

Casa Central Impact Report

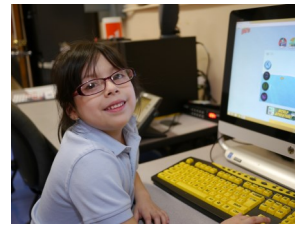
Fiscal Year 2017

Transforming Lives and Strengthening Communities since 1954



Dear Friends,

One of my favorite poems is "What is Success?" by Ralph Waldo Emerson. In part it reads: "To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded." By this measure, and every measure, Casa Central has succeeded. We are proud that everything we do is evidenced-based. That allows us to actually measure the significant impact that we have on communities, families and individuals. Through our wide array of programs and services we not only help families raise healthy children, but in the broadest sense of the word we are redeeming the social condition of our families in the communities in which they live. Whether you are a senior participating in our wellness programs, a child in our Head Start program, or a family we are helping get back on their feet through our transitional homeless program, we know that you are breathing a little easier because Casa Central is here. I want to thank you, our supporters and donors, for what you do to ensure that Casa Central is around today and tomorrow to continue to impact the success of our communities.



Best Regards,
Marty Castro
Interim President and CEO

Committed to Quality

Casa Central is committed to providing the highest-quality services to participants in all of its programs, as well as to agency staff and stakeholders. The Performance Quality Improvement system maintains a formalized venue for internally planning, measuring, developing recommendations for improvement and monitoring both the agency's compliance with regulations and the quality of service provided.



Primary Participant Profile

- 66% are female
- 48% are single
- 61% are Spanish speaking
- 44% are over the age of 63
- 81% are Hispanic
- 44% are of Mexican decent and 25% are of Puerto Rican decent
- 70% report a household income under \$19,000
- 926 reported that they reside in the Humboldt Park, Logan Square, Hermosa/ Belmont Cragin area.

Quality of Life

97% of Casa Central participants report a higher quality of life while engaging in our services



Mission: Casa Central transforms lives and strengthens communities, with a special focus on Hispanics. Our network of social services propels a diverse population of all ages toward self-sufficiency and a higher quality of life.

Increase in Physical Well-Being

La Posada



98% of families maintained housing for at least 6 months, from the date of exit from the Interim Housing program.

Home Care Services



100% of participants reported feeling emotionally and physically safer as a result of HCS.

Intact Family

98% of intact families have remained together during the period of intact family service provision



Adult Wellness Center

100% of participants that completed the Arthritis Exercise program reported an increase range of mobility.



Edwin (age 63) began attending the AWC in late January 2017. During his intake meeting, he told staff that he was sad because he did not have the energy to do any of the activities that he enjoyed. He also described having problems sleeping and suffering from anxiety. After attending the AWC over the past 6 months, Edwin's mood and energy levels have drastically changed. Now, he is always full of energy and loves participating in activities, telling staff "life is good!" He has made many new friends at the AWC and due to this; he enjoys dancing and socializing with both the participants and staff. He also loves to sing and last month participated in a singing contest at the AWC, which his family was very excited about!

Increase in Emotional Well-Being

Violence Prevention & Intervention



100% of parents/ caregivers showed improvement in their relationship with their children after participating in eight therapy sessions.

Y.O.U. – El Comienzo



100% of parents are able to identify their child's developmental needs

Angelica was a young parent who had her first child, Milo, when she was just 17. At the urging of her mother, Angelica enrolled 4-year-old Milo in Casa Central's Early Learning Academy, Home-Based program. Angelica describes feeling nervous before the first home visit, unsure of whether she'd like it and uncertain about her capacities as a parent. However, that soon changed. Angelica describes, "My Parent Educator reinforced for me I'm my child's first and best teacher. When she first started coming, I kind of hung back, because I figured she was the teacher, she knew what to do more than I did. But she'd say, 'No, come on! Now you do it!' and then she'd tell my son, 'Look how well your mami knows how to teach you.' It made me feel good. She reassured me and told me how important I am."

Through the program's weekly 90-minute home visits, bimonthly group socialization activities, and holistic support from the Family Development Specialist, Angelica helped Milo make tremendous developmental progress; he graduated from the program this year and will head to Kindergarten in the fall at a selective enrollment gifted elementary school designed for English-language learners. At his transition celebration, Angelica commented, "Anytime I needed anything, no matter what, I knew I could turn to Casa Central. You really made me believe that I could help my son do anything, and I know he's on the right path."

Increase in Social Integration:

Adrian (age 8) is a child who has been with SAP since 2014. He was diagnosed with ADHD and has a history of throwing tantrums with violent outbursts and running out of the classroom. With proper intervention methods and constant communication with Adrian's mom, these behaviors have lessened. Adrian checks in individually with SAP's Director every day about what kind of day he is having, and he is reminded to start his time at SAP with a clean slate. These check ins help Adrian monitor his own social-emotional behavior, and help staff adjust attention and programming to keep the entire classroom running smoothly. Adrian has also adjusted his behavior, after being made aware that running out of the classroom is not safe, and is given other options as safe spaces when he needs to spend a moment by himself to debrief. Additionally, Adrian is receiving services at school and can now recognize the signs of a tantrum and when he is about to have one. From this assistance in reflecting on his emotions in school and at SAP, Adrian is now able to calm himself down independently the majority of times he feels a tantrum beginning. Ultimately, this collaboration between SAP and Adrian's school has provided Adrian with more comprehensive services that help him manage his impulsive emotions, bettering Adrian's safety and the safety of SAP participants and staff.

School Age Program

83% of students participating in Social & Self Awareness Learning demonstrated an increase in their social emotional skills.



55 & Better

100% of older adult participants reported they learned a new skill after attending a job readiness workshop



Early Learning Academy

85% of children meet or exceed expectations for dual language acquisition

98% of children meet or exceed expectations in math development

85% of children meet or exceed expectations in literacy development