

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT



# VOCES UNIDAS

DE LAS MONTAÑAS



Voces Unidas de las Montañas | 2020 Annual Report

PO Box 3157, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601 | 970-340-8501 | [info@vocesunidas.org](mailto:info@vocesunidas.org) | EIN:85-0993139 | [www.vocesunidas.org](http://www.vocesunidas.org)

# A MESSAGE FROM ALEX SÁNCHEZ

Dear Friends,

We are proud to bring you our first Annual Report, marking the first seven months of our organization. On May 8, 2020, we launched Voces Unidas de las Montañas with a vision of increasing the power and influence of the Latino community in the central mountain region.

Thanks to the generous support of foundations and individual donors, and the leadership of our leaders and volunteers, Voces Unidas was able to accomplish the following:

- 242 Latino leaders and volunteers practiced leadership in an unprecedented year that demanded leadership from all of us;
- More than 1,675 advocacy actions were taken by members of the community about important issues like COVID-19, immigration, access to healthcare and others;
- 2,362 members of the community were helped with food baskets, direct financial aid or one-on-one referral services during one of the most devastating public health crises of our time; and
- More than 14,000 likely Latino voters were reached in the most critical election of our lifetime.

Together, we reached 32,834 community members with information and programs in 2020. So thank you, from all of us at Voces Unidas, for your partnership and unwavering support in 2020.

We look forward to continuing the momentum we have built into 2021 and beyond.

With gratitude,

*Alex*

Executive Director

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Founding Board Members

(On May 8, 2020)

Alex Sánchez  
Beatriz Soto  
Janeth Niebla  
Jasmin Ramirez  
Blanca Uzeta O'Leary

### Board of Directors

(On December 31, 2020)

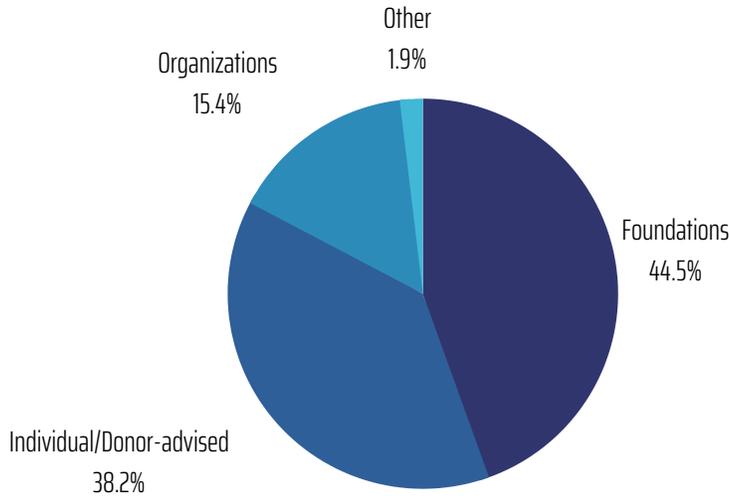
Beatriz Soto, Chair  
Dusti Gurule, Treasurer and Secretary  
Brisa Chavez  
Claudia Fragoso



# 2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

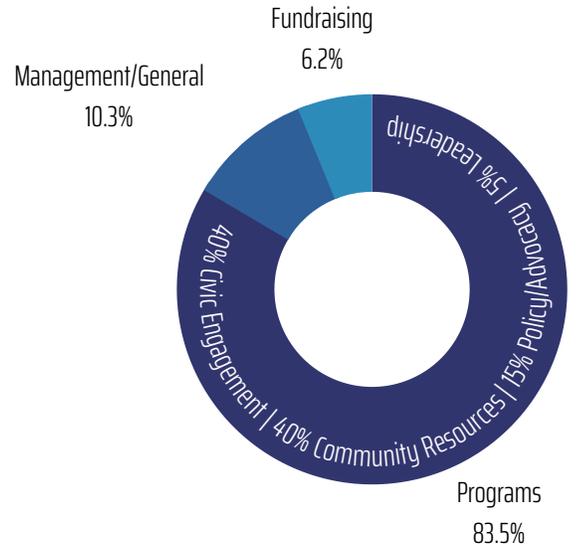
2020 Form 990 available at [www.vocesunidas.org/annual-reports](http://www.vocesunidas.org/annual-reports)

Revenue: \$281,280\*



\*Only includes revenue used in 2020

Expenses: \$281,280



## OUR STORY

Voces Unidas de las Montañas was founded in May 2020 by local Latina and Latino leaders and is the first Latino-created, Latino-led advocacy nonprofit in the central mountain region of Colorado. The central mountain region of Colorado includes Summit, Lake, Eagle, Pitkin, and Garfield counties. The founders created the organization to elevate the voices of Latinas and Latinos, create opportunities where Latinas and Latinos can advocate for themselves, and increase Latina and Latino representation and participation at decision-making tables.

## OUR WORK

### LEADERSHIP

We support the growth and education of Latina and Latino leaders through culturally and linguistically effective leadership programs. These programs place leaders in opportunities where they can lead in their own communities to create systems change.

### ADVOCACY

We organize and mobilize Latina and Latino leaders to change inequitable systems. We also advocate to change and improve public policies at the local, state and federal level.

### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

We educate and mobilize Latino voters to increase participation in local elections. The civic education programs include non-partisan voter registration drives, issue education and get out the vote initiatives.

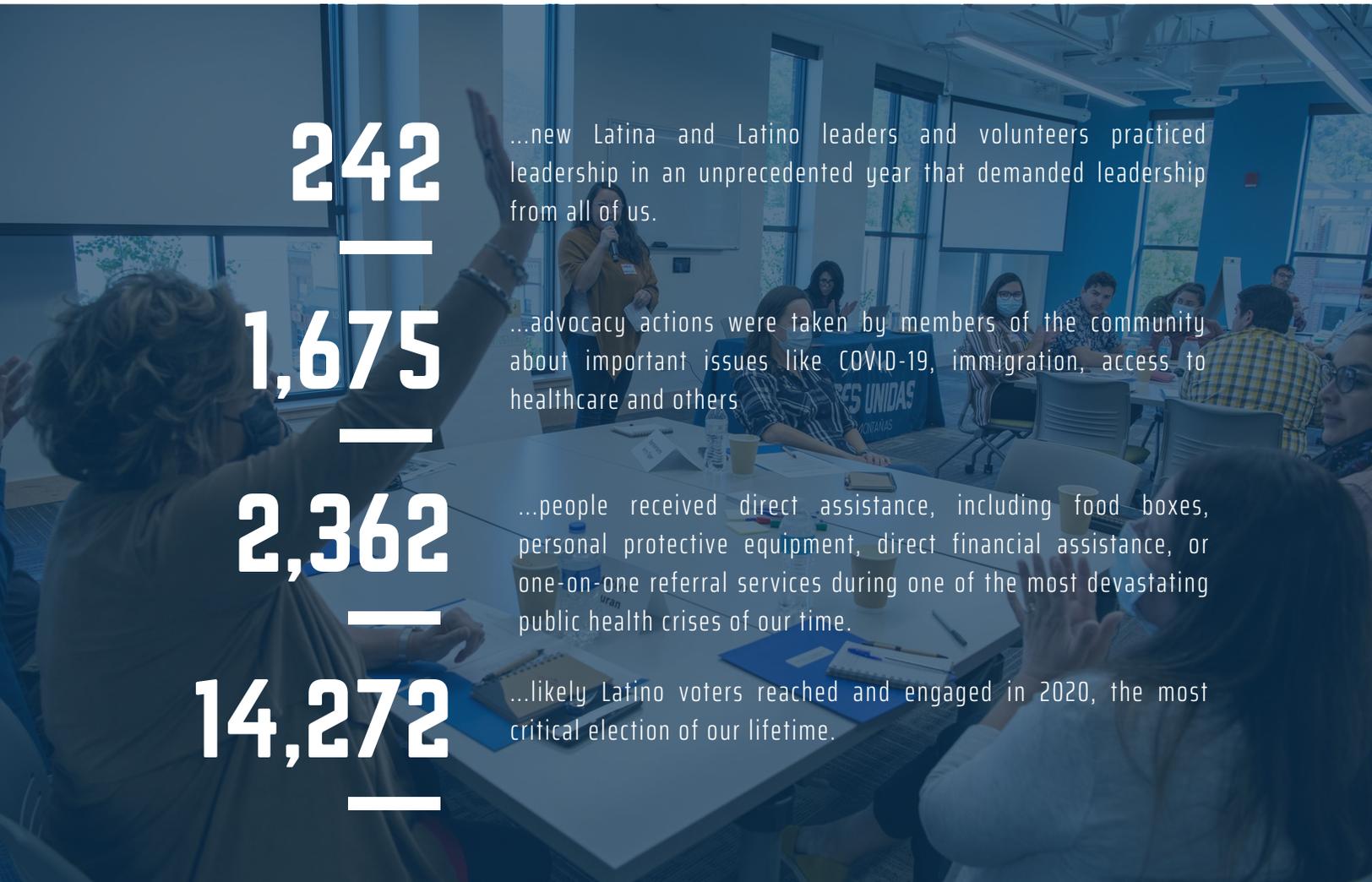
### RESOURCES

We take our role as the first Latino-created advocacy organization very seriously because we know that we are a trusted community resource. We do our part to provide essential information and connect our leaders to critical resources.



# 2020 IN REVIEW

In 2020, Voces Unidas reached 32,834 community members with information and programs.



242

...new Latina and Latino leaders and volunteers practiced leadership in an unprecedented year that demanded leadership from all of us.

1,675

...advocacy actions were taken by members of the community about important issues like COVID-19, immigration, access to healthcare and others

2,362

...people received direct assistance, including food boxes, personal protective equipment, direct financial assistance, or one-on-one referral services during one of the most devastating public health crises of our time.

14,272

...likely Latino voters reached and engaged in 2020, the most critical election of our lifetime.

**DUE TO COVID-19, VOCES UNIDAS SPENT A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME AND RESOURCES IN 2020 MODELING HOW DIRECT AID AND CRITICAL SERVICES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED FOR THE LATINO COMMUNITY.**



# OUR ROLE IN COVID-19 RESPONSE

In 2020, Voces Unidas was at the forefront of advocating for our community with local/state governments and the legislature.

## LEADERS IN HEALTH EQUITY RESPONSE

Governor Polis established the COVID-19 Health Equity Response Team in April 2020 to ensure that no community was left behind; Voces Unidas Founder and Executive Director Alex Sánchez was appointed to this important Taskforce.

## A RESOURCE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

With leaders as volunteers, Voces Unidas provided more than \$30,000 in direct economic assistance for rent and other essential needs, distributed more than 1,500 food baskets, and provided more than 10,000 masks and other personal protective equipment. We also reached thousands of Latinos through a virtual call center, connecting Spanish-dominant members of the community to critical aid and resources in the region.

## ADVOCATES ACTING ON COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Voces Unidas captured direct community feedback throughout the pandemic and used it to demand more genuine and honest inclusion of Latinos in decision-making processes in all COVID-19 response and recovery efforts at the local and statewide levels. We issued seven specific demands of county governments in the tri-county area to protect Latino essential workers who were at a higher risk of contracting the virus. Our leaders also sent hundreds of letters to Garfield County commissioners demanding that they publish all county information in Spanish, provide access to relief funds regardless of immigration status, and guarantee access to healthcare for the uninsured.

## FILLING GAPS IN THE ECOSYSTEM

Voces Unidas launched a **Promotora Program** in November 2020 to model culturally competent, bilingual support to Latinas and Latinos in Pitkin, Eagle and Garfield Counties.

Our **trained community navigators** helped Latinos who tested positive for COVID-19, or who were exposed, get access to care and navigate resources.

As part of the initiative, we **provided resources and financial aid** to those who lost work during the pandemic and did not qualify for assistance due to immigration status or other factors.

We encouraged all three counties to increase Latino outreach and **bring in more Spanish-speaking and multicultural staff**.

As an advocacy organization, we inserted ourselves and modeled best practices when we felt that our local governments or the ecosystem were failing Latinos and/or neglecting their responsibilities to our community.

**”...A LOT OF DECISIONS ARE BEING MADE ABOUT LATINOS, WITHOUT LATINOS AT THE TABLE. IF YOU INVITE US, WE WILL SHOW UP.”**

Alex Sánchez | The Aspen Times | July 14, 2020



# CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

November 2020: The most critical election of our lifetime.

## 25,502

...number of calls made to reach Latino voters

## 9,161

...number of text message reminders sent to Latino voters

## 14,272

...number of Latino voters touched in 2020

### HISTORIC VOTER TURNOUT FOR LATINOS IN 2020

Across the country, Latino voters turned out in historic numbers in the 2020 election. This is also true for our state and region.

Thanks to Latino voters, Colorado passed paid family and medical leave, new tax revenue for early childhood education, and also defeated a cruel abortion ban.

Locally, the number of Latinos voting in Garfield, Eagle and Pitkin counties increased substantially compared to 2016.

Our get-out-the-vote efforts reached more than 14,000 likely Latino voters in Garfield, Eagle, and Pitkin counties through phone calls, text messages, mailers, Facebook ads, and even some door-to-door canvassing.

### 2020 VOTER GUIDE

Voces Unidas released a Voter Guide to help residents of Garfield, Eagle and Pitkin counties learn more about what was on the ballot and where to vote.



## ¡YO VOTO! 2020

GUÍA DEL VOTANTE

### TU VOTO CUENTA

Voces Unidas de las Montañas es una organización sin fines de lucro. Ofrecemos esta guía para votantes como un recurso para los residentes de los condados de Garfield, Eagle y Pitkin. Esta guía ayudará a los residentes a saber cómo y dónde votar, así como a conocer la posición de Voces Unidas sobre los temas clave de la votación. Voces Unidas es también una organización no partidista y no respaldamos ni trabajamos a favor o en contra de los candidatos que se postulan a cargos públicos. La lista de candidatos es simplemente para fines informativos y se presentará en esta guía en el orden en que aparecerán en la boleta. Para obtener más información, visítanos en [www.vocesunidas.org](http://www.vocesunidas.org).

#### VOTA TEMPRANO O VOTA EL 3 DE NOVIEMBRE ANTES DE LAS 7:00 PM

Para poder votar en Colorado debes:

- Ser ciudadano de los Estados Unidos.
- Ser residente de Colorado al menos 22 días antes del día de las elecciones.
- Tener 18 años de edad o más.
- No estar cumpliendo una sentencia por alguna condena por un delito mayor.

Encuentre más información sobre votantes con discapacidades en: [www.SOS.State.CO.US/route/election/#/AQA/votingAndConviction.html](http://www.SOS.State.CO.US/route/election/#/AQA/votingAndConviction.html)



#### CÓMO VOTAR EN COLORADO

##### PASO 1: REGÍSTRESE PARA VOTAR O ACTUALIZAR SU INFORMACIÓN

Regístrese para votar, actualice su información o verifique su registro de votación en: [GoVoteColorado.gov](http://GoVoteColorado.gov).

##### PASO 2: OBTÉN TU BOLETA

El día de las elecciones de 2020, los residentes de los condados de Garfield, Eagle y Pitkin...



	2016	-turnout-	2020
Eagle County	52.7%	▲	59.8%
Garfield County	44.5%	▲	58.4%
Pitkin County	49.9%	▲	65.7%

### PRESERVING THE RIGHT TO VOTE

In 2020, Voces Unidas worked to combat voter suppression. We sued the federal government and won, ensuring that the postal service delivered our mail-in ballots on time. We also monitored local elections to ensure that our First Amendment rights were protected.



# 2020 DONORS & SUPPORTERS

We thank our donors for the support that allowed us to have a tremendous impact in 2020.

## Organizations

2020 Rescue Fund at Aspen Community Foundation  
 Anderson Ranch Arts Center  
 Aspen Community Foundation  
 Chambers Initiative

Colorado c3 Civic Engagement Roundtable  
 Cottle Carr Yaw Architects LTD  
 El Pomar Foundation  
 First Bank  
 MANAUS  
 Our Part

Spring Board Advised Fund at Aspen Community Foundation  
 State of Colorado  
 The Colorado Health Foundation  
 The Colorado Trust

The Colorado Trust COVID-19 Response Fund  
 The Latino Community Foundation of Colorado  
 The Uncle Bob Foundation  
 U.S. Charitable Gift Trust

## Individual Donors

Listed in alphabetical order

Yesenia Arreola  
 Daniel Benavent  
 Brittany Biebl  
 Vanessa Biebl  
 Larry Bogatz  
 Gretchen Brogdon  
 Boots Brown  
 Ruth Brown  
 Debbie Bruell  
 Raleigh Burleigh  
 Rachael Carcaterra  
 Patti Clapper  
 Congdon Family Fund  
 Advised Fund of The Denver Foundation  
 Mary Catherine Conger  
 Kristina Crawford  
 Russ & Debbie Crawford-Arensman  
 Susan Daggett  
 Lisa Dameron  
 Melissa Decker  
 Christy Doyon  
 Amy Dunkelberg  
 Bill Spence and Sue Edelstein  
 Gayle Embrey  
 Tina Fang

Jennifer Filipowski  
 Donna Fix  
 Jon, Julie, Oliver Fox-Rubin  
 Friedman Family Foundation  
 Advised Fund at Aspen Community Foundation  
 Karl Friedman  
 Linda Giesecke  
 Bruce Gordon  
 Emma Gruner  
 Cedar Rose Guelberth  
 Dusti Gurule  
 Julia Harrigan  
 Ruth Harrison  
 Susan Hartnett  
 Tamara Haynes-Norton  
 Will Hodges  
 Charles Hopton  
 Joyce Jenkins  
 Ann Johnson  
 Mike and Laura Kaplan  
 Advised Fund at Aspen Community Foundation  
 Heather Kent  
 Alan Kokish  
 Ron Kokish  
 Susan Lau  
 Christie Leonard

Melony and Adam Lewis  
 Advised Fund at Aspen Community Foundation  
 Grace Lodge  
 Cristal Logan  
 Colleen Loughlin  
 Jane Sheffield Lowery  
 Sharyn Maddox  
 Lloyd and Marlene Manown  
 Tim McFlynn  
 Olivia Mendoza  
 David Meyer  
 Shannon Meyer  
 Marcie and Robert Musser  
 Advised Fund at the Aspen Community Foundation  
 Mona Newton  
 Janeth Niebla-Galaviz  
 Blanca and Cavanaugh O'Leary  
 Adam Quinton  
 Megan Ravenscraft  
 Lisa Relou  
 Susan Rhea  
 Maureen Rothman  
 Will and Margaret Roush  
 Alex Sanchez  
 Edward Sands

Matt and Diana Scherr  
 Summer Scott  
 Meagan Shapiro  
 Terri and Rich Slivka  
 Jill Soffer  
 Beatriz Soto  
 Bryana Starbuck  
 Stephanie Tanny  
 JDavid Taylor  
 Nathaniel Thompson  
 Jenny Trumble  
 Maura Trumble  
 Mike Trumble  
 Elizabeth Velasco  
 Dana Wood  
 Jenny Zetah  
 Other anonymous donors (not listed at their request)

