and heal from the effects of trauma and neglect.

## ***FAMILY SUPPORT***

Parents receive personalized case management while their children are in our Foster Care program and after reunification. Our case managers develop tailored plans with referrals for substance abuse treatment, housing, employment, and parenting skills. Reunified families continue receiving support through our Aftercare Program, including access to essential resources like our food pantry, diaper bank, and children's clothing closet.

## ***POST-PERMANENCY***

Support is offered to families who have opened their hearts to children in need through adoption or permanent conservatorship. Because early neglect and trauma have lifelong effects, we provide resources to help families navigate their child's unique needs. Casa de Esperanza's Post-Permanency Program remains available for as long as support is needed.

## ***VOLUNTEERS***

Volunteers for Casa de Esperanza go above and beyond to support our mission. From volunteer foster parents who open their hearts and homes to children in crisis, to weekly volunteers who spend time with our children or help in the office, to our group volunteers who host playdates, keep our food pantry stocked, and make our grounds beautiful, to our event and leadership volunteers - we would not be successful without you!

***To learn more about our programs, please visit our website at [www.casahope.org/programs](http://www.casahope.org/programs) or scan the QR code***



# *Adapting to a New Child Welfare Landscape*

*The need to protect our children and strengthen our families is both urgent and ongoing, and Casa de Esperanza is committed to exploring additional, innovative ways to serve our at-risk families.*

The entire structure of child welfare in Texas is changing. Both public agencies, like the Department of Family and Protective Services, and private organizations, such as Casa de Esperanza and other advocacy groups, are continuously working toward a day when child abuse and neglect are eradicated.

## **What is Texas Child-Centered Care?**

- Comprehensive transformation of the Texas foster care system
- Designed to improve outcomes for children and youth in care
- Replaces current system of care
  - Utilizes a universal child assessment tool
  - Placement based on child needs



Casa de Esperanza’s mission is to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect, and we do that by providing safe foster care for children and family strengthening services for parents. While our mission has not changed, we have responded to the changes around us in the child welfare system in several ways, including doubling down on outreach efforts to community organizations who serve the same population to better ensure we can reach the vulnerable children and families who need us. The need to protect our children and strengthen our families is both urgent and ongoing, and Casa de Esperanza is committed to exploring additional, innovative ways to serve our at-risk families.

**100% of children made progress toward meeting developmental milestones**

**92% of children remained reunified with family 6 months after discharge**

**37 Caregivers and 10 Volunteer Community Foster Parents provided care**

**Children were taken for 245 medical visits, including regular checkups, dental care, and specialists**

## FOSTER CARE PROGRAM *Success Story*

Elisa was scared and quiet upon arrival, not wanting to talk or interact with anybody in the house. However, our caregivers focused on building up trust week by week, working to make her feel safe and comfortable. She grew to become very loving towards the other children and caregivers in the house. At dinner time, one of her favorite things to do was go around the table and ask everyone how they felt and how their day had been. We are so glad we had the opportunity to help her grow in trust before she was reunited with her parents.

*Each of my kids taught me how to love better. Caring for them taught me how to advocate more fiercely for their needs.*

-Abby, AmeriCorps Hands of Hope Service Member



# FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES



**100%**

**of parents reported an increase in their confidence to successfully parent & keep their child(ren) safe**

**77 families with 188 children and 84 adults received Aftercare services**

**100% of families maintained stable housing for at least 6 months after reunification**

## *Cultivating Hope*

Sarah didn't have consistent parenting when she was a girl. She missed out on learning many life skills that would have been helpful when raising her own children. When Sarah and her kids were reunited after 7 months apart, her kids talked about how much they enjoyed and missed the meals at Casa. Sarah asked her Casa case manager for help learning to cook dinners. Her case manager helped Sarah find recipes, plan a grocery list within her budget, and went over to the apartment to help Sarah with the basics of making a meal. This gave Sarah so much confidence and we are excited to see her grow as a mom!

# POST-PERMANENCY PROGRAM

**78 families with 127 adults and 120 children received services**



**13 families received educational and developmental assistance**

**6 post-secondary students received support through the Casa Scholarship Program**

Mia's journey with Casa de Esperanza began as a foster baby in Richard and Dana's home, where she quickly became part of their family. With Casa's support, they navigated the challenges of foster care and fulfilled their dream of adoption, giving Mia the loving, permanent home she deserved. Now, as she prepares to graduate high school and attend Texas State University, Richard and Dana reflect on the unconditional love that changed all of their lives. Their story is a testament to the lasting impact of post-permanency support—ensuring that children like Mia continue to thrive long after leaving foster care.



*Mia needed a family, and we were blessed to be in the right place at the right time.*

- Richard and Dana



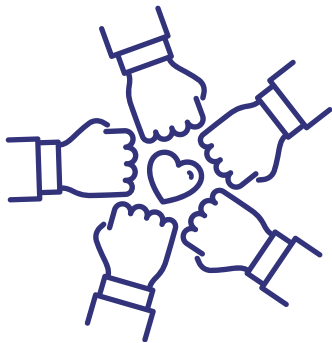
In 2024, 347  
volunteers gave  
over 55,562  
hours of time  
valued at  
\$1,860,771!



## 2024 Volunteers of the Year

Marris Goldberg

Maria Zepeda from Herbalife Houston STS



# VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

*Thank You!*



# THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 DONORS!

## **\$100,000+**

A Friend of Casa de Esperanza  
The George Foundation  
The William Stamps Farish Fund

## **\$50,000 - \$99,999**

The Brown Foundation  
EOG Resources, Inc.  
The Fondren Foundation  
Herbalife Family Foundation  
John P. McGovern Foundation  
The W.T. and Louise J. Moran  
Foundation

## **\$25,000 - \$49,999**

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Alison Young

## **\$10,000 - \$24,999**

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Broadway Cares/Equity Fights  
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## **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

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Mr. and Mrs. David Barringer  
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Ellen Welsh  
Ms. Susan Williford  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Yetter

*Denotes gifts received, not pledged. Every effort  
has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list.  
We apologize for any errors or omissions.*

# 2024

# PRELIMINARY FINANCIALS\*

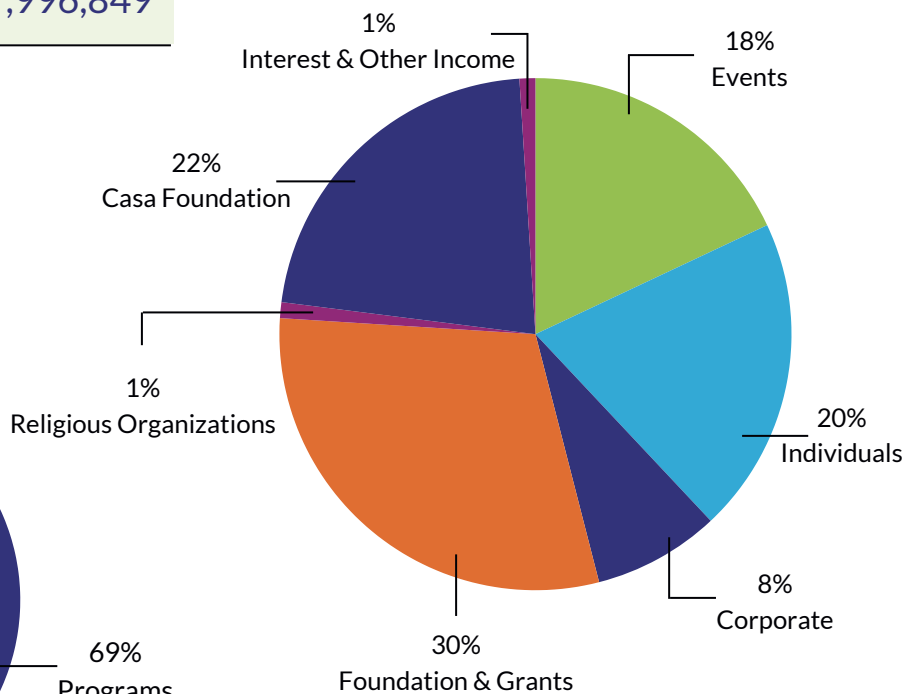
## Casa de Esperanza de los Niños, Inc.

Contributions	\$3,122,310
Casa de Esperanza Foundation Funding	\$892,174
Gain on Asset Disposition	\$9,540
Investment and Other Income	\$34,853
Operating Expenses	\$4,373,505
Change in Net Assets	(\$314,629)
Cash and Short-term Investments	\$422,766
Total Assets	\$4,415,619

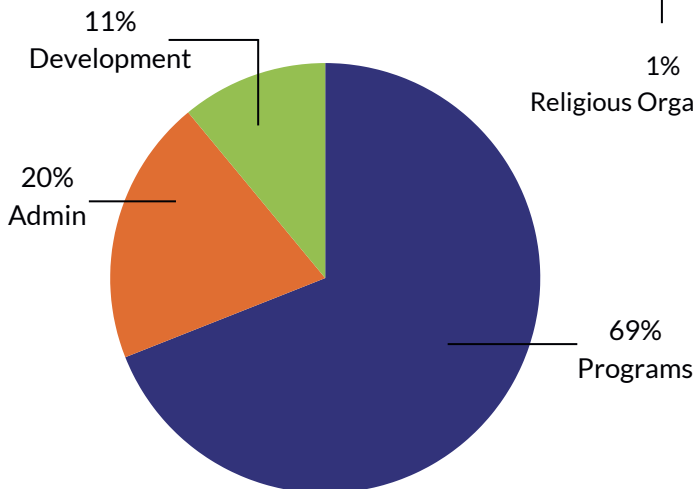
## Casa de Esperanza Foundation

Total Assets	\$17,996,849
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### Sources of Revenue



### Expenses



\*2024 audited financials will be available on the website [www.casahope.org](http://www.casahope.org)

# THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 BOARDS AND TRUSTEES

## GOVERNING BOARD

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