

Grail Family Services

Empowering San Jose Families

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Dear Friends,

For most of us, 2020 has been one of the most challenging years in recent memory: a global pandemic, racial inequity, and a strained economy. Families in our community have been hit especially hard by these factors. Already struggling prior to the pandemic due to long term systemic racism, our families have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

Our first response was to let our community know that we were there for them. We made daily calls to check on them and to confirm that we would do everything possible to support them. These calls also helped us understand specific needs so we could pivot our services and adjust our delivery model to meet those needs.

As always, we are in awe of the strength and resilience of our families. And we are so thankful for the collaborative efforts of the Si Se Puede Collective (SSPC) and other partners as we worked together to support our community during this difficult time.

One example of this is our partnership with SSPC and the Santa Clara County Health Department to launch a public health campaign and testing site to help turn around the high number of COVID-19 cases in East San Jose. We are starting to see some positive impact.

We know that in addition to basic needs, our families are also concerned about their children's education. For that reason, we moved ahead in July with the opening of our second State-funded Preschool. Per public health guidelines, we are open with a reduced number of students, but we are thrilled to be serving the early learning needs of our community.

We know that the impact of COVID-19 on our community will last well beyond this year. But we are confident that with our strong partnerships with our families and our partner agencies, and with your support we will continue to be here to face whatever challenges lie ahead.

I hope you will join us in achieving this vision by making a year-end contribution for our work.

Thank you for your support.



Veronica Goei
 Executive Director

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www.gfsfamilyservices.org

GFS and SSPC Implement Public Health Campaign

In partnership with the Si Se Puede Collective (SSPC), and the Santa Clara County Department of Health, GFS is implementing a pilot public health campaign focused on reducing the number of COVID-19 cases in our community, which has been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

GFS developed a 9-hour virtual workshop to train Community Health Workers (Warriors Against COVID-19) and SSPC staff about the coronavirus, preventive measures, the importance of testing, accessing resources, contact tracing, and how to engage the community in supporting mutual health and well-being. We trained 24 Community Health Warriors and 5 SSPC staff. The goal is to reach out to and engage at least 2400 community members to create community-wide awareness and prevention.



Community Health Warrior

Highlights of Our Impact - 2020

We are so grateful to our supporters for enabling us to continue to serve our community during this difficult time. Here are the highlights of our year.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, GFS shifted to remote program delivery and added activities to address the basic needs of community residents. In partnership with other local organizations, we:

- Distributed food, diapers, formula, baby wipes, and PPE: **1359 families served**
- Distributed financial and rent assistance to community families totaling: **\$172,000**
- Shared COVID information/resources via our BBP App: **1186 families served**

To continue to support the educational needs of families with young children we:

- Created/distributed learning videos and activities for our preschool children: **91 children**
- Shared educational resources via our BBP App, and distributed books and activities
- Provided families with free access to myOn Reader, a digital library: **173 families**

We launched Family Math Initiative with the DREME Network (Development and Research in Early Math Education), which is based at Stanford University. The program combines family engagement and early math activities to help parents support their children's early math learning at home.

We opened our second State-funded Preschool campus, located on Story Road in San Jose, to the maximum enrollment allowed by health guidelines and under strict health protocols.

With our Si Se Puede Collective (SSPC) partners - Amigos de Guadalupe, School of Arts & Culture, SOMOS Mayfair, and Veggielution, **we received the inaugural Carmen Castellano Community-Based Organization of the Year Award** from the Latina Coalition of Silicon Valley.

We launched a Public Health Campaign pilot in partnership with SSPC and Santa Clara County, and implemented a **Get-Out-the-Vote (Power not Fear) Campaign** with our SSPC partners.

Thank You, Supporters!

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(partial list)

**Serving families
and young children
for
20 years**

Please follow us!

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Grail Family Services
2003 E. San Antonio Street
San Jose, CA 95116
408.347.7892
www.gfsfamilyservices.org

GFS-Our Year in Pictures

