



# La Plaza

Strengthening Youth, Families, and Community



## 2016 Annual Report



# Dear Friends,

Throughout 2016, La Plaza had the opportunity to reflect on the successes of providing educational and social services to Indianapolis Latino families during the past twelve years. We have continued to make enhancements to all programs to ensure a greater impact and a stronger presence in the community.

Data indicates a 48% increase in the number of Hispanics in Indiana, increasing from 214,536 to 443,518 in the last 15 years and nearly 18% of Hispanics in Central Indiana live at or below the federal poverty line (U.S. Census, 2015).

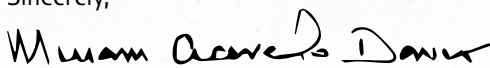
La Plaza is recognized in the Indianapolis community as a trusted organization that provides education programs, focuses on serving Latino students and serves as the point of entry into the health and social services systems for Latinos who have most recently immigrated to the area.

## Highlights from 2016 include:

- **A generous \$5 million Social Services Sustainability grant from Lilly Endowment was awarded.** La Plaza was one of fifteen recipients and the only agency solely serving the Indianapolis Latino community to receive this grant. A majority of the grant was used to invest in an endowment that will provide long-term sustainability for years to come. The remaining funds were used to upgrade La Plaza's office and provide competitive benefits and salaries to members of La Plaza's dedicated staff.
- **A Victims of Crime Act grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute was received.** This grant award enables La Plaza to provide case management services for members of the Latino community who have experienced domestic violence.
- **A program evaluation of La Plaza's premiere education program, Tu Futuro (Your Future) was conducted.** The evaluation involved focus groups and online surveys with schools, students, and parents to obtain qualitative feedback on the existing Tu Futuro framework and recommendations for future program adjustments.
- **La Plaza provided educational services to nearly 1,400 Latino students** and served more than 3,000 individuals through referrals and access to health and social services.
- **La Plaza staff and Board of Directors created the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan** and began identifying the organization's vision for 2020.

La Plaza continues to strengthen the Latino community with the goal of making a stronger impact and increasing our presence in Indianapolis. Thank you for your support in 2016 and for many years ahead.

Sincerely,



Miriam Acevedo  
President and CEO

## MISSION

*La Plaza's mission is to strengthen Central Indiana by advocating and preparing Latino students for educational success and by connecting Latino families to health and social services.*



## PROFILE OF A TU FUTURO STUDENT

*"I am a son of immigrants; I am Peruvian-American, the oldest of 3, and am the seed my parents have planted here in America. I am beyond privileged, and therefore I am a voice for those who cannot have one. I am tired, and I am frustrated with the hate spreading around my community. I am unapologetically proud to be Latino, and most importantly I am here to stay."*

~ Fabio Yataco

Fabio Yataco is a 22-year-old student at IUPUI. He is majoring in Psychology and hopes to go on to get a Masters in Higher Education, Student Affairs, or Public Health so that he is equipped to make a contribution to the Latino community. His decision to pursue this stems from his belief that there are very limited resources and few positive influences for Latino youth who need mentors and support. La Plaza was one of the only organizations that provided Fabio and his family the resources and guidance needed to begin their journey.

Fabio's desire to give back and get involved began at a young age. In high school, he was involved in the Latino community through organizations such as La Plaza. As a Tu Futuro student, he was able to learn more about postsecondary education opportunities and, in turn, was able to inform other students and their families. He participated in youth group, where he encountered countless students aspiring to be successful and provided them with the information and resources he had become aware of, including Tu Futuro. He continued working with Tu Futuro throughout high school and eventually assisted by going to other schools and speaking to students and their families about academic opportunities and resources available for the Latino community. From his experiences, he was able to help these students with college and scholarship applications.

*"Nothing gives me more fulfillment then helping someone academically. Growing up Latino, first generation, and undocumented allowed me to see and experience a world not many understand. Persevering through the hardships and learning from the sacrifices my parents made is what has allowed me to be here today and continues to fuel my passion to help."*

~ Fabio Yataco

Upon high school graduation, Fabio became involved at IUPUI by becoming President of the Latino Student Association. In this position, he took action and pushed for the campus to meet requests in increasing the numbers of Latino faculty and staff, along with adding academic Leadership positions, and providing further resources for its Latino students. He also joined organizations such as the Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance and helped organize events and participate in many areas to help empower and provide resources to the community. While at IUPUI, Fabio was also called to be part of the Latino Student Recruitment and Retention task force where he assisted in formalizing recommendations for Chancellor Paydar on how IUPUI can better assist its Latino student population.

Throughout this time, Fabio continued to give back to his community by staying connected with La Plaza. He continued to work with the Tu Futuro program to ensure that other students received the same resources and opportunity at a higher education as he had received as a Tu Futuro student. During the Night of the Americas dinner this year, Fabio was presented with the La Plaza Leadership award for his dedication to the community and leadership in ensuring that other Latino students also have the resources necessary to pursue a higher education.

## BOARD MEMBERS: IN SERVICE TO OTHERS

*"I serve on the board because I believe in La Plaza's mission and I think it has a significant impact in the community because its programs and services truly respond to the community needs. La Plaza stays connected to the community, has an understanding of what is needed, and develops programs to meet those needs."*

~ E. Angeles Martinez Meir

*"I serve on the board because I have a desire to help out the community and use my skills and knowledge to help La Plaza serve our community."*

~ Carlos De Leon

*"I am a board member of La Plaza because of the solid reputation the organization has for alleviating barriers for members of the Indianapolis Latino Community. With the current threat to immigration, La Plaza is in the best position to assist."*

~ Kay Whitaker

*"It's been an honor to serve on the La Plaza Board for the past year and half. Serving La Plaza is in some small way, an opportunity to give back. Through the Tu Futuro program, the Scholarship Fund, the dedicated staff and now with the Lilly Endowment, La Plaza is well positioned to serve the Indianapolis Latino Community. I'm excited to see La Plaza continue to grow and expand its much need services."*

~ Patrick Clarey

*"A lifelong Hoosier I value the historic significance of La Plaza. My father, Jesus Quintana was one of the founding members of its oldest legacy institutions, El Centro Hispano. The organization's roots can be traced back 60 years beginning as a social networking organization. Today, La Plaza provides high quality services that sustain, support and enhance the Latino Community's ability to thrive. La Plaza leads the way in providing underserved youth with the opportunity to be academically prepared to graduate high school and attend postsecondary education."*

~ Maria Quintana

*"I serve on the La Plaza Board of Directors because it allows me to give back to the Latino community. As a child of Mexican immigrants, I was fortunate to have their love and support to attend excellent schools which prepared me for college and law school. I had to pay for some of that on my own, but their help gave me the ability to do that. I'm well aware that many children don't have these advantages and I'm honored to help La Plaza shape programs and provide a base for students so that they can succeed in life. La Plaza makes a huge impact in the community by giving children and their parents resources to adapt to their new life in the United States."*

~ Rosa Ochoa-Martinez

# 2016 PROGRAM IMPACT

## TU FUTURO (Your Future)

In 2016, La Plaza conducted a program evaluation on Tu Futuro to identify the needs of Latino high school students as they prepare for high school graduation and postsecondary education opportunities.

### In 2016, Tu Futuro:

- **Served 1,289 unduplicated** students from 10 different Indianapolis high schools
- **Students attended 4 college visits** to Indiana colleges including: Butler University, DePauw University, Ivy Tech Community College, and Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) School of Science
- **Parents and students attended 20 college** readiness, financial, and writing essay workshops
- **Students completed 4 community service** projects at the Peace Learning Center, Indianapolis Public Schools, IUPUI, and Fletcher Community Center

## THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR LATINO YOUTH (LILY)

"LILY" is a five-week academic and leadership summer program where middle and high school students gain the necessary skills to succeed in high school, college, career, and in life.

### In 2016:

- **43 High school** Latino students were enrolled.
- **95% Increased knowledge** about college readiness and career preparation.
- **100% Identified a career path** and academic plan.

## SUMMER DISCOVERY

Summer Discovery is a five-week academic and enrichment summer program for elementary school students focused on reading, math, technology, leadership, and physical activity.

### In 2016:

- **119 Elementary** Latino students were enrolled
- **88% Gained knowledge** and identified career interests and **83% went on a college visit**

## ACCESS TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

To ensure that Latino students are able to focus on academics, La Plaza works with their families to provide referrals, resources, and services for basic needs, health care, and social services.

### In 2016:

- **3,021 Unduplicated** families were served
- **2,763 of those families** received more than **10,649 duplicated** services

## LA PLAZA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In 2016, **four students were awarded renewable \$2,000 scholarships** to pursue educational attainment at IUPUI, Franklin College, Indiana University and IUPUI.

## ARTS & CULTURE

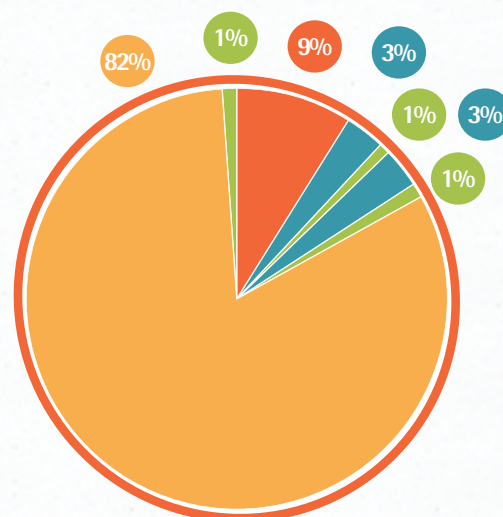
In 2016, more than **12,000 community members** were engaged in La Plaza's two annual events: **FIESTA Indianapolis and Night of the Americas** to celebrate and enhance Latino culture in Central Indiana.



# 2016 FINANCIALS

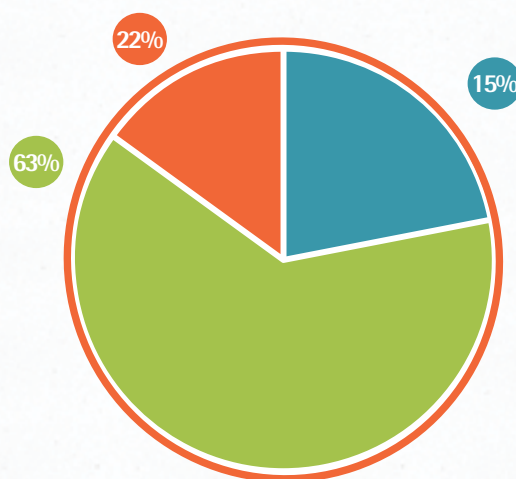
**INCOME:** \$5,688,722

Grants	9%
United Way	3%
Rental Income	1%
Special Events	3%
In-Kind Support	1%
Endowment	82%
Other	1%



**EXPENSES:** \$872,389

Administrative	22%
Programs	63%
Fundraising	15%



## \$5,419,960

**Grant Money Received in 2016**





# 2016 LA PLAZA DONORS

## \$10,000+

Children's Bureau of Indianapolis  
City of Indianapolis Community  
Development Block Grants  
Eli Lilly & Company Foundation  
Eskenazi Health  
Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
(FEMA)  
Honda Manufacturing of Indiana  
McDonald's  
United Way of Greater Indianapolis  
USA Funds

## \$5,000-\$9,999

Jose Antonio Alas  
Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP  
Best Buy Children's Foundation  
Indianapolis Foundation a fund of Central  
Indiana Community Foundation  
Eskenazi Health  
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority  
(FINRA)  
Fifth Third Bank  
HealthNet, Inc.  
Huntington Bank  
Indiana Kentucky Ohio Regional Council  
of Carpenters  
Indiana University Purdue University  
Indianapolis  
Indianapolis Power & Light  
Kroger  
MDwise  
Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center  
Moorehead Family Foundation  
Nicholas H. Noyes Jr. Memorial Foundation  
Ronald McDonald House Charities of  
Central Indiana  
Vincennes University  
Women's Fund

## \$1,000-\$4,999

AT&T  
Christ Church Cathedral  
Consulado De Mexico  
Christel DeHaan Family Foundation  
Diane Cruz-Burke  
Diversity Roundtable of Central Indiana  
Dollar General Literacy Foundation  
ECU Staffing  
Lori Efroymsen-Aguilera and Sergio Aguilera  
Elwood Staffing  
Fidelity Charitable  
Financial Center Credit Union  
Finish Line  
Liliana N. Gehring

## IKORCC

Indiana Commission for Higher Education  
Indiana University School of Dentistry  
IUPUI Office of Diversity  
Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing  
Partnership  
Indy Eleven  
International Center  
Pedro Jimenez  
JPMorgan Chase  
Key Bank  
Lumina Foundation  
mAccounting  
Marion University  
Alejandro Martinez  
Metropolitan School District of  
Lawrence Township  
The Mind Trust  
Morales Group  
Community Health Network  
Pacers Foundation, Inc.  
Roberto Paliza  
Palizo Consulting  
Pecor Companies  
PNC Bank  
Purdue University  
Sarah Stelzner  
Sociedad Amigos De Colombia (SADCO)  
USTA Midwest  
Utilicast  
Youth Working for Indy

## \$500-\$999

Keyla Alessio  
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield  
Benevis LLC Marketing  
Cynthia Noemi Cardona  
El Pilon Restaurant  
Farm Bureau Insurance  
Financial Center  
Claudia Fuentes for Treasurer  
Thomas Patrick Gannon  
Antojitos & Marco Guzman  
Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation  
Job Corps  
Lee & Fairman LLP  
Scott J. Kragness  
E. Angeles Martinez Mier  
James & Sharon McCarthy  
Patricia Morita Mullaney  
Munoz Legal  
Manuel Lopez  
Synergy

## \$100-\$499

ACLU Indiana  
Timothy Adams

Al-Anon  
Cynthia Noemi Cardona  
Alivio Clinic  
All Souls Unitarian Church  
Allison Concession  
American Diabetes Association  
American Red Cross  
Arredondo for Attorney General  
Alan Bacon  
Big Car Media  
Bonaccorsi  
Maria Del Rocio Borreguero  
Bosma Enterprises  
Dulcena y Botaneria  
Build 4 Impact  
Diane T. Caldwell  
Moiria M. Carlstedt  
Andre Carson  
Erika Cuadrado  
The Children's Law Center of Indiana  
Patrick Clarey  
Anne Clark  
Consulate of Bolivia  
Consulate of Mexico  
Decatur County United Fund  
DePauw University  
El Venezolano  
Emmis Communications  
Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana  
Franklin College  
Gaucho's Fire LLC  
Claudia O. Fuentes  
Pamela Gemmer  
Girl Scouts of Central Indiana  
Global Preparatory Academy  
Gregory & Appel  
Ivan Gutierrez  
Hedges & Associates  
Rick Hensley  
Immigrant Welcome Center  
Indiana Latino Institute  
Indiana Legal Services  
Indiana State Museum  
Indiana University  
Indianapolis Charter School  
Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation  
Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana  
Amy Ann Jones  
Gloria Berlanga King  
Komen Tissue Bank  
Laura A. Kragness  
Cynthia M. La Rosa  
Latino Health Organization  
Leading India's Future Today  
Lupus Indiana  
Julia F. Majercak

Martin Center, Sickle Cell Initiative  
Mark A. Meadows  
Kelli Mirgeaux  
Neurohealth LTD  
Sherri A. O'Keefe  
Oaxaca Restaurant  
Amparo de la Pena  
Planned Parenthood of Indiana  
& Kentucky  
Eliseo Lopez Ramirez  
Jose R. Rivas  
Manuel Castillo Rodriguez  
Evelyn Santillan  
Shalom Health Center  
Shepherd Community Center  
Kelly Stacy  
State of Indiana  
State of Indiana Employee Giving  
Campaign  
TeenWorks  
Treasurer of Indiana  
Truist  
Ishmael Valdiva  
The Villages of Indiana  
Vincennes University  
Wagner Reese Attorneys  
Amy Conrad Warner  
Warren Central High School  
Maria Wildridge  
John & Beatriz Woods

## \$1-\$99

Jose Ceron  
Rey Cordova  
Ericka Diaz Deleon  
Ann and Mark Federwisch  
Linda Gagyi  
Fiorella Gambetta  
Gina Gibau  
Ana Gossweiler  
Mark Jones  
Gloria Berlanga King  
Julia & Stephen Majercek  
Mark Meadows  
Jackie & Seth Morales  
Breanna Rodriguez  
John Ross  
Miriam G. Salcedo Sanchez  
Josephine L. Tuttle  
Deborah Whitfield

## IN-KIND

Indianapolis Public Schools

## LEADERSHIP

Miriam Acevedo Davis, President & CEO  
Dulce Vega, Director of Programs

## HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Rose Ohiami, Community Resource Specialist  
(AmeriCorps)  
Breanna Rodriguez, Community Resource Specialist  
Elizabeth Morales, Receptionist

## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Carmen Rodriguez, Education Specialist  
Alyssa Luna, Education Specialist  
Ali Campbell, Education Specialist

## BOARD ROSTER

Carolina M. Rashidfarokhi, Chair  
Fiorella Gambetta-Gibson, Vice Chair  
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Keyla Alessio, Secretary  
J. Antonio Alas  
Kiamesha Colom  
Liliana Gehring  
Rick Hensley  
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Patricia Morita Mullaney Ph.D.  
Ben C. Ng-Gomez  
Roberto F. Paliza Ph.D.  
Anita Sipes



# La Plaza

Strengthening Youth, Families, and Community

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