



MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

Latino Health Initiative

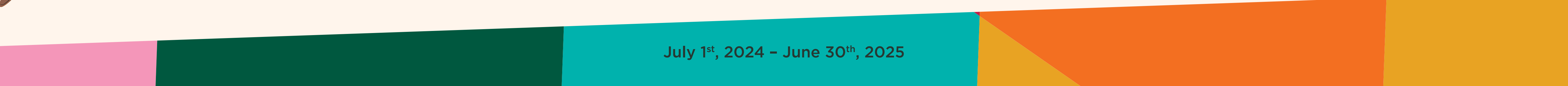
2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Improving the quality of life for latinos in Montgomery County



July 1st, 2024 – June 30th, 2025



THE LHI MISSION:

To improve the quality of life of Latinos living in Montgomery County by contributing to the development and implementation of an integrated, coordinated, culturally and linguistically competent health wellness system that supports, values, and respects Latino families and communities.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE LATINO HEALTH STEERING COMMITTEE:

Building Resilience, Advancing Equity

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Community Members,

This year reminded us once again of both the challenges and the possibilities that shape the health and well-being of our community. FY25 was no exception. Federal, state, and local realities tested our resilience—yet they also highlighted the extraordinary impact of collaboration, advocacy, and culturally grounded programs in improving the lives of Latino families throughout Montgomery County.

Below are a few of the year’s most significant achievements:

- **Expanding Workforce Pathways:** *The Vías de la Salud* Community Health Worker (CHW) Certification Program expanded to two cohorts and increased its practicum network to 11 sites to meet rising community demand. Thirty-seven CHW’s graduated this year, strengthening our local workforce and advancing culturally responsive care across the county.
- **Community Reach and Referrals:** Through 849 outreach and education activities, LHI’s CHW Program engaged more than 47,000 residents and generated 5,064 referrals to county and community-based health and social services. These referrals played a crucial role in ensuring that community members are connected to timely, essential support.
- **Health, Wellness, and Climate:** We continued integrating climate awareness into health initiatives. *Charlas con Zumba* earned a 2025 NACO Achievement Award for its innovative model linking physical movement, nature, and overall well-being. LHI also received the GOLD Award in the 2025 Climate Office Ready Challenge—making it the **only county team** to earn this top honor.
- **Emotional Well-Being:** Rooted in Latino traditions of mutual aid, *Encuentros* offered 147 culturally grounded emotional support groups, serving 1,525 participants. These groups strengthened coping skills, reduced anxiety, and reinforced the importance of mental health as a cornerstone of community resilience.

Recent immigration enforcement actions have contributed to an environment marked by fear and hesitation, especially for mixed-status and undocumented families. Many now avoid seeking health care, education, or social services out of concern for their safety, deepening existing disparities. Simultaneously, instability in federal agencies—one of Montgomery County’s largest employment sectors—has created uncertainty for thousands of households.

Layoffs and budget cuts this year have already disrupted family stability, increased financial strain, and heightened vulnerability. Looking ahead, further reductions in federal programs and jobs could jeopardize family security and weaken the county’s economic health. This instability threatens not only household well-being but the broader social and economic fabric of our community.

Continued investment in these essential programs is critical. Only with strong, accessible services—including health care, mental health support, food assistance, housing, and workforce development—can we prevent widening disparities and help families build secure, hopeful futures.

These realities guide our priorities and our resolve. Grounded in equity, resilience, and empowerment, we remain committed to bridging gaps, strengthening supports, and building a community where all Latino residents can thrive.

In solidarity and gratitude,



Marcela Cámpoli
Co-Chair
Latino Health Steering Committee



Diego Uriburu
Co-Chair
Latino Health Steering Committee



PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES



AMA TU VIDA, AMA TU HERENCIA FAIR

Ama Tu Vida is a community health and resource fair designed to promote wellness, disease prevention, and access to care for Latino families in Montgomery County. The event took place on Sunday, October 6, 2024, in collaboration with community partners and with support from the Mid-County Regional Services Center and the Wheaton Urban District.

The fair brings Latino families together for a day of culture, connection, and care. Attendees enjoyed free health screenings, educational activities, and access to essential services in a welcoming, culturally relevant environment. This year, more than 60 partners and local health agencies participated, providing checkups, screenings, referrals, and valuable information to help the community stay healthy and strong.

Highlights

- Approximately **900 attendees** participated in health screenings, accessed educational resources, and enjoyed family-friendly entertainment.
- Fifteen partner organizations conducted a total of **121 health screenings**.
- Post-screening, **150 referrals** were made to connect community members with necessary services and medical appointments.



ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Asthma Management Program supports low-income Latino parents and caregivers of children with asthma by reducing emergency department visits and hospitalization rates. The program strengthens families' knowledge, confidence, and skills to effectively manage their children's asthma through seven virtual group education sessions, individualized 30-minute coaching sessions, and home environment assessments.

Outputs

- 103 individuals reached through asthma awareness activities
- 710 individuals were engaged through social media outreach
- 50 home environment assessments conducted

Highlights

- The program delivered **28 one-hour group education sessions for 50 parents and caregivers of 53 children** across four cohorts. Sessions focused on early asthma symptom recognition, proper medication use, and reducing exposure to asthma triggers.
- An additional **172 thirty-minute individual coaching sessions** were provided, using practical tools to help parents identify and address specific factors affecting their child's asthma control with some families receiving multiple coaching sessions.

100%

of participants
reported being
satisfied with the
program.

100%

stated that their needs were
understood and that they
were treated with respect.

Outcomes

	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Difference
Increase in asthma management knowledge by parents/caregivers (pre - post test)	65%	89%	+24%
Increase in the percentage of children with asthma who have a written asthma management plan from their health care provider (before and after participation)	42%	89%	+47%
Increase in the percentage of children with asthma who have a peak flow meter, comparing before and after program engagement	38%	100%	+62%
Increase in parents reporting feeling fairly or very confident in their ability to manage their children's asthma	16%	70%	+54%
Reduction in the percentage of children who miss school days, measured before and three months after participation	46%	36%	-10%
Reduction in activity limitations among children with asthma (before and three months after participation)	50%	40%	-10%
Reduction in reported emergency department visits due to asthma among children with asthma (before and three months after)	32%	10%	-22%
Reduction in reported hospitalizations due to asthma among children with asthma (before and three months after)	12%	2%	-10%

100%

reported that the program helped them improve their children's asthma management.



CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

LHI, in collaboration with Identity provides free case management services to address the growing demand for health and social support in our community. Services are delivered in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner for Latino residents of Montgomery County. These services begin with a comprehensive needs assessment and are followed by an action plan with targeted follow-up interventions. This approach ensures that clients receive timely access to essential services. Core areas of support include food assistance, health care, clothing, financial assistance, and educational resources.

Highlights

- The program prioritized the county's most vulnerable ZIP codes—20874, 20876, 20877, 20878, 20879, 20886, 20902, 20903, and 20906—**ensuring strong geographic coverage and support for the areas with the highest need.**
- Through strong inter-agency partnerships, program staff participated in **more than sixty community events**, including school fairs, conferences, neighborhood assemblies, family empowerment workshops, and legal clinics. At every event, staff provided bilingual materials, listened to families, and helped build pathways toward long-term stability.
- Self-Sufficiency Outcome Pilot Survey:
 - In FY25, a **self-sufficiency outcome pilot survey was launched.**
 - A sample of 120 clients from among the 3,454 total program participants were interviewed using a self-sufficiency tool at baseline and again two months later.
 - The survey **collected data on four key areas of need: food, clothing, health, and other basic necessities.**
 - Using a 1-to-6 scale, clients were categorized as being in crisis, vulnerable, or stable.
 - At baseline, **58 of the 120 individuals (48%) were classified as “in crisis”** in at least one of the four domains. **By follow-up, the number of individuals in crisis had decreased**, showing measurable improvements across the areas of need.

Outputs

- 10,930 referrals provided
- On average 3 referrals per case
- 3,454 clients served

Outcomes

95% of clients were able to access services upon referral

Quality of Service

98% of clients were satisfied with the services received

CLIMATE AND HEALTH ACTION PROGRAM

LHI continues integrating climate-related themes into existing health interventions and expanded its efforts to raise community awareness about the growing health impacts of climate change. This year's offerings included:



Charlamos con Zumba – A dynamic six-session program that combines physical activity with environmental health education. Participants take part in Zumba sessions while learning about the links between climate, environment, and overall health.



Forest Bathing Workshops – Guided outdoor experiences that support physical, mental, and spiritual well-being by encouraging participants to reconnect with nature through mindful sensory engagement.



Community Events and Workshops – Interactive gatherings that provide information on climate change, health equity, and local resources, while fostering dialogue and motivating community action.



Park Clean-Ups – Volunteer-led activities that strengthen environmental stewardship and community pride by maintaining and beautifying neighborhood green spaces.



Demos un Paso Verde – A community-based intervention held in local parks that integrates group walking activities with accessible education on climate literacy and community resources.



Highlights

Climate and Health Training for Community Health Workers - LHI launched its first training titled “The Connection between Climate and Health.” This 4-hour session featured presentations from the Department of Environmental Protection and LHI Communications, equipping community health workers with foundational knowledge and tools to create social media awareness campaigns.

Charlemos con Zumba

- Recipient of the 2025 NACo Award.
- Expanded to five cohorts (three in-person, two virtual), totaling 30 sessions and 239 participants. The in-person sessions, held in partnership with Rockville Memorial Library, introduced many participants to the library for the first time—strengthening community connections and access to local resources.

Forest Bathing Workshops - Ten workshops across the county engaged 195 participants, fostering deeper connections to nature and community through guided sensory experiences.

Demos un Paso Verde - One cohort with four sessions reached 21 participants, combining group walking with climate literacy and resource education in local parks.

Climate and Health Workshop - One cohort completed a full workshop session with 10 participants building essential knowledge on the connection between climate and health.

Park Clean-Ups - Three park clean-up events hosted at Wheaton Claridge Local Park, East Norbeck Local Park, and Black Hill Regional Park mobilized 113 volunteers, strengthening environmental stewardship and encouraging active community involvement.

Pedal-Powered Community Events LHI hosted two interactive events in Wheaton, featuring pedal-powered activities—including smoothie blenders and light towers—that engaged participants of all ages in climate and health education through fun, hands-on learning.

Recognition and Impact: Gold Certification in the County’s Climate Ready Office Challenge, recognizing leadership in reducing emissions, strengthening climate resilience, and advancing equity.

2,055 Individuals reached through outreach and engagement activities.

99% Participant satisfaction rate across all programs.

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS PROGRAM

In partnership with HealthPro, LHI ensures that our Community Health Workers (CHWs) provide culturally and linguistically appropriate health promotion services tailored to the most pressing needs of our target populations. CHWs receive comprehensive training to understand their roles and responsibilities, strengthen communication skills, navigate community resources, and expand their knowledge in core wellness areas such as healthy eating and physical activity. Through robust community engagement, outreach, and education, LHI works to empower individuals to make informed, healthier choices and improve overall health outcomes.



Highlights

- CHWs delivered a **four-session Healthy Eating workshop** for older adults and community members at the Rockville Senior Center.
- **LHI launched its first climate and health training** for Community Health Workers, titled *"The Connection Between Climate and Health."*
- CHWs completed their first "Take Care of Yourself and Take Care of Others" training, focused on conflict management and strategies for safely de-escalating challenging community situations.
- The CHW program **strengthened partnerships** with multiple residential communities to deliver Healthy Eating workshops and lead physical activity sessions (*Caminatas*).
- 35 CHWs are actively part of the program, and receive ongoing training opportunities.

100%

Of participants reported being satisfied with the program.

Outputs

- 849 outreach activities were conducted throughout the year
- 46,998 individuals were reached by Community Health Workers (CHWs) through outreach efforts
- 15,188 individuals were referred to health and social services for additional support

Healthy Eating

- 14 groups received four sessions, totaling 56 sessions with 248 participants

Caminatas

- 9 groups participated in 6 sessions, totaling 54 sessions and engaging 164 participants

Outcomes

	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Difference
Increase in knowledge of physical activity by Caminatas participants	66%	87%	+21%
Increase in intent related to physical activity of Caminatas participants	31%	82%	+51%
Increase in knowledge of Healthy Eating participants	70%	93%	+23%
Increase in self-efficacy related to Healthy Eating participants (before and after the sessions)	66%	85%	+19%

21%

of clients referred reported that they successfully accessed health and social services as a result of CHW support.



COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Through a partnership with Identity, this program provides culturally and linguistically appropriate emotional support groups for Latino adults and youth. Rooted in Latino traditions of mutual support, the program offers a safe space to discuss mental health challenges and develop coping strategies. All sessions are community-designed and facilitated by trained local cofacilitators, with support from bilingual staff.

Highlights

- Participants ranged in age from 20 to 88 years old, with an **average age of 41.5**.
- **The average attendance rate across all sessions was 87%.**
- Adult participants came from key cities across Montgomery County, including Silver Spring, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Montgomery Village, and Rockville. **Top ZIP codes represented included: 20877, 20886, 20878, 20906, and 20902.**

Outputs

- **882 community mental health sessions conducted**
- **147 mental health cohorts were facilitated throughout the year, delivering 6 sessions per cohort**
- **A total of 1,525 participants successfully completed the program**

Outcomes

- **Among adult participants who reported mild levels of anxiety, 83% experienced a decrease in symptoms**
- **Among those who reported severe levels of anxiety, 95% reported a decrease**
- **93% of participants indicated they will use the strategies learned in the support groups to help manage their stress**

	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Difference
Change in self-efficacy related to coping mechanisms of participants	62%	86%	+24%
Percentage of participants who self-reported doing a good job at managing stress	56%	86%	+30%
Percentage of participants who self-reported doing a good job at managing feelings of sadness or despair	56%	82%	+26%
Percentage of participants who self-reported having the skills to help friends and family to manage stressful situations	69%	87%	+18%

FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES PROGRAM

Latino families who reunite after long periods of separation due to migration often face significant emotional, social, and practical challenges, including trauma, language barriers, school and workplace adjustment, and financial strain. To support these families, LHI partners with Identity to provide Spanish-language, family-centered psycho-educational workshops. The Family Reunification Services Program helps families rebuild trust, strengthen communication, and deepen resilience through culturally grounded guidance and structured support.

Highlights

- In FY25, the program partnered with seven Montgomery County Public High Schools to assist 59 Latino immigrant families, providing **reunification services to 69 parents and 62 youth**. Youth and families were part of the following High Schools: Northwest, Gaithersburg, Watkins Mill, Wheaton, Springbrook, John F. Kennedy, Seneca Valley.
- The program has enhanced the psychosocial integration of families separated by migration by creating a safe, supportive environment where participants can share experiences, explore challenges, and set realistic expectations for life together.
- In-person group sessions, reinforced by structured home-based activities, **equipped families with essential skills—including assertive communication, mutual understanding, emotional regulation, and cultural sensitivity**—critical for adapting to a new sociocultural environment.

Outputs

139 individualized coaching sessions

Outcomes

6% of of parents/guardians and 25% of youth initially lacked knowledge of family strengthening values. Of this group, 100% parents/guardians and 67% of youth reported improved understanding and practice by program completion

25% of parents/guardians and 37% of youth began with a poor parent-child connection. Of this group, 81% of parents/guardians and 64% of youth improved relationships by program completion

5% of parents/guardians and 28% of youth reported poor communication at baseline. Of this group, 100% of parents/guardians along with 75% of youth reported better communication skills by program completion

Quality of Service

75% of youth and 95% of parents reported that they found the family reunification services useful

87% of youth and 100% of parents expressed satisfaction with the program



LATINO YOUTH WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Latino Youth Wellness Program (LYWP) supports the well-being of vulnerable Latino youth by:



Promoting mental and reproductive health, nutrition, and physical activity



Preventing substance use and risky behaviors among middle school students



Reducing risk factors and strengthening protective factors



Providing leadership training for high school students



Enhancing parent-connectedness



Supporting healthier lifestyles and stronger support systems for Latino youth

Highlights

Identity

- Implemented activities with students from Montgomery Village, Neelsville, and Odessa Shannon Middle Schools, as well as Northwood, Gaithersburg, and Watkins Mill High Schools. Among participating youth, **96% of middle school students and 30% of high school students received Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS)**, reflecting the program’s reach into economically vulnerable communities.
- The average age of participating parents was 39 years, and 68% lacked healthcare insurance. **94% of referrals successfully accessed the services requested.**

Liberty’s Promise

- Served families primarily from the Down-county area, with a strong concentration in ZIP codes 20902 and 20906. Nearly all families preferred Spanish as their primary language, and income data indicates that many fall within low-income brackets—highlighting the critical need for culturally responsive, accessible services.
- A total of **277 high school youth completed leadership training and community-based projects** addressing health and social issues. Most participants resided in Down-county ZIP codes 20906, 20912, and 20901, with 76% preferring Spanish. Participation included a slightly higher proportion of females (51%) compared to males (49%).

Identity

Outputs

Number of youth participants reached	88
Number of families served	86
Number of parents who completed the program	44
Number of Family Wellness Plans developed	79
Number of hours of group training delivered	99
Number of referrals provided	406
Number of hours of physical activity offered	92
Number of one-on-one counseling or case management sessions conducted	752
Number of hours of parent training completed	44

Outcomes

Percentage of youth who increased their understanding of the dangers of drug and alcohol use	100%
Percentage of youth who reduced unhealthy nutrition behaviors	46%
Percentage of youth who increased their level of physical activity	64%
Percentage of youth who reported a rise in their civic awareness	69%
Percentage of youth who improved their connection and communication with their parents	56%
Percentage of youth who would recommend the program to friends	96%
Percentage of parents who reported that the information provided was useful for their child’s educational development	95%

Liberty’s Promise

Outputs

Number of youth participants reached	187
Number of families served	46
Number of parents who completed the program	45
Number of Family Wellness Plans developed	60
Number of hours of group training delivered	92
Number of referrals provided	43
Number of hours of physical activity offered	75
Number of one-on-one counseling or case management sessions conducted	103
Number of hours of parent training completed	41

Outcomes

Percentage of youth who increased their understanding of the dangers of drug and alcohol use	85%
Percentage of youth who reduced unhealthy nutrition behaviors	91%
Percentage of youth who increased their level of physical activity	90%
Percentage of youth who reported a rise in their civic awareness	85%
Percentage of youth who improved their connection and communication with their parents	95%
Percentage of youth who would recommend the program to friends	95%
Percentage of parents who reported that the information provided was useful for their child’s educational development	95%

PARENTS IN ACTION: SUBSTANCE AND ALCOHOL USE PREVENTION PROGRAM

LHI developed and tested a culturally tailored seven-session curriculum designed to help Latino parents prevent substance use among elementary-aged children.

Highlights

- Partnered with three Montgomery County Public Elementary Schools (Oakview, Flower Hill and Harriet Tubman), St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, and the Community Opioid Prevention & Education (COPE) trailer of the Montgomery County Police Department to expand access to prevention education.
- The program outcomes demonstrated the effectiveness of the educational sessions in increasing parents' knowledge and self-efficacy, as well as in promoting positive changes in both protective and risk factors related to substance use. These results underscore the critical role of early parent-focused prevention in reducing children's exposure to, experimentation with, and misuse of alcohol and other substances.

Outcomes

	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Difference
Improved parental knowledge about the effects of drugs and other substances on the body	75%	94%	+19%
Increased parental self-efficacy in applying protective factors to prevent their children's alcohol and substance use, with parents reporting feeling fairly or very confident	80%	95%	+15%
Strengthened prevention practices at home, with parents reporting improved approaches to addressing alcohol and substance use by incorporating both protective and risk factors into everyday routines (parents agree or strongly agree)	87%	99%	+12%

Outputs

- 150 parents reached through program activities
- 28 education sessions delivered for parents
- 28 education sessions delivered for parents
- 60 coaching sessions conducted to reinforce learning
- 47 parents and caregivers received individualized education

Quality of Service

- 93% of participants reported being satisfied with the program
- 98% felt they were treated with respect throughout their participation
- 98% would recommend the program to other parents

SYSTEM NAVIGATOR AND MEDICAL INTERPRETER PROGRAM

CASA's Multilingual Health Navigation and Medical Interpreters Program strengthens health access for Montgomery County residents by providing multilingual health education, referrals, and interpretation services. The program responds to a wide range of health concerns—including HIV, cancer, and chronic conditions—while connecting individuals to affordable care options and nearby clinics. Designed to reduce health disparities, the program primarily serves uninsured and underinsured ethnic and racial minorities, with a strong focus on immigrant communities. CASA works closely with safety-net clinics and healthcare providers to ensure that all residents, regardless of language or financial barriers, can receive inclusive and culturally responsive care.

Highlights

- **CASA's hotline connects families to essential social safety net programs**—including SNAP, TANF, Social Security, and Disability—through a streamlined one-stop appointment model. Guided by the *"Your Benefits, Your Rights"* philosophy, staff help callers navigate systems, schedule appointments, and access multiple services efficiently.
- **Key partnerships have expanded the hotline's reach and impact:**
 - In collaboration with Georgetown University's Lombardi Cancer Center, the hotline provides community education on breast cancer and facilitates access to screenings.
 - Through the Governor's Wellmobile van, the program connects residents to preventive healthcare services, including screenings and health education.
- The team also leads robust community outreach, especially during the summer months, offering referrals, building trust, and supporting immigrant families—particularly those who are uninsured or underinsured—by reducing health disparities and increasing access to care.





Outputs

- 8,859 unique clients were served by the Multilingual Health Navigation Line
- 10,930 referrals provided
- 24,271 referrals were issued to connect clients with needed services
- 2,263 interpretation requests were submitted
- 2,228 interpretations were completed
- 2,154 unique clients received medical interpretation services
- 98% of all interpretation requests were successfully completed

Outcomes

- 90% of clients were able to access services after receiving a referral

Quality of Service

- 100% of clients reported being served in a timely manner by the helpline
- 100% felt their needs were understood by helpline staff
- 100% expressed satisfaction with the interpretation services they received
- 100% were satisfied with the service provided by the Multilingual Health Navigation Line

VÍAS DE LA SALUD COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER CERTIFICATION TRAINING PROGRAM

This Maryland Department of Health-accredited program prepares Spanish-speaking participants to become certified Community Health Workers (CHWs), with a strong emphasis on health promotion and expanding access to care. The curriculum includes 12 comprehensive modules, grounded in more than 20 years of experience and aligned with state-mandated competencies. Participants complete 100 hours of classroom instruction and a 40-hour practicum in partnership with community organizations.

The program's primary goal is to equip participants with the skills to deliver effective health promotion interventions and strengthen clients' access to care and support services, ultimately improving health and well-being across underserved communities.

Highlights

- In response to high demand, two program cohorts were offered this year, **graduating 37 students in collaboration with 11 partner organizations.**
- Year-end evaluation findings include:
 - **Students were deeply motivated by a desire to support the Latino community and pursue personal and professional growth.**
 - Many students overcame significant challenges—such as limited time, transportation barriers, and fear of public speaking—to successfully complete the program.
 - Facilitators received strong praise for their engaging, accessible teaching approach, rooted in Popular Education methodology.
 - **The curriculum and practicum effectively equipped students with practical skills, confidence, and readiness to serve as Community Health Workers.**

Outputs

- 78 individuals or organizations inquired about the program
- 62 individuals completed an Interest Form and were placed on the waiting list for future cohorts
- 37 individuals graduated from the program
- 90% of participants successfully completed all program requirements
- The program experienced a 10% drop-out rate

100%

of participants reported being satisfied with the program.





WELCOME BACK CENTER OF SUBURBAN MARYLAND

The Welcome Back Center of Suburban Maryland is an innovative program that helps internationally educated health professionals reenter Maryland's health workforce by leveraging their existing personal and professional strengths. The Center provides individualized guidance to help participants navigate the often-complex licensure and certification processes required for U.S. healthcare employment.

In the past year, the program served 86 participants, including 67 nurses, 7 behavioral health professionals, and 12 physicians. To strengthen community and professional growth, the Center also hosted three Annual Participant Meetings, offering opportunities for networking, engagement, and continued professional development.

Key partnerships included collaborations with Maryland Treatment Centers, Adventist Healthcare's Certified Nursing Assistant Academy Program, the Primary Care Coalition, the Workforce Capacity Program, and the Maryland Department of Labor's Skilled Immigrant Task Force. These partnerships enhance the Center's ability to expand workforce opportunities and improve integration pathways for internationally trained health professionals across the state.

Highlights

- **23 participants secured job placements in the health field.**
- One behavioral health professional obtained licensure as a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW).
- **One International Medical Graduate (IMG) secured a residency position at the University of Texas Medical School.**
- One IMG earned a fellowship in the Geriatric Psychiatry Program at Saint Louis University.
- **11 participants obtained their Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) license.** Of those, 2 participants earned both the CNA and the Geriatric Nursing Assistant (GNA) licenses.

Outputs

- 86 internationally educated health professionals were served through the program
- 213 hours of individual guidance and support were provided on education and licensure pathways
- 120 hours of individual guidance and support focused on workforce development
- 24 hours of group-based guidance and support were delivered
- 45 hours of individualized training and 19 hours of group training were conducted
- 9 participants completed credential evaluations
- 5 participants passed professional board examinations
- 6 participants entered occupational training programs (e.g., CNA, GNA)
- 11 participants earned industry-recognized credentials (e.g., RN, CNA, GNA)
- 7 participants passed an English language proficiency exam
- 5 participants obtained their first U.S. healthcare job
- 18 participants experienced career advancement within the healthcare sector

Outcomes

- Participants experienced a 162% average increase in wages from program entry to employment as healthcare professionals



98%

**of individuals served
reported being satisfied with
the services they received.**



SPECIAL PROJECTS



SPECIAL PROJECTS: THE GOLDEN YEARS

The “Años Dorados – Golden Years” program, developed in partnership with Mujer Fuerza y Coraje, offers seniors a series of 2.5-hour sessions focused on mental health, chronic disease prevention, physical activity, nutrition, and community building. The program provides a safe and welcoming environment where older adults can learn, connect, share experiences, and celebrate healthy living.

Through this collaboration, LHI established a culturally responsive initiative that empowers seniors to reflect, build relationships, and embrace healthier lifestyles within a nurturing community.

Highlights

- **Delivered eight interactive sessions covering mental health, diabetes prevention, blood pressure and cholesterol awareness, physical activity, mindfulness, and nutrition.**
- **50 participants** were served on average per session.
- Offered hands-on demonstrations, including mindful breathing, gentle exercises, blood pressure monitoring, and blood sugar testing.





COMMUNICATIONS



COMMUNICATIONS

This year, LHI strengthened its commitment to advancing community health through the exceptional work of the communications team.



Community Engagement – Implemented targeted campaigns on nutrition, mental health, climate, and access to healthcare services—successfully fostering active engagement among community members.



Partnerships and Collaborations – Partnered with EveryMind to host a Facebook Live session focused on supporting individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.



Media Outreach – Conducted numerous radio and television interviews covering key topics, including the Community Health Worker Certification Training Program and the importance of vaccinations.



Health Education – Expanded access to vital health information by producing culturally responsive educational materials in Spanish, written in clear and accessible language to reach a broader audience.

Highlights

- Updated **18 Frequently Asked Questions documents** and produced **six newsletters**, all available on our website. These materials expand access to health information, highlight program impact, and support community well-being.
- **Gained 1,291 new Facebook followers and 543 new Instagram followers.**
- Facebook achieved 48,699 unique page visits, significantly higher than Instagram's 3,221.
- In terms of overall reach, Facebook connected with 241,931 users, compared to 53,644 on Instagram.
- Maintained strong content output across both platforms:
 - Facebook: 525 stories and 576 posts
 - Instagram: 515 stories and 558 posts
- In terms of overall reach, **Facebook connected with 241,931 users, compared to 53,644 on Instagram.**
- Responded to 136 client inquiries via social media, providing accurate and timely guidance on essential county resources.
- Completed 7 radio interviews, 10 television appearances, and 12 presentations or panel discussions.
- **Distributed 27 newsletters, generating 19,983 total views.**
- Produced six public service announcements (PSAs).

Website Indicators	English	Spanish
Average Engagement Time	1.52 minutes	1.73 minutes
User Engagements	15,035	16,130
Views	24,416	24,511
File Downloads	2,791	3,714
Form Submissions	209	



Post recognizing LHI staff for their achievement of a gold medal.

Celebrating Charlemos con Zumba award.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

During FY25, Montgomery County allocated \$6,067,434 to the LHI. An additional \$100,000 was leveraged through a Maryland Department of Labor grant. The total budget managed by LHI for FY25 was \$6,167,434. Below is a summary of expenditures by category:

Contracts and In-House Program Expenses

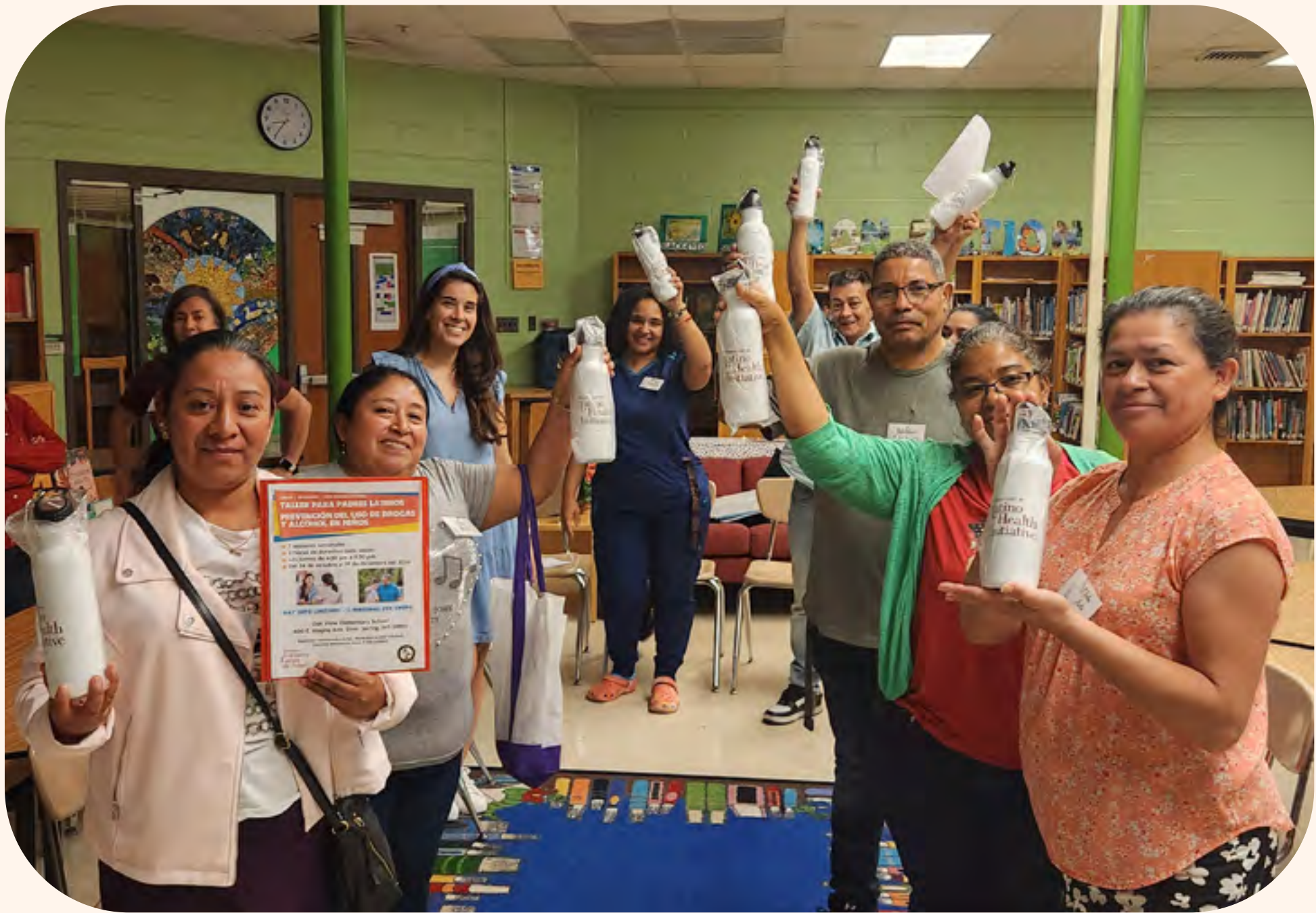
This category includes expenses related to program staff, contractors, major programs, and key activities such as the Latino Youth Wellness Program, Vías de la Salud Community Health Worker Certification Training Program, Asthma Management Program, Welcome Back Center of Suburban Maryland, Climate and Health Education Program, Family Reunification Program, Health Promotion Program, Ama Tu Vida, Case Management, Mental Health, and Communications. These expenses account for over 99% of LHI’s core budget allocations.

Administrative Expenses

Administrative expenses include operational costs such as office equipment, supplies, parking permits for staff, staff development, and mileage reimbursement. This category represents less than 1% of the LHI’s core expenditures.

Leveraged Funds

LHI secured an additional \$100,000 in leveraged funding from the Maryland Department of Labor to support the Welcome Back Center of Suburban Maryland.





LATINO HEALTH STEERING COMMITTEE, LHI TEAM, PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS



LATINO HEALTH STEERING COMMITTEE

To learn more about the Latino Health Steering Committee (LHSC) members, please visit: [LHSC Roster](#)

LATINO HEALTH INITIATIVE TEAM

To learn more about the LHI Staff, please visit: [LHI Team](#)

PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

Adamah Coaching
Adventist HealthCare
African American Health Program
Aging and Disability Department
Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County
Asian American Health Initiative
Bike Powered Events
BlackRock Center for the Arts
Breathe Better Network
Brookhaven Elementary School
Carecen
Care for Your Health, Inc
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield
CASA, Inc
Catholic Charities
CentroNia
CHEER

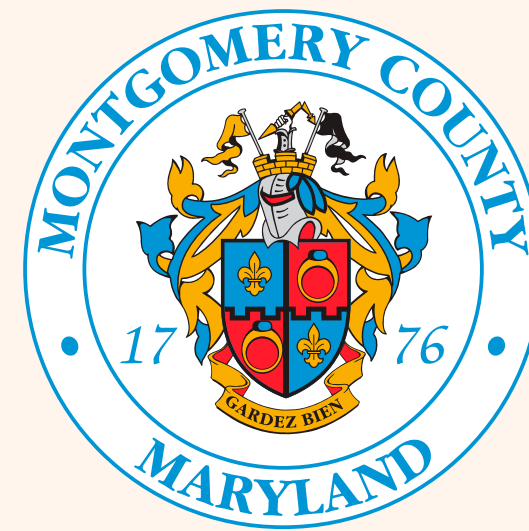
Circle of Rights
City of Gaithersburg
Clifton Park Baptist Church
Climate Justice Co-Creation Initiative
Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools® (CGFNS)
Communications Shop
Community Action Agency
Community Farmshare
Community Reach of Montgomery County
Connector Entity - DHHS
Consulate of El Salvador
CRC-Cristina Rabadan Consulting, LLC
Creativo, LLC
Crossroads Community Food Network
Defensores de La Cuenca
Department of Aging and Disability
Department of Correction and Rehabilitation
Department of Environmental Protection
DURAN Design, LLC
Eastern Middle School
Elite Soccer Youth Development Academy
Embassy of Guatemala
Federal Trade Commission
Flower Hill Elementary School
Gaithersburg High School
Gaithersburg Middle School
Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center
Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives – Caribbean and Hispanic Affairs Commission
Greenwood Terrace
Grupo Folklórico Internacional
Harriet Tubman Elementary School
Head Start Policy Council
Health Betterment Initiative
HealthPro Consulting, LLC
Health Plan Maryland
Highland View Elementary School
Hillandale Shopping Center
Hispanic/Latino Behavioral Health

Center of Excellence
Holy Cross Health
Hughes United Methodist Church
Identity, Inc
Immigrant Professional Integration (IMPRINT)
IMPACT-Silver Spring
Improved Pregnancy Outcomes
John F. Kennedy High School
Johns Hopkins University Hospital
Jubilee Association of Maryland
Jubilee - Breaking Barriers Program
Kennedy Cluster Project
KID Museum
Latino Economic Development Center
Lecciones para el final de la vida, LLC
Let’s Talk Public Health, LLC
Liberty’s Promise, Inc
Linkages to Learning
Manna Food
Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic
Mario Loiederman Middle School
Maryland Board of Nursing
Maryland Department of Health
Maryland Department of Labor
Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission
Maryland Insurance Administration
Maryland Latinos Unidos
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Maryland Public Health Association
Maryland State Family Child Care Association
Maryland State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
Maryland Treatment Centers
Montgomery College
Montgomery County Asthma / Lead Case Management Program
Montgomery County Board of Elections
Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless

Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection
Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services
Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service
Montgomery County Government
Montgomery County Planning
Montgomery County Police Department - Community Opioid Prevention Education (COPE) Trailer
Montgomery County Prevention & Harm Reduction
Montgomery County Public Libraries
Montgomery County Public Schools
Montgomery County Public Schools - Board of Education
Montgomery County Recreation
Montgomery County Regional Service Centers
Montgomery County, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
Montgomery Housing Partnership
Montgomery Parks
Montgomery Village Foundation, Inc.
Montgomery Village Middle School
Mr. Car Foundation
Mujer Fuerza y Coraje LLC
National Hispanic Council on Aging
Newcomer Initiative
Northwest High School
Northwood High School
Oak View Elementary School
Office of Food Systems Resilience
One Montgomery Green
Parent Encouragement Program
Patient First
Planned Parenthood
Potomac Valley Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Rockville
Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County

Proyecto Salud Clinic
Radio America 1540 AM
Radio El Zol 107.9 FM
Radio La Jefa 700 AM
Radio La Mera 1050 AM 93.5 FM
Radio La Pantera 87.9 FM
Refugee Physicians Advocacy (RPA) Coalition
Roberto Clemente Middle School
Rockville Memorial Library
Rockville Senior Center
Seneca Valley High School
Senior Helpers, Rockville
Sheppard Pratt
St. Martin of Tours Church
St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church
St. Vincent de Paul Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
Street Outreach Network
Suburban Hospital
The Parents Place of Maryland
The Upcounty HUB
Univision
Victory Home Care
Victory Housing, Inc
Viers Mill Baptist Church
Voices for Children Montgomery
Washington Hospital Center
Water Emergency Team (WET) from the University of Maryland’s WOW Lab
Watkins Mill High School
Welcome Back Initiative
Wheaton High School
Women Palante
WorkSource Montgomery, Inc
World Education Services
World Relief

Latino Health Initiative



@LatinoHealthInitiative

