

Chaparral Family Development Center (CFDC)

The Chaparral Family Development Center is on its 12th year of operation. The CFDC is a 5-Star Rated (the highest rating in the state of New Mexico), Early Childhood Education (ECE) program that includes Early Pre-Kinder and Pre-Kinder programs in one of the largest colonias in southern New Mexico. The CFDC provides much needed ECE services in Chaparral. It also provides childcare for infants and after school programs. The CFDC is a grantee of the FOCUS, Extended Pre-Kinder and Pre-Kinder Programs of CYFD. The complete bilingual and bicultural programs are geared to prepare children to transition into the academic rigor they will encounter when they go to regular schools. The CFDC employs 18 individuals, providing a steady income revenue for their families, educational opportunities, and promotes local businesses that provide services for the Center in Chaparral proper. The Center recently hired a new Director, María D. Guzmán, who will oversee the academic and administrative activities of the Center. With her leadership, we are optimistic that the programs will be strengthened and expanded to meet community needs.



~ Summer 2019 ~



Dear Friends and Donors of the CDC:

I want to thank you again for your continued support of our work. We always appreciate any help in disseminating information about our services. The more we get the word out, the more the possibilities of assisting immigrant families. After almost 32 years of operation, the CDC continues to work with the most marginalized population in the region. While the original focus of the CDC was with farmworkers and infrastructure issues in colonia communities, immigration and education were topics of much concern that surfaced as part of our organizing work. As a result, our recent focus has shifted to two social enterprises that provide much needed services, employment, and workforce development opportunities, while still addressing the original intent of working with immigrant and farmworker families.



Dr. Diana A. Bustamante - Executive Director, CDC



CDC Staff

What's Inside:

Our Mission

Integrated Services for Immigrant Families (ISIF)

Citizenship Preparation Program & Promotoras de Apoyo Familiar (PAF)

The Chaparral Family Development Center (CFDC)



Volunteers

We depend heavily on volunteers throughout the year to assist us in assuring we can do our work. Every year, over 25 volunteers assist the CDC in numerous capacities. Volunteers help us with the citizenship preparation program as tutors, teacher assistants, mock interviewers, with graduation logistics, and as office clerks. We welcome volunteers year long.

¡Tan TAN!

CDC of Directors:

Dickie Apodaca, Chair
Clara I. Martínez
Dr. Martha Loustaunau

Agapito "Tito" Márquez
Humberto Ramírez

CDC Administrative Staff:

María D. Guzmán - Director, CFDC
Erika Contreras - Assistant Director and ISIF Program Coordinator
Dr. Diana A. Bustamante - Executive Director, CDC





Our organization, our vision, and our work,

reflect the needs of mixed-status communities in southern New Mexico and West Texas. The CDC staff represents the communities in which we work — DACA recipients, legal permanent residents, naturalized citizens, and U.S.—born citizens.

Our mission

Our mission is to improve the quality of life through the promotion, development, and cultivation of an equitable standard of living in colonia communities in Southern New Mexico by creating the spaces for transformative leadership through community and economic development. This mission is manifested through the two social enterprises we operate--the Integrated Services for Immigrant Families (ISIF) and the Chaparral Family Development Center (CFDC). These two enterprises were created to address the growing demands of thousands of immigrant families. We have been fortunate to keep abreast of these demands, expanding services and education.

Integrated Services for Immigrant Families (ISIF)

The first social enterprise is the Integrated Services for Immigrant Families, or ISIF program, which was started in 2012. The ISIF program merges legal immigration services, citizenship preparation classes, and leadership development. Last year, the legal immigration office processed 1,334 new applications and continued assistance to approximately 180 cases. Of these, 42% were new petitions for legal permanent residency, renewals of work permits, and naturalization applications.

Of the latter, 408 applications were completed for new citizens. Also in 2018, we expanded our legal immigration services to include Petitions for Fiancée Aliens, Petitions for Special Immigrants, and Notices of Appeal or Motion, among others. When we started tracking the walk-in inquiries in 2012 we only had 108 walk-in inquiries. In 2018 recorded 4,491 walk-ins, which included requests for information, appointments, and to address other legal immigration matters. By the end of June 2019, we have already received 2,384 walk-ins.



Citizenship Preparation Program

The Citizenship Preparation Program continues to provide a unique, customized curriculum for individuals seeking to attain their naturalized citizenship. These courses are designed to accompany clients throughout the naturalization process by integrating our legal immigration services. The classes provide English as a Second Language (ESL), history, civil rights, and civic participation, among other topics. CDC provides over 12 classes per year in various communities of Doña Ana County and West Texas. These communities include Sunland Park, Anthony, Vado, Hatch, Doña Ana, Butterfield, Horizon City, Texas, and Las Cruces proper. Over 150 students a year successfully complete their classes. Since we began the Citizenship Preparation classes in 2012, over 1,300 students have completed these classes. Tutoring classes are also available for those who have completed the Citizenship Preparation classes and are waiting for their naturalization interviews. In collaboration with the Mexican Consulate of El Paso, the CDC participated in 13 citizenship clinics throughout the region in 2018. Through these clinics alone, 225 applications for naturalization were processed.

Promotoras de Apoyo Familiar (PAF)

The ISIF also includes Promotoras de Apoyo Familiar (PAF) training and outreach program. In 2018, for example, the PAF program provided 11 trainings for over 90 participants, including CDC staff, in a variety of topics. Topics included Mental Health for Immigrant Families, Civil Rights, Services offered by the Consulate General of Mexico in El Paso — including Transport of Deceased to Mexico and Scholarships for Education, Alzheimer's and Dementia, Intergenerational Trauma, What is Your Happiness, and Preparing for a College Education, among others.



Mixed-Status Families:

Mixed-status families are the norm in this country. This means that one family can have members with very diverse immigration experiences. The national immigration dialogue on immigration focuses on those who enter this country. The immigrant experience, however, is a two-way process, with the responsibility for integration belonging to all of us.

