# ANNUAL REPORT

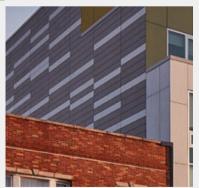


More than housing...hope!

2022

Our mission is to serve youth and families experiencing homelessness. We provide access to stable housing and deliver comprehensive services that act as a catalyst to transform lives and communities.











## **EDITORS:**

Keelie Johnson, Senior Director of Development Melanie Rockoff, Grants and Communications Manager

## Dear Friends of La Casa Norte,

It is my honor and privilege to present to you our 2022 Annual Report, which showcases the impact of our work in serving youth and families confronting homelessness in Chicago. This year marks a special milestone for us, as we celebrate our 20th anniversary of transforming lives and communities.

Since our humble beginnings in 2002 when we opened our first program in Humboldt Park, we have grown into one of the largest and most comprehensive providers of housing and supportive services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Chicago. In 2022, we served 19,188 people through our programs, which include emergency shelters, transitional and permanent housing, case management, education and employment services, health and wellness services, legal support, food pantry access, and more.

We are proud of our achievements, but we also recognize the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the homelessness crisis in our city and disproportionately affected the communities we serve, especially Latinos, African Americans, migrants and asylum seekers, and LGBTQ+ youth. We have responded to this unprecedented situation with resilience, innovation, and compassion, adapting our services to meet the changing needs of our clients to ensure their safety and well-being.

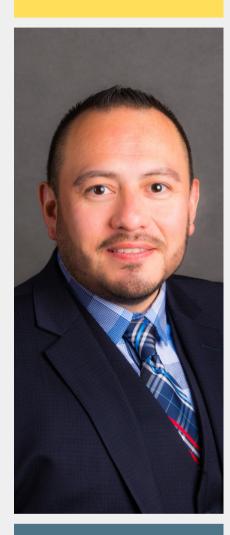
We could not have done this without the generous support of our donors, funders, partners, volunteers, staff, board members, and advocates. You are the backbone of our organization and the reason we can continue our mission. We are deeply grateful for your trust and commitment to ending homelessness in Chicago.

As we look forward to the next 20 years and beyond, we invite you to join us in our vision of a world where all people have dignity, communities thrive, and everyone has a home. Together, we can make this vision a reality.

Thank you for being part of the La Casa Norte family.

Sincerely,







## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Keith Decker, Co-Founder
Rev. Peter McQueen, Co-Founder
Julio Rodriguez, President
Juan Morado, Jr., Vice President
Christian Young, Treasurer
Jeannette A. Colyvas, Secretary
John Angliss
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Melissa Flores
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Victoria Priola
Linda Stevenson
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Frederick Webster, Jr.
Marilyn Webster
Harry Zander

## **EXECUTIVE TEAM**

Jose M. Muñoz, Executive Director

**Larry McKay**, Vice President of Finance and Operations

**Dr. Dan'iel Kendricks**, Vice President of Programs

**Keelie Johnson**, Senior Director of Development

## **ACUERDOS (CORE VALUES)**

WE BELIEVE THAT WHEN WE:

- WORK COLLABORATIVELY
- DEMONSTRATE EMPATHY
- CULTIVATE MUTAL RESPECT
- PROVIDE ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES
- CREATE A JUST
   EXPERIENCE FOR ALL

PEOPLE HAVE THE POWER TO CREATE CHAGE WITHIN THEMSELVES, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES.



# A CLIENT'S VOICE

Chicago nonprofits, civic organizations, and volunteers band together to provide assistance to Venezuelan migrants and asylum seekers. La Casa Norte sat down to speak with one of them. With her interview translated from Spanish to English, this is Liliana's story.

## By Melanie Rockoff, Grants and Communications Manager

Last summer, Liliana González embarked on a two-month journey. With her toddler in her arms, she began a slow, winding ascent northward in search of a better life. "I want my son to have a future. And here, he can. Here, you can."

Liliana, 30, and son Matías, 3, number among the more than 7.1 million refugees and migrants who have left Venezuela. Upon arrival in Chicago, Liliana, her son, and several hundred Venezuelan migrants and asylum seekers were lodged temporarily at a handful of north suburban hotels. There, a network of local nonprofits, civic organizations, and volunteers converged to prepare them for the road ahead.

## La Casa Norte is among these organizations.

While I was at the hotel, that's where I met Luz," says Liliana, referring to Luz Cortez, La Casa Norte's Community Assistance Program Manager. Cortez and her bilingual team provide migrants and asylum seekers with in-person, Spanish-language rental application assistance, school and job referrals, legal support, and access to *El Mercadito* food pantry, a collaboration between La Casa Norte and Nourishing Hope.

"It would have been very different without La Casa Norte, Casa Michoacán, Catholic Charities, and all of the organizations that have been helping us. Very different." When asked about the future, Liliana smiles broadly.



I feel excited. My hope is to enroll Matías in preschool, find a good job, have some things of my own, maybe even a house. I want to be able to have something all my own, where I can say, 'Look, this is mine. I worked for this.'





# SERVING CHICAGO'S WEST AND SOUTH SIDE NEIGHBORHOODS

During the pandemic, La Casa Norte reorganized agency programming to better meet skyrocketing community need. This included staffing a 70-bed youth shelter open 24/7, hosting pop-up food pantries, processing over \$5 million in rental assistance applications, and opening a community assistance office in Brighton Park.

La Casa Norte served over 5,000 clients in 2019, pre-pandemic. This figure more than tripled in 2020, with 18,618 community members assisted, and continued to rise in 2021, reaching 24,538. In 2022, we served 19,188 people, including 929 individuals through shelter and supportive housing programs.

## 19,188

Number of homeless and low-income youth and families served in 2022.

## 10,698

Number of meals served to Casa Corazón and Solid Ground clients.

## 2,221

Number of stays at Casa Corazón Youth Drop-in Centers.

## 97.5%

Percentage of clients who remained stably housed.

## 3,641

Number of shelter stays at Casa Corazón Emergency Beds.

## 7,308

Number of people engaged through our community outreach programs.

## 4.725

Number of hygiene items distributed to the community.



# CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HOPE

2022 marks La Casa Norte's 20th Anniversary. We would not be where we are today without the many corporations, foundations, and philanthropists who propel our mission and make a significant impact on those we serve. Thank you for helping us celebrate 20 years of transforming lives and communities.

## **GO TEAM LA CASA NORTE!**

Each year, athletes and advocates of La Casa Norte's mission convene to run for Team La Casa Norte at the Bank of America Chicago Marathon. In 2022, 11 runners raised \$15,383.17 through their peer-to-peer fundraising efforts.

## SUPPORTING TECHNOLOGY

The Sherman Fairchild Foundation awarded La Casa Norte a \$301,000 grant to bolster our use of technology. With this generous gift, we look forward to more efficiently serving youth and families with our increased capacity to utilize cutting-edge technology.

## 2022 GALA iESPERANZA!

La Casa Norte celebrated its 20th Anniversary Gala ¡Esperanza! at the Chicago History Museum. Over 250 guests and community leaders attended, along with keynote speakers Governor JB Pritzker and Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton. A special thank you to McDonald's for serving as the Presenting Sponsor.

## SUPPORTING EDUCATION

To raise funds for scholarships and educational initiatives, La Casa Norte hosted its seventh annual "More Than Ever" Education Luncheon virtually. Created by Gregory Maire and Michael Horvich, the fund awards scholarships to students who are pursuing and continuing their education. Thank you to the Jill L. Meinzer Scholarship Fund for generously matching up to \$50,000 raised at the event.











## **FINANCIALS**

## CHAMPION (\$50,000+)

Angell, Paul M. Family Foundation
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
The Chicago Community Trust (FY21-22)
CPS Foundation: Children's First Fund
Crown Family Philanthropies (FY20-22)
McDonald's Corp.
Polk Bros. Foundation
Sherman Fairchild Foundation
The Joyce Foundation

## ADVOCATE (\$20,000 - \$49,000)

Amy Winchell
The Allstate Foundation
Caslow, Paul and Pearl Foundation
Circle of Service Foundation
Comcast NBCUniversal
Conagra Brands Foundation
Frankel, Julius N. Foundation
Fred & Marilyn Webster
Google LLC
Jackson National Life Insurance Company
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Patzik Frank & Samotny Ltd.
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.
Prince Charitable Trusts (FY22-23)

## PROMOTER (\$10,000 - \$19,999)

Allstate - Professional Latino Network Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois Elizabeth (Betty) Philllips Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation Franklin Square Foundation Geoffrey & Kathleen Nixon Jeannette Colyvas Kenilworth Union Church Larry & Judy Hicks Michael Horvich Peoples Gas Community Fund Pierce Family Foundation Rushmore Foundation Steven Shebik TJX Foundation, Inc. Ward, A. Montgomery Foundation White, W.P. and H.B. Foundation

## SUPPORTER (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Anonymous
A. Robert Taylor
Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP
Christina Tribbia
CNA Foundation
George & Linda Stevenson
Gerran Geyser
Glencoe Union Church
Healthcare Alternative Systems, Inc.
John & Stephanie Angliss
Joseph & Bessie Feinberg Foundation
Keith Decker

Kohl & Pallet, Robert & Clark

Kohl, Sidney Family Foundation

Lewis W. Solimene

Matson, Inc.

McGowan, William G. Charitable Fund

Network It Easy (NIE)

Northern Trust Charitable Giving

Pierce Family Foundation

Rotary Clubs of Evanston, Wilmette, & Winnetka

Rush University Medical Center

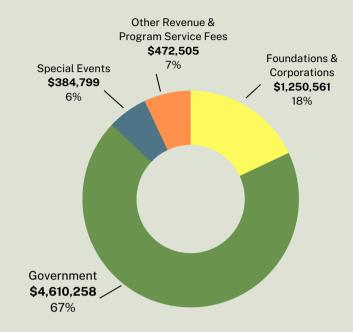
Shalini Menon

Victoria Priola

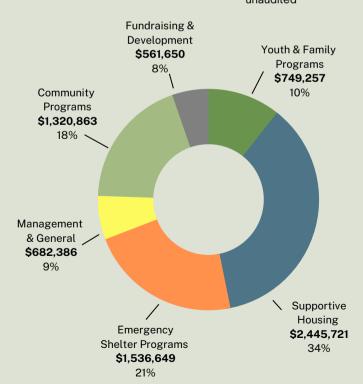
Vivid Art Gallery, Winnetka

Winnetka Congregational Church

## REVENUE \*unaudited



## **EXPENSES**



# **Contact Us:**

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## **GET INVOLVED & SUPPORT OUR MISSION**

## **FUND OUR MISSION**

When you give to La Casa Norte, you're helping unaccompanied youth and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness find the resources they need to thrive in Chicago's West and South Side neighborhoods. To make a gift, visit www.lacasanorte.org/donate or scan the QR code. If you wish to make a gift via check, please mail it to the address listed below.



## STAY CONNECTED

Newsletter: Receive the latest updates from La Casa Norte to your email. Sign up at http://bit.ly/LCNNewsletter.

Follow Us: @LaCasaNorte









## **OUR PROGRAMS**

## Permanent Housing Programs

Palante Scattered-Site Supportive Housing Pierce House Apartments Rapid Re-Housing Youth in College

## Transitional Housing Programs

Solid Ground

## **Emergency Housing Programs**

Casa Corazón Overnight Emergency Beds Casa Corazón Drop-in Centers

## Health & Nutrition Programs

El Mercadito Food Pantry in Partnership with Nourishing Hope Howard Brown Health Center Public Health Ambassadors