

# La Plaza

Strengthening Youth, Families, and Community



2017  
Annual Report



# Dear Friends of La Plaza,

In 2017, La Plaza continued to play a strong role in the community as the trusted organization in Indianapolis for education programs focusing on Latino students and the point of entry into the health and social services systems for Latinos who have most recently immigrated to Indianapolis.

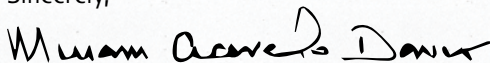
La Plaza is proud to be the only organization in Indianapolis to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate support to remove the barriers that Latino high school students face when completing high school and accessing postsecondary education opportunities.

## La Plaza's successes in 2017 included:

- A generous 2-year grant in the amount of **\$400,000** from the **Walton Family Foundation**. The grant supports implementation of the newly designed Tu Futuro program to be piloted at 2 schools in the Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township as well as continuing to provide the Leadership Institute for Latino Youth (LILY) summer program.
- Support from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Victims of Crime Act for continued case management and referral services for members of the Latino community who have experienced domestic violence.
- Completion of a program evaluation of La Plaza's premiere education program, Tu Futuro (Your Future). The evaluation involved a program redesign and recommendations for future program adjustments.
- Educational services to **nearly 212 Latino students** and served **more than 2,700** individuals through referrals and access to health and social services we provided.
- Worked on achieving goals included in the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan.
- La Plaza's two cultural events, Night of the Americas and FIESTA, **drew in nearly 10,000 attendees**.

La Plaza is pleased for the many opportunities that exist to strengthen the Latino community with the goal of making a significant impact and increasing our presence in Indianapolis. Thank you for your support in 2017 and beyond.

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."*



# PROGRAMS RECAP & OUTCOMES

## TU FUTURO (Your Future)

In 2017, La Plaza completed 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 2017:



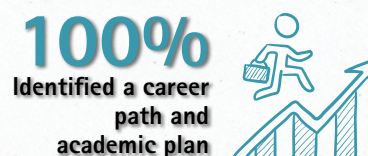
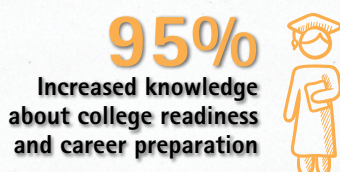
## LA PLAZA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In 2017, four students were awarded renewable \$2,000 scholarships to pursue educational attainment at IUPUI, Franklin College, Indiana University and IUPUI.



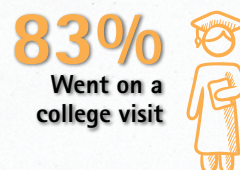
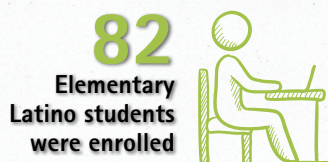
## THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR LATINO YOUTH (LILY)

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 2017:



## SUMMER DISCOVERY

A five-week academic and enrichment summer program for elementary school students focused on reading, math, technology, leadership, and physical activity. In 2017:



## 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 co-located services, referrals, resources, case management, and advocacy for basic needs, health care, and social services. In 2017:



## HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE

La Plaza provides holiday assistance to the Latino community including thanksgiving baskets and food vouchers, an adopt-a-family program and the Feliz Navidad program. In 2017:



## ARTS & CULTURE

In 2017, more than 10,000 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.





# PROFILE OF A LA PLAZA ACCESS TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES CLIENT

In 2016, Maria was hit by a car and was unable to work for many months due to injuries. She had also just been traumatically affected by the murder of her brother. Maria, a Mexican National and mother of three minor children, two of which are American citizens, reached out to La Plaza when she had nowhere else to turn.

After evaluating the family's situation, La Plaza's Access Community Resource Specialist helped Maria apply for Food Stamps and TANF and to prevent displacement, the family also received emergency assistance funds to pay rent. Maria's needs, however, went beyond receiving direct financial assistance. She was referred to the Children's Bureau for additional support and resources and was supported by the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic's (NCLC) during intake hours at La Plaza to see if she qualified for an immigration process.

La Plaza continued to provide case management and enlisted the family in the holiday assistance programs at La Plaza and continued to follow up throughout 2017. Maria contacted La Plaza when her son was very ill and needed to be transferred to the United States to receive medical treatment. By working directly with NCLC, Maria's son obtained a U.S. Visa and was able to receive treatment in the United States. La Plaza's Community Resource Specialist also assisted the family by providing them with gift cards for food and clothes upon the arrival of her son. Maria is now also in the process of obtaining a U.S. Visa for herself and continues to work with La Plaza to access resources and services.

With La Plaza's help, Maria has since been able to maintain a steady income and provide for her and her children.



//

*I am so grateful for all of the assistance provided to me by La Plaza*

~ Maria

//

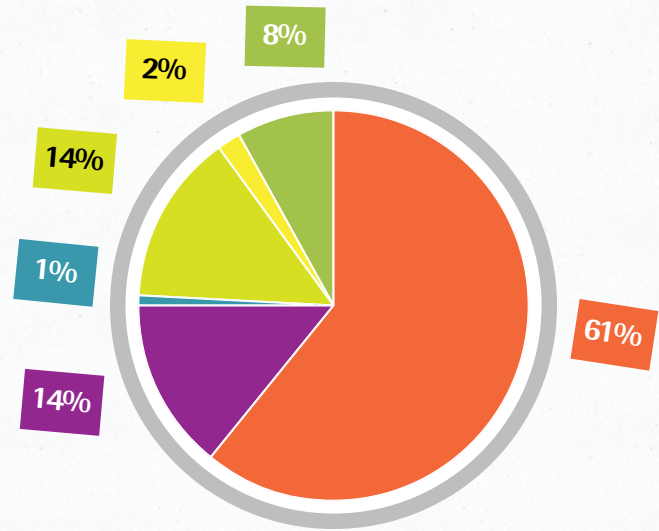


# 2017 FINANCIAL RECAP

## INCOME:

**\$1,369,721**

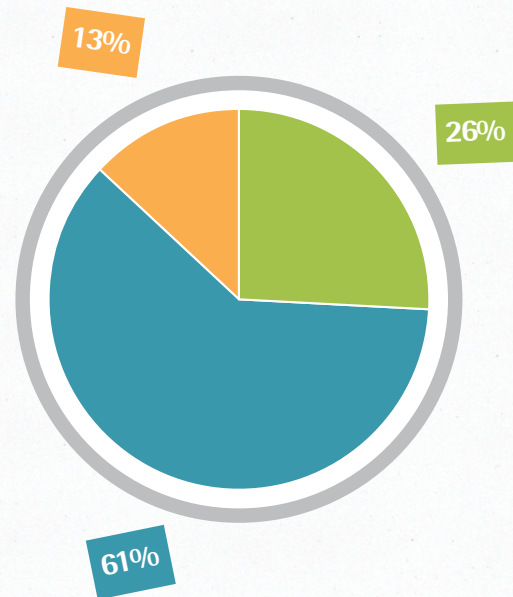
Grants	61%
United Way	14%
Rental Income	1%
Special Events	14%
In-Kind Support	2%
Other	8%



## EXPENSES:

**\$927,007**

Administrative	26%
Programs	61%
Fundraising	13%



## LEADERSHIP

Miriam Acevedo Davis, President & CEO  
Breanna Rodriguez, Program Manager

## HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Sinara Sandoval, Community Resource Specialist  
Rose Ohiami, VOCA Community Resource Specialist  
Rosa Vidal Marquez, VOCA Community Resource Specialist  
Sylvia Strom, VOCA Advocate

## EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Heidi Poe, Education Specialist  
Dulce Vega, Education Specialist

## BOARD ROSTER

Carolina M. Rashidfarokhi, Chair  
Keyla Alessio, Vice Chair  
Kay Whitaker, Treasurer  
Rosa Ochoa-Martinez, Secretary  
J. Antonio Alas  
Patrick Clary  
Kiamesha Colom  
Carlos De Leon  
Pedro Jimenez  
Candelario Martinez  
E. Angeles Martinez Mier  
Maria M. Quintana  
Lori A. Spence



8902 East 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46226

P: 317.890.3292

[www.LaPlaza-Indy.org](http://www.LaPlaza-Indy.org)





# La Plaza

Strengthening Youth, Families, and Community

8902 East 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46226

P: 317.890.3292

[www.LaPlaza-Indy.org](http://www.LaPlaza-Indy.org)