

todos somos
migrantes



Colonias DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



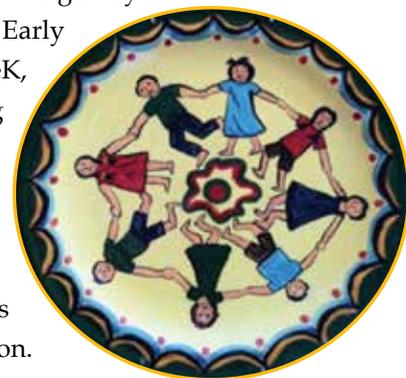
Winter 2020

We began this year with lots of hope and enthusiasm to continue providing the services so absolutely needed in southern New Mexico and West Texas. CDC's two social enterprises--the *Integrated Services for Immigrant Families (ISIF)* and the *Chaparral Family Development Center*—continue to provide opportunities for professional development, provide steady employment for over 35 individuals, and address articulated needs in our community. We have been steadfast in our commitment to impact thousands of families' lives in our 33 years of existence that have addressed a variety of issues ranging from youth issues, infrastructure, environmental justice, small business development, community gardens, farmworker concerns, education, and of course, immigration. We are always looking for opportunities to expand and improve our work.



Chaparral Family Development Center

The CFDC, now beginning its 13th year of operation, continues to thrive and deliver the services it originally set out to provide. The CFDC is a 5-Star Rated (the highest rating in the state of New Mexico) Early Childhood Education (ECE) program that includes three Pre-Kindergarten programs--Early PreK, Basic PreK, and Extended PreK, in addition to infant and afterschool programming. Among all its programs, there are 98 children enrolled--48 through the PreKindergarten programs proper. All programs include bilingual and bicultural activities in various schedules. The CFDC now employs 22 women, mostly from the Chaparral community. María Guzmán, Director for the CFDC, has made substantive changes in the operation of the Center and continues to cultivate and nurture professional development opportunities for the teachers and other staff. She has also expanded the Center's relationship with other ECE entities throughout the state and region.



This last year we were able to make some capital outlay improvements at the Center. The *Tutti Bambini* Board of Directors approved a small grant to the Center. This grant helped defray the cost for the replacement of the playground wood chips with rubber mulch and rubber tiles. The playgrounds look strikingly different!



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)

In our ISIF program, we have made many advances in expanding the types of legal immigration services we offer. In 2019, the ISIF office recorded 4,884 walk-in inquiries. We handled over 1,135 cases, 58% of which were for work permits, legal permanent residency renewal, and applications for citizenship naturalization. Two hundred fifty-eight applications were processed for naturalization alone. We have expanded services in other areas too: For example, legal representatives accompany applicants to their interviews for their respective process. CDC continues to work in collaboration with Somos Un Pueblo Unido in offering services in southeastern New Mexico. CDC also collaborates with the Mexican Consulate of El Paso in their various community outreach programs, such as *Jornadas Sabatinas* and *Consulados Móviles*, held in southeastern New Mexico, West Texas, and southern New Mexico. In our Citizenship Preparation program, we offered nine classes with a total of 174 students throughout Doña Ana County. This last year, classes were offered in Hatch, Sunland Park, Anthony, and Las Cruces proper. Since we started the Citizenship Preparation Program in

2012, we have offered 100 classes throughout Doña Ana County, with over 1,400 students to date. We also provide tutoring classes for those individuals who are preparing for their interviews.

The CDC is the only organization we know about that provides the type of wraparound services for citizenship preparation, tutoring, and legal immigration services. More than a third of the applicants for naturalization come directly from the citizenship preparation classes. Since 2014, we have processed 1,668 naturalization applications. This is quite an enormous transformational opportunity for immigrant families.



Graduation: Part of the students of Citizenship Preparation Classes. February 2020

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!

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