



## 2022 Annual Report





# 15 Years of Purpose

## Celebrating Harvest

When Lee Ferron first went to dinner with Emilio, his young mentee at Casa Chirilagua, he could have never imagined all they would experience together over the next 12 years. From homework help to sharing everyday chats over fast food fries, each gathering held a purpose bigger than the moment.

This past December, Emilio's community - consisting of Lee, our co-founder Dawnielle, our board chair Fredy and many others - cheered Emilio on as he crossed the stage at Virginia Tech and became the first in his family to graduate college. What a celebration!

For the past 15 years, Casa Chirilagua has been gathering with purpose, seeking to love our neighbors as ourselves. We didn't start as a nonprofit. It was simply a way of life for our founders, who moved into the neighborhood to live among, listen to, learn from, and love their immigrant neighbors. This commitment to relationships blossomed into the nonprofit we are today. It still drives everything we do!

Our 2022 included rest and recovery from the difficult season of the pandemic. Our Program Director Marissa and I were each able to take a three-month sabbatical.



This time of rest was vital and set us up to return to Casa Chirilagua with focused vision.

Last year was also filled with meaningful connections, whether helping the 3rd-grade girls with their homework in Kids Club or discussing verses during middle school Bible study. We toured college campuses with Casa to College students and shared community-wide meals together. Each gathering was an opportunity to show and share love with our neighbors.

Your prayers, financial support, volunteered time, and encouragement made this possible. Because of your support, the Leadership Pipeline at Casa Chirilagua is bursting at the seams. The Casa to College Program almost doubled from 11 participants to 17 last year! Young leaders are eager for growth and looking ahead to a brighter future.

Like Emilio's story, we are now seeing fruit from the seeds planted in the program's early days. More than 44% of Latino students are the first in their families to go to college.

You are helping break the college barrier! We are equipping a new class of first-generation college students like Emilio.

Our focused vision into 2023 and beyond is that every student in our Leadership Pipeline will learn and practice vital leadership skills, graduate high school, and have a solid post-high school plan. These future leaders will contribute to their families and communities as the Oaks of Righteousness - God's promise in Isaiah 61.

There is a lot of rewarding work to be done, and we cannot wait to see every child in Chirilagua have access to this same pathway!

Thank you for joining us on this journey. Together we continue to develop relationships with families to see the Chirilagua neighborhood transformed by Christ.

*Adriana Gómez Schellhaas*  
Executive Director





**1. Maricela, Chirilagua Resident**

**1.** “I wish every neighborhood had a Casa Chirilagua. They have helped my family and me in many ways. A friend of mine told me about Casa Chirilagua. My son didn’t speak English when he moved here from Guatemala and was entering 1st grade. Kids Club helped him learn English and acclimate to a new country. I also found a community here. Now my son is in middle school and doing well in school.” - Maricela, Chirilagua Resident & Mom



**2. Mario and friend, High School Bible Study**

**2.** “I like hearing the stories of our Bible Study leaders. I’ve learned a lot from them and how important our stories are.” - Mario, High School Bible Study Student (far right)





## 2022 Program



78

1st-12th grade students received social, emotional, academic, and spiritual support through the Leadership Pipeline.



4

Local Leaders employed to lead our leadership pipeline programs



1,205

Hours of volunteers supporting the community



26

Students received spiritual support through Bible Study



34

Students received one-on-one support through mentorships



1,700

Hours of service by the Mentors



74%

Mentor Retention Rate



74

Adult English Language Learners served through ¡Yo hablo inglés!



10

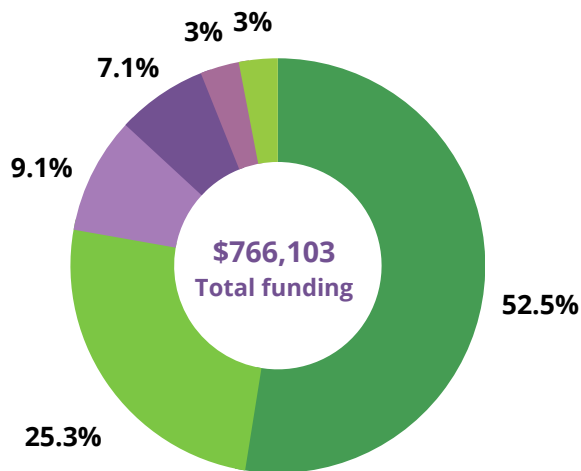
Adult Spanish Literacy students supported



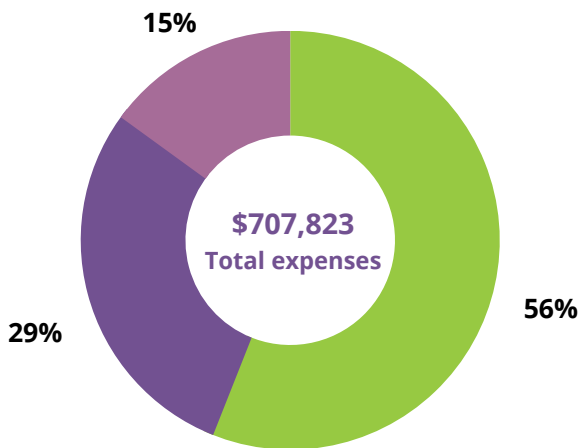
105

Total families enrolled

# 2022 Financials



Individual Contributions	\$401,004
Church Contribution	\$194,649
Grants	\$71,255
Foundation Contributions	\$50,622
Program Income	\$26,278
Other*	\$22,295



Total Programs	\$396,640
Total Admin	\$205,148
Total Development	\$106,035

\*Investments, In-kind income, facility use income, corporate contributions and special events



“I support Casa Chirilagua because of their strong support of families in need in Chirilagua, all done with the utmost compassion, kindness, and care, while living and walking in a God-centered life.”

Ed Arthur, *founder of the Kathleen and Eddie Arthur Hearts of Love Foundation*  
(Back row, 2nd from right)



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