



S e m b r a n d o **ESPERANZA**



fiscal year

2023

annual report





Hola Amig@s,

As I look back on the year, I am filled with hope. Certainly, the challenges facing Latinas and our Latin@ communities were many - the COVID pandemic continues to disproportionately hurt us, anti-immigrant sentiment is rising, and the Supreme Court ended constitutionally guaranteed abortion rights in a decision guaranteed to be devastating for survivors.

But in this year, Esperanza United celebrated our 40th anniversary. For four decades we have had the privilege of listening to, learning from, and serving Latina survivors in the Twin Cities. In 2004, we began expanding our work nationally.

This year, our work has expanded again thanks to historic support from the federal government. We are now working to improve the healthcare system, partnering with Mobile Health Units and promotoras across the nation to ensure our community has a voice in the ways survivors are served. We also grew our grant-making activities, selecting 28 amazing organizations to receive \$12 million in federal funds to support Latina and Hispanic culturally specific, community-based organizations and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. And we nurtured the next generation of policy and research leaders through our Latina Leadership fellowship.

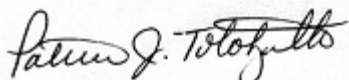
In our home of St. Paul, we housed 77 individuals at our shelter, El Refugio, providing 34 families with a safe, supportive place to heal and grow. On top of that, we provided intensive advocacy to 197 adult participants and resources and referrals to 339 additional community members. We reached them where they are, running prevention programs in local schools, community centers, and government agencies. In fact, we attended 25 local events, engaging at least 750 Latin@ community members.

The Esperanza United team also continues to make me proud - whether that's Engaging Boys & Men Specialist Felix Martinez being named to the Youth Worker Hall of Fame or our former Senior Director of Public Policy Rosie Hidalgo becoming the first Latina to head the Office on Violence Against Women - our team is impressive.

Every day, I am inspired by our youth leaders working to make a difference, survivors building families free from violence, and the service providers who generate hope, often out of tiny budgets and in hostile environments. Together, these community members and their allies are planting the seeds of hope, for survivors, for Latin@s, for us all.

It is because of them, because of you, because of all of us, that I am filled with hope. Please read on to find out more about accomplishments in fiscal year 2023.

Adelante,



Patti Tototzintle

President and CEO of Esperanza United, formerly Casa de Esperanza

Family **ADVOCACY**

Esperanza United provides family advocacy to the Latin@ communities in the seven-county metropolitan area of the Twin Cities, Minnesota, meeting survivors where they are. This fiscal year, we focused on supporting Latin@ survivors and their families through their whole journeys by building out our services to provide better legal support and more human trafficking intervention, partnering with diverse organizations from the Mexican Consulate to Caminatas Dominguera, and organizing community events such as the annual Mujeres Latinas Expo and our Dia de los Muertos celebration.



“Rose has not only been able to leave an abusive relationship but she has also been able to strengthen her knowledge and access to resources and services in the community”

- Esperanza United advocate, discussing one survivor’s journey



interpretation
services

1,553
times



emergency
financial assistance

232
individuals



transportation
assistance

141
times



more than

2,313
instances of personal advocacy





Prevention and **SOCIAL CHANGE**

Esperanza United works with the entire community to prevent gender-based violence, using a whole-family approach. This fiscal year, we were happy to invest in our in-person work - hosting family events such as canoeing and a soccer tournament, a girls' overnight camp, healthy masculinity workshops, and in-school programming - while working with youth leaders to host their annual conference in a virtual platform where participants could create their avatar to explore the conference "space" including the presentation rooms, a self-care garden filled with resources for the youth, and a games room made to socialize.



9

teen participants researched and presented recommendations on the Transportation Policy Plan to the Dakota County Metropolitan Council.



2

of our high school leaders served on the DOJ Office on Violence Against Women Youth Action Committee.

"I have noticed I'm more aware of my actions in different situations and that I feel more comfortable to say no to things"

- Middle school participant



Training and **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Esperanza United increases the capacity of government and community-based organizations to deliver culturally responsive and trauma-informed approaches to Latin@ survivors. This fiscal year, we were proud to convene our community at ¡Adelante! A virtual celebration of Latin@-led advocacy, partner with mobile health units and promotoras to increase the healthcare system's responsiveness to Latin@ survivors, launch a new toolkit on enhancing survivors' court access, conduct listening session across the country and in the territory of Puerto Rico, and form our first training and technical assistance advisory board comprised of diverse Latin@ leaders across the country.



“Promotoras bridge the gap between complex health institutions and the Latin@ community by sharing vital information and resources in culturally responsive ways.”

-Patricia Emmanuelli, Community Health and Violence Prevention Manager





Research and **EVALUATION**

Esperanza United elevates the voices and realities of Latin@ communities through research and evaluation that promotes social justice in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault. This fiscal year, we grew our impact by publishing a case study of a national Photovoice study in the American Journal of Community Psychology, a high-impact peer-reviewed academic journal. The first and second cohorts of the Research and Policy Latina Leadership Fellowship completed training and mentored projects. And we developed a hotline survey and needs assessment survey in collaboration with our partners at the Domestic Violence Resource Network.

“Findings suggest photovoice can be thoughtfully adapted for youth researchers and support individual and group storytelling in response to collective trauma”

- Excerpt from “Finding voice in a year of collective trauma: Case study of an online photovoice project with youth,” published in the American Journal of Community Psychology and authored by Esperanza United researchers

[Disparities in adolescent dating violence and associated internalizing and externalizing ...](#)

[Help-seeking barriers for Latinx victims of intimate partner homicide: Insight from survivors ...](#)

We published

2

peer-reviewed articles this year



Public **POLICY**

Esperanza United works to ensure that policies nationwide are responsive to the needs and realities of Latin@ communities. This fiscal year, we advocated for more funds for survivor services through the appropriations process; attended the signing ceremony at the White House for the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), which moves closer to closing the “boyfriend loophole;” and worked on increasing immigrant rights by addressing issues like Title 42, the public charge rule, and training the staff of the newly formed HART Center. We also participated in coalition for activations such as Latina Equal Pay Day and hosted our second class of Latina policy fellows.



“We know that in over 50% of mass shootings, the shooter harmed a family member or partner with a firearm. While we celebrate the passage of [the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA)], we call on Congress to fully keep guns out of the hands of domestic abusers, so that we can stop more murders”

- Esperanza United policy staff members Yasmin Campos-Mendez and Montserrat Castro Gómez after attending the signing of the BSCA.



Esperanza United is proud to be part of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence and serve as co-chair of the Alliance for Immigrant Survivors.





Individual **DONORS**

Adriana Alejandro-Osorio

Donna Allan

Frederick Alonzi

Steven Andersen

Paul Andre

Richard Araujo

John Avaloz

Ellen Baker

Jodi Bantley

Maria Brady

Veronica Brummels

JNai Buchanan

Best Buy

Heather Campbell

Sylvia Carrillo

Alessandra Chiareli

Eduardo Colon

Joshua Debilzan

William Delfs

Sarah DiVall

Gary Dooner

Linda Dooner

Kevin Filter

Lisette Freiere

Karen Garvin

Michael Haase

Terri Habisch

Ambar Hanson

Katherine Hayes

Daisy Hernandez-Barguiarena

Naomi Hertsgaard

Peder Hertsgaard

Josh Hummel

Linda Hummel

Elena Izaksonas

Ivette Izea Martinez

Charles James

Ann Christine James

Adriana Jeffrey

Noah Jeffrey

Sydney Ji

Kenyora Johnson

Kristine Johnson

Katherine Larson

Lou Ann Leski

Ken Levinson

Heyde Lopez

Ofelia López

Manuel López

Ricardo Lucio

Robert Mack

Bill Mahlum

Felix Martinez-Paz

Nancy Matykiewicz

Scott McGillicuddy

Benjamin Mier-Cruz

Brian Miller

Dawn Mitchell

Jorge Muñoz

Ruth Muyskens

Stacy Opitz

Laura Opshal

Kaarin Ottman

Thistle Parker-Hartog

Gloria Perez

Kathleen Peterson

Lacey Peterson

Elisa Pluhar

Tamra Puckett

Miguel Quishpe

Jessika Ralph

Othonniel Rivera

Robert Rivers

Ana Rodriguez

Leobaldo Rojas

Raul Ruiz

Anthony Sanzlo

Jeanne Schleh

Deborah Schlick

Lynn Schneider

Jane Schugel

Rhonda Schwartz

Lydia Serrano

Bob Sparkins

Sarah Spence

Jordan St. Peter

Sandra Tazelaar

Hugh Thompson

Patti Tototzintle

Marilyn Triemert

Jan Vanderwall

Kim Vanderwall

Arianna Varela

Sandra Vargas

James Westby

Carol Zapfel

Lisa Zaragoza

Theodora Zastrocky

Charlotte Zelle



Corporate, Foundation, and **GOVERNMENT FUNDERS**

3M

Abbott Laboratories

Allstate Foundation

Best Buy

Brian H. Miller & Associates

Campbell Soup Company

City of Minneapolis

Department of Health and Human Services

Department of Justice: Office on Violence Against Women

F.R. Bigelow Foundation

FEMA

Fidelity Charitable, 2020 Fund

Friends at St. Paul Mennonite Fellowship

Girl Scouts River Valleys

Greater Twin Cities United Way

Health Partners

Hennepin County

HRK Foundation

Hugh J. Andersen Foundation

Kevin P Filter and Dual Citizen Brewery

Mardag Foundation

Me Too, International Inc

Minneapolis Foundation

Minnesota Department of Health

Minnesota Department of Public Safety: Office of Justice

Programs

Mortensen Family Foundation

National Board Program

Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation

Target Corporation

UHG

United Way - Women United

WCA Foundation

WCA Foundation - Winnifred Bean

White Bear Lake School

Women's Foundation of Minnesota - Fund for Safety

Women's Foundation of Minnesota Discretionary Grant

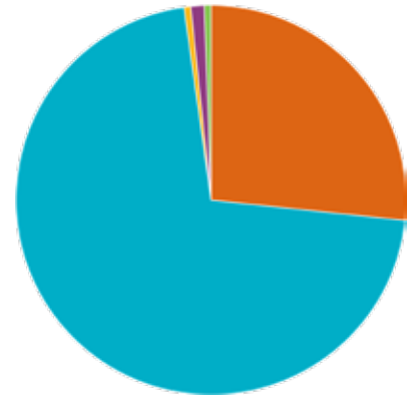
*We hope we recognized the great community who supported us correctly. If we missed your name, please contact us at: info@esperanzaunited.org



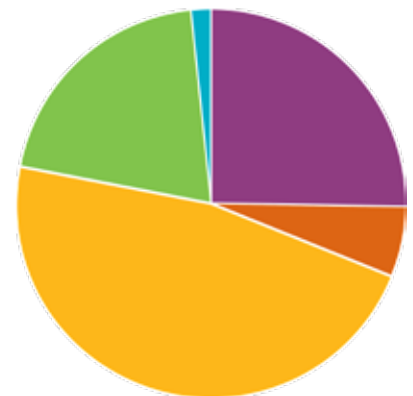
Financials

OPERATIONS

Revenue Sources	2023	2022
• Grants & Contributions	1,555,425	1,403,480
• Government	4,096,257	3,091,054
• In-Kind	44,251	-
• Service Fees	52,100	47,781
• Other	29,689	24,475
Total Revenue & Support	6,430,173	4,638,803



Expenses	2023	2022
• Family Advocacy	1,585,587	1,426,010
• Prevention & Social Change	371,695	394,288
• National Initiatives	2,948,324	1,731,554
• Management & General	1,263,126	840,877
• Fundraising	103,508	219,308
Total Expenses	6,272,240	4,612,037



BALANCE SHEET

Current Assets	2023	2022
Net Property & Equipment	130,742	146,282
Other Assets		
Total Assets	9,182,511	8,534,995
Total Liabilities	983,660	494,077
Unrestricted Net Assets	7,276,665	7,681,259
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	922,186	359,659
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	9,182,511	8,534,995





Esperanza United
PO Box 40115
St. Paul, MN 55104
651.646.5553

esperanzaunited.org



MN 24 hr bilingual crisis line: 651.772.1611

@EsperanzaUnited

