



FAMILY IMPACT

Palm Beach County

CONNECT. UPLIFT. TRANSFORM.



ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year

October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024

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Letter from Our Leadership



Family Impact Palm Beach County had a fabulous and productive fiscal year! We fulfilled our new mission 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 empowered families where they live into places of promise and prosperity. Our collective values continue to include empowerment, uplifting one another, connectedness, collaborative leadership, and embracing the heritage and diversity of every family.

We were VERY busy. We continued to provide families with prenatal and positive parenting education, kindergarten readiness, after school education, college and career preparation for high school students, women's empowerment activities, and navigation to services and resources. We partnered with organizations to do monthly food distribution. We continued to use social media, Facebook and Instagram, as one of our marketing tools to post not only our monthly activity calendar but also to share with other people the incredible work and impact that our organization is making in the community.

None of this would be possible without our primary partner, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, funding Bridges and ParentChild Plus. Palm Beach County, Office of Community Revitalization's support was also essential during this fiscal year. The fabulous first "Jazz and Dance Night for a Cause" was a big hit on Friday, January 26th, 2024, at Boynton Beach Arts & Cultural Center. The first Annual 5K Run on May 11th, 2024, was a success! The next one is scheduled on February 22, 2025. The funds raised support our Brilliant Minds afterschool program for elementary school children and the College Prep Program! We're also working on a computer lab with a partner's support, this project will be completed and available for the community in March 2025. We are grateful for generous grants from the PBC Sheriff's Office-Law Enforcement Trust Fund and Hamilton Family Trust to support Brilliant Minds and Cornelia T. Baily Foundation in support of the College Prep Program. We thank our other partners including Publix Super Market Charities, Palm Healthcare Foundation, Restoration Bridge International, Palm Springs Public Library, Bethel Assembly of God Church and Palm Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church for your unconditional and constant support.

Family Impact Palm Beach County again achieved Accreditation for Excellence in Nonprofit Management from Nonprofits First. I'm grateful for our devoted staff who work diligently to serve the needs of our community. We are proud of our achievements this past year!

Saidy Garzon
Chief Executive Officer

Building Lasting Impact

- **4,000 individuals**, including children, youth and adults, received services from our organization.
- **25 pregnant women, babies, and their families** received prenatal education and information on resources. They also participated in our community baby shower where we celebrated this important milestone for these young mothers.
- **280 parents and families** received navigation and referrals to social services.
- **94 children** learned early reading skills through ParentChild Plus home-based literacy education and **66 children** successfully graduated and are ready for VPK.
- **21 parents** learned strategies on how to keep their kindergarten and first graders engaged in reading activities during Summer through our 2024 Summer Reading Program.
- **42 high school students** participated in College Prep. **100% of 12 seniors** graduated and went on to post-secondary education options.
- The Parent Engagement and Leadership Program, also called the Ambassadors Group, continued learning leadership skills, facilitating workshops and family activities, and organizing community events.
- The Women's Club is thriving with close to **30 women** participating in monthly meetings.



Building Lasting Impact (cont.)

- Community Food Distributions were bigger than ever, **3750 families** received food this year.
- **150 children and youth** received backpacks at The Palm Beach County Back to School Bash.
- We continued to work on the Fatherhood Initiative during this Fiscal Year. **12 fathers** met every month to support each other and talk about topics such as health, family neighborhood safety, immigration, and much more. The group also put together a soccer team that has played in soccer competitions for the last 2 years against the PBSO team, finishing both years in 2nd place. The dads have selected a coach/ father leader and with his guidance and support they get together every Sunday to practice soccer with one goal in mind, bringing home the championship title.
- We implemented the “Mom to Mom” mentorship program in which 5 of our parent ambassadors mentored 5 new mothers/program participants. The mentors had one-on-one sessions twice a month and provided resources, support, and guidance to their mentees. Being a first-time mom and not having the experience of dealing with a newborn can be very stressful; our mentoring program provided these young moms with the opportunity to gain knowledge about community resources, child development, parenting skills, mental health, and wellness.





College Preparation Program 2023 - 2024

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

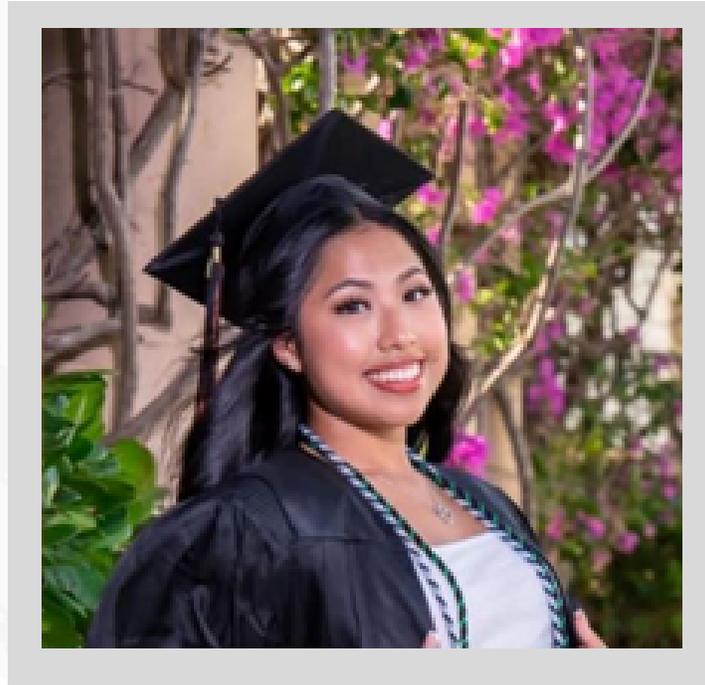
The 2023-2024 College Prep Program had another outstanding year meeting or exceeding its goals in the 11th year of United Way funding. Forty-two (42) 9th to 12th grade students received in-depth college/career preparation, tutoring, college entrance test prep, social-emotional learning, financial aid 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. Three local and four in-state college tours occurred, and four college fairs were attended.

Outcomes: The College Prep Program was a remarkable success! 100% of 42 students increased college/career preparation skills. 100% of 12 seniors graduated with a Standard Diploma, and 92% have enrolled in college/university, career programs, other post-secondary education options, or are employed. Rising 9th to 11th grade students enrolled in college-required courses for the next school year.



Success Story

College Preparation Program



Tiffany (name changed for confidentiality) was invited to Family Impact PBC's College Prep Program as a freshman by the teaching assistant, Ms. Mila, through Palm Beach County School District's Migrant Education Program. Tiffany's family qualified for the migrant program and received both referrals to meet their basic needs as well as academic support. At the time of her initial enrollment in College Prep, Tiffany's mother worked long hours in local agricultural, prohibiting her from being home during "normal" family time and unable to provide assistance for school. These experiences propelled Tiffany to pursue, achieve, accomplish, and succeed in greater measures.

Tiffany received academic support, course selection guidance, social/emotional learning instructions, and transportation services to and from program sessions. She attended college fairs and tours while engaging in informational sessions. She received assistance applying to college and completion of the financial aid application, gained life skills via financial literacy and career planning workshops, plus one-on-one assistance as needed outside of scheduled college prep sessions.

With assistance from the College Prep Program, Tiffany graduated from high school in May 2024 with a 3.5+ grade point average! She earned college credits via completion of Cambridge AICE coursework and enrolled at Palm Beach State College as a sophomore upon graduation. Tiffany plans to enlist in the U.S. Navy in the Spring of 2025.

The College Prep Program, indeed, made a significant difference in Tiffany's life!



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 2011 to serve families with young children. 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.

2023-2024 was another great fiscal year for BRIDGES at Lake Worth West. We were able to reach out, engage and impact a great number of families in the 33461-zip code through the different services, activities, community events and initiatives.

We successfully met CSC contract requirements and welcomed 86 new members/families and 25 new pregnant moms; we also enrolled 50 families in Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) Services and 82.4% successfully completed the program. Our Triple P seminars were well attended, 29 parents participated in the 1st session, 33 in the 2nd session and 34 in the 3rd session.

Our group of Ambassadors/parent leaders continued to work on improving their leadership skills by attending leadership training courses and were able to provide support to the Bridges staff by helping with our monthly community events. They have facilitated parent-child activities, workshops and planned and executed, with the support of the staff, the Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration Event which was a great success.

The Women's Club is thriving with close to 30 women/Bridges members participating in monthly meetings. They continue to empower each other and grow together; they have elected a President and Vice-President to be more organized and have representation in community meetings, annual board meetings and other activities where their voices need to be heard.

We planned and executed the following community outreach and awareness events:

- Domestic Violence Awareness Walk in October, a great success in which over 100 people participated.
- Annual Health and Community Resource Fair in the month of May where 300 people attended.
- Thanksgiving Giveaway, we provided turkeys to 150 families.
- Christmas Toy Giveaway, 260 children received toys.
- Hispanic Heritage Celebration, close to 450 people attended.

Success Story

BRIDGES



My name is Eidy Herrera; I am thirty years old, from Honduras, married, and have three children: Santiago, six, he is in 1st grade, Valentina is two years old, and Abigail is two months old. When I lived in Honduras, I graduated in the University and received a bachelor's degree in business administration. I also studied international trading, but I did not get a chance to finish. I work from home, cooking and selling lunches, and my son helps me make Encurtidos (Pickled onions).

I have faced many challenges in this country, and my pregnancies have been very complicated; during my second pregnancy, about four years ago, I met a very kind woman who took me to my medical appointment in her taxi. The lady told me about a program that helped women, called BRIDGES at Lake Worth West (BLWW), she had a friend who went to the program and with her assistance she was able to connect me with BRIDGES at Lake Worth West and I became a member. I explained to them what I was going through with my pregnancy and how my oldest son was very jealous about the new baby coming home; he felt that the new baby would take his place; they supported me and provided me with so much information and referrals. They listened to my needs, and I had the opportunity to take the Triple P Sessions (Positive Parenting Program); I learned strategies on how to handle my son's jealousy towards my pregnancy and applied them with my son. They made a big difference in my son's life and mine. Due to their support, my son loves and protects his sisters and for that, I am very grateful.

BRIDGES at Lake Worth West has a fantastic way of helping families; they offer a variety of workshops and events and essential resources to keep us engaged and bond with our children; they strongly advise us to love and care for ourselves to help our family. They empower families to do more and to excel in different ways we can only imagine; they support me in being a better mom, a better wife, and a better person. I can only feel gratitude and love towards all of them.

In 2022, I participated in a series of 6 financial workshops. At the end of the series, we had to present a business plan. I worked hard and created a business plan that I presented to the judges, and I won. I was awarded some money, which gave me the push and the support that I needed to open my business. I now have my own business from home, selling Encurtidos (pickled onions), I am very proud of myself, I am now able to help my husband and our family, all thanks to BRIDGES at Lake Worth West. All these workshops have empowered me so much that I am now, one of the Ambassadors for BRIDGES at Lake Worth West, where they are training me to become a great leader in my community, represent this program with excellence, and teach other women by empowering them to become their best.

Bridges has a very positive influence on me. I learned that no matter the circumstance, we can achieve our goals if we work on them, be passionate about them, and believe we can do it. Once you meet each of the incredible women who work there, you will fall in love with their program.



ParentChild Plus

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

ParentChild Plus (PC Plus) is a home-based literacy education program for parents and their young children ages two to four years old. The Site Director, Patricia Valldeperas, expertly led seven Early Learning Specialists, two more this year, in completing home visits to families that 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 serves families county wide from Boca Raton to Jupiter and from Belle Glade to Lake Worth. During 2023-2024, we maintained a case load of 94 active clients all year. There were 77 new families enrolled, 77 cases closed, and 66 parents completed the program. Sixty-six (66) children successfully graduated and enrolled and are ready for VPK. The Early Learning Specialists completed 4,907 home visits!

Families received 1,151 books and 1,131 toys and developmental materials were given to ParentChild Plus families, a large increase from the previous year. 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.

The Children's Services Council approved another expansion in March 2023 to add two Early Learning Specialist and a part-time Administrative Assistant for the next fiscal year adding 28 more families, totaling 122 for the fiscal year.

Success Story

ParentChild Plus



The Chavez family, a Mexican-American family living in Pahokee, Florida, was going through a tough time. The proud parents of three children, they were worried about their youngest sons, Jorges and Jules, who each had a significant speech delay. They communicated only through gestures and sounds, causing frustration for everyone.

Everything changed during a community meeting when mom heard about the ParentChild Plus program. Intrigued, she realized this could help her sons develop communication skills. Eagerly, they signed up for the program's waiting list, hoping for support.

They met their Early Learning Specialist (ELS), who immediately understood the importance of creating a loving and encouraging environment for the children and providing assistance to the family. Our ELS shared practical techniques with the parents to encourage communication at home. With her support, Mom became an active parent during each visit, using games and educational activities to help her sons feel more confident about speaking.

Over time, the children began to eagerly await their sessions with Gabriela. Their enthusiasm for learning grew, and their parents noticed progress. The boys started identifying colors and shapes and slowly began to repeat words. Each small advancement was celebrated as a significant family achievement. Now, in their second year with the ParentChild Plus program, they continue to thrive. Thanks to the ongoing support from Gabriela and the dedication of their parents, they have transformed from children who only gestured into boys that can express their needs.



Brilliant Minds After School Program

Supported by The Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Foundation

The **Brilliant Minds After School Program** for elementary school age children focuses on literacy, the fundamental building block for all future academic, employment and personal success. During 2023-2024, 25 children received reading and writing tutoring and homework assistance. 85% improved reading and writing skills and 100% advanced to the next grade.

Our program was able to offer a multitude of educational opportunities for the underprivileged students in Palm Beach County. Our students met three days a week to focus on various subject areas.

On Tuesdays, our after-school teacher and assistants would come together to aid students with their homework. They worked alongside each other providing guidance, clarification, and extra support to students who needed it. By fostering a collaborative learning environment, our program was able to instill confidence in our students and help them to build their academic skill set.

Each Wednesday our program would plan and prepare a different STEAM experiment or activity for the students. Whether it was building lava lamps, creating sculptures out of candy, or designing habitats for different zoo animals, our students were able to have fun and learn while using their creative and academic abilities.

On Thursdays, our Lead Teacher and Assistant Teachers work together to provide reading support for our students. Some weeks they would meet with students to read passages and answer comprehension questions, which in turn aided students in learning more about the English language. Other weeks, they would meet with students and play educational reading games. This program gave students a space to have fun, while also gaining more confidence in their reading abilities.

Through the generous funding we received, we were also able to plan a field trip to the Palm Beach Zoo for the students in our program. During our field trip, we were able to provide students with an exciting and educational opportunity that taught them more about various species of animals and the habitats they live in.

Success Story

Brilliant Minds After School Program



Pablito's mother was very concerned about her son, third grade student, possibly being retained in third grade. A friend told her about Brilliant Minds Afterschool. She registered Pablito in the program, he started attending but was very timid at the beginning and did not like reading. Little by little, and with the support of our after-school teachers, his reading skills improved.

When he took his state assessment a second time, he went up a level, which boosted his confidence in reading. His school teacher contacted the afterschool staff and said that she noticed how much the Brilliant Minds program has helped him and has impacted his academic success.

Board of Directors 2023-2024



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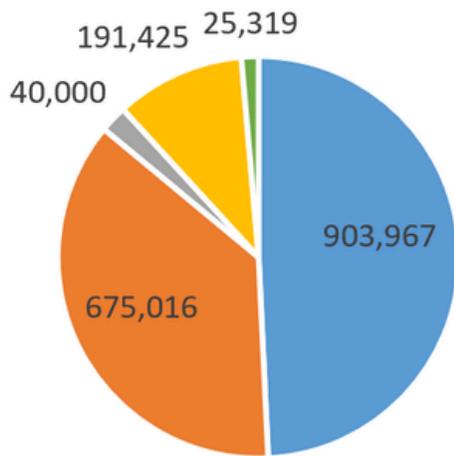


Saidy Garzon
Chief Executive Officer

Financial Snapshot

2023-2024

TOTAL FUNDING \$1,835,727



- BRIDGES at Lake Worth West - Children's Services Council
- ParentChild Plus - Children's Services Council
- College Preparation - United Way of Palm Beach County
- Foundation & Other Revenue
- Fundraising



Funding Partners



**Allegany
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Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation

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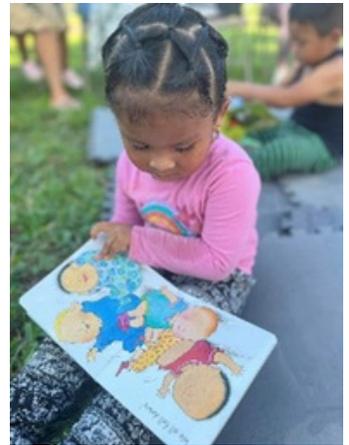
Strategic Partners and Sponsors

FY 2023-2024 was also a year of great collaborations and an outstanding support system through our community partners.

- BRIDGES at Lake Worth West continue to build a strong partnership with Palm Beach Sheriff Office, they provided support in community outreach events, monthly food distribution and the very successful Summer Camp, in which we served 50 children. They also facilitated workshops to educate families on topics such as drugs in school, neighborhood safety, gangs and much more.
- Bethel Assembly of God Church has opened their doors for BRIDGES at Lake Worth West to use their space to continue to provide services, resources, activities, and workshops to the community.
- The Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) offered its support to BRIDGES at Lake Worth West families every year through the Back to School Bash, Domestic Violence Walk in October, and Hispanic Heritage event in September.
- We are grateful for Palm Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church who is allowing us to use their facility for our after-school programs.
- We successfully worked in partnership with Restoration Bridge International to provide food to the community in our monthly food distribution.
- We also partner with two great libraries, Lantana Public Library who facilitated Story Time to our BRIDGES families once a month and Palm Springs Public Library who collaborated for the yearly Read for the Record event.

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 year!



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