

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

A YEAR OF COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE & LEARNING

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



ADELANTE
MUJERES

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GROWTH



Family Engagement has always been central in Adelante. Now, it has a dedicated team to oversee family engagement throughout the organization & community.

Education Department: Adelante's Education programming supports Latinx families from birth to adulthood with culturally specific education services that are grounded in popular education. Each program provides state and/or national certified-curricula that prepares Latinx individuals (children, youth, and adults) to achieve academic success with an emphasis on social-emotional learning.

Family Engagement Component: Through strategic growth and the support of the Student Success Act funds, we have been able to grow our capacity and engagement for Parent-Children Interaction through the hire of 2 Family Engagement Facilitators and the Family Engagement Manager. This supports a new component of the Education Team: Family Engagement. The 2021-2022 academic year, will have a fully equipped Family Engagement team that is culturally-responsive, bilingual, and shares the lived-experience of our Latinx community.

This team works directly with our Adult Education & Early Childhood Education teams to engage the whole family of our participants. This team works as Family Engagement Centers which is defined in the U.S. are the following:

- Carry out parenting education.
- Provide comprehensive training and technical assistance to participants, community members, and local partners.
- Advocate for family engagement programming for the most underserved and for family members to be included in the planning and decision-making process for state and local action.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Family Engagement

Adelante's drive to have its own Family Engagement team is to have the capacity to be a community-based Family Engagement Center that is community-driven to support families' learning and well-being, providing safe places to connect to school, caring adults, and additional services.

Adelante is working to build the capacity of families through direct services and training and promote shared leadership between schools and families.



History

Family/Familia is at the core of Adelante Mujeres. "We asked the participants, 'if you could do anything you wanted to do, what would it be?' Their answer came quickly," said Sister Barbara, Co-Founder. "We want an education." Since 2002, with the first cohort of 12 Latinx women, Adelante Mujeres was launched. For the first cohort of Adelante Mujeres participants, being a mother, a caregiver, was seen as a negative barrier to access an education.

Officially in 2020, Adelante Mujeres has been able to launch its Family Engagement team with the hire of the Family Engagement Manager and 2 Family Engagement Facilitators.

Financial

Family Engagement is an organizational priority. Supported by government grants, private foundations, corporations, as well as individuals. Below is our current revenue and expenses for the program.

Education Department Goal

\$3.41 million

\$3.45 million

KEY ACTIVITIES

329

Parents/Caregivers were provided high-quality family engagement programming throughout the Education Department.

20

Family engagement events were delivered; three were activities done in-person.

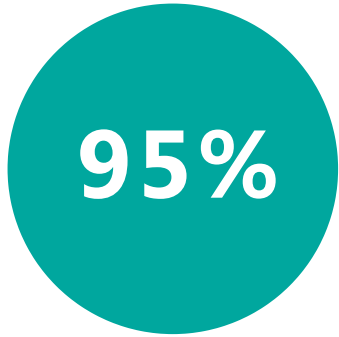
64

Parents/Caregivers completed a parenting education series delivered by Adelante's Family Engagement team.



ACCOMPLISHMENT 1

Of participants reported improvement in their own parenting skills, knowledge and behavior after completing the Parenting series.



ACCOMPLISHMENT 2

Of all participants report improved behavior in their children after completing the Parenting series.

ACCOMPLISHMENT 3

Of all parents/caregivers, we had an average of 70% of attendance throughout the year.



PARENTING EDUCATION SERIES



A total of 64 participants received parenting education learning opportunities.

- 41 participants completed the 10 session Abriendo Puertas (Opening Doors) Training. An intensive parenting education series with an emphasis on early education.
- 26 participants completed the 10 session “Nurturing Parenting for Adolescents” Training. An intensive parenting education series, specializing in adolescent years.
- 12 participants completed the 12 session “Incredible Years” curriculum training.
- 17 participants in the PACT classes received and completed its diverse class-load of parent-child interaction curriculum. Additional activities included: Yoga for Kids, Dental Health, Craft Activities, and Environmental Education.

PARTICIPANT STORY

Since 2002, with the first cohort of 12 Latinx women, Adelante Mujeres was launched. For the first cohort of Adelante Mujeres participants, being a mother, a caregiver, was seen as a negative barrier to access an education.

Graciela came to Adelante Mujeres so that she could further her and her daughter's education.

"I recall when I arrived, I wanted to continue to develop as a person, as a mother. I remember when I arrived at the office to ask for more program information, the person who greeted me was Bridget [Executive Director, Co-Founder]. She asked me a question, that at the time really worried me, she asked 'Do you have children?'"



I am from Mexico, and in Mexico you can't go to class and have your children in the same location, at least that's how it was back then. I was very worried, but I answered 'Yes, I have a 3-year-old daughter.' I remember that she, with a beautiful smile, said to me 'Wonderful!'"

Graciela graduated from the Adult Education program and her daughter from the Early Childhood Education program. They both received family engagement support. In 2015, Graciela joined Adelante's Early Childhood Education team as an Infant and Toddler Teacher. Today, Graciela is a Family Support Facilitator, an integral part of the Family Engagement Team, where she works to empower families with similar lived experiences. The capacity to discover who you are - that is the power of Adelante Mujeres.

% of Teachers of Color

11.2%

Of teachers are ethnically and linguistically diverse while 39.9% of students are ethnically and linguistically diverse (Educator Equity Report, 2019).

At Adelante Mujeres, 100% of teachers and instructors identify as a person of color and bilingual.



THE FUTURE

**"We will rebuild,
reconcile, and
recover"
-Amanda Gorman**

To create a space in which families can thrive and where learning is encouraged, we focus through a bicultural and intersectional lens, on: engagement, interaction, supportive environment, and safe environment. Family Engagement ensures that a caring adult creates a meaningful relationship with participants and their families. This was only amplified during the pandemic with an ongoing focus on trauma-informed care.

The program reinforced teamwork by creating activities to celebrate with the families and keep the community spirit high. The program is a safe place where they feel happy, protected, and supported. The Family Education team has an estimated return date for in-person parenting series for the 2021-2022 academic school year.

We do not know the extent of the impact the pandemic has had or will have on our BIPOC community, or our adult student's future. Our communities are no stranger to rebuilding, but with the lesson learned from our past generations, the community will be rebuilt with community-based solutions at the forefront. Adelante will continue to exist through its core focus on education, microenterprise, and leadership. Our organization is part of the infrastructure to rebuild our community at the local, state, and national levels. We ask you to join us in uplifting the voices of those most impacted by racial injustice to become our current and future leaders.

GRACIAS GRACIAS GRACIAS

This past year has been a challenge for all of us, and particularly for our Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. We have been tested mentally, emotionally, and physically by the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 to our BIPOC communities. To have partners that invest directly to BIPOC communities is critical for the long-term sustainability of community-based organizations.

As community-based organizations have taken bold steps to advocate for racial equity, it is needed for funders to make bold, courageous action as well. We are incredibly grateful for the partnership with our funders who have supported us in this past year and more importantly, advocated for a more just society.

