



FAMILY IMPACT

Palm Beach County

CONNECT. UPLIFT. TRANSFORM.

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year October 1, 2022 -
September 30, 2023

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Letter from Our Leadership

Lake Worth West Resident Planning Group, Inc. has completed an exciting transition to doing business as (DBA) Family Impact Palm Beach County, a new name to better reflect what we do and who we serve. Our mission today is to impact families through support and resources that empower them to thrive and prosper, leading the way for other families to achieve the same. We envision empowered families transforming the communities where they live into places of promise and prosperity. Our collective values include Empowerment, Uplifting one another, Connectedness, Collaborative Leadership, and embracing Heritage and Diversity of families of every cultural experience and tradition.

This was a VERY busy year! We continued to provide families with positive prenatal and parenting education, kindergarten readiness, after school education, college and career preparation for high school students, women's wellness and empowerment activities, and navigation to services. Distribution of donated food and essential supplies to families is now expanding in our brand new Storage Unit, thanks to Lost Tree Charitable Foundation. We continue to post activity schedules on Facebook in English and Spanish to engage more people in our incredible work.

None of this would be possible without our primary partner, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, funding BRIDGES and Parent Child Plus. Palm Beach County, Office of Community Revitalization's support is essential. United Way of Palm Beach County renewed the College Prep Program for the 11th year. Through a grant from Allegany Franciscan Ministries for capacity building, you can expect a fabulous first "Jazz and Dance Night for a Cause" on Friday, January 26th, 2024, at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center. The funds raised will be used to support our Brilliant Minds afterschool program for elementary school children and the College Prep program! We are grateful for a generous new grant from the PBC Sheriff's Office-Law Enforcement Trust Fund to support the after-school program. We thank our other partners Comcast, Publix Super Market Charities, Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Palm Healthcare Foundation, PBC Food Bank, Palm Springs Public Library, and Palm Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

LWWRPG dba Family Impact PBC again achieved Accreditation for Excellence in Nonprofit Management from Nonprofits First. As you will read in the following pages, our devoted staff worked intensely to serve the needs of area residents, young and old. We are proud of our achievements and look forward to the coming year.

Saidy Garzon

Chief Executive Officer

Making Enduring Impact

- **2,300** individual children, youth, adults, and families received services.
- **33** pregnant women, young mothers, babies, and families received CSC BRIDGES education, resources, and referrals for the 13th year.
- **230** parents and families received navigation to services.
- **94** parents and young children learned early reading readiness skills through Parent Child Plus home-based literacy education.
- **25** parents learned how to help their kindergarten children to read during the 2023 Summer Reading Loss Prevention Program.
- **25** K-2 children enjoyed Summer Reading Program to improve literacy.
- **62** high school students participated in College Prep. **100%** of 26 seniors graduated and went on to post-secondary education options.
- Women Helping Women continued with Yoga sessions and Let's Get Cooking classes.
- Virtual English classes continued on Tuesdays.
- **150** children and youth received backpacks and school supplies at a drive-through event.
- **1,536** individuals were provided food during monthly food distribution events.
- The Parent Engagement and Leadership Program/Ambassadors Group is growing with members becoming community leaders, facilitating workshops and parent/child activities and organizing community events.
- We started a Fatherhood Initiative and successfully recruited **15** fathers that have been participating in monthly meetings. They have gained knowledge in topics such as men's health, financial literacy, community safety, and immigration law - and established a soccer team that will play against other teams in the community!
- Through our Financial Literacy Program, "Building my Future," Family Impact PBC was able to provide education to **50** members about budgeting, banking, saving, building credit, home purchasing and much more.

College Preparation Academy 2022-2023



Supported by United Way of Palm Beach County and Publix Super Markets Charities

The 2022-2023 College Prep Academy had another outstanding year meeting or exceeding its goals in the 10th year of United Way funding. Sixty-two (62) 9th to 12th grade students were served by in-depth college prep training, tutoring, college entrance test prep, social-emotional learning, financial aid and college entrance application support, and valuable exposure to colleges/universities and careers. Ms. Joyel Glaze Loiz, M.S. expertly led the program with certified teacher, Maria Armayor, BA. Sessions were held twice a week during the school year. Two in-state college tours occurred, and four college fairs were attended, one a National College Fair in Miami. Other outings were provided. Outcomes: The College Prep Program was a remarkable success! 100% of 62 students increased college/career preparation skills. 100% of 26 seniors graduated with a Standard Diploma, and 80% have enrolled in college/university, career programs, other post-secondary education options, or are employed. Other students enrolled in college-required courses for the next school year.



BRIDGES at Lake Worth West

Supported by the Children's Services County of Palm Beach County

BRIDGES at Lake Worth West is one of ten BRIDGES sites in Palm Beach County, created and funded by the Children's Services Council since 2010 to serve young families. BRIDGES staff encourages meaningful parent-child interactions and helps strengthen families by providing enrichment activities that focus on communication, literacy, and sharing quality time with children ages 0-8. BRIDGES coordinates community capacity building workshops and activities for families that increase self-sufficiency, health and wellness, resilience, and parenting skills and knowledge.

In 2022-2023, the BRIDGES staff completed 83 new intakes and provided education and resource navigations to approximately 230 individuals.

87% of children 0-5 years old residing in the target area were screened to assess their early development. Screenings identified as of "concern" were referred promptly to Home Safe for early intervention for developmental problems.

We enrolled 50 families in Triple P, a BRIDGES parenting program to help prevent behavioral, emotional and developmental problems in children by enhancing the knowledge, skills and confidence of parents. Parent surveys indicate that 100% of parents reported satisfaction with the program.

The Summer Reading Loss Prevention Program successfully served 25 young parents for eight consecutive weeks with educational strategies to support their child's early reading skills.

BRIDGES creates neighborhood environments that cultivate healthy, safe, and strong children.

ParentChild Plus



Supported by the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County

ParentChild Plus (PC Plus) is a home-based literacy education program for parents and their young children ages of two to four years old. Expertly led by Coordinator, Blanca Cartagena, five Early Learning Specialists visit families at home or virtually to promote verbal interaction, parent-child bonding, and school readiness skills so children enter school ready to succeed because their parents have the knowledge and resources to build school readiness where it starts... at home.

Family Impact PBC's ParentChild Plus site serves the West Palm Beach service area, as assigned by CSC. During 2022-2023, we maintained a case load of 94 active clients all year. There were 47 new families enrolled, 47 cases closed as 47 parents successfully completed the program. Early Learning Specialists were able to complete 1,325 virtual or in-person sessions per family. Families received 313 books and 290 toys and developmental materials to ensure the proper functioning of PC Plus sessions. Staff attended outreach activities at Family Impact PBC, West Palm Beach Library, and Early Learning Coalition, and encouraged person-to-person sharing between families in the program.

After School and Summer Literacy Programs



The Brilliant Minds after school program for elementary school children focuses on literacy, the fundamental building block for all future academic, employment and personal success. We were able to reopen the program in April 2023 for the remainder of the FY 23 school year and continue into the FY 24 year; 20 children received reading and writing tutoring and homework assistance.

The 2023 Summer Reading Club was designed to combat the summer and Covid reading slide and give children a boost in literacy skills. It exceeded all our goals and expectations with these results: Thirteen (13) children started and completed the four-week program for an unusual 100% retention rate; 100% of children increased reading comprehension; 100% increased English Language fluency; 100% increased writing skills; and 100% increased at-home reading time by 25 minutes a day.

A Dollar General Literacy Foundation grant allowed us to engage a certified teacher and assistant to implement the program, purchase five new computer tablets, instructional materials, incentives to reward achievement, and books for at-home reading. Thank you Dollar General!

Stories of Success

College Prep student's story



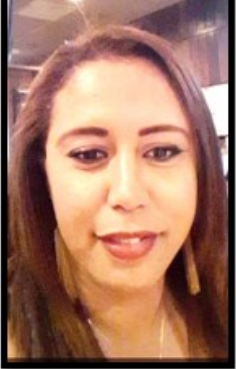
My name is Linda. I was born in Lake Worth into an immigrant family. I'm half Guatemalan and half Mexican. I like to call myself "Guatemex." I struggled with English during primary school. My parents didn't get an education past middle school, so they couldn't help me often. I attended Liberty Park Elementary School and Lantana Middle School, then skipped 8th grade and started high school early at Inlet Grove High School. When the opportunity to skip a grade and join the Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) program was presented, it was an opportunity I couldn't pass up. Throughout high school, I strived to get straight As, graduated with a 3.97 unweighted GPA, and was Salutatorian. I accumulated over 1,000 community service hours, 14 extracurricular clubs, five certifications, and seven awards, including the College Board Hispanic Recognition Award.

Though I received many titles and academic success, I struggled throughout high school with my mental health. Anxiety and depression took a stronghold of my life, and it took a lot of resilience to overcome my obstacles. I came to a point where I thought life was pointless. The only thing that kept me going was my hard work in school and how it'd all go to waste if I gave up. I took it upon myself to not give up but get back up and try again. Slowly but surely, with a strong support system, I got better.

I learned about College Prep through my mother, who was actively attending events presented by the LWW community center. Whenever I didn't have to work, I would participate in the meetings and always learn something new. College Prep assisted me greatly in my transition from high school to college. I received help filing my FASFA, applying for college and scholarships, and information on college programs and requirements needed. They presented an inviting environment filled with smiles and joy. I saw everyone as a mentor, helping me through my last year of high school.

I'm now attending Florida Atlantic University on the George Snow full-ride Scholarship. This scholarship pays for my entire tuition and fees and provides me with stipends, gifts, college supplies, and clothing each semester. I'm also in the Freshman Direct Admit for Nursing at FAU. In this program, I'm already in nursing school right off the bat, and I'm not required to do my prerequisites before applying for the program. I'm starting my journey as an LPN after passing my NCLEX and receiving my license. This is just the beginning of my career.

BRIDGES at Lake Worth West Story



My name is Johana Acevedo. I have been a member of BRIDGES at Lake Worth West for eight years. My children and I have participated in most of their programs over the years. By attending their workshops I have become very motivated to share my knowledge with the community. I was nominated for President of the Ambassadors group for 2023, which empowered me to be a leader and work for different objectives. I have been very active in the Women's Club, teaching different educational topics such as, showing

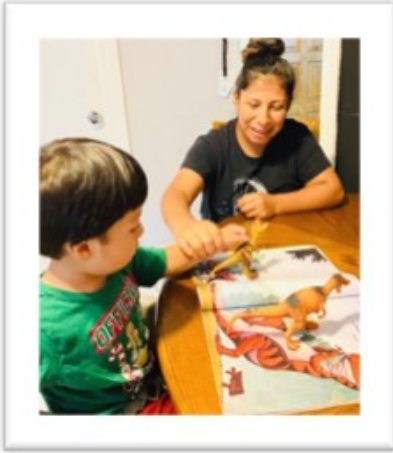
women how to save money with couponing methods, teaching them cake decorating techniques, and t-shirt graphics. I am passionate about supporting other moms, motivating them, and using all resources that can benefit them and their families.

With BRIDGES at Lake Worth West support, it has helped me improve on my personal growth and played an essential role in my professional development through their finance training and leadership seminars. It encouraged me to go to school, and through hard work I obtained a physician assistant certificate, I became a U.S. citizen, and as of today, I was promoted to manager at my current job. I am very thankful and grateful for the support and encouragement from BRIDGES at Lake Worth West.



Pictured Here: Women's Club

ParentChild Plus Story



The Ramírez family of the father, mother, and the children, Josue, a 22 month old, and a newborn baby. This family began the ParentChild Plus program in September 2022. At the beginning everyone was very shy, especially Josue who did not like to approach anyone outside his environment. The sessions began virtually due to the Covid19 pandemic. The Early Learning Specialist (ELS) noticed that the mother was frustrated during sessions since Josue did not focus for more than five minutes, throwing all the books, toys, and materials

that caregiver would give him to the floor. Josue did not know how to verbally communicate during sessions, did not smile, nor show any interest in playing or reading.

Mrs. Ramírez, being a first-time mother and lacking experience, didn't know how to get Josue's attention during the sessions. The ELS noticed her frustration and immediately started to implement strategies and provide the necessary support. She role-modeled by providing encouragement to Josue in communication, fine motor and gross motor skills, and socio-emotional skills, implemented through activities. Little by little Josue became interested in learning by playing with the toys and wanting to read the books. The mother always gave all her effort and full commitment during sessions to get the best out of the ParentChild Plus program.

As time went by, Josue made big progress such as identifying colors, numbers, and painting. His parents noticed that he was also improving his interaction with other people and developing his fine motor skills. This motivated Josue's father to get involved in the program. Since Josue's father works in construction, he decided to help in the co-planning of the review of toys and books, such as building a farm for the VISM "Farm animals" with children and caregivers using many creative ideas for the review sessions. As the program continued, the family sought help from their pediatrician and registered Josue for speech therapy.

She role-modeled by providing encouragement to Josue in communication, fine motor and gross motor skills, and socio-emotional skills, implemented through activities.

2022-2023 Board of Directors



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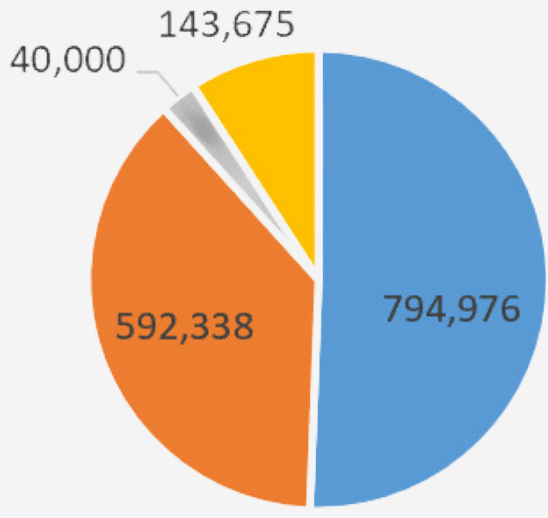


Saily Garzon
Chief Executive Officer



Financial Snapshot

2022-2023
TOTAL FUNDING \$1,570,988



- Bridges at Lake Worth - Children's Services Council
- Parent Child + - Children's Services Council
- College Preparation - United Way of Palm Beach County
- Foundation & Other Revenue

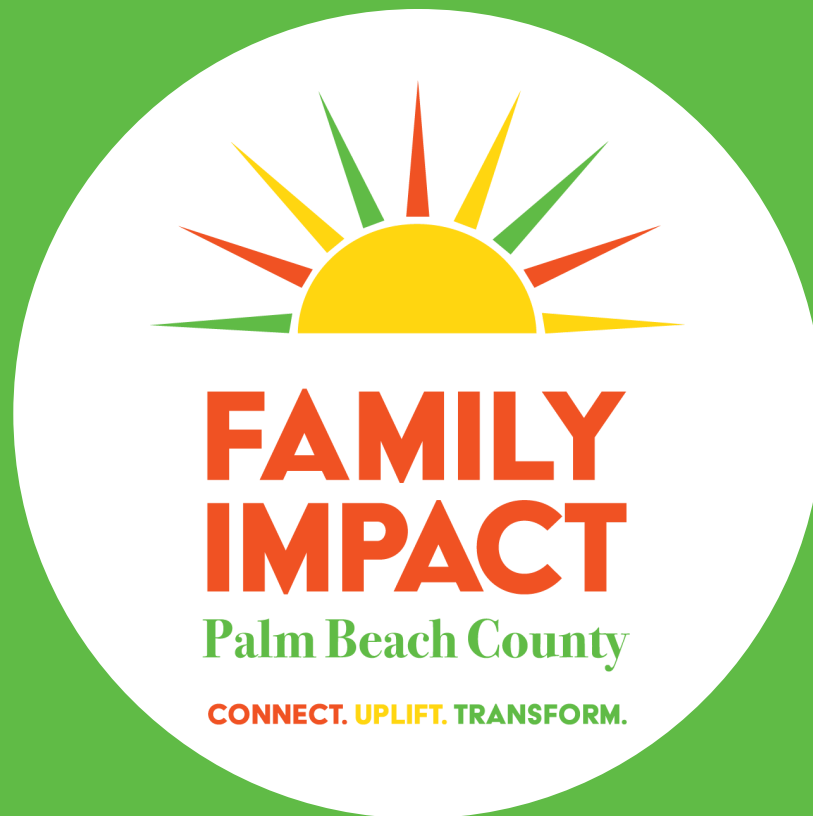
Strategic Funders and Partners



Allegany
Franciscan
Ministries



We are grateful to our staff and board members, funders, supporters, and partners for bringing important and empowering services to our community. We look forward to a healthy, bright, and successful 2023-2024!



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