



# La Plaza

Strengthening Youth, Families, and Community



2018  
Annual Report



# LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

## Hello Friends!

The 2018 year was as busy as ever here at La Plaza and we're honored to have had so many individuals and organizations take a sincere interest in the growth of our programs and clients. Together, we truly are making a significant impact on the success of our Indianapolis Latino community.

### Here are some of our best highlights from 2018:

- **We redesigned Tu Futuro (Your Future) to work more in-depth and long-term** with our Latino students and their parents. The program now follows the same group of youth in focused areas, but the goal remains the same as ever: to graduate from high school and persist with their academic studies in college.
- **The FIESTA Indianapolis event has been exploring new partnerships** to help us continue our long history of celebrating Indianapolis's strong Latino heritage in the most cost-effective, collaborative, and sustainable way possible.
- **VOCA received ongoing support from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute** to continue case management, mental health services, and advocacy services for Latinas who have experienced domestic violence. We're so grateful that this important program has been re-funded!

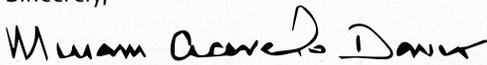
Of course, our work doesn't stop here. We're always looking ahead to anticipate future opportunities for growth and service. Your generous support helps ensure that we can be a reliable resource for our Latino community for years and years to come.

### La Plaza's vision for 2019 includes:

- **Growing our Tu Futuro program** – We are excited to serve even more youth through their high school graduation and first year in college.
- **Partnering with Indy Eleven for FIESTA Indianapolis** – Building stronger community partnerships helps us share Latino culture with an even wider Indianapolis audience.
- **Developing a new Workforce Development program** – We are looking to offer quality services to Latino adults seeking to transition from a job into a stable and meaningful career. We are also working to provide case management to address systemic education and workforce barriers. In addition, we will be assisting clients with workforce placement and identifying workforce partners. Please let us know if you would like to learn more.

Every year brings new challenges, as well as triumphs. We're proud to be able to model our programs in ways that better support the ever-changing needs of our Latino community and the greater Indianapolis area. Thank you for your continued friendship!

Sincerely,



Miriam Acevedo  
President and CEO



## ABOUT LA PLAZA

As the oldest and largest Latino serving organization in Central Indiana, La Plaza is committed to providing excellent programs and services and being a strong advocate for the community.

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.

Through our comprehensive line of educational programs, social services, and workforce development efforts, La Plaza addresses the high school dropout rate and academic success of Latino youth and prepares families to succeed in the workforce and the community.

# PROFILE OF PAST LA PLAZA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

## Fredi Morales Santiago The Difference of a La Plaza Scholarship

Each year, La Plaza awards college scholarships to Hispanic students in our local community. This is a core part of our mission. We select these individuals based on their financial need, outstanding academic record, and community involvement. The impact of these scholarships can be truly life-changing for a student. In turn, they can use their gifts to improve the economic status and cultural vibrancy of the entire state of Indiana.

That's why we're always so excited to hear from students like Fredi Morales Santiago, one of the 2017 La Plaza Scholarship recipients. With the help of La Plaza's scholarship, he earned his Bachelor of Science in Business, with a Marketing concentration.

*"I graduated with the highest possible distinctions at my school and became an Honors Scholar after finishing their Honors Program. In addition, I was in the top five of my graduating class."*

The support of our donors year after year helps make these success stories possible. Like so many young people today, Fredi was concerned about the financial burden of his undergraduate education. These scholarships are so important because they allow hard-working students the opportunity to focus more on their academics and the benefits of their chosen degree, rather than its cost.

*"The reason why I share my achievements above is not to brag, but to say thank you for believing in my potential."*

Fredi's story is just one example of how the Hispanic students we see at La Plaza are pursuing their goals with full force. Pursuing the dream of going to college can be tough, especially for our community's DACA recipients. But our programs and scholarships are designed to make those aspirations a reality. We promote personal development at every age, and it's all for the greater good.

*"I hope you understand that your work is valuable and valued. You are making a difference in the lives of Hispanic students like myself and I will continue to pay it forward through my involvement with my Hispanic community."*

When we can invest in the young people here in Indianapolis, we help make our entire community stronger. Encouraging academic success and ongoing education works to develop our local talent, both now and for generations to come.

We're proud to report that Fredi received a job offer a full year before his graduation date. He is currently employed at a Fortune 500 company in Indianapolis and launching his career with confidence. Our team at La Plaza wishes him all the best—and we know you do too!



Fredi Morales Santiago, left

# 2018 PROGRAMS RECAP & OUTCOMES

## TU FUTURO (Your Future)

**268**

Students and families served through the Tu Futuro, LILY, Summer Discovery programs and one on one education support services (completing FAFSA, connecting students to scholarships and college preparation sessions).



## LA PLAZA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**5**

Latino students were awarded



scholarships in the sum of **\$40,000**



## THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR LATINO YOUTH (LILY)

**38**

High school Latino students were enrolled



**63%**

Students demonstrated improvement in English skills



**90%**

Demonstrated improved understanding and application of STEM skills



**90%**  
Increased awareness in college readiness and career preparation



**95%**  
Identified a career path and academic life plan

## SUMMER DISCOVERY

**88**

Students enrolled



**100%**

Of 5th and 6th grade students gained knowledge about career and college opportunities (workshops at Butler University)



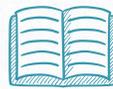
**100%**

Of students attended college visits at Butler



**90%**

Of students improved language and art skills



**100%**

Of students participated and completed the summer reading program (read 20+ books. Dollar General funding for 2 free books)



**100%**

Of students learned new ways to express themselves through writing and art

## ACCESS TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES



**1,892**

Unduplicated clients served



**72**

Families received utility assistance



**90%**

Of students improved language and art skills

**7,000+**

Calls and over 700 face-to-face walk-ins resulting in a connection or referral to information about our internal services and referrals to outside agencies that did not warrant a full assessment by our case management staff

**832**

Individuals applied or maintained health insurance



**91**

Families received rent assistance



## HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE



**249**

Families assisted through the Felix Navidad Program including

**296**

Families assisted through the Thanksgiving Program

**379**

adults and

**662** children

## ARTS & CULTURE



**300**

Community members were engaged in La Plaza's Night of the Americas event

## VICTIMS OF CRIME

ACT (VOCA)  
PROGRAM

**211**

Latinas and their children in domestic violence situations

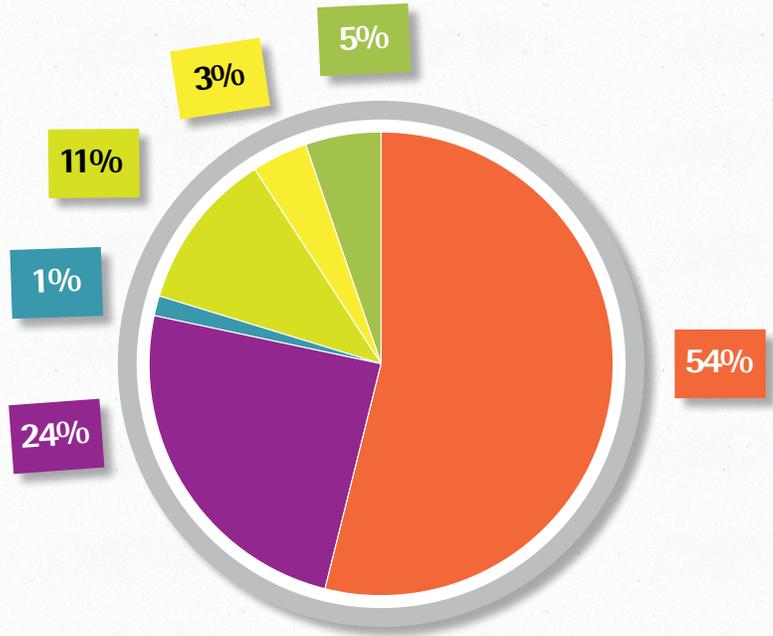


# 2018 FINANCIAL RECAP

## INCOME:

**\$657,28**

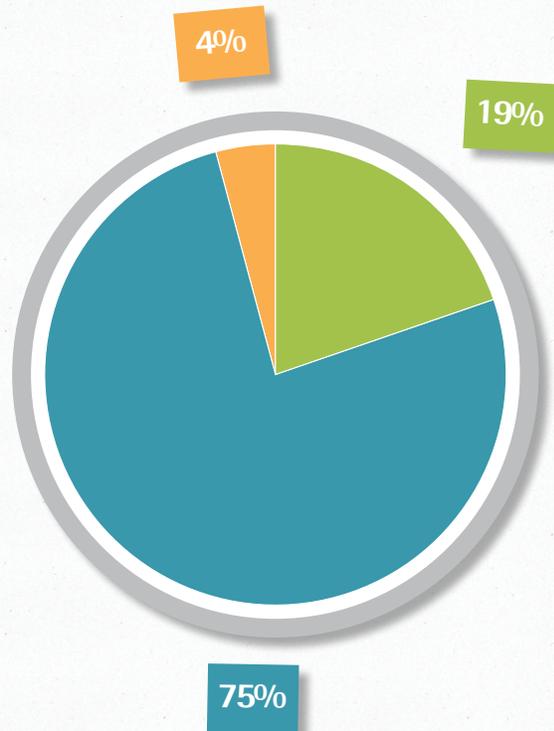
Grants	54%
United Way	11%
Rental Income	1%
Special Events	24%
In-Kind Support	3%
Other	5%



## EXPENSES:

**\$990,587**

Administrative	19%
Programs	75%
Fundraising	4%



# 2018 LA PLAZA DONORS

## \$10,000+

VOCA / ICJI  
United Way  
SYPF  
FEMA  
Lilly Endowment  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Indiana University Dyson  
Strada

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

CICF  
Honda Manufacturing of Indiana  
UWCI Donations  
Brave Heart Foundation  
Eskenazi Health  
Fifth Third Bank  
Noyes Foundation

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

Pedro J. Jimenez  
La Plaza Board Members  
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Dollar General Literacy Foundation  
Elwood Staffing  
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IN KY OH Council of Carpenters  
IUPUI - Div. of Diversity, Equality  
and Inclusion  
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Perla Williams & Dr. Charles J. Williams  
Purdue University  
Tevebaugh Dental

The Mind Trust  
Walmart  
Hartford Insurance  
Hispanic Scholarship Fund  
JP Morgan Chase Matching Gift  
from Ed Collins

## \$500 - \$999

Givelify Donations at NOTA  
Chad Keller  
Wayne Township Fire Department  
Carlos de Leon

## \$1,00 - \$499

Decatur County United Fund - 2016  
Donor Designations  
Edward Collins  
Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation  
Barnes & Thornburg Donations  
Jeans Day  
Alejandro Martinez & Rosa Martinez  
CAFÉ  
Lopez Law  
Lori Spence  
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Thomas & Martha Jackson  
Alexander Taylor  
Joel Tragesser  
Build 4 Impact Donation  
Erika Tran  
Karen Dace  
Kiamesha Colom & Joseph Delamater  
Marlon & Keyla Alessio

## \$1 - \$99

Betzi Fuentes  
Erin Dettwiler  
Keyla Alessio  
State Employees  
Community Campaign  
Ana Gutierrez Gossweiler  
Georgina Ramirez  
James & Lisa Crismore  
Joseph & Maria Wildridge  
Kathy Graves  
Tiffany Lemons  
Amazon Smile  
Jose Alas  
United Way Columbus, OH  
Truist  
Christian Ramierz  
Jadira Hoptry  
Kiamesha Colom  
Wayne Wright  
Edgar Jarillo  
Judy Rodriguez  
Paulina Opozco  
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