




2023-2024 Report

Transforming **Lives**, Building Futures Together

A Christ-centered community of love, where children, youth, and families flourish.





“They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord for the display of
His splendor.”

Isaiah 61:3 (NIV)

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Welcome Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Casa Chirilagua Family,

Eighteen years ago, three young women dared to believe that showing up with love could change a community. They chose to be present, to listen, to serve and from that decision, Casa Chirilagua was born. Today, we stand on the foundation they laid with faithful hands and surrendered hearts, and we rejoice in all that God has done through their obedience.

As I reflect on our 18-year journey, my heart overflows with gratitude for every child who found a safe place, every family that grew in strength, and every volunteer, donor, and prayer warrior who has carried this ministry with their love and support. It is a privilege beyond words to serve as Executive Director, and I thank God for entrusting me with this responsibility.

We are witnessing a story of redemption and restoration unfolding before our eyes. Students are rising as servant-leaders. Families are experiencing the healing power of community. And through it all, Christ remains at the center guiding us, sustaining us, and calling us deeper into His vision for Chirilagua.

I believe with all my heart that the best is yet to come. God is not finished. The seeds planted long ago are bearing fruit, and even now, new seeds are being sown for generations to come. Let us walk forward in faith, expectation, and awe trusting the One who promises to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

Thank you for being part of this beautiful story. Thank you for believing, for giving, and for hoping for us. Let us continue together to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this neighborhood we love.

With hope and deep gratitude,



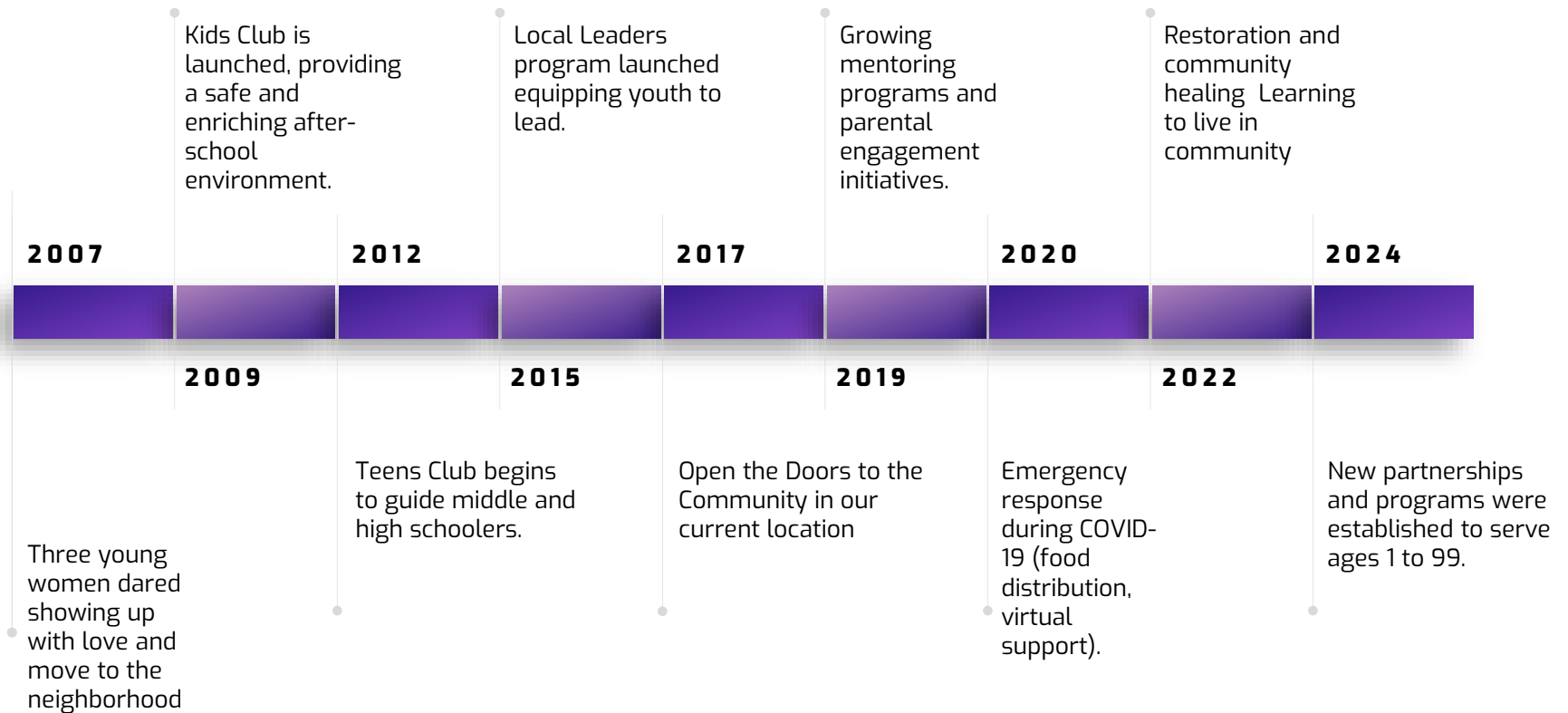
Hjarman Cordero

Executive Director
Casa Chirilagua

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hjarman Cordero". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'H' and 'C'.

18 Years of Service Celebration

Casa Chirilagua: A Timeline of Founding and Growth



About Casa Chirilagua

Vision and core values



Vision:

God's Kingdom established in the Chirilagua community.



Core Values:

We seek to live incarnationally among our neighbors, being the hands and feet of Christ each day. Transformation happens through Christ-centered relationships, with programs serving as access points rather than ends in themselves. We live and proclaim a message of restoration between God and people and among individuals, guided by our 5 R's values that shape our decisions, future, and growth.



1. Reliant

We are reliant on God.



2. Rooted

We are rooted in the community.



3. Relational

We are relational in all we do.



4. Reconciliatory

We work toward reconciliation to God and one another.



5. Regenerative

We invest in the regeneration of individuals and our entire neighborhood.



Mission statement:

Developing relationships with families to see the Chirilagua neighborhood transformed by Christ.



About Casa Chirilagua

Our History

Casa Chirilagua was born out of both migration and longing for authentic neighborly love.

In the 1980s, families fleeing civil wars and poverty in Central America made their way to Northern Virginia. They brought with them their resilience, deep faith, and rich cultures, settling in the neighborhood now known as Chirilagua. Here, families faced the challenges of displacement, language barriers, limited resources, and the struggles of raising children in a new land.

Decades later, in 2007, three young women felt called by God to move into the heart of this community. Their goal was not to start an organization but simply to be good neighbors to live, listen, learn, and love alongside families. What began with homework help around a kitchen table slowly grew into after-school programs, mentoring, and family support rooted in trust and friendship.

By 2011, Casa Chirilagua became a nonprofit, but its mission has never strayed from its humble beginnings: Christ-centered relationships that nurture children, empower families, and strengthen the community.

Today, Casa serves over 50 families through holistic programs from elementary school through high school, one-on-one mentoring, and active parent leadership. Guided by the "5Ls" Locate, Live, Listen, Learn, Love, we continue to walk alongside our neighbors with hope, dignity, and faith, believing that together we can see lives transformed and our community flourish.

2024 Year in Review

Major Highlights and Milestones

Kids Club (Grades 1–5)	Teens Club (Grades 6–8)	Casa to College (Grades 9–12)	Family Engagement	Mentoring & Volunteers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Served 36–37 students with support from 38 volunteers.• Launched STEM Code Rising Camp and partnered with NASA & Amazon for field trips.• Expanded arts programming with Inspira Dance and HEARD Nova Visual Arts.• New leadership opportunities for students through Boy Scouts partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reached 18–24 students with 16 volunteers.• Continued implementation of a Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum.• Introduced a new yoga & wellness program and partnered with Move2Learn for fitness.• Increased participation in summer STEM opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supported 16–19 high school students with 18 volunteers.• Added career-focused workshops and SMART goal-tracking tools.• Hosted Latino professionals in STEM and public service as guest speakers.• Sent 12 students to summer camp for leadership and career development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hosted 9 family dinners and 5 community-wide events (including graduations and the beach trip).• Expanded ESL access through Mount Vernon Community School and launched Spanish Literacy classes (8 participants).• Partnered with Edu-Futuro for parenting workshops.• Raised \$1,000+ through the Christmas Raffle to support family programming.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engaged 44 mentors (3,432 hours of service) and 191 volunteers (2,496 hours).• Increased mentor pool by 25% and nearly doubled volunteer hours from last year.• Launched a new mentor onboarding system.• Hosted a volunteer appreciation event celebrating those who serve.

Program Impact Overview

Kids Club

Program Description

Afterschool program for 1st–5th graders providing academic support, emotional growth, Bible lessons, arts, and enrichment.

Impact Data

2023: **37** students | **29** volunteers

2024: **36** students | **38** volunteers

STEM Camp: **15** students, **3x/week** **3** field trips (2024)

Growth & Highlights

- Expanded STEM via NASA/Amazon trips
- New dance/art partners (Inspira, HEARD Nova)
- STEM Code Rising Camp
- Boy Scouts leadership partnership
- Breakdancing & visual arts added

Success Story

Ms. Alayna's math tutoring helped a student gain confidence and overcome challenges, showing the power of mentorship and learning.

Challenges

- Consistent attendance
- Balancing academics with enrichment



Program Impact Overview

Teens Club

Program Description

Twice-weekly program for middle schoolers fostering academic, emotional, and spiritual growth.

Impact Data

2023: **20** students | **11** volunteers

2024: **24** students | **16** volunteers

SEL sessions, Bible Study, Code Rising STEM series

Growth & Highlights

- Increased summer participation
- New Move2Learn health & fitness partnership
- Year 2 of SEL curriculum
- New yoga & wellness on Tuesdays

Success Story

A game of Red Light, Green Light became a moment of joy, teamwork, and belonging highlighting the importance of safe community spaces.

Challenges

- Maintaining engagement during breaks
- Adapting to varied maturity levels



Program Impact Overview

Casa to College

Program Description

Supports 9th–12th graders with academic coaching, career planning, and leadership development.

Impact Data

- 2023: **16** students | **7** volunteers
- 2024: **19** students | **18** volunteers
- Weekly lessons, guest speakers, 12 at summer camp

Growth & Highlights

- Improved student retention
- Career-focused workshops
- SMART goal tools
- Latino STEM & public service guest speakers

Success Story

Stephanie made the honor roll and inspires peers with her dedication, showing how support helps students thrive.

Challenges

- Expanding college prep support
- Increasing one-on-one coaching



Program Impact Overview

Family Engagement

Program Description

Empowers families through monthly dinners, ESL and literacy workshops, and a strong Parent Committee.

Impact Data

9 family dinners/year (2023 & 2024)

2023: **44** ESL students | 2024: **8** in Spanish Literacy

5 community-wide events (graduation, beach trip, raffles)

Growth & Highlights

- Expanded ESL via MVCS partnership
- New parenting workshops with Edu-Futuro
- Christmas raffle raised **\$1,000+**
- Expanded ESL/Spanish Literacy offerings

Success Story

In Summer 2024, **50+** parents and children enjoyed their first beach trip together creating joy and lasting memories that strengthened family bonds.

Challenges

- Boosting consistent parent engagement
- Scaling to meet rising demand



Program Impact Overview

Mentoring & Volunteer Programs

Program Description:

Builds transformative relationships between mentors and mentees and mobilizes community volunteers across programs.

Measurable Growth

- Doubling of volunteer hours year over year
- Mentor pool increased by **25%**

Highlights

- Volunteer appreciation event
- New mentor onboarding system

Testimonials

"Volunteering at Casa has been a humbling opportunity to build meaningful relationships and be a part of a vibrant community. The students have built a home at Casa Chiri and it has been an honor to contribute to the vision of representing Christ's love in their lives in a space we all treasure"

Carla Calderon, Volunteer

Challenges & Growth Areas

- Maintaining mentor-mentee consistency
- Better tracking volunteer engagement by program



Program Impact Overview

Summer Programs

Program Description:

Christ-centered summer programs that keep students engaged academically, socially, and spiritually through STEM camps, enrichment workshops, sports, Bible lessons, and field trips.

Impact Data/Outcomes

- 2023: **65+** students | **25** volunteers
- 2024: **70+** students | **32** volunteers
- Code Rising STEM Camps: **15–20** students (elementary & middle, **3x/week**)
- **4** field trips (Great Waves, NASA, farm, DC United)
- CitiKidz overnight Christian camp: **25** youth (2024)

Challenges & Growth Areas

- Securing consistent summer funding
- Expanding transportation options





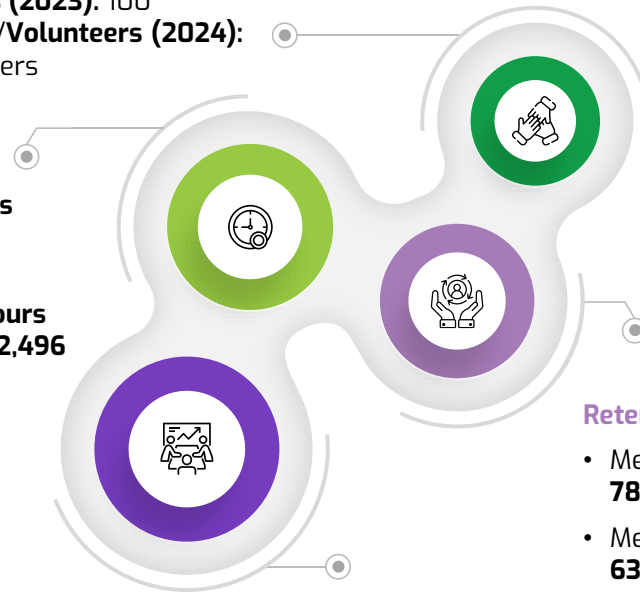
Volunteer & Mentor Impact (2023–2024)

Number of Active Volunteers & Mentors

- **Mentors (2023):** 35 mentors/**Mentors (2024):** 44 mentors
- **Volunteers (2023):** 100 volunteers/**Volunteers (2024):** 191 volunteers

Hours Contributed

- Mentors: **3,100 hours (2023)/3,432 hours (2024)**
- Volunteers: **1,205 hours (2023)/Volunteers: 2,496 hours (2024)**



Retention Rate

- Mentor retention: **78% (2023)**
- Mentor retention: **63% (2024)**

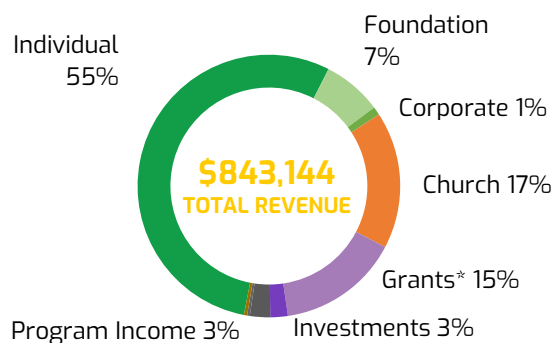
Volunteer Training & Recognition Efforts

- Launched a **new mentor onboarding system** to better prepare volunteers for their roles.
- Hosted a **Volunteer Appreciation Event** to recognize the dedication and impact of volunteers and mentors.

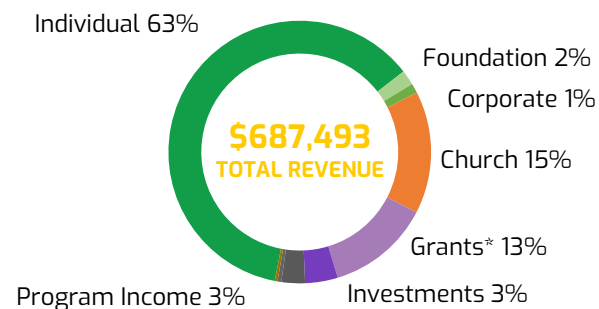
Financial Overview

2023 – 2024 Financial Summary

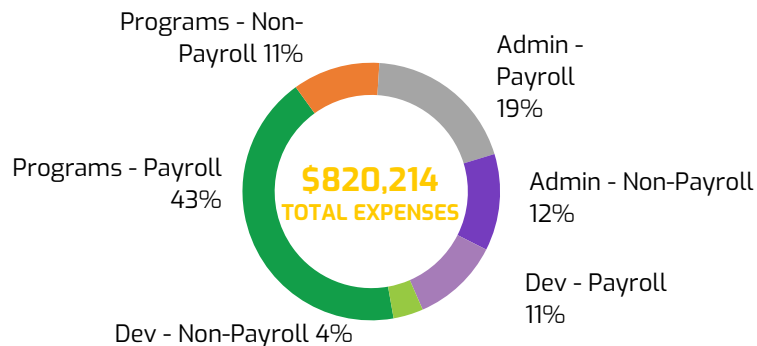
2023 Revenue



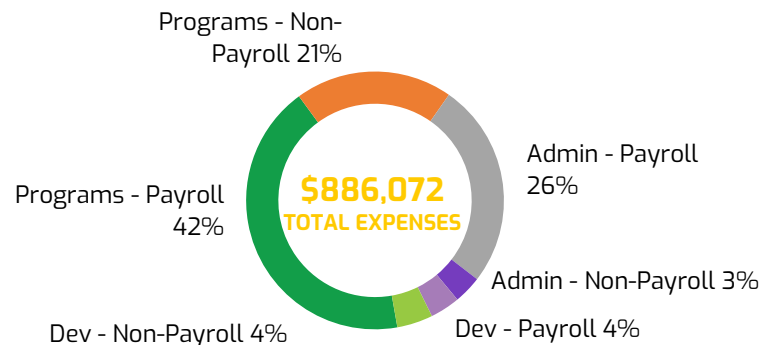
2024 Revenue



2023 Expenses



2024 Expenses



Financial Overview

Revenue breakdown

Category	Amount
Direct Public Support	\$634,351
Investment Income	\$27,695
Program Income	\$19,902
Facility Use Income	\$2,339
Gifts In Kind	\$3,206
Total	\$687,493

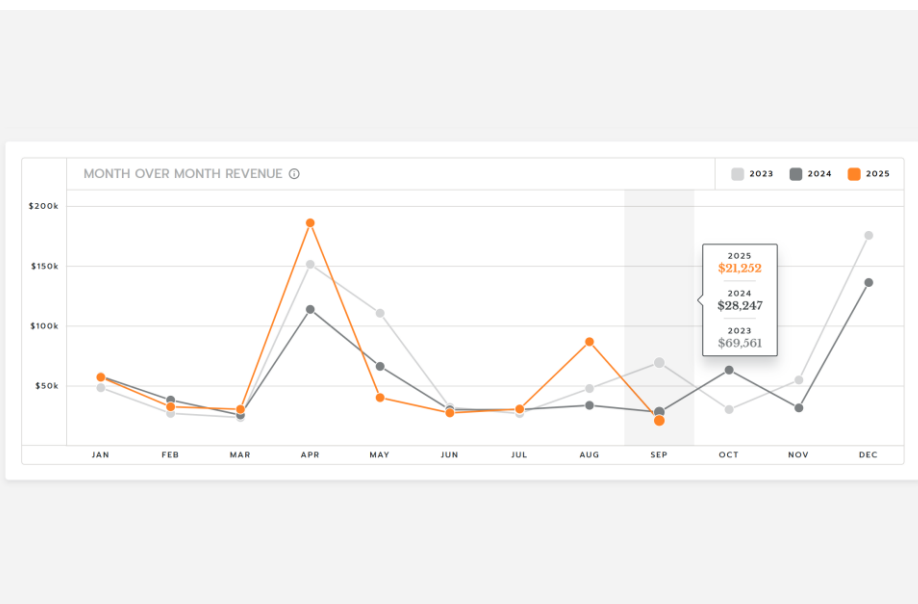
Expense Breakdown

Category	Amount
Programs	\$553,754
Admin	\$259,149
Development/Fundraising	\$73,169
Total	\$886,072

Funding Resources

Revenue Source Categories 2024

- Individuals (537 donors, 1,797 transactions)
- Churches Partners (22 churches, 118 transactions)
- Foundations & Grants (19 donors, 29 transactions)



Giving Campaigns 2023-2024

2024 Spring2Action

- Duration: April 24, 2024
- Theme: "Support Building Strong Futures"
- Total Raised: **\$90.410**
Goal: **\$150,000**

Donor Impact:

- Total Donors: **276**
Total Donations: **283**
- Top Giving Source:
Individuals & Church Partners

2024 End-Of-Year

- Duration: Dec 1 – Dec 31 2024
- Theme: "Hope And Healing Through Community"
- Total Raised: **\$93,051**

Donor Impact:

- Total Donors: **130**
- Top Giving Source:
Individuals

HOPE & HEALING
— through —
COMMUNITY



Looking Ahead 2025-2026

Future Campaigns

Save The Dates: Cut and pin to your calendar

2025 End-Of-Year

Duration:
Nov 20 – Jan 10
2025

2025 Giving Tuesday

Date:
December 2, 2025

2026 Spring2ACtion

Date:
April 22, 2026

2026 Summer
Challenge

Duration:
July 22 – Aug 26
2026

2026 End-Of-Year

Duration:
Nov 20 – Jan 10
2026

2026 Giving Tuesday

Date:
December 1, 2026



Stories & Testimonials

Impact Story: Ashli Finds Joy and Confidence in a New Chapter

For many young people, transitions can feel uncertain. Just before Christmas break, Ashli learned that her mentor, someone who had faithfully walked with her for months, was moving away to Boston for graduate school. It was bittersweet: Ashli celebrated her mentor's next step, but it left her wondering what was ahead.

During Christmas break, Casa introduced Ashli to her new mentor. At first, she was quiet, but her eyes lit up when she shared her love for animals. She explained how she often helped her mother care for them and how being around animals brought her peace.

Her mentor encouraged her to try something new, and soon they visited the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria, where Ashli became a Book Buddy. With a book in hand, she sat near cats and even rabbits, reading aloud. As Ashli practiced her reading, the animals benefited too, becoming more socialized for adoption.

The outing was simple, but it carried deep meaning. Ashli discovered that this new mentoring relationship could be a safe space for joy, learning, and confidence. For Casa, it was another reminder that transformation often begins with listening to what matters most to a child, creating opportunities for them to thrive.

In 2024, more than 100 students like Ashli experienced this kind of care through mentoring, tutoring, and family support. Each story is unique, but together they reveal a powerful truth: when love is present, hope multiplies.

Gratitude & Donor Acknowledgment



With gratitude, we honor every donor, volunteer, church, and partner who walked with us in 2024. Your generosity became a living testimony of love opening doors for children to learn, teens to grow, and families to thrive within a Christ-centered community.



Donor Categories:

- Individuals & Families Church Partners
- Foundations & Grantmakers
- Corporate Partners
- Community Partners
- Volunteers & Mentors



Donor Quote:

"Supporting Casa Chirilagua reminds me that my giving is part of something bigger, I know it's more than a donation, it's an investment in hope. God is at work in this community."



Your generosity created safe spaces for children to learn, teens to dream, and families to grow in faith and community. Together, we are seeing lives transformed through love.



Board & Staff Listing

Board Members

- **Jesse McCain**, Board Chair
Pastor
2024 – Present
- **Eugene Kim**, Board Member
Software Engineer
2024 – Present
- **Hyun-Soo Lee, J.D.**, Board Member
Lawyer
2024 – Present
- **Jose Martinez**, Board Member
Community Development Specialist
2024 – 2025
- **Deborah Akinyele**, Board Member
Nonprofit Executive Director
2024 – 2025

Staff Members

- **Hjarman Cordero**, Executive Director
- **Lauren Wallace**, Business Manager
- **Anass Yahyaoui**, Development Manager
- **Elizabeth Arrazola**, Director of Adult Leadership
- **Eduardo Aguilar**, Mentor & Volunteer Coordinator
- **Holly Marvin**, Student Engagement Program Manager
- **Starr Franklin**, Teen Programs Coordinator
- **Katherine Posada**, Youth Programs Administrator
- **Mily Palma**, Local Leader
- **Keiry Anaya Reyes**, Local Leader
- **Milagro Lovo**, Local Leader



How to Get Involved

01 Serve as a mentor, tutor, or a volunteer

02 Partner with us financially to sustain programs

03 Ask God to guide, provide, and transform lives.

04 Spread the word, invite friends!

Call to Action

Will you take the next step?

Help us continue this journey of transformation:

01 **Volunteer** as a mentor, tutor, or event partner.

03 **Pray** for our families, staff, and students.

02 **Give** a one-time or recurring donation to sustain our mission.

04 **Share** our story and invite others to join the movement.



**Together, let's continue to build a
thriving Chirilagua rooted in
community, growing in love.**



Thank You!

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www.casachirilagua.org

