Latino CBOs Respond to COVID-19
An Assessment of the Hispanic Federation’s Pandemic Grantmaking
Acknowledgements

This report was prepared to highlight and acknowledge the extraordinary work of the Hispanic Federation’s nationwide network of Latino- and immigrant-serving nonprofit organizations during the first 15 months of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report summarizes the detailed information provided by the community-based organizations (CBOs) that received COVID-19 related grants from the Hispanic Federation, especially the hundreds of grantees that completed a detailed online survey in the summer of 2021 about their COVID-19 work, accomplishments, challenges and their experiences with Federation grantmaking. All HF’s COVID-19 grantees are listed in the appendix.

The Federation’s Latino COVID-19 Emergency Relief grantmaking was made possible by generous grants and other assistance from the following funders:

Miranda Family • MacKenzie Scott • Jack Dorsey’s #StartSmall public fund
New York Presbyterian • New York State Department of Health • New York City Council
Google.org • Bank of America • Wells Fargo • Bank of New York Mellon • Hennessy
Morgan Stanley • American Express • New York Times Foundation
Center for Disaster Philanthropy • New York Community Trust • New York Life
Walmart • The Coca-Cola Foundation • #FirstRespondersFirst • Toyota
New Americas Foundation • Sergey Brin Family Foundation • Ford Motor Company
Greater Kansas City Hispanic Development Fund • Datadog • Robin Hood Foundation
Ford Foundation • Synchrony Financial • RCHN Community Health Foundation
Pfizer • Facebook • Momentum Fund • Julie Taymor • New York Yankees
The Denver Foundation • Latino Community Foundation of Colorado
Taj Weinstein • Direct Relief • New York Yankees Foundation • Capital One
RBC Capital Markets • Silvia Golden

The report’s grantmaking assessment was managed by HF’s grantmaking team: Almirca Santiago, Fernando Aguilar, and Canela Torres, with assistance from Jaslyn Jimenez Peña. Many Federation staff provided advice and support, among them Frankie Miranda, Jessica Orozco Guttlein, Jessica Guzmán Mejia, Brent Wilkes, Ingrid Alvarez-DiMarzo, Laudi Campo, Charlotte Gossett Navarro, Daniel Valdez, Yanidis Velez-Bonet, Peter Michelen, Diana Caba, and Ivy Fairchild. Emily Gantz McKay and Hila Berl of EGM Consulting, LLC, worked with grantmaking staff to carry out the survey, analyze the data, and draft the report. Amy Thesing was responsible for report design.

The Board of Directors provided continuing support for the Federation’s COVID-19 grantmaking, programs, and advocacy.
The COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented challenges to our nation, and to the institutions responsible for providing hope, refuge and care to the workers, individuals, and families most impacted by the virus.

It is true that the pandemic has spared no community, but the impact on Latinos has been particularly devastating. All across the country, Latinos have suffered with more cases, more hospitalizations, and more deaths than other Americans. Poor access to health care, substandard and overcrowded housing environments, overrepresentation in jobs that must be done on-site and in close proximity with others, high rates of poverty, and anti-immigrant policies are among the various reasons COVID-19 has disproportionately harmed our community. The virus has laid bare our nation’s long-term systemic disparities.

At the Hispanic Federation, we knew early on that the pandemic would require us to expand and grow in unforeseen ways. We committed everything we had towards that task. Organizing, mobilizing, collaborating, we worked with hundreds of trusted Latino and immigrant-led grassroots nonprofits — organizations that serve as the lifelines for their communities — to drive large-scale impact. In fact, we were among the first funders to make emergency grants to help our nonprofits maintain services while keeping their personnel safe, pivot to new program delivery models, and expand or start programs offering essential food, housing, and medical assistance.

Between April 2020 and September 2021, the Federation made $20.6 million in COVID-related grants to more than 350 nonprofits in 38 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. There were multiple rounds of grants. For example, when vaccines became available, but before federal assistance reached community clinics, we made emergency grants totaling $1 million to 19 organizations to conduct vaccination drives targeting the most at-risk and marginalized members of our community. A national survey of 289 of our COVID-19 grantees, highlighted in this report, demonstrates their reach and impact during the pandemic.

We remain leaders in relief and recovery, and expect to provide another $7 million in essential support before year’s end. Our grants will continue to help our network of community-based organizations serve the most vulnerable of populations: individuals without health insurance, undocumented and mixed-status families, children and youth, pregnant women, domestic violence survivors, farmworkers, day laborers, and seniors.

This work would not be possible without the support of our many generous foundation, private sector, and individual funders. A very special thanks is owed to the Federation’s Founding President Luis A. Miranda and his son Lin-Manuel Miranda, who provided us seed capital for the launch of our Fund, which today has grown to become the most far-reaching Latino COVID-19 Emergency Relief effort in the nation. Together, we’ve met this unprecedented moment with an unprecedented response, and stand stronger than ever to respond to the challenges ahead.

Frankie Miranda
President
“When this [pandemic] hit, it was CBOs on the ground who were there to meet emergency community needs. We pivoted and mobilized with a speed that can only happen by organizations and people who are part of the communities hardest hit by the pandemic. HF was part of that true crisis response.”*

* Quotations used in this report come from HF COVID-19 grantees. They are not identified by name, because the survey promised grantees that — except for data on the results and impact of their COVID-19-related work — information provided would be presented only in the aggregate, without organizational names.
Introduction to the Hispanic Federation

Founded in 1990, the Hispanic Federation (HF) works to empower and advance the Latino community and its institutions through programs, advocacy, grantmaking, and capacity building. The largest Latino umbrella organization in the nation, the Federation collaborates with 118 member organizations and a network of over 350 nonprofits in 38 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. HF’s greatest strength lies in its deep roots and relationships in Latino communities, through grassroots leaders and nonprofits, public officials, policymakers, media, small business owners, and private sector leaders.

Headquartered in New York City, HF has regional offices in six states and territories, and programs and services that span three-quarters of the U.S.

PROGRAMS: HF manages innovative programs in education, health, immigration, workforce development, and civic engagement. CREAT Futuros (To Create Futures) College Success programs, implemented on eight college campuses, served 600 students in 2020. Its Google.org-funded Digital Skills Accelerator is building the capacity of 24 Latino nonprofits to provide career-aligned digital skills training in 11 states and territories. HF’s Caminos de Esperanza initiative is providing refugees, asylees and those at risk of deportation with much-needed legal assistance in nine states across the country.

ADVOCACY: Identifying inequities. Highlighting solutions. Driving action around a common agenda. That’s the focus of our advocacy. We work with local, state, and national leaders and institutions to advance Latino opportunity and equity in education, health, immigration, civic engagement, economic empowerment, philanthropy, disaster-relief assistance, and the environment.

GRANTMAKING: The Hispanic Federation believes that the most important institutions in the Latino community are its grassroots nonprofits, which are on the frontlines of serving local families and advancing social justice. Our giving is focused on strengthening and empowering these organizations, driving collective impact and change, and uniting our community. Over the past five years, HF has provided more than $75 million in grants to its network of Latino nonprofits for program assistance, institutional development, and emergency relief work.

CAPACITY BUILDING: Since its founding 31 years ago, HF has been helping Latino community-based organizations become stronger, healthier, and more united. Over the past year alone, nearly 10,000 Latino nonprofit leaders have received professional development training through HF’s online webinars, many of them on COVID-relevant topics like remote fundraising and leading in a crisis. HF staff also directly assist nonprofits, offer leadership institutes, and provide capacity-building grants to help them strengthen governance, fiscal management, fundraising, and program operations.

DISASTER RELIEF: From 9/11 to the Pulse Nightclub massacre, and earthquakes and hurricanes in Puerto Rico and Mexico, HF steps up to provide affected Latino and BIPOC communities with rapid and continuing disaster relief assistance. Long after the disaster, HF supports local recovery and development that help alleviate poverty and make communities more disaster-resistant.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS: HF is known for its cross-sector partnerships and coalition building — from the National Latino Funds Collaborative to the Immigrants: We Get the Job Done Coalition. HF is also a member of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, the Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights, and Latinos For A Better Future.

SOUND MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE: Charity Navigator has recognized the Hispanic Federation with its top 4-star rating every year for the past eight years. Only 6% of charities across the nation have earned that distinction. In its latest evaluation, the Federation received a 100% score on Charity Navigator’s Accountability and Transparency measures.
“Fast and flexible grant support can make miracles happen. Hispanic Federation was quick to support its members and the ability to use the funds for general operating purposes maximized the impact of its dollars. This was only possible because the Hispanic Federation knows its members well and has a team that knows how to execute exceptionally well.”
Impact of COVID-19 on Latinos

The COVID-19 virus laid bare the devastating social and economic inequalities that keep our nation from achieving "liberty and justice for all." The legacy of structural discrimination — highly segregated and unequal public education, substandard housing and healthcare, continuing food insecurity, grinding poverty — have put Latinos most at risk of catching and dying from this virus and led to devastating economic impacts on Latino families.

According to the CDC, Latinos remain far more likely to get infected, be hospitalized, and die from COVID-19.

Many factors have made Latinos especially vulnerable. Less than a quarter have employment they can do at least partly from home, and a high proportion are "essential" workers whose jobs require them to work in close proximity to others, often without labor protections such as paid sick days or paid family leave. The vast majority (83%) of farmworkers are Hispanic, as are 44% of meatpacking workers. Latinos are especially likely to live in crowded inner-city neighborhoods with high infection rates and in multigenerational households. Many have limited access to healthcare.

Economic impacts have been no less devastating. Nearly 60% of Latinos reported job loss or pay cut by the spring of 2020, and Latino unemployment reached 18.9% during that time, the highest rate for any racial or ethnic group. More than a year later, in May of 2021, Latinos were over twice as likely as white non-Hispanics to report sometimes or often not having enough to eat, and far more likely to be behind on rent payments and find it somewhat or very difficult to pay for usual expenses.

This report uses the terms, Latino, Latinx, and Hispanic interchangeably.
Latinos have also received less assistance during the pandemic. Many had no transportation to get to food banks or vaccination sites. The digital divide and a lack of targeted outreach, information, forms, and application assistance combined to limit access to government programs. Mixed-status families and undocumented people, including DACA recipients, are not eligible for most public programs.

The assistance received by Latinos often came only through the unceasing efforts of Latino community-based organizations, supported through private funding.

“These funds helped us ensure no immigrant/Latinx family walked alone, went homeless or hungry.”
Hispanic Federation (HF) began emergency COVID-related fundraising and grantmaking early in 2020, recognizing COVID-19 as an enormous threat to the survival and safety of all Americans, and in particular the Latino, immigrant and other BIPOC1 communities we have been entrusted with caring for and serving. HF also recognized the vulnerability of its network of Latino community-based organizations (CBOs) — institutions that serve as our communities’ front-line service providers and leading advocates, but who continue to be under-resourced and undercapitalized. HF responded immediately by establishing a COVID-19 Emergency Fund for its Network. This overview briefly summarizes the size, importance, and results of the Federation’s COVID-19 grantmaking.

The Federation made over $26 million in grants between March 2020 and September 2021, including $20.6 million in COVID-related emergency grants to more than 350 nonprofits and 798 small businesses. As the map on the following page indicates, the Federation made grants in 38 states, the District of Columbia, and throughout Puerto Rico. Nearly three-quarters of the funds (73%) went to support the work of Latino and BIPOC-serving CBOs, and HF’s food and cash assistance operations.

The Federation’s network of COVID-19 grantees has an estimated combined reach of more than 10 million people annually.

1 Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
The Federation did an in-depth assessment of its COVID-related grantmaking in the summer of 2021. The assessment focused on 289 community-based nonprofits that received one or more HF grants between April 2020 and March 2021 — and therefore had time to achieve at least preliminary results by July, when the Federation used an online survey to request information from these grantees. Eighty-five percent of these grantees (244) responded to the survey. In assessing use of funds, reach, and impact, the Federation used data from grantee reports to supplement survey data.

Available data show that the funding provided by HF helped these 289 grantees raise money from other sources to help support the same programs and services funded by the Federation. Grantees reported a total of almost $37 million in COVID-19 related funding for these activities, which enabled them to reach 2,358,627 individuals — and made possible a wide range of services and assistance, from food, housing, and other direct financial assistance to healthcare and vaccinations, arts and cultural activities, and immigration legal services, among others.

**TOTAL IMPACT:**

$37 million in COVID-related funding used to reach and serve 2,358,627 individuals, provided by 289 grantees

April 2020–July 2021
## Total Funds Used by HF Grantees for Activities Supported by HF Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Millions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Assistance</td>
<td>$10.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Assistance</td>
<td>$8.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broad Financial Assistance</td>
<td>$5.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for Operations</td>
<td>$4.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>$3.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Programs/Services</td>
<td>$3.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture</td>
<td>$0.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total = $36.95 million*

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### HF grants made the following impact possible:

- **Food Assistance:** 552,133 people provided food and meals by 130 grantees in 21 states and Puerto Rico
- **Housing Assistance:** 29,429 people provided rent and housing aid by 53 grantees in 17 states and Puerto Rico
- **Broad Financial Assistance:** 57,852 individuals provided emergency financial aid by 62 nonprofits in 12 states and Puerto Rico
- **Support for Operations:** 133 grantees in 17 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia provided general operating grants to maintain operations during the pandemic
- **Health Services:** 244,078 people provided health services, including vaccinations, by 72 grantees headquartered in 17 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia
- **Arts and Culture:** 298,110 people served by 21 arts and culture organizations located in 5 states and Puerto Rico
- **Other Programs and Services:** 1,177,025 individuals provided other essential programs and services by 108 grantees in 16 states and Puerto Rico
**Number of People Assisted by HF Grantees, by Type of Service/Activity**

- **HOUSING ASSISTANCE** to 29,429 people
- **BROAD FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** to 57,852 people
- **HEALTH SERVICES** to 244,078 people
- **ARTS & CULTURE** to 298,110 people
- **FOOD ASSISTANCE** to 552,133 people
- **OTHER PROGRAMS/SERVICES** to 1,177,025 people

**TOTAL = 2.359 million people**

**Most Important Results/Impacts of HF Funding or Assistance as Reported by Grantees**

[N=229 Respondents]

- Helped individuals and families with basic needs: 58%
- Strengthened the sense of community and “common cause”: 51%
- Reduced hunger/food insecurity: 50%
- Helped us develop and implement new COVID-19 related services: 45%
- Protected the legal status and rights of DACA participants or other immigrants: 36%
- Helped our organization survive: 36%
Latino nonprofit community-based organizations (CBOs) are the heart and soul of Latino communities. Deeply embedded in their neighborhoods, they provide ongoing resources and services to the most vulnerable and are the first to respond to crises and emerging needs. They help at-risk youth succeed academically, low-income families obtain health insurance, and workers gain skills for social mobility. They also identify existing disparities and advocate for equity and opportunities. They are economic engines and leadership incubators, employing tens of thousands of local residents nationwide. In addition, just as Black leaders often emerge from Black churches, Latino leaders often come from the Latino nonprofit sector. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our nonprofits have been the frontline safety net providers for Latino children, seniors, workers, and families.

When COVID-19 began shutting down the economy in early 2020, Latino nonprofits responded as they have to past economic crises and natural disasters. They identified critical community needs, established new partnerships, and pivoted from their normal work to avert an even greater disaster for Latino communities. Hispanic Federation is humbled by their commitment and resourcefulness, and proud to help them.
Latino CBOs serve the most vulnerable: Survey responses show that the Latino nonprofits funded by the Federation targeted high-need populations. When asked to identify up to three main target groups for Federation grant funds, less than one-third of grantees (32%) identified the “overall community.” Most often targeted were low-income residents, undocumented immigrants/mixed status families, and immigrants more broadly. A number of grantees also identified specific vulnerable groups like farmworkers and the uninsured.

CBOs adjusted to maintain needed services and address emerging needs: When much of the economy closed down in March of 2020, Latino nonprofits shifted rapidly from face-to-face to remote services where feasible, continued many of their activities, and often added new services to address critical needs during the pandemic. Services most often started or expanded during the pandemic include direct financial assistance, food/nutrition assistance, health services other than primary care (such as testing and vaccinations), and housing aid.
For example, almost three-fourths of grantees that provided food/nutrition assistance before the pandemic expanded these services, and the number of organizations providing such assistance increased by nearly two-thirds.

Nonprofits added or expanded services to meet crisis needs. One hospital and outpatient clinic provider in Puerto Rico bought fresh vegetables and fruit from nine local farmers affected by the pandemic and distributed healthy food boxes to 1,041 patient families with children. One CBO in San Francisco that was not a healthcare provider initiated contact tracing. Another CBO in Queens, New York, began helping families who lost loved ones to COVID-19 arrange burial services and navigate repatriation for burial in their home countries. An arts service organization in Chicago began providing cash assistance to struggling local residents.

Latino CBOs also used their expertise to help people access needed services. One provided translation services for the New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), and also made phone calls to other non-Spanish-speaking organizations to help limited English proficient (LEP) clients obtain assistance. Others in Nevada, Los Angeles, Houston and Miami helped clients without Internet access apply for emergency benefits and services, provided transportation to food pantries or vaccination sites, or delivered school-prepared meals to the homes of students.

Latino CBOs found it especially challenging to continue services typically provided face-to-face to groups of people, like children and youth and arts and cultural services. These services were often difficult to offer remotely, and sometimes funders did not reimburse for remote activities. Lack of Internet connectivity limited access to remote services when offered. However, grantees did their best to continue services or restart them remotely after investing in needed technology — sometimes providing tablets, smartphones, or other technology to clients. Even in these program areas, many Latino CBOs maintained services at pre-COVID-19 levels, as the adjacent chart shows.
Hispanic Federation (HF) assessed the activities and impact of its grants through an online survey of 289 non-profits it funded for COVID-19 related work from April 2020 through March 2021, supplemented by information from reports provided by most of the grantees. A total of 244 grantees, about 85%, responded to the survey. The average grant size was $25,000, although grants for vaccination efforts averaged $50,000. More than one-fifth (22%) of grantees also received non-cash assistance, most often food to distribute, PPE, food cards for groceries, or other cash cards.

HF’s COVID-19 Related Grants and Impact

### Most Frequent Grant Purposes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Purpose</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing assistance</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology assistance to individuals/families</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPE for community members or frontline workers</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct financial assistance not limited to food or shelter</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food assistance</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19 project operating costs</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs for continuing services during pandemic</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General operating costs</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grantees received and used funds for a wide range of activities, most often for program service areas, special costs for operating during the pandemic (e.g., PPE or technology for remote services), and costs for special COVID-19 projects (e.g., staffing or equipment). The following pages summarize activities and results in seven areas:

Food Assistance
Support for Operations
Arts and Culture
Housing Assistance
Health Services: Healthcare and Vaccinations
Other Programs and Services
Broad Financial Assistance

Millions of Latino families including children have faced food insecurity during the pandemic. Food assistance is a top priority for Hispanic Federation (HF), addressed through both grants and the purchase and distribution of food and various types of cash and cash-equivalent food vouchers. During the pandemic, grantees pivoted to address the food crisis among their communities, with at least 75 organizations expanding their food assistance activities and 68 initiating food programs. Food pantry operations expanded exponentially, requiring fresh produce and refrigerated dairy and proteins as well as culturally appropriate non-perishable goods. Many of these nonprofits became community food hubs, offering food in accessible locations to hard-hit families, many of whom lack transportation to reach large distribution centers.

Most often grantees ran food pantries or participated in grocery distributions or provided cash or cash cards to individuals or families. Many also delivered meals or prepared them for pick-up. Some worked with restaurants or farmers hurt by the pandemic, and paid for them to prepare food and meals for local distribution.

THE NUMBERS:
$10.85 million IN FOOD ASSISTANCE to 552,133 people provided by 130 grantees in 21 STATES and PUERTO RICO
HF’s Hunger Relief Services

The Federation purchases and distributes food annually to a network of Latino food pantries and soup kitchens. HF’s hunger relief services increased by nearly 3,000 percent during the pandemic, from 19,000 people helped in 2019 to more than 552,000 people served over the past year. The Federation achieved that remarkable growth by significantly increasing its direct food purchases and delivery in 2020 and 2021. HF also provided grants to nonprofits to purchase and distribute grocery/cash gift cards. In some locations, HF state offices purchased such cards and provided them to grantees for distribution. In Connecticut alone, HF’s direct food distribution to 10 nonprofits provided more than 236,000 meals. HF’s hunger relief efforts also assisted restaurants and farmers hurt by the pandemic. For example, local restaurants in New York City provided cooked meals for distribution, and upstate New York farms provided fresh produce and dairy products for HF to deliver to local food pantries.

Below are some examples highlighting the essential work carried out in this crucial service area:

CLARITAS HOUSE OUTREACH MINISTRY, Kissimmee, FL: The number of area residents facing hunger tripled because of the pandemic, as many families lost jobs and were living in cars or motels. HF provided this small faith-based nonprofit with both funds and food cards, and church staff and volunteers risked their own health to distribute $25,297 in food assistance, including food vouchers, groceries and meals, to 2,645 families with 6,092 members.

LA COLABORATIVA, Chelsea, MA: A gateway city for immigrants that is 66% Latino and 46% foreign-born, Chelsea has the highest COVID-19 infection rate in Massachusetts. HF’s grant infused critical resources into the Collaborative’s emergency response efforts early in the pandemic, as it radically changed and expanded services to assist immigrants facing deep poverty and food insecurity. Before COVID-19, the Collaborative did not provide food assistance. Its food pantry first popped up on the porch of the Executive Director’s home, then moved to a local café space, then to the Collaborative’s office building, and finally to a permanent home in a warehouse building. The organization distributed an average of 7,000 boxes of culturally relevant food weekly in the early months of the pandemic and in summer 2021 continued to serve more than 3,000 community members each week. The Collaborative is working in partnership with a wide range of local and statewide public and private partners to build permanent infrastructure for the food pantry.

SOL ES VIDA, Toa Baja, PR: Sol es Vida is a nonprofit cooperative of Villas del Sol, a community of immigrants from the Dominican Republic that was relocated by the government in 2010 and is being rebuilt by residents due to the lack of basic municipal infrastructure. The small nonprofit, which did not previously provide food assistance, used HF funds to equip an industrial kitchen that meets all safety requirements and has prepared and delivered hot meals to 155 people daily during the pandemic. It also provides income for five women from the community (pictured in the uniforms they designed).

TACOMBI FOUNDATION, New York: The Tacombi Community Kitchen (TCK) began in March 2020 to provide immediate food relief to Latino immigrants and families linked to the restaurant and food industry, most of whom had lost their jobs or had their wages reduced with no means of accessing government support. Hispanic Federation funds allowed Tacombi to provide 9,000 meals, delivered several times a week to 400 people through partnerships with eight CBOs in hard-hit Latino and immigrant neighborhoods in Manhattan, The Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens.
CENTER FOR FARMWORKER FAMILIES, Watsonville, CA: This grantee used its entire grant from HF to provide cash assistance to ten immigrant farmworker families, “the poorest of the working poor,” to prevent them from becoming homeless during the pandemic. Other available funds were used to help them obtain food. The central coast of California, where the economy centers around farming and food processing, has been described as a “service desert.” National data indicate that only 10% of the children of migrant farmworkers graduate from high school. The Center works to promote awareness of the difficult life circumstances of binational farmworker families and has projects in both the U.S. and Mexico to improve their circumstances.

HISPANIC INTEREST COALITION OF ALABAMA (HICA!), Birmingham, AL: HICA is a community development and advocacy organization that champions economic equality, civic engagement, and social justice for Latino and immigrant families in Alabama. It used its HF grant funds primarily for housing assistance, including matching funds from a corporation that would not otherwise have supported the organization. A total of 120 individuals and 454 related household members received rent and utility assistance totaling $60,829. HF resources also supported operating costs including special costs for operating during the pandemic. As an already trusted institution, HICA was able to pivot quickly to address the needs of low-income residents, many of them immigrants, some undocumented or from mixed-status families.

NORTHWEST SIDE HOUSING CENTER, Chicago, IL: The Center leveraged the Federation’s grant to help 20 struggling families with rent, mortgage payments and utilities. Recognizing the need for direct cash assistance, the organization also provided food assistance and funds for other living expenses to these families, who included undocumented immigrants/mixed status families and seniors.

Arriba Las Vegas Worker Center, Las Vegas, NV

**THE NUMBERS:**

$8.01 million IN HOUSING ASSISTANCE provided to 29,429 people by 53 grantees in 17 states and Puerto Rico
More than 50 grantees provided direct financial assistance not limited to food or housing. Most often, individuals or families received cash or vouchers to cover living expenses, or the grantee paid bills for healthcare, medications, or health-related supplies. These funds helped to meet a wide range of needs, from assisting with funeral expenses to helping families pay for cell phones or Internet access, necessary for obtaining services and applying for assistance while many public agencies were closed and communities were in lockdown. Several grantees reported paying for gas or helping families repair their vehicles so they could obtain and maintain jobs. Some targeted specific groups, among them DACA participants, domestic violence survivors, students, artists, and undocumented people.

**HF’S PUERTO RICO OFFICE** provided 16 community-based organizations with 746 cash cards worth $294,800 to support a wide range of hard-hit individuals and families, among them undocumented immigrants with no access to federal relief funds, other immigrant women, victims of gender violence, farmers and farmworkers, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people with disabilities.

**▲ CHURCHES UNITED FOR FAIR HOUSING, Brooklyn, NY:** With support from HF, Churches United for Fair Housing provided Visa gift cards totaling $40,000 to 400 individuals, most laid-off essential workers with no income or bank account, who were ineligible for unemployment or stimulus checks due to immigration status or other barriers. Recipients used the funds for necessities, from groceries and medical supplies to insoles for their shoes.

**THE NUMBERS:**

$5.66 million in direct financial assistance provided to 57,852 individuals by 62 nonprofits in 12 STATES and PUERTO RICO.
EXODUS TRANSITIONAL COMMUNITY, New York, NY: Exodus provided a wide range of financial assistance for people in East Harlem, many of them released from incarceration during the pandemic, and youth at risk of incarceration. Financial assistance totaling about $200,000, provided by HF and other funders, was used to buy food, pay for transportation, and obtain replacement IDs, clothing, and hygiene kits. Exodus provided 5,000 people with food assistance (funds, groceries, or meals for pick-up) and 2,173 with other financial aid. Throughout the pandemic, Exodus never closed its doors, expanding its hours of operation and adding staff and resources to meet ever-growing and urgent community needs. The organization continued to provide re-entry services, workforce development, job placement, and other services, and helped people obtain temporary housing.

TRUE RIDGE, Hendersonville, NC: HF grant funds enabled True Ridge to help 287 individuals in 74 families with rent and utilities, and space heaters were provided to 15 additional families. These families did not receive a stimulus check due to their immigration status. True Ridge also provided assistance with medical bills, Internet access, and behavioral health services. As essential workers helping victims of crime, domestic violence and sexual assault, True Ridge staff worked continuously throughout the pandemic. True Ridge also served as fiscal sponsor for a grant to Henderson Resiste that provided fresh food to 83 Latino families through Abundancia, a culturally appropriate food bank program. A small, young nonprofit, True Ridge found that the HF grant opened many doors, including connections with other Latino organizations, health departments, and to funds designated specifically to serve Henderson County, which they stated helped put them “on the map.”

“Cash assistance for excluded workers was more than economic assistance to alleviate financial hardship. It was also an act of honoring and valuing undocumented workers and mixed status families who have been systematically excluded from all other forms of direct assistance.”
Over half of grantees (54%) reported using some of HF funding to cover operating costs. Many Latino nonprofits have performance-based program grants or contract. When many offices closed and face-to-face services were halted early in the pandemic, these nonprofits lost much of their income. Some funders later made funding more flexible, and many organizations were eventually able to obtain Payroll Protection Program (PPP) funding, but HF funds played a crucial role in maintaining nonprofit operations, especially in the early months of the pandemic. Grantees used HF funds to pay the rent and keep staff employed, and cover special operating costs like Plexiglas and office disinfecting so essential services could continue. These funds supported purchase of technology so staff could work from home, provide remote services to clients, communicate with each other, and access data. They paid for PPE, sanitizer, and other supplies that helped keep staff and clients safe.

THE NUMBERS:
$4.84 million to 133 grantees in 17 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia

Most Frequent Uses of HF Funding for General Operations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>[N=131 Respondents]</th>
<th>Special operating costs during COVID-19</th>
<th>PPE and supplies to keep staff safe</th>
<th>Hazard pay for staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organizational operating costs</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote technology</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Eventually, nearly three-fourths of grantees responding to the HF survey obtained PPP funding, but over half (54%) found the application process very or moderately difficult. Fifty-two grantees said they participated in HF webinars on how to apply for PPP and other federal funds.

Well over one-third of grantees (39%) agreed that without HF funding, they “would have had to lay off staff and reduce services,” and a similar proportion (36%) indicated that helping organizations survive was an important result of HF funding. Almost one in five grantees — most of them small nonprofits in Puerto Rico, Florida, and New York — agreed that “without HF funding, the organization might not have survived.” These grantees were particularly likely to report that HF funds were especially important because they came early in the pandemic, before other funding, that the grants were more flexible and easier to apply for. Larger nonprofits used flexible funding to support ongoing programs and to initiate new activities to meet changing community needs during the pandemic.

**UNIDOS POR ECUADOR OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, Orlando, FL:** This small nonprofit was forced to reduce or suspend numerous services when the office closed due to COVID-19. Despite the pandemic, the community continued to depend on the organization to provide many types of assistance, from help with naturalization and free tax preparation for low-income families and seniors to food distribution and access services to help people apply for Medicaid and other benefits. HF funds supported general operating costs and were used for remote technology, staff PPE, and other special costs for operations during the pandemic. HF also provided both food and food vouchers to distribute.

Staff participated in HF webinars and received individual advice from HF’s Florida staff. HF funding also helped the organization obtain funding from a source that would not otherwise have provided support. Unidos provided $8,000 in food assistance, including 800 grocery boxes and four food distribution events that served 500 families. The organization also paid naturalization processing fees for 15 people.
CENTRO LEGAL DE LA RAZA, Oakland, CA: HF funds provided general operating support that enabled the organization to sustain and build infrastructure and launch new COVID-19 response efforts. This included improved technology to support remote work and virtual services and expanded advocacy efforts, including its immigrants’, workers’, and tenants’ rights legal services programs and the Youth Law Academy (youth development and education). During the pandemic the Immigrants’ Rights team expanded services to help clients navigate changes in the immigration courts during COVID, and secured permanent status for 410 clients. They supported immigrants in detention, and secured the release of 82 immigrants and asylum seekers. The Workers’ Rights team developed a workers’ rights COVID-19 guide, and together with partners, launched the Oakland Undocumented Relief Fund (OUR Fund), which raised and distributed $3.5 million in direct financial assistance to undocumented workers excluded from most economic relief. The Tenants’ Rights team assisted low-income tenants facing eviction and, along with partners, successfully advocated for eviction moratoriums. The Youth Law Academy provided mentorship and guidance to 32 high school and 44 college students struggling to stay focused on school during the pandemic.

Tenants’ Rights Clinic, Centro Legal de la Raza, Oakland, CA
The Numbers:
$3.61 million for health services including vaccinations, to 244,078 people provided by 72 grantees headquartered in 17 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia.

Grantees used Hispanic Federation (HF) funds for a wide range of health-related purposes. Early in the pandemic, HF funds provided PPE for staff, modifications to facilities, other adjustments to permit continued clinic operations, and purchase of technology to support telehealth. Several months into the pandemic, HF grants helped providers set up safe spaces for testing. In January 2021, HF began providing grants to enable clinics and other Latino nonprofits to educate the community about vaccinations and help get doses into arms. HF grants often came before other funds, including federal emergency support, became available.

Use of HF Funds for Health-Related Activities

[N=72 Respondents]
Most important health-related impacts, as reported by HF grantees, included help with vaccinations, enabling clinics to maintain safe operations during the pandemic, and helping to support testing.

HF played a key role in early engagement of Latino-focused clinics and other nonprofits in Latino vaccinations.

**Healthcare**

Early health-related grants helped primary care and behavioral health providers obtain PPE for their staff and pivot to telehealth services.

Both clinics and other Latino nonprofits became involved in health-related activities during the pandemic, including outreach, community education, providing or arranging sites for vaccinations, and contact tracing.

**LA CLÍNICA DEL PUEBLO, Washington, DC:** An HF grant helped to sustain La Clínica’s unique professional medical interpretation/navigation service. Most of La Clínica’s clients are uninsured patients of local clinics or Medicaid recipients. The pandemic exacerbated the already considerable healthcare access and quality of care barriers facing patients with limited English.

**VALLE DEL SOL, Phoenix, AZ:** HF funding provided cash flow for PPE and testing supplies, telehealth, behavioral and mental health services, and other “hard costs.” The clinic launched a small mobile vehicle to do both testing and vaccinations.

**VIEQUESLOVE, Vieques, PR:** ViequesLove designed a Contact Tracing Program and tools to mitigate the risk before COVID-19 reached Vieques by educating and protecting residents. Started and sustained by HF grant funds, the program helped keep levels of COVID-19 in the municipality among the lowest in all of Puerto Rico. Program success led to funding from the municipality to address community needs and made the activities sustainable. The contact tracing team’s work was also essential to local vaccination efforts and helped save countless lives.
As vaccines gradually became available in early 2021, Latino clinics began to mobilize. Few outreach materials were available in Spanish, and Latinos were often unable to navigate complex online scheduling systems. Varying doses of vaccines were provided each week. Vaccines were free, but providers had to depend on private insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid to cover outreach and community education, scheduling, extensive data gathering and reporting, and actually getting doses into arms. Community health centers that serve mostly uninsured and often undocumented patients received no federal funds to cover these costs during the critical vaccination roll-out phase early this year. In January, immediately after this major barrier became evident, the Federation awarded VIDA grants totaling $1 million to 19 Latino community health centers and other Latino nonprofits. Clinics used the funds to jumpstart their efforts and support innovative strategies targeting the most vulnerable. Preliminary data from 10 of them indicate that HF funds had helped them provide 235,893 vaccinations as of late July. For example:

**El Centro de Corazón,** Houston, TX, provided 2,062 initial vaccinations, 2,061 second shots, and 559 Johnson & Johnson one-dose shots. The clinic provides vaccination registrations on a bilingual website and by phone. Initial focus was on Focus on high-risk zip codes, older people, and people with underlying conditions.

**Humboldt Park Health,** Chicago, IL, used a mobile clinic parked in front of collaborating restaurants to vaccinate their employees and community members on a walk-in basis. HF funds paid staff administering the vaccine and supported patient registration and reporting, helping the community health center vaccinate more than 20,000 people.

**La Clínica de la Raza,** Oakland, CA, used stationary, mobile, and pop-up clinics to expand vaccine access. A web platform called PrimaryBio helped it prioritize residents in the most impacted zip codes. HF funds supported personnel and program expenses and helped the clinic gear up to deliver 56,783 vaccines through June.
Salud Integral en la Montaña, Naranjito, PR

▲ SALUD INTEGRAL EN LA MONTAÑA (SIM), Naranjito, PR, used HF funds to pay salaries for four nurses and three administrative staff who helped make possible a massive vaccination effort. Between January 30 and July 31, SIM administered 61,411 vaccinations in the organization’s seven Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs), at community outreach events, and in the homes of bedridden patients served by SIM.

URBAN HEALTH PLAN (UHP), New York, used HF funds to hire the organization’s initial vaccination teams, which included registrars, flow masters, vaccinators, and vaccinator assistants. The funds permitted UHP to “jump start a broad and comprehensive approach to outreach and to vaccinate everyone that we could.” UHP had administered over 35,000 vaccine doses as of late July.

Latino nonprofits that were not medical providers also played key roles in vaccinations. For example:

▶ COALITION FOR HUMANE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (CHIRLA), Los Angeles, CA, did what it does best: organize and mobilize the community for action. Its staff and volunteers canvassed street vendors, reached 3,141 CHIRLA members through phone banking, made group presentations, and held one-on-one conversations to encourage and facilitate COVID-19 vaccine appointments. It also collaborated with the City of Los Angeles, the Mexican Consulate, medical providers, and Telemundo, and arranged mobile vaccination clinics — with gifts, food, and a mariachi band — that vaccinated 2,238 individuals.

HISPANIC CENTER OF WESTERN MICHIGAN, Grand Rapids, MI, worked closely with the county Health Department to reach Latinos. It hosted nine vaccination clinics in Latino neighborhoods that vaccinated 1,129 residents, set up a phone line for calling or texting to register, provided transportation to and from appointments, provided certified interpreters, and translated crucial forms. The Center partnered with six other Latino nonprofits in Michigan to design culturally competent educational messaging and developed a replicable Vaccine Clinic Model.

Latino Community Association, Redmond, OR
Arts and Culture

HF made grants to 14 arts organizations, and 7 additional grantees included arts and cultural activities as part of their work. Many reached large audiences of all ages through remote performances, classes and workshops. Several behavioral health organizations provided arts activities “for children and teens to help express their feelings.” Several arts groups arranged live outdoor performances to support community education about COVID-19 or encourage vaccinations.

**THE AFRO-LATIN JAZZ ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK, INC.:** HF grant funds helped pay personnel to develop new online programs such as Virtual Birdland (Sunday performances), La Plazo@ALJA Digital Village (an online magazine show, Familia Performances (live streams), and Live Streams (Thursday night performance series). Also developed were Music Educational Videos and Master Classes (sequential 10-20 minute Latin jazz lessons mirroring the normal in-person ALJAM curriculum). Together they helped the organization reach 250,000 people. Alliance decided during the pandemic to “produce free online music and education programming because we know art is a part of quality of life, and being able to provide this during the pandemic allowed us to continue to fulfill our mission in earnest.”

**ANDANZA, San Juan, PR:** HF funding helped Andanza create the Andanza Virtual Project, which transformed face-to-face services to a series of free virtual art and dance education modules. While the organization’s headquarters were closed for nearly a year, the organization “never stopped working or laid off our employees, who continued creating, teaching, and working.”

**THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF PUERTO RICAN ARTS & CULTURE in Chicago, CARIBBEAN CULTURAL CENTER AFRICAN DIASPORA INSTITUTE in Manhattan, and PREGONES PUERTO RICAN TRAVELING THEATER in New York City provided stipends to artists unable to exhibit or perform during the pandemic.**

**THE NUMBERS:**

$528,500 spent and 298,110 PEOPLE REACHED BY 21 nonprofits located in 15 states, & Puerto Rico
HF funding helped more than 100 grantees carry out a wide range of other programs and activities, from formal and informal education to immigration and other legal services, organizing and advocacy, and research and policy analysis. Several organizations that are not healthcare providers became involved in COVID-19 outreach and education, targeting their clients and community. Some provided technology — from cell phones to tablets and data cards or other Internet access — to enable individuals and families to participate in online learning, receive mental health or other services remotely, and access public and private resources.

**ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE – ASIAN LAW CAUCUS (ALC), San Francisco, CA:** HF funds provided operating support early in the pandemic, then contributed to ALC’s outreach including use of social media, and its direct legal assistance and counseling to at least 100 Asian American and Latino families and workers on tenant protections and access to benefits. This has included Know Your Rights materials in more than 20 languages, as well as policy advocacy around language access, including on behalf of laid-off workers applying for unemployment benefits. HF funding also helped ALC secure individual donations to address anti-Asian hate.

**LATINOS PROGRESANDO, Chicago, IL:** Latinos Progresando provides immigration legal services, community education, arts programming including the young theater group Teatro Americano, and other services to immigrant families from more than 40 countries. Its HF COVID-19 grant funds helped the

**THE NUMBERS:**

$3.46 million for programs and services for 1,177,025 individuals, provided by 108 grantees in 16 states & Puerto Rico
organization establish an immigration hotline to continue meeting urgent immigration legal needs while the office was closed. This included investing in needed technology infrastructure, including equipment and home Internet stipends for staff. Much like telehealth services, the hotline allowed staff to field nearly 25,000 calls, provide teleconsultations, and maintain the high quality of its immigration legal services. HF funds also contributed to a total of $350,000 raised for financial assistance used for housing and utilities, as well as healthcare, funeral expenses, general living expenses, Internet access, and repairs to vehicles needed for work. Aid went to 258 families, most of them undocumented or mixed-status and therefore ineligible for most government assistance.

[COPAY] staff lost 14 family members to COVID-19 but they kept working, supporting each other and their community.

PUERTO RICAN ASSOCIATION FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (PRAHD), Perth Amboy, NJ: While many surrounding nonprofits closed offices or reduced services, PRAHD expanded services to the most vulnerable. With flexible HF funding, PRAHD set up virtual learning pods for children ages 3-13 from 40 low-income Latino immigrant families. Their parents typically held low-wage jobs outside the home and could not assist or supervise their children's virtual schooling. Beginning in September 2020, PRAHD staff greeted students every morning “with a smile and a thermometer,” seated children at safe distances from each other, and gave them headsets and microphones for their virtual classes. Staff provided help during classes and with homework, as well as free breakfast, lunch, and snacks. PRAHD also distributed $10,000 in grocery gift certificates to 100 families and managed the city’s COVID-19 rental assistance program.
The Hispanic Federation’s grantmaking supports and strengthens Latino-led and Latino-serving community-based organizations (CBOs). This includes ongoing support, as well as crisis grantmaking. HF has assisted Latino families devastated by 9/11, earthquake victims in Mexico, and hurricane and earthquake survivors in Puerto Rico, becoming one of the largest grantmakers of Latino institutions and causes in the nation.

COVID-19’s immense and disproportionate impact on Latino workers and families has further honed and expanded the scope and reach of HF’s grantmaking. Early in the pandemic, the Federation realized that its first priority needed to be preserving its network of Latino nonprofit institutions, so they could provide services that remain the primary safety net for millions of struggling Latino individuals and families. In March of 2020, HF created the Latino Nonprofit Emergency Assistance Fund to help struggling Latino community-based nonprofits cover basic operating costs, look after the health and safety of their staff, and serve their local communities in this time of deep crisis and uncertainty.

The Federation’s COVID-19 grantmaking exemplifies what makes HF’s grantmaking special:

- **FUNDING FOR LATINO-LED, LATINO-SERVING NONPROFITS:** Latinos are 18.7% of the U.S. population, but nationally, only about 1.3% of philanthropic dollars go to Latino-based organizations. The Federation provides nearly all of its funding to Latino CBOs or to immigrant-led organizations.

- **RAPID CRISIS RESPONSE:** The Federation begins focused grantmaking immediately once a need is identified. The first COVID-related grants were made in the first days of April 2020, a few weeks after the economy began shutting down. As the first vaccines became available in mid-January 2021, the Federation engaged its Latino community health centers and quickly came to know that while the vaccines were being provided to them to administer for free, they came without any administrative fee for staffing, technology, and to conduct needed outreach to educate, engage and follow up with the vulnerable populations they were committed to serve (the poor, uninsured, undocumented, limited English speakers, and, some times, 

“It needs to be said that of all funders, Hispanic Federation is the only funder who consistently checked in with us to see how we were faring and how they could help.”

**What Makes HF Grantmaking Unique**

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Six days later, the Federation announced the first 16 grants under VIDA (Vaccine Immunization Dosage Awareness) to cover such costs. More than three-fourths of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that HF funding was particularly important to them because it came before other funding.

- **SIMPLE ONLINE APPLICATIONS AND REPORTS:** The Federation wants small groups without development staff to be able to apply and meet reporting requirements. More than 90% of survey respondents strongly agreed or agreed that HF grants are easier to apply for.

- **QUICK DECISIONS AND DISBURSEMENT:** The Federation is able to quickly select and support Latino grassroots organizations leading the way in addressing community needs, because of its deep-seated history of Latino coalition-building, advocacy and grant-making. Decisions about crisis funding are made by HF’s grantmaking committee team and leadership on a rolling basis to provide quick approval, and funds are put directly into the grantee’s bank account.

- **NON-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:** HF offers more than money — webinars and other training, written resources, and personal assistance. Over half of grantees responding to the survey — and two-thirds of those located in states where HF has offices — received non-financial assistance, most often capacity-building help such as participation in webinars. Puerto Rican grantees were especially likely to participate in webinars, many of them offered in Spanish. More than one in five grantees reported individual advice or assistance.

- **GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT:** HF has a long history of providing core grants to its members to support ongoing operations and build capacity. During the pandemic, HF funds for general operating costs, technology for remote operations, and PPE for staff were especially important.

Grantees strongly agree that:

![Weighted Mean Chart](chart.png)

- HF funding was very important to the organization
- HF funding helped us meet emerging client and community needs during the epidemic
- HF understands the needs of Latino nonprofit organizations better than other funders
- Compared to other grants, HF grants are easier to apply for
**FLEXIBILITY:** HF allowed grantees to reallocate funds to meet changing needs. For example, if funds were awarded to cover staff costs but the organization later received PPP funds, HF funds could be redirected to other purposes.

**ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS:** The Federation establishes long-term relationships with most of its grantees. As one Puerto Rican grantee put it, “One of the things that means the most for us with HF is the relationship that we have established beyond grants; we see them as allies who believe in our mission and support it in different ways. HF was and is for us our main support during the COVID-19 emergency.”

**DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF LATINO COMMUNITIES:** Among grant recipients responding to the survey, not a single respondent disagreed with the statement that “HF understands the needs of Latino nonprofit organizations better than other funders.”

HF’s grantmaking model makes it a lifeline for some small Latino nonprofits. Understanding the essential role of these grassroots nonprofits, the Federation provided them “survival” funds. Almost one in five of the grantees responding to the survey (18%) indicated that without HF assistance, they might not have survived, and nearly all of these would have had to lay off staff. Almost all (98%) said HF funds were especially important because they came before other funding. About 60% said HF funding helped them obtain support from funders that would not have supported them otherwise. These nonprofits were especially likely to participate in other capacity-building trainings; 80% reported non-financial assistance, and nearly 60% participated in webinars that helped them operate during COVID-19 (e.g., remote work, keeping employees safe, use of technology).

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**Grantee Views about Hispanic Federation Grantmaking: All Grantees vs. Those Who Might Not Have Survived**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>All (N=233)</th>
<th>Might Not Have Survived (N=44)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HF funding was very important to the organization</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF funding helped us meet emerging client and community needs during the epidemic</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF understands the needs of Latino nonprofit organizations better than other funders</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compared to other grants, HF grants are easier to apply for</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF funding gave us resources to plan and pivot to meet emerging needs</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compared to other funders, HF provides grants that are more flexible in how they can be used</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF funds were especially important because they came before other funding</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Since March 2020, COVID-19 has wreaked havoc and left a trail of destruction through the very heart of Latino communities. Families have been destroyed by COVID-19 deaths, Latino children have lost more ground than their peers because of school shutdowns and limited Internet access, and Latino workers have been devastated by disproportionate pandemic job losses and put at daily risk as “essential” farmworkers, meatpackers, warehouse employees, cooks, cleaners, delivery workers, nursing home staff, and grocery workers. Latino child poverty increased by nearly 20% during the epidemic, and housing and food insecurity became endemic, as documented in a recent report, "Overcoming COVID-19: Economic Barriers for Latino Communities," by the Federation and the New America Foundation.²

The historical, systemic, and structural barriers and inequities that Latinos, Blacks, Native Americans, and immigrants face in health care, housing, education, and the labor market have served as an accelerant for COVID-19 to spread like wildfire throughout our nation’s communities of color. To plan for a better future, we must first turn to the past. The unique challenges faced by Latinos in this crisis — and so valiantly addressed by thousands of Latino community-based nonprofits — are grounded in a deep-rooted history of exclusion, neglect, and racism. Disparities so evident during the pandemic — from disproportionate hospitalizations and deaths to low vaccination rates — have clear historical roots, as the Federation recently explained in testimony before the House Select Committee on the Coronavirus Crisis.³

The U.S. must not open the economy on the backs of brown, black, undocumented, and low-income workers who continue to suffer disproportionately high infection rates, economic hardship, and death. They must be valued and treated as essential, with adequate compensation, health insurance, paid family and medical leave, childcare coverage, and protections from family separation.

This report has highlighted the extraordinary work of Latino and other BIPOC nonprofits to keep the most vulnerable individuals and families safe — through food, housing, other direct financial assistance, healthcare, COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, and other programs and services. These community-based organizations have essential roles to play in creating a fair and just recovery.

Following are some of the most pressing broad public policy needs for addressing current and historic inequities. More detailed recommendations are provided in the Overcoming COVID-19 report and “ Primeros 100: Guidance to Biden-Harris Administration’s First 100 Days.”

Cross-Cutting Recommendations

Central Role of Latino and BIPOC Nonprofit Sector: Greatly increase the funding and official involvement of Latino-led community-based organizations as providers of emergency assistance, outreach, and ongoing education and services.

Economic Inclusion and Fiscal Parity: Create and enact public policies that close rising racial, wealth, and opportunity gaps and stimulate sustainable economic growth — and begin by making permanent the American Rescue Plan’s expanded Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit, and restoring Child Tax Credit eligibility to children with ITINs rather than social security numbers.

Immigration

Access to Services: Provide full access to emergency relief and recovery assistance for undocumented people and mixed-status children and families in this and future crises.

Immigration Reform: Ensure protections and provide pathways to citizenship for DACA participants, TPS recipients, farmworkers, essential workers, asylees, and other undocumented people.

Public Health

Ensure availability, accessibility, and affordability of health care and prevention services for all U.S. residents — which includes increasing federal funds for nonprofit community health providers, with a focus on those that serve the most vulnerable, and making permanent the increases in Affordable Care Act (ACA) premium subsidies for low-income people.

Food Security

Expand, improve, and better target food-related assistance, expand the roles of community-based organizations in providing hunger relief services, and eliminate policies that prevent undocumented and mixed-status families from receiving food and other services.

Worker Rights and Protections

Increase the federal minimum wage, enhance worker rights and protections, and expand job creation and training.

Shelter and Housing

Increase affordable housing stock, provide education and resources to increase homeownership and prevent homelessness, and address housing discrimination at all levels.

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4 “ Primeros 100: Guidance to Biden-Harris Administration’s First 100 Days,” website presentation, and “Hispanic Federation Priorities for Latino and Immigrant Communities for the Biden-Harris Administration – First 100 Days,” full letter to President-elect Joseph Biden from Frankie Miranda, President and CEO of the Hispanic Federation, January 13, 2021, summarized in https://hispanicfederation.org/primeros100/ and provided in full at https://hispanicfederation.org/images/Hispanic_Federation_Priorities_for_the_Biden_Administration_First_100_Days_UPDATED.pdf.
What HF Grantees Most Want Funders to Know

As part of its grantmaking assessment survey, the Federation asked grantees what they most want foundations and corporate funders to understand about their work during the pandemic, and 226 responded. Most focused on several themes, described below in their own words.

THE PANDEMIC REVEALED LONG-STANDING INEQUITIES:
“The pandemic further exposed the gaping holes in the social safety net for low-income Latino and other BIPOC communities.”

LATINOS ARE ESPECIALLY HARD-HIT:
“The Latino community is one of the most vulnerable and most financially, physically, and mentally impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of Latinos affected by the crisis is disproportional compared to whites and other races.”

CBOS PREVENTED EVEN GREATER DEVASTATION TO LATINO COMMUNITIES DURING COVID-19:
“Community-based nonprofit organizations, and particularly those led by people of color, stepped up in incredible ways over the past year, as we always do in times of community crisis. In many neighborhoods, in many cities, without the leadership and determination of nonprofit organizations, the impact of the pandemic would have been unimaginably worse.”

LATINO CBOS, INCLUDING SMALL GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS, PLAY UNIQUE ROLES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES:
“The small nonprofits are the ligaments of our community; we are necessary to keep communities functioning together.”
“As a culturally specific organization, we are the best positioned to serve our community. We were able to pivot quickly to address the pandemic because we are an already trusted institution.”

DURING THE PANDEMIC, LATINO CBOS WERE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF WHO THEY ARE AND HOW THEY OPERATE:
THEY STAY OPEN: “We never closed; we just adapted our service delivery method.”
THEY ACT QUICKLY: Latino-led community benefit organizations have been and continue to be on the front lines providing services as non-health-related essential workers. While the local, state, and federal government were trying to figure out what role to play we adjusted, adapted, and overcame barriers to provide safety net services to our most vulnerable families that we serve. Nonprofits were our community’s lifeline.”
THEM PROVIDE SERVICES TO THE MOST VULNERABLE: “Those who are underserved to begin with are the ones who suffer the most in times of crisis.”

- Undocumented/mixed-status families: “Many in our community do not qualify for basic government, safety-net programs; and they did not receive any of the COVID-19 emergency stimulus checks from the federal government. Without support from organizations like ours, many of the families we serve would have been homeless and hungry.”

- Farmworkers: “Farmworkers are largely unseen by society and yet perform essential labor day in and day out, regardless of a global pandemic.”

- Domestic and sexual violence survivors: “Poverty increases the risk of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual violence; it can make women and children more dependent on others for survival and, therefore, less able to control their safety, to consent to sex, and to meaningfully address their own victimization.”

LATINO CBOS ACCOMPLISH MORE BECAUSE THEY ARE PART OF THE COMMUNITY:

“When you fund a grassroots organization who has an executive director who is also a neighborhood leader (someone born in the neighborhood with family, friends and community involvement), you will find more sustainable solutions while yielding greater results.”

COMMUNITY MEMBERS WORK TOGETHER TO MEET LOCAL NEEDS:

“Our cash assistance program helped immigrant workers stave off hunger, utility shut-offs, and other financial crises — while connecting them to more long-term, structural solutions, e.g., education, organizing, and advocacy. Furthermore, our work was made possible by the active participation and leadership of immigrant workers in our membership base, who despite being in crisis, found time to support their neighbors, coworkers, and community members.”

CBOS NEED SUPPORT AS ADVOCATES AS WELL AS SERVICE PROVIDERS:

“As we witnessed the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on low-income communities, particularly Latinx and Black communities, we increased our advocacy efforts. These types of efforts generally do not receive funding but are vital. As we move into recovery, unrestricted funding is more valuable than ever to sustain our technology infrastructure, support the well-being of staff and community, and advocate for a just recovery.”

LATINO COMMUNITY NEEDS WILL REQUIRE A LONG-TERM PUBLIC AND PHILANTHROPIC RESPONSE:

“The needs of low-income families during a pandemic are deeper and more complex than perceived through media or news outlets.”

“Even after the COVID-19 emergency ‘ends,’ there will be significant needs in our community.”

“The conditions of difficulty and lack of support during the pandemic have not gone away. Stigmatized people and the organizations which support them need continual help in order to address systemic injustice!”

“There’s no finish line on this work. We don’t measure today and stop tomorrow.”

LATINO CBOS GREATLY APPRECIATE THE PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT THEY HAVE RECEIVED DURING THE PANDEMIC:

“The most important thing we would like foundations and corporate funders to understand is the essential role they played by investing in the stability and continuity and encouraging the growth of our organization during an extraordinary time. Institutional funders not only invested in our work; they doubled down on their support during the pandemic. As a result, we were able to not just keep our doors open and sustain our core work; we have continued to grow.”

“During uncertain times, we all had to accept this challenge to survive. We had to change our way of working and how we help the community. It has been a huge challenge, one we have been able to overcome thanks to our funders. The financial support was incredibly timely—it arrived at the moment we needed it most. Thank you for allowing so many organizations to make a difference.”

LATINO CBOS WILL NEED ONGOING FLEXIBLE FUNDING THAT SUPPORTS SYSTEMS AND GENERAL OPERATIONS AS WELL AS PROGRAMS:

“In addition to program and emergency funding, investing in operations, staff, and administration are critical areas to help strengthen among immigrant and Latino serving organizations. Without strengthening the backbone, programs and services are not possible and will become unsustainable.”

“To drive an equitable recovery, foundation and corporations should invest in the infrastructure of this critical sector with multi-year general operating grants for organizations led by people of color.”

“Flexibility in funding is key to adapt to political changes and opportunities, emergencies and economic recovery, and new areas of programming to remain responsive to the needs of the community.”

“As we move into recovery, unrestricted funding is more valuable than ever to sustain our technology infrastructure, support the well-being of staff and community, and advocate for a just recovery.”
## Appendix: HF’s COVID-19 Grantees

### ALABAMA
- ¡HICA! Birmingham

### ARIZONA
- Arizona Justice For Our Neighbors Pima County
- Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. Maricopa County
- Promise Arizona Maricopa County
- Valle del Sol Maricopa County

### ARKANSAS
- Arkansas United Springdale and Little Rock
- Hispanic Women’s Organization of Arkansas Northwest Arkansas

### CALIFORNIA
- Alianza Coachella Valley Inland Empire
- Al Otro Lado San Diego County
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus San Francisco County
- Central Coast Center for Farmworker Families Central Coast
- Central Valley Mutual Aid Fund Central Valley

### COLORADO
- Alianza NORCO Fort Collins
- Casa de Paz Aurora
- Centro Humanitario Denver
- Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights Denver
- Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition Denver
- Cultivando Commerce City
- INSP!RE Commerce City
- Integrated Community Steamboat Springs
- Latina SafeHouse Denver
- Mi Casa Resource Center Denver
- OneMorgan County Fort Morgan
- Re:Vision Denver
- San Luis Valley Immigrant Resource Center Alamosa
- Servicios de La Raza Denver
- Voces Unidas de las Montañas Glenwood Springs

### CONNECTICUT
- Arte New Haven
- Bridgeport Caribe Youth Leaders Fairfield County
- CASA, Inc. New Haven and Bridgeport
- Casa Otoñal, Inc. New Haven
- Center for Latino Progress-CPRF Hartford
- Children’s Learning Centers of Fairfield County Fairfield County
- Connecticut Students for a Dream Hartford
- Hartford Knights Youth Organization Hartford
- Hillside Food Outreach Danbury
- Hispanic Alliance of Southeastern Connecticut New London
COVID-19 grantees, continued

**Delaware**
- Latin American Community Center
  - Wilmington
- Westside Family Healthcare
  - Statewide

**Florida**
- Access Community Awareness Center
  - Central Florida
- Advance Community Outreach Center
  - Central Florida
- Alianza Center
  - Central Florida
- Bliss Cares
  - Central Florida
- Boricuas de Corazón
  - Hillsborough County
- Borinquen Medical Centers
  - Miami-Dade
- Casa de Mexico
  - Central Florida
- Center for Immigrant Advancement
  - Miami-Dade
- Centro Campesino Farmworker Center
  - South and Central Florida
- Coalition of Florida Farmworker Organizations
  - Statewide
- Dynamic Community Development Corporation
  - South Florida
- Family Action Network Movement
  - South Florida
- Farmworker Association of Florida
  - Statewide
- Florida Immigrant Coalition
  - Statewide
- Hispanic Health Initiatives
  - Central Florida
- Hispanic Services Council
  - Hillsborough County
- Hispanic Unity
  - South Florida
- Hogar CREA
  - Statewide
- Hope Community Center
  - Central Florida
- Justice Shall Be For All
  - Central Florida
- Latin Community Health Advisors
  - Central Florida
- Latino Leadership
  - Central Florida
- Orlando Center for Justice
  - Central Florida
- Prospera
  - Statewide
- QLatinx
  - Central Florida
- Redlands Christian Migrant Association
  - Immokalee
- SOS Urbander
  - Central Florida
- Unidos por Ecuador of Central Florida
  - Central Florida
- We Count!
  - South Florida

**Georgia**
- Coalition of Latino Leaders in Dalton
  - Dalton, Whitfield County
- Dignidad Inmigrante
  - Athens, Clarke County
- GALEO
  - Statewide
- Latino Community Fund Georgia
  - Statewide
- Women Watch Afrika
  - Clarkston

**Illinois**
- Alianza Americas
  - Statewide
- Alivio Medical Center
  - Cook County
- Farmworker and Landscapers Advocacy Project
  - Statewide
- Highwood Public Library
  - Lake County
- Humboldt Park Health
  - Cook County
| Latino CBOs Respond to COVID-19 | An Assessment of the Hispanic Federation’s Pandemic Grantmaking |

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COVID-19 grantees, continued

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</table>
## COVID-19 grantees, continued

**RAIN**  
The Bronx

**Repertorio Español**  
New York City

**Rural and Migrant Ministry**  
Upstate and Long Island

**Southside United Housing Development Fund Corporation**  
Brooklyn

**Spanish Action League**  
Onondoga County

**Spanish Speaking Elderly Council**  
Brooklyn and Queens

**St. Ann’s Corner of Harm Reduction**  
Bronx

**Sure We Can**  
Brooklyn

**Tacombi Foundation**  
New York City

**Teatro Circulo**  
Manhattan

**Thalia Spanish Theatre**  
Queens

**Urban Health Plan**  
Bronx and Queens

**Urban Justice Center**  
New York City

**Violence Intervention Program**  
Citywide

**Vision Urbana**  
Manhattan

**Voces Latinas**  
Queens

**Worker Justice Center of New York**  
Hudson Valley and Upstate

**Zone 126**  
Queens

### NORTH CAROLINA

**Asociación de Mexicanos en Carolina del Norte**  
Greenville

**Carolina Migrant Network**  
Mecklenburg County

**Charlotte Bilingual Preschool**  
Mecklenburg County

**Comunidad Colectiva**  
Mecklenburg County

**El Centro Hispano**  
Durham

**El Pueblo Inc.**  
Raleigh

**El Puente Hispano**  
Mecklenburg County

**Episcopal Farmworker Ministry**  
Johnson, Harnett and Sampson Counties

**FaithAction International House**  
Greensboro

**Henderson Resiste**  
Henderson County

**Hispanic League**  
Winston-Salem

**Latin American Coalition**  
Mecklenburg County

**Latin-19**  
Statewide

**LatinxEdu**  
Statewide

**OurBRIDGE for Kids**  
Mecklenburg County

**Prospera**  
Mecklenburg County

**Student Action with Farmworkers**  
Durham

**True Ridge**  
Henderson County

### OHIO

**HOLA Ohio**  
Painesville

**Justice for Migrant Women**  
Statewide

**La Conexión**  
Northwest Ohio

### OKLAHOMA

**Latino Community Development Agency**  
Oklahoma City

### OREGON

**Familias en Acción**  
Portland

**Latino Community Association**  
Central Oregon

**Uneto, Center for Farm Worker Advocacy**  
Medford

### PENNSYLVANIA

**Hispanic Association of Contractors and Enterprises**  
Philadelphia County

**Asociacion Puertorriqueños en Marcha**  
Philadelphia County

**ASPIRA of Pennsylvania**  
Philadelphia County

**Casa San Jose**  
Allegheny County

**Ceiba**  
Philadelphia County

**Concilio**  
Philadelphia County

**Centro Hispano Daniel Torres**  
Bucks County

**Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley**  
Lehigh County

**Junta**  
Philadelphia County

**Spanish American Civic Association**  
Lancaster County
### Puerto Rico

#### Acción Valerosa
Ciales

#### Alianza de Líderes Comunitarios
Island-wide

#### Alianza Pro-Desarrollo Económico de Ceiba
Eastern Region

#### Andanza
San Juan

#### Asociación Mayagüezana para Personas con Impedimento
Mayaguez

#### ASPIRA de Puerto Rico
San Juan

#### Atlantic Medical Center
Barceloneta and Sabana Hoyos

#### Ayuda Legal de Puerto Rico
Island-wide

#### Beta-Local
San Juan

#### Camuy Health Services
Northwest Region

#### Caras con Causa
Cataño and Guaynabo

#### Centro de la Mujer Dominicana
San Juan

#### Centro MAM
Island-wide

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#### Centro de Microempresas y Tecnologías Agrícolas Sustentables de Yauco
Yauco

#### Centro de Salud de Laredo
Lares

#### Centro de Salud Familiar Dr. Julio Palmieri Ferré
Arroyo and Guayama

#### Centro de Servicios Primarios de Salud
Florida

#### Centro de Servicios Primarios de Salud de Patillas
Patillas and Maunabo

#### Centros Sor Isolina Ferré
Ponce

#### Clínica Servicios Médicos de Hatillo
Hatillo

#### Community Health Foundation
Bayamon

#### Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Puerto Rico
San Juan

#### Cooperativa Orgánica Madre Tierra
San Juan

#### Corporación de Servicios de Salud Primaria y Desarrollo Socioeconómico El Otoao
Utuado

#### Corporación SANOS
Caguas

#### COSSMA
Southern Region

#### Costa Salud
Rincon and Aguado

#### CREARTE
San Juan

#### Endeavors
San Juan

#### Firms Unidos yResilientes con la Abogacia
San Juan

#### Foundation for a Better Puerto Rico
Culebra

#### Fundación Fondo de Acceso a la Justicia
Island-wide

#### Fundación Música y País
Island-wide

#### Grupo Guayacán
Island-wide

COVID-19 grantees, continued

Masks made by Sol de Vida (Toa Baja, PR), True Henderson Resiste through True Ridge (Hendersonville, NC) and Women Sewing Masks, Connecting Paths, San Juan, PR
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