

Su Casa—Ending Domestic Violence Annual Report

2020



Su Casa met the challenges of this past year head on. Not only did Su Casa successfully create safe methods to provide shelter and supportive services in the midst of the global pandemic, we also added two major achievements to celebrate.

During the peak of the stay at home orders, we were able to collaborate with Project Safe Haven. This program was funded by the Los Angeles Mayor's Fund, to place over 100 survivors of domestic violence in local hotels. Su Casa then provided the same counseling and support that is offered in our shelters. At a time when domestic violence reporting was up 20% across the country, our participation in Project Safe Haven was a major benefit to our communities.

Su Casa also was awarded the Jeff Bezos Family Day One grant. This transformative grant will enable Su Casa to expand our facilities in the near future to increase our community impact by 50%. The board of directors is currently working to develop strategies to put the funds to the greatest use.

Although we faced hurdles, we served more clients and developed new ways to deliver services. Although it was difficult at times, we knew that it was of the utmost importance that we went to every length to meet the needs of our clients.

Emergency Shelter

Su Casa's Emergency Shelter provides a warm, home-like setting where survivors of domestic violence and their children can begin the healing process and move forward in their lives.

Some achievements from 2020 included:

- The shelter celebrated the completion of Joan's Wish List Kid's Learning Lab, providing a new and updated learning space for our children.
- The shelter upgraded its computer network and installed protected Wi-Fi coverage, purchasing new laptops and desktops with cameras to allow for virtual meetings and telehealth sessions for participants and staff.
- A partnership was developed with SPCA LA in Long Beach to provide animal training classes to 8 kids and their parents to keep a close connection with their pets while residing in the shelter.
- Su Casa partnered with School on Wheels to provide laptops and online tutoring for children throughout the year due to pandemic restrictions.



Transitional Shelter

The Transitional Shelter is an empowering, independent living program which provides an avenue for Su Casa's residents to move to permanent housing and integration into the community.

Highlights included:

- In collaboration with Los Angeles Mayor's Fund, Project Safe Haven provided shelter for the growing number of people fleeing abusive relationships. Su Casa provided supportive services to over 100 new clients temporarily residing in hotels.
- The Transitional Shelter received a complete landscaping update which enabled a new pride in the shelter's residents.
- Created an outreach program with GAIN (Greater Avenues for Independence). Began a Telehealth program, which provided case management and individual counseling to non-shelter based participants.
- The shelters partnered with Food Finders to provide a 2 ½ hour on-site nutrition class titled Healthy Choice, to help families make healthy food choices.
- A secure WIFI system was added to the shelter computer network and clients were provided with laptop computers. This meant children had access to remote learning and

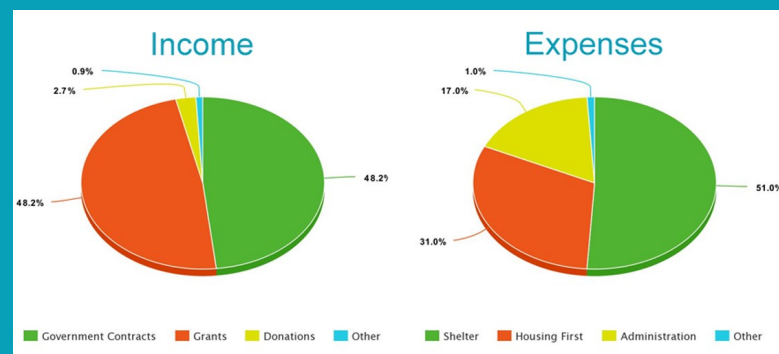
Su Casa has developed housing programs that work with participants to find permanent housing. The programs were able to assist 116 families obtain and maintain permanent housing.

- Program coordinators established relationships with 17 property managers who extended their services to work with Su Casa to provide housing opportunities.
- Su Casa's staff worked with survivors to overcome barriers to securing permanent housing including, Financial Literacy Classes, Employment Seeking Skills, and how to become a successful tenant.
- Many "Out of the Box" solutions included paying car repairs, assisting with the cost of day care, and working with property manager to accept the credit report. All designed to ensure the participant can continue to live in permanent housing.
- Once housing is secure, Su Casa provides domestic violence services... going to the client to provide counseling, life skills training, and further housing support.



Despite the financial uncertainty brought by the pandemic's cloud on businesses, Su Casa was able to find new opportunities to be successful in 2020

- Su Casa applied for and was awarded the Jeff Bezos Day 1 Families Fund grant. The \$1.25M grant will be used for future Capital Expansion to increase the agencies capacity by 50%, dramatically increasing the impact of Su Casa on the community.
- Su Casa secured COVID 19 specific emergency grants from the Long Beach Community Foundation, California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, Cal OES – Victims of Crime Assistance, Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles, LA County Office of Women's Health, Department of Public Social Services, Women's Foundation of California, City of Lakewood and Zaferia Business District.
- Su Casa's Annual Holiday Giving Drive increased nearly \$20,000 over previous year. Much of this success is due to the contributions of TERADATA and its employees.



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