

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



CENTRO
de la familia



TABLE OF CONTENTS

03	About Us	14	Education Services
04	Letter from our CEO	15	Family Services
06	Board of Directors	17	Wellness
07	Parent Letters	18	ERAP
10	Head Start	19	Community Programs
11	PIR Data	20	Fiscal Management
12	Health Report	21	Service Areas

ABOUT US

Centro de la Familia de Utah is a nonprofit organization that promotes healthy and engaged communities by advocating for children's educational success. Working with children and families since 1975, Centro has excelled at managing early outreach and educational programs among under-served communities in both urban and rural areas.

Today, Centro operates 22 rural Head Start centers in the tristate area of Utah, Colorado, and Nevada, and five Head Start childcare partnerships in Salt Lake City. Additionally, Centro maintains a portfolio of outcome-based programs for elementary, middle, and high school students, and programs for adults that provide the tools and skills necessary for self-sufficiency.



"Quiero expresar mi gratitud hacia el programa Centro De La Familia por la gran ayuda que nos brindan a los padres con niños pequeños. Me siento feliz de formar parte de esta gran familia."

- Centro Parent



LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Centro de la Familia served children and families during 2021 and 2022 in active mitigation of the COVID19 contagion. We renewed all center-based services May 2021, and during this same period Centro expanded services into Colorado and Nevada, shortly reaching mandated enrollment in Colorado and Utah. Our Nevada centers took some time but reached full enrollment in early 2023.

COVID's initial impact on enrollment coupled with CARES Act and America Rescue Plan funding generated program surpluses we invested in the purchase of two properties, our Echo Academy Center in Grand Junction, Colorado for the Region VIII Head Start and Early Head Start program, and the Holden Center in Utah for the Migrant Region XII program. Both currently provide full-day, center-based services.

During this period, Centro was relieved that no staff member or child was lost to COVID, however, too many remained affected by the aftermaths on a close relative, a friend, or even an immediate member in the community. In recognition of this, Centro assumed a clear mandate for the welfare and wellbeing of staff and families by investing significant resources in mental wellness and personnel retention initiatives.

LETTER FROM OUR CEO

All our families and children were periodically brought together in a full day of family fun at the Zoo and the Aquarium in Utah. In Colorado, Centro rented the Family Fun Park in Grand Junction. All employees in our tri-state area were given a full week's paid vacation in 2021 and in 2022, and the board and Policy Council approved policies for hardship payment and sign-on bonuses as part of our staffing and personnel retention initiatives.

I am happy to report that Centro de la Familia led the industry in mitigating the impact of the COVID19 pandemic with critical and exemplary services to families, with consistent and sustained center based as well as virtual classroom activities, by implementing timely and effective sanitation practices, and through effective collaborations with state and local departments for testing and vaccinations.

We should all be proud. I am honored to have worked with you during this challenging period.

Thank you!

GONZALO PALZA
CEO / HEAD START DIRECTOR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sebastian de Freitas

President

Silvia Norman

Secretary

Joshua Lakin

Financial Expert

Alexa

Chenoweth

Region 8 Policy
Council Rep

Jasmine Morales

Region 12 Policy
Council Rep

Corper James

Legal Expert

Karla Palmer

ECE Expert

Nicole Salazar Hill

Member

Gabriela Mena

Member

Mikael Sorensen

Member

PARENT LETTERS

I am writing this letter to let the company know just how much their Early Head Start Program has helped my family. Centro's Early Head Start Program has been so helpful with our therapies and providing any and all advice and resources for my children with their many developmental and health and genetic issues. The Early Head Start team, Family Service Specialists, and front office teams are like a second family. We love them and they are lovely people who deserve all the kindness that this world can offer them.

Heather

Having my son go to Centro has been great! It has really helped him grow and learn things before he goes into kindergarten next year. He loves it! Him having interaction with other kids, learning to share, wait in line and working on his speech is all so good for him. Centro has been a great experience for my kid and me I'm so glad I put him in Head Start.

Bree

PARENT LETTERS

Centro has meant a lot to me and my kids as it has helped me continue to work and to provide for my family.

It has been a joy to get to know the teachers as well as being able to participate in their education. It is important knowing that my kids are cared for and loved. Knowing that they come from trauma, it is important for me to know that my kids are treasured and not just another student, but they are loved, and that was evident in the things they do and say for my children.

Also, they have come so far regarding speech and development as they've been able to interact with other children. The ability to have a Speech Therapists come into the classroom and work with them as needed has been appreciated!

Lisa

When I think of my children's education, I think of what Centro de la Familia - Honeyville has offered to my family. This service has had an enormous impact on my family.

For starters, it has given my children early exposure to education. My two graduates from the center have shown excellent performance in their now kindergarten and first-grade classes. My youngest child has been able to exercise her social skills, which has helped a lot. She is a "pandemic" baby, and socializing wasn't a big thing in her early stages of life.

We have loved everything the center offers, from the bus transportation to the faculty and staff to the special events they host and informative resources that have helped ends meet on several occasions. We are thankful that this allows us to avoid an extra expense (child care), yet go to work every day knowing that our children are being cared for, educated, and fed. Our counselor Luz Rodriguez has been a great advocate and guide through these years. I have participated as a parent committee president for a year to contribute a little to what this great program has given us.

Jasmine

PARENT LETTERS

HEADSTART



In 1991, Centro began offering Head Start services to the children and families of migrant and seasonal farmworkers in rural, agricultural areas of Utah. Now, 31 years later, we serve a funded enrollment of 1,164 children through our Head Start programs in Utah, Nevada and Colorado

In addition to our Head Start programs, Centro also provides quality preschool services to children through a state-funded program. Throughout this annual report, we highlight the services provided to children and their families. You will find that everything we do is in support of our mission: Promoting the educational success of children and families and fostering healthy and engaged communities.



PIR DATA 2021-2022

FAMILIES SERVED

957

CHILDREN SERVED

1195

PREGNANT WOMEN
SERVED

40

% OF FUNDED
ENROLLMENT SLOTS
SERVED

107%

% OF CHILDREN WHO
RECEIVED MEDICAL EXAMS

66%

% OF CHILDREN WHO
RECEIVED DENTAL EXAMS

78%

2022

HEALTH REPORT

A highlight of 2022 were the health clinics that have been established at our Migrant locations to provide wellness checks for children. These clinics offer a range of services, including physical exams. The clinics aim to provide access to preventive care services for children in a convenient and accessible location, reducing barriers to care. The clinics have served a significant number of children and have identified and addressed various health issues through early detection and intervention.



759 kids recieved medical services



839 kids recieved dental services



1052 kids have medical homes



1023 kids have dental homes

2022 HEALTH REPORT

One of the biggest accomplishments we saw with our health team was the development of the health dashboard. This dashboard displays health events required for each child and when they are due. It's designed to be user-friendly and easy to navigate, allowing family service specialists to monitor for any health needs that require immediate attention. By utilizing this online dashboard, the staff and parents can stay informed about their children's health needs and ensure that they receive timely and appropriate care. This tool is an important resource in promoting children's health and well-being and reducing the likelihood of missed appointments or delayed care.

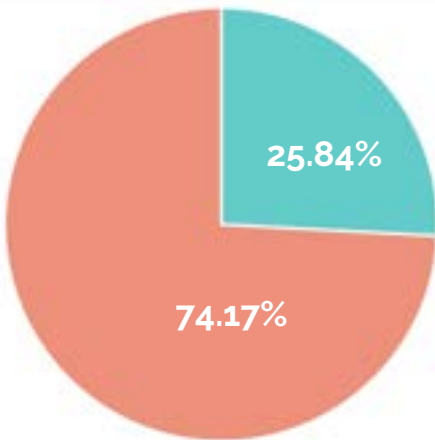
Another major development of 2022 was the '18 Vision Development Milestones from Birth to Baby's First Birthday.' This tool was established to ensure that children's vision is progressing at the right pace. It allows for the early detection of vision problems in children and provides a framework for monitoring their vision development over time. By utilizing this tool, Family Service Specialists can identify vision problems and intervene early, preventing potential long-term vision problems. These developmental milestones are an important resource in promoting the overall health and well-being of children and ensuring that they receive the care necessary to thrive.

EDUCATION SERVICES

SCHOOL READINESS BY THE END OF THE HEAD START PROGRAM

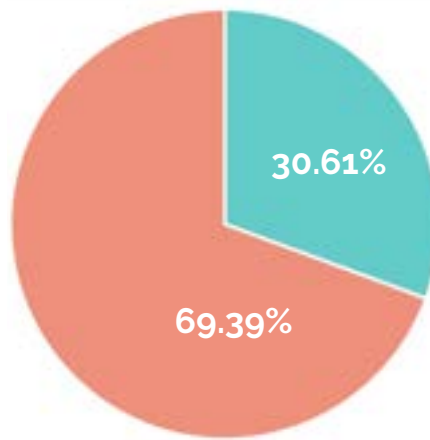
■ Below ■ Meets & Above

LITERACY



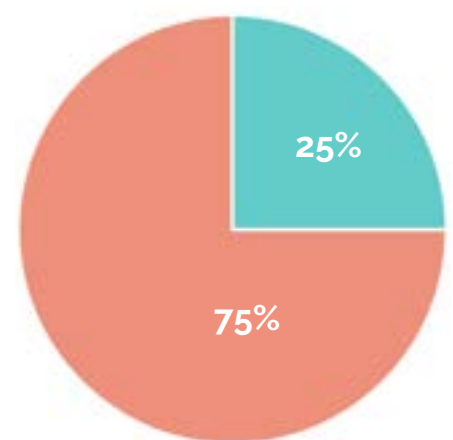
Literacy: Focuses on reading and writing which includes phonological awareness, print and alphabet knowledge, comprehension, and text structure. At the end of the school year, 74% of children served were meeting or exceeding widely held expectations. This was a 32% increase from where children were at the beginning of the school year.

COGNITIVE



Cognitive: Cognitive development includes scientific reasoning, problem-solving, and thinking skills that help children understand and organize the world around them. This developmental domain saw tremendous growth of 40% from the beginning of the school year.

COMPOSITE



Composite Score: These scores represent the percentage of children who, overall, are meeting or exceeding widely held expectations. Our measurement criteria as an agency is for us to have 80% of the children we serve meeting or exceeding widely held expectations. We were only 5% from meeting that goal. We recognize children develop at different speeds, so we can't expect it to be 100%.

FAMILY SERVICES

After COVID, Centro focused on teaching families about mental health. Each center brought in mental health professionals from their community to train parents. They taught strategies to manage and deal with stress. Our Utah programs partnered with the Utah Department of Human Resources and Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health to provide presentations to our families. Centro purchased “Calming Kits,” a child-friendly teaching tool designed to support families to help their children learn calming strategies to regulate their emotions effectively. Children are able to use the Calming Kits on their own to successfully interact with siblings, lower feelings of stress, and understand and process their feelings.

With the COVID funds Centro received, we were able to provide fun mental health activities for all of our families. These activities included going to the Zoo, Aquarium, movies, parks, pumpkin patches, and even ice skating. Fishing was another fun mental health activity we provided during parent meetings which focused on Fatherhood involvement. Other trainings Centro provided addressed topics such as preventing and dealing with domestic violence, nutrition, child passenger safety, finance, and how to access CHIP, Medicaid & HEAT.

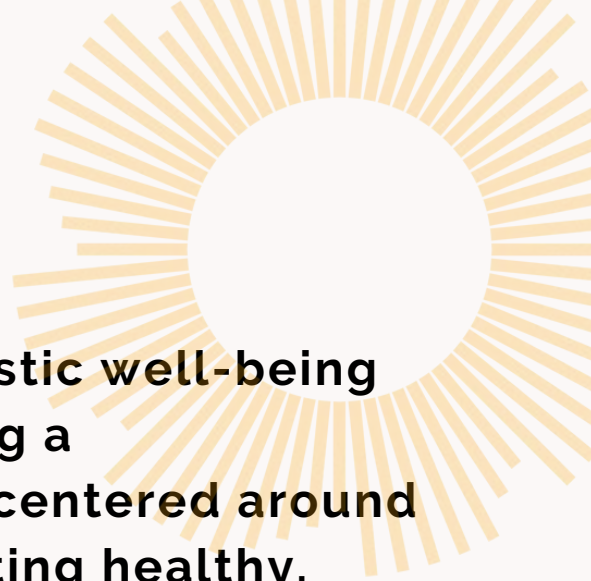


FAMILY SERVICES

Centro also started a new program called "Abriendo Puertas/ Opening Doors" which is key in preparing parents and their young children for school success. It has ten interactive sessions to assist parents in building strong foundations for their children in reading, math, technology, health and more. The goal is to empower parents and involve them in educating their children. Parents support each other in making what they learn a part of daily life, understanding they are in powerful positions as leaders and advocates for their families.



WELLNESS



In 2021 Centro prioritized the holistic well-being of our employees by implementing a comprehensive health challenge centered around exercising, mental health, and eating healthy. This initiative aimed to promote a balanced and healthy lifestyle, improve overall well-being, and create a supportive work environment. The challenge offered a variety of options, allowing employees to choose activities based on their individual preferences, interests, and fitness levels.

The Health Challenge significantly contributed to the well-being of our employees. By providing opportunities for physical activity, mental health support, and nutritional guidance, our organization has taken substantial steps towards creating a healthier and more supportive work environment. With the implementation of future recommendations and ongoing commitment, we are confident in further enhancing employee well-being and fostering a culture that prioritizes holistic health in the coming year and beyond.

ERAP

As an organization committed to supporting children and families, we have prioritized effective communication and outreach to ensure that those in need are aware of the assistance available to them. Our outreach efforts have played a vital role in raising awareness about our Emergency Rental Assistance Program. By utilizing collaborative partnerships, a multichannel communication approach, and culturally sensitive outreach, we have successfully reached hundreds of individuals and families in need.

As an organization providing emergency rental assistance, we recognized the importance of establishing and nurturing strong relationships with the individuals and families we supported. By prioritizing these relationships, we aimed to create an atmosphere of trust, empathy, and long-term support. This led to many referrals and people finding us through word of mouth. Through all of our efforts, we were able to help over 500 people with rental assistance.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

NUEVO DIA



Serving ages 9-12.
Promotes awareness and communication between youth and their parents.

PLAZAS COMUNITARIAS



Provides Spanish speaking adults the opportunity to complete their primary and secondary education.

EARLY ESCALERA



College and career preparation course designed specifically for Hispanic high school Freshmen and Sophmores

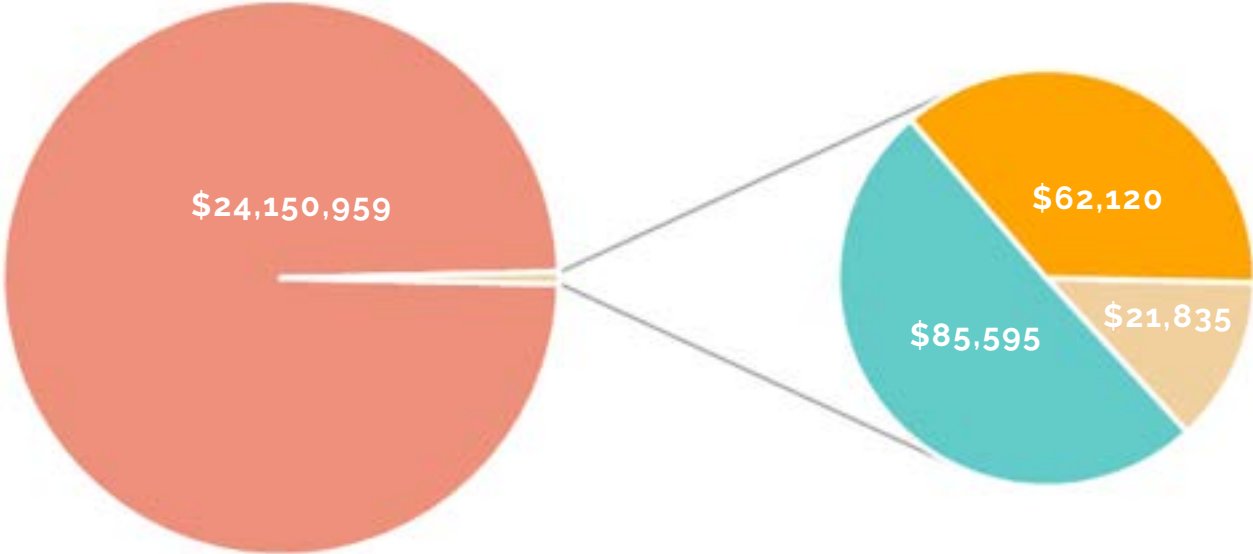
SAFE DATES



Helps teenagers acquire the skills to develop healthy relationships and prevent risky relationship behaviors.

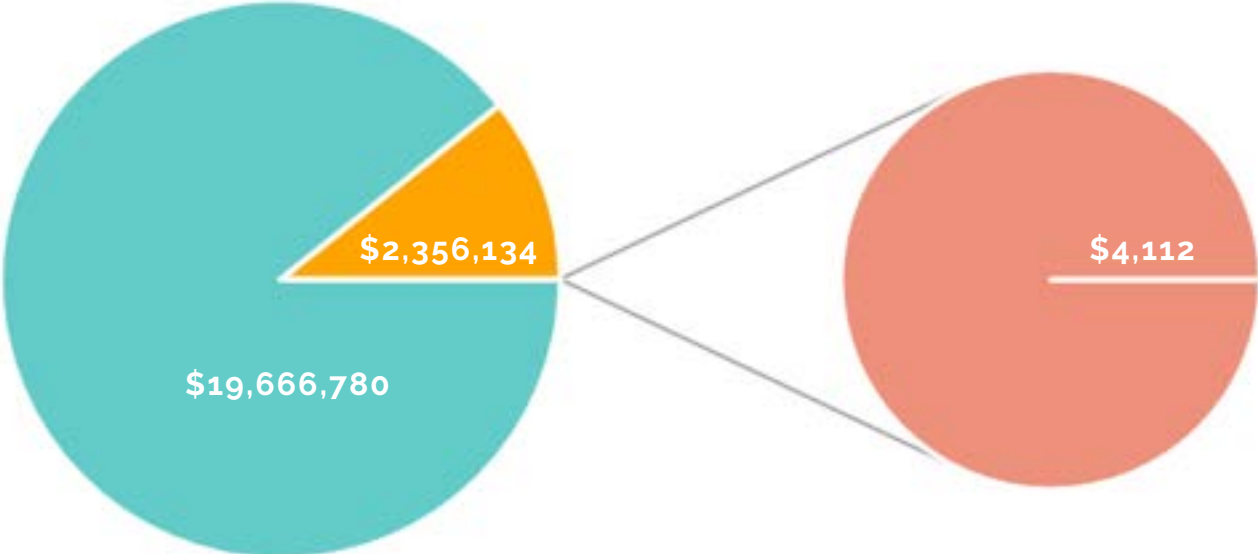
FISCAL MANAGEMENT

REVENUE



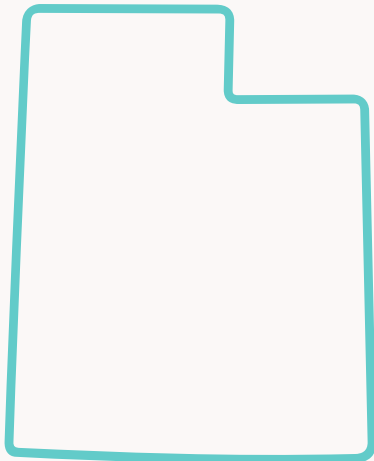
■ In-Kind Support ■ Government Contracts ■ Other Contributions ■ Other Income

EXPENSES



■ Program Expenses ■ General & Administrative ■ Fund Raising

SERVICE AREAS - UTAH



MAIN OFFICE

Salt Lake City
(801) 521 - 4473

CACHE COUNTY

Providence Center
(435) 754 - 3730

BOX ELDER, WEBER, & DAVIS COUNTIES

Box Elder Center
(435) 239 - 7700
Clinton Center
(385) 404 - 3001

MILLARD COUNTY

Holden Center
(385) 423 - 4043

UTAH & JUAB COUNTIES

Genola Center
(435) 404 - 3010

SANPETE COUNTY

Centerfield Center
(435) 529 - 8120
Mt Pleasant Center
(435) 580 - 5080

SLC PARTNERSHIPS

Creative Learning Academy

(801) 433-4004

Forever Children

(801) 487-2650

Panda Child Care

(801) 359-1234

Smart Kids Taylorsville

(801) 966-8664

Smart Kids West Jordan

(801) 566-3731

MILLARD COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS

The Kid Depot

(435) 864 - 0500

SERVICE AREAS - COLORADO



MESA COUNTY

Main Office

(970) 822-8645

Echo Canyon Center

(970) 200-8108

Grand Junction Center

(970) 628-1164

Red Canyon Center

(970) 200-8107

Gateway Center

(970) 628-1164

Ute Canyon Center

(970) 644-5314

WELD COUNTY

Greeley Center

(775) 636-8305

ADAMS COUNTY

Brighton Center

(970) 200-8109

MOFFAT COUNTY

Craig Center

(970) 620-4001

MONTROSE COUNTY

Olathe

(970) 852-7652

GARFIELD COUNTY

Rifle Center

(970) 596-9803

Parachute Center

(970) 200-8106

SERVICE AREA - NEVADA



CHURCHILL COUNTY

Fallon Center

(775) 446-5060

LYON COUNTY

Yerington Center

(775) 636-8260