



20
25

IMPACT
REPORT



Belonging is Built With You

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Belonging isn't accidental. It doesn't happen by chance. It doesn't appear overnight. And for the children and families we serve, it is never something to be taken for granted. Belonging is built — intentionally, compassionately, and consistently — by supporters like you.

In 2025, because of your generosity, 31 children entered our foster care neighborhood and found more than shelter. Many were placed by CPS with little notice and few personal belongings. Most arrived without the comfort of familiar faces or continued connection to family. In moments that could have been defined by uncertainty and fear, you made sure something else defined them instead: safety, stability, and care. You ensured that when a child walked through our doors, they stepped into a place prepared for them. A home ready. A bed made. A caring adult waiting. A community committed to saying, "You matter here." That is not accidental. That is the result of faithful, generous support.

This sense of belonging extends far beyond a safe house; it is found in the experience of being truly seen and understood. Your investment in Behavioral Health and Play Therapy gave children a language to rediscover joy, while your support empowered families to build stable, healthy homes through our Aftercare program. You didn't just provide supervision; you provided the connection and presence required for true healing.

As we look ahead to 2026, our commitment remains clear: to expand access to behavioral health care, to strengthen families before crisis escalates, and to ensure that every child who enters our care experiences not just safety, but a true sense of belonging. Thank you for building that belonging with us. Thank you for believing that every child deserves a place where they are known and valued. Thank you for making sure that when children and families face their most vulnerable moments, they are not alone.

Because of you, belonging isn't accidental. It is intentional. It is tangible. And it is transforming lives every day.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Simon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

MELISSA L. SIMON, MSW, CFRE

Chief Executive Officer

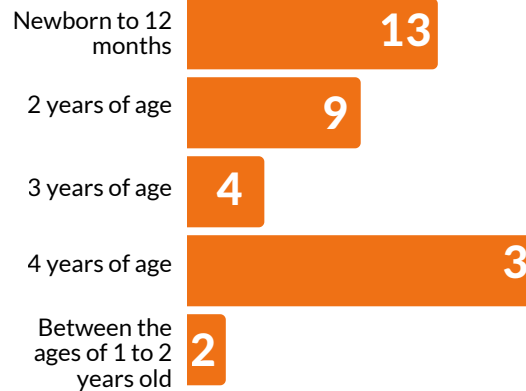
FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

A Place to Land

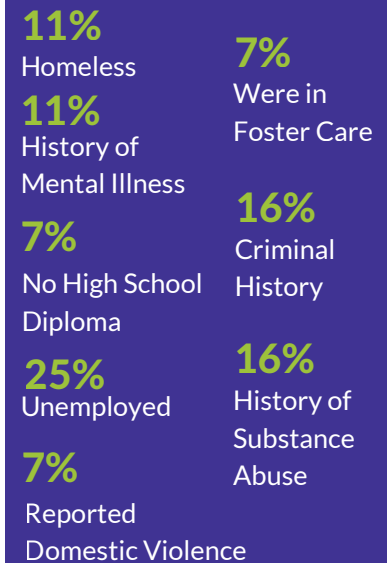
When children arrived in our neighborhood in 2025 – often placed by CPS with little notice – they stepped into homes that were ready for them. Beds were made, caregivers were prepared, and our community stood waiting.

31 children received
4,822 days
of foster care

AGE AT ADMISSION



PARENT CIRCUMSTANCES:



Our Foster Care Program offers safety and loving care for children aged newborn to six years old who are at risk for abuse and neglect. Children receive care in trauma-informed, loving homes where we address their basic needs including healthcare. Individualized plans are followed to help them reach appropriate developmental milestones and heal from the effects of trauma and neglect.

A Place to Grow



Behavioral Health & Play

Therapy: An integrated approach combining structure, professional guidance, and child-centered care to foster trust and belonging.

Children who have experienced trauma often come from environments marked by unpredictability. In our Behavioral Health Program, healing begins with intentional structure. From the moment a child enters the therapeutic space, they encounter consistency – the same welcoming environment, the same predictable routine, and the same carefully designed flow of care.

This structure is not accidental; it is foundational. Predictability allows a child's nervous system to begin settling from a state of survival into a state of safety. When children know what to expect, they begin to feel in control in healthy ways. Over time, that consistency builds trust.

Within this framework, Play Therapy becomes more than an activity – it becomes a safe, regulated space where expression, connection, and emotional repair can occur. The environment integrates professional rigor with warmth, ensuring that each interaction supports both emotional and developmental growth.

As safety becomes consistent, belonging becomes internalized. Children begin to understand that this is not a temporary space of supervision, but a reliable place of support. Through structured, trauma-informed care, they move from vigilance to connection, from uncertainty to stability.

In this way, the Behavioral Health Program serves as a foundational pillar of healing – providing the steady rhythm, professional guidance, and safe environment to rebuild trust, resilience, and sense of truly belonging.

- Rosalys Martinez, Behavioral Health Program Manager



35
Developmental
Evaluations



1,996
consultations with
caregivers



More than 140 Play
Therapy sessions
provided in partnership
with Family Houston!

Family Support Services

Belonging



In 2025, we launched our Lunch & Learn series to provide Aftercare parents with a dedicated space for building the life skills and self-assurance necessary for family stability. These interactive sessions cover essential topics like credit building, career advancement, and self-care while fostering a deep sense of belonging as parents bond with one another and connect with our staff in a supportive environment.

To ensure accessibility, we remove common barriers by providing lunch, transportation, and childcare for every participant. By equipping parents with both new knowledge and tangible resources like pantry items and grocery gift cards, we are strengthening the family unit and helping them maintain the stable lifestyle their children deserve. This holistic approach ensures every family knows they have a community where they are seen, supported, and empowered.



68 Families Served



22 Lunch & Learn Attendance



67%

of families whose child was discharged from care remained reunified and maintained stable housing for six months or more post-reunification

Parents receive personalized case management while their children are in our Foster Care program and after reunification. Our case managers develop tailored plans with referrals for substance abuse treatment, housing, employment, and parenting skills. Reunified families continue receiving support through our Aftercare Program, including access to essential resources like our food pantry, diaper bank, and children's clothing closet.

at Home

Post-Permanency Program



68
Families
Served



100%



of adoptions remained stable,
with zero disruptions post-permanency

**\$30,025 total scholarship
amount awarded through the
Casa Scholarship Program**



In 2025, a total of 68 families with 108 adoptees including 89 children and 19 adults received services through our Post-Permanency program. A total of 606 client contacts were made across both programs offering services such as crisis intervention, case management, tangible assistance, educational and developmental support, adoptee assistance, access to social events, referrals, transportation, utilities/bills assistance, home visits, and housing support.



Support is offered to families who have opened their hearts to children in need through adoption or permanent conservatorship. Because early neglect and trauma have lifelong effects, we provide resources to help families navigate their child's unique needs. Casa de Esperanza's Post-Permanency Program remains available for as long as support is needed.

2025 Volunteers of the Year



Dr. Sue Ellen Atkinson



Pediatric Student Association from McGovern Medical School

Belonging grows beyond house walls, it blooms in community.



At Casa de Esperanza, belonging isn't just a feeling--it's a commitment kept by those who show up. Whether it is the **weekly neighborhood volunteers** who provide essential support to our caregivers, or the **group volunteers** who dedicate their time to special projects and playdates, your presence creates a foundation of stability for children. We are deeply grateful for a community that shows up in so many ways, ensuring every child in our care knows they are **safe, seen, and truly at home.**



In 2025, 403 volunteers gave over 51,019 hours of time valued at \$1,713,728!

Hearts and Hands Building Belonging Through Volunteering

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 DONORS!

\$100,000+

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\$50,000 - \$99,999

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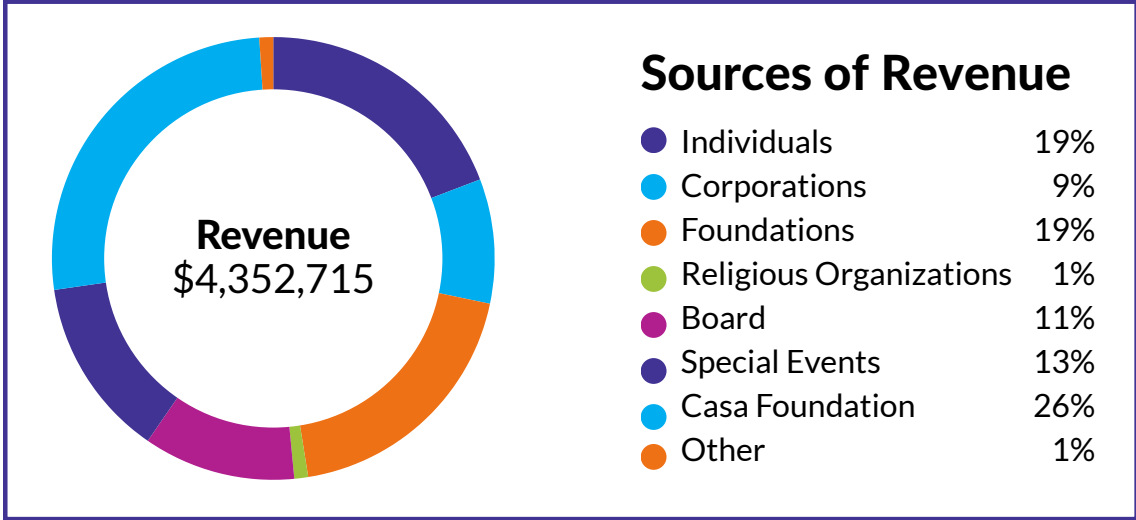
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Denotes gifts received, not pledged. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. We apologize for any errors or omissions.

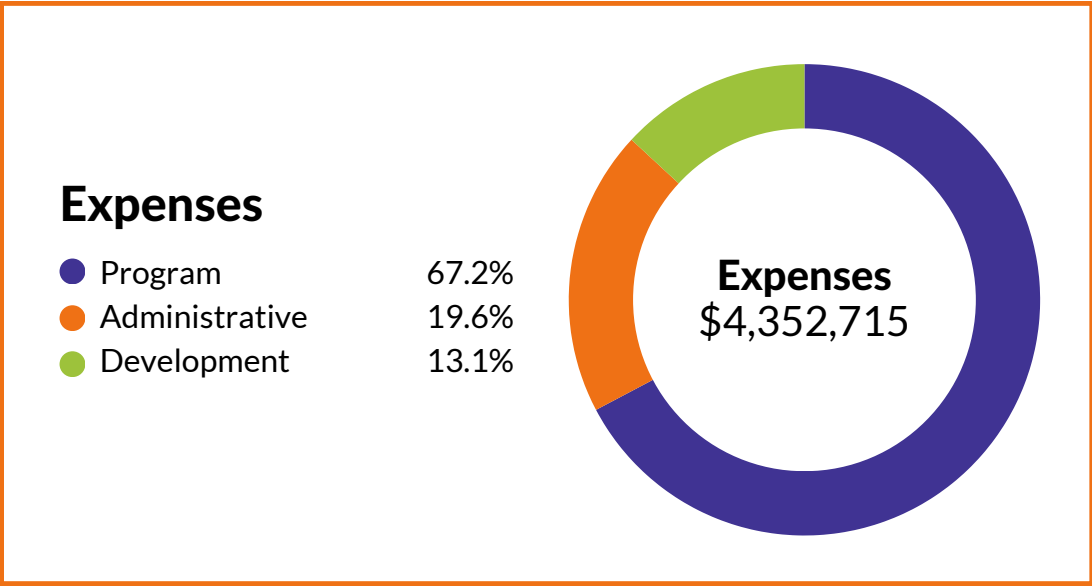
2025 PRELIMINARY FINANCIALS*

Your generosity ensures children in crisis feel seen, supported, and safe.



Casa de Esperanza Foundation

Total Assets \$19.27M



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 BOARDS AND TRUSTEES

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Greta and Chuck Zimmerman



Belonging is the intentional result of a home prepared, a bed made, and a community committed to saying, “you matter here.” You chose to invest your heart and resources in 2025, and gave the children and families we serve a place where they are valued and uplifted. Thank you for providing the presence and connection that allow our children to heal and our families to thrive. Together, we are transforming lives every day.

“One thing I’ve learned since arriving at Casa de Esperanza is how incredibly resilient children are. No matter the circumstances they come from, they have an extraordinary ability to grow, heal, and find comfort when given safety and consistency. I’ve been struck by how quickly our attentive and loving care can allow for huge strides in the children’s development.”

- Stephen, AmeriCorps Caregiver



MISSION

Casa de Esperanza de los Niños strives to break the cycle of child abuse and neglect for at-risk infants, children and their families by providing comprehensive residential and family support programs that transform people and communities.

VISION

Every child deserves a home that provides safety, health, permanence, and hope.