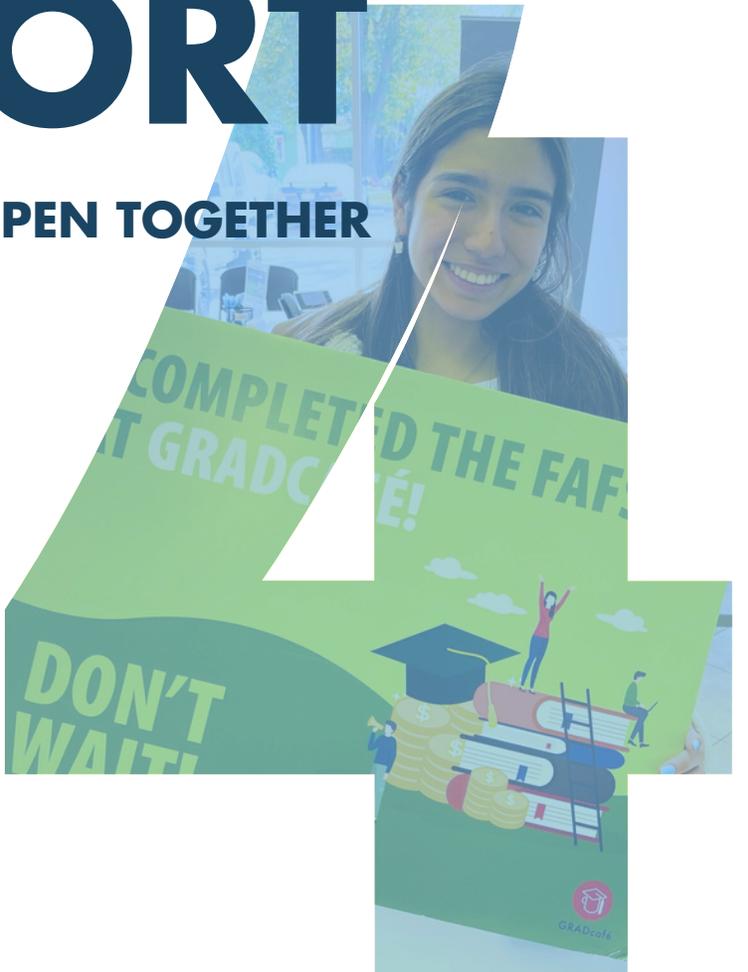




# IMPACT REPORT

**MAKING IT HAPPEN TOGETHER**



# OUR VISION

A success story for every person and community we impact.

# OUR MISSION

Tejano Center educates, empowers, and transforms families to elevate communities by fostering collaboration, championing equitable resource allocation, cultural preservation, and inclusivity for all.

**#MakingItHappenTogether**



**WE EDUCATE.  
WE EMPOWER.  
WE TRANSFORM LIVES.**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## A YEAR OF GROWTH AND IMPACT

In 2024, the Tejano Center advanced its mission of fostering equity and opportunity through integrated programs across education, housing, health, and social services. Amid complex social and economic challenges, we remained grounded in community voice, guided by data, and committed to systems-level change.

Our work reflected a deliberate shift from service delivery alone to long-term capacity building. We deepened our intergenerational approach to education, expanded our affordable housing footprint, strengthened our role in advancing health equity, and responded to crises with resilience and coordination. Across all pillars, we prioritized wraparound support, trauma-informed practices, and place-based strategies that empower individuals while addressing structural barriers.

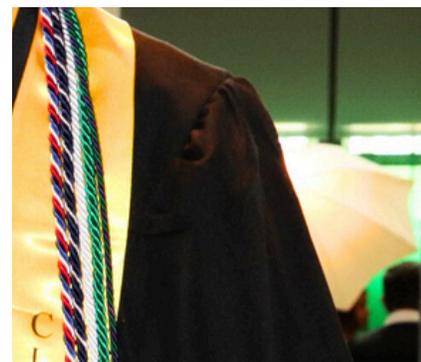
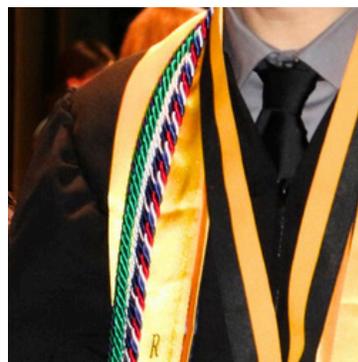
Strategic partnerships—with elected officials, philanthropic and community-based organizations, and neighborhood leaders—were central to our impact. The continued evolution of our programs exemplifies how cross-sector collaboration can yield scalable, community-centered solutions.

Investments in data systems, cross-training, and culturally responsive programming have strengthened our infrastructure and positioned us for sustainable growth.

As we prepare to launch our 2025–2030 Strategic Plan: Impact 2030!, this report reflects more than outcomes—it captures the evolution of an organization moving with urgency, humility, and unwavering belief in the power of collaboration and community to drive change.



Total Lives Impacted:  
**30,905+**



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## A Message from Our Board Chair, David Corpus

It is my honor to introduce the 2024 Tejano Center Impact Report, a reflection of the incredible progress we have made this year. Through our unwavering commitment to equitable education, housing, health, and social initiatives, we have expanded our reach and deepened our impact—empowering families and strengthening communities across Houston and beyond.



This year's achievements are a testament to the passion and dedication of our staff, volunteers, donors, and community partners. Their collective efforts have allowed us to grow strategically, respond to emerging needs, and remain a trusted resource for those we serve.

As we look back on 2024, we celebrate not only what we have accomplished but also the foundation we continue to build for the future. I invite you to explore this report and witness the life-changing impact of our work. Thank you for your support and belief in our mission—together, we are making a lasting difference.

David Corpus, Tejano Center Board Chair



**Anthony Magdaleno**

Board Vice Chair



**Margaret Dunlap**

Board Secretary



**Marco Martinez**

Board Treasurer



**Maria P. Gonzalez**

Member



**Genesis Loera**

Member



**Laura E. Mayorga**

Member

# OUR LEADERSHIP

## A Message from Our President & CEO, Dr. Adriana Tamez

At Tejano Center, our strength lies in the deep passion and dedication of our people—our staff, volunteers, and donors—who work tirelessly to uplift the communities we serve. Their commitment to our mission is evident in every classroom, every program, and every life changed through our work.

As we close another transformative year, Tejano Center stands stronger than ever. We have expanded our reach, strengthened our programs, and reinforced our role as a trusted resource for families. From advancing educational excellence to providing critical housing, health, and social initiatives, we continue to evolve to meet the growing needs of our community.



**Dr. Adriana Tamez,**  
Tejano Center President & CEO  
Superintendent of Schools



**Justin Fuentes, M. Ed.**  
Chief Schools Officer



**Graciana "Graci" Garces, MPAff**  
Chief Strategy & External  
Affairs Officer



**Antonio Zambrano**  
Chief Financial &  
Operations Officer

**Angie Miranda, Ed. D.**  
Executive Director,  
Federal & State Compliance

**Auden Sarabia**  
Principal, NESTEM Academy

**Axinia Zepeda**  
Principal, RYSS Early Childhood  
STEM Academy at Leonel Castillo  
Community Center

**Brenda Navarrete**  
Director, Child Placing Agency

**Carla Stevens**  
Research, Data, and Accountability

**Denise Martinez**  
Executive Director, Academics

**Diana Chavez**  
Principal, PSTEM Academy

**Gabriela "Gabby" Luna**  
Director, Affordable Housing &  
Community Redevelopment

**George Farhat**  
Technology & Operations Coordinator

**Jorge "George" Gonzalez**  
Director, Resolve

**Jose Rivera**  
Director, Health Equity

**Juan Santos**  
Executive Director, Human Resources

**Luis Gallegos**  
Director, Marketing and Communications

**Maria Knosel**  
Principal, BRYSS Academy

**Melissa Y. Martinez**  
Director, GRADcafé & NOVA Academy for Adult Education

**Noelia Longoria**  
Principal, RYSS Early College T-STEM & STEM Academy

**Pablo Martinez**  
PEIMS/Data Quality Manager

**Ramiro Fonseca**  
Director, Outreach and Engagement

**Rich Rodriguez**  
Director, Facilities and Property Development

**Teresa Mendoza**  
Director, Child Nutrition Services

**Thelma Garza**  
School Improvement Officer

**Yesenia Cervantes**  
Principal, RYSS STEM Academy Pasadena

# FAMILY OF PROGRAMS, RESOURCES & SERVICES



- **Affordable Housing & Community Redevelopment**
  - Single-Family Homes
  - Multi-Family Apartments (OST Lofts)
- **Supportive Housing**
  - Nueva Vida Senior Citizen Living
  - Sunrise Lofts for Youth Aging out of Foster Care
- **Homeowner Resource Navigation**
  - Homebuyer Education & Counseling
  - Home Weatherization
  - Disaster Relief and Recovery

## HOUSING



- **Health Equity**
  - Community Health Worker Training & Development
  - Neighborhood Advisory Councils
- **La Tiendita**
  - Food Assistance, Nutrition Education, and Resource Navigation
- **Baylor College of Medicine Teen Health Clinic**
  - Health care for youth ages 13-24
  - Health care resources for the community-at-large

## HEALTH



# RESOURCES & SERVICES

**Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success (RYSS) •**

- Birth - Two Program
- Early Childhood Education
- PreK - 12 Texas Public Schools

**GRADcafé •**

- College & Career Guidance
- One-on-One Advising

**NOVA Academy for Adult Education •**

- ESL/ GED Classes
- Digital Literacy Classes



## EDUCATION

**Child Placing Agency •**

- Adoption
- Foster Agency
- Kinship Care Services

**Resolve •**

- Support Services for Victims of Sex Trafficking, and Criminal and Domestic Abuse

**RISE •**

- Senior Citizens Support and Engagement

**Parent and Family Engagement •**



## SOCIAL INITIATIVES



Total Lives  
Impacted:  
**843+**

# HOUSING

## A PATH TO STABILITY & INDEPENDENCE

At Tejano Center, we view housing as a foundation for opportunity, equity, and transformation. Our Housing Program offers support for individuals and families at various stages, from first-time homeownership to transitional housing and senior living to Disaster Relief and Recovery.

Through our Homebuyer Education Program, we equip families with the tools to achieve homeownership. OST Lofts integrates early childhood education into affordable housing, while Sunrise Lofts supports young adults aging out of foster care with housing, community, and guidance. Nueva Vida helps low-income seniors maintain independence and social connections in a safe, vibrant setting.

Through our Disaster Relief and Recovery efforts, we've stood alongside families facing the aftermath of storms, flooding, and hardship - offering stabilities, resources, and hope. This work is made possible through deep collaboration with public officials, private partners, and nonprofit organizations who share our commitment to equity and resilience. Together, these programs advance our mission, demonstrating housing's role as a catalyst for generational change.

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING & COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT

Our Homebuyer Education Program is central to making homeownership accessible to more families. In 2024, through 28 bilingual workshops in English and Spanish, we equipped 288 prospective homeowners with the knowledge to navigate the homebuying process. Participants learn about credit, budgeting, financing, and down payment assistance, empowering them to make informed decisions for long-term stability.

The impact of this work is not only personal but generational. Many of the families we serve are purchasing homes for the first time - 93 to be exact. Tejano Center helped neighbors secure \$3.5 million from homebuyer assistance programs and created \$22.7 million in economic impact from home purchases.

As a community development organization, we know we cannot do this alone. We are grateful to our key partners. Wells Fargo invested over \$1 million as part of the Blue Skies Home Repair Program and WORTH Initiative. Neighbor Works America contributed approximately \$340K, and UnidosUS \$100K, all of which have helped restore homes, expand access to home ownership, and create pathways to stability and generational wealth for families across Greater Houston.

### Disaster Relief and Recovery

In partnership with CenterPoint Energy we provided home weatherization services, helping improve energy efficiency and comfort for local households. Through these efforts and work, launched through funding from the Disaster Alliance, Tejano Center successfully repaired homes through the recovery efforts following the Derecho and Hurricane Beryl.



COMPLETED HOMEBUYER EDUCATION

**288**

ECONOMIC IMPACT FROM HOME PURCHASES

**\$22.7+ Million**

NEW HOMEOWNERS

**93**

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DISASTER RELIEF AND RECOVERY

**254**

# NUEVA VIDA SENIOR LIVING



TOTAL  
UNITS FILLED  
**100%**

Since 2008, Nueva Vida Apartments in Southeast Houston has provided safe, affordable housing for low-income seniors aged 62 and older. Nueva Vida, allows our seniors to age with dignity, community, purpose, and support.

This year, we enhanced our impact with the revamped RISE Program (Re-energizing and Inspiring Seniors Every Day), offering both on-site and off-site activities like painting classes, museum visits, mariachi shows, galas, events like #Walk30 with friends, and weekly lotería, fostering vibrant lives and connections. The RISE program serves all seniors across the Houston area.

We also formed new partnerships to benefit our residents. With Capital One Bank, seniors received digital literacy training and Chromebooks through EveryOne On's workshops. Thanks to CenterPoint Energy and Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation, all 66 units were upgraded with new HVAC systems and energy-efficient refrigerators, and Texas Capital Bank, PNC Bank, and Lowe's helped replace aging stoves for added safety and comfort.

Social wellness is equally prioritized through Precinct 2 Constable Jerry Garcia's Office's, monthly birthday celebrations, in-kind haircuts, wellness checks, mobility assistance, and more.

Through these efforts, Nueva Vida continues to ensure that seniors are housed, valued, engaged, and empowered.



NUMBER OF  
PEOPLE ON  
WAITLIST  
**42**

By eliminating the childcare barrier, we empower working parents to pursue career and educational goals while ensuring their children receive a strong start—all within walking distance from home. This bold initiative demonstrates how housing and education can create a generational impact. Parents find stability, children receive early learning opportunities, and families are supported in building strong, self-determined futures. OST Lofts embodies our housing vision: equity, opportunity, and sustainability.



TOTAL  
RESIDENTS  
**70**

## OST LOFTS

As part of our commitment to expanding affordable housing, and with support from the City of Houston Housing and Community Development Department, Texas General Land Office, National Equity Fund LISC, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Amegy Bank, our investors, and in partnership with DWR Development, we celebrated the completion of the OST (Old Spanish Trail) Lofts. This development redefines what affordable housing can be.

OST Lofts is a community-centered model for long-term success, offering free, high-quality Early Childhood Education on-site through Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success (RYSS) Texas Public School District.

# SUNRISE LOFTS

This year, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of Sunrise Lofts, our housing community for young adults exiting foster care. Designed to address their unique challenges, Sunrise Lofts offers a safe and stable place to live, but more importantly, it offers a new beginning. We are grateful to Capital One for funding security that allows us to keep our residents safe.

Residents gain access to case management, career development, job training, education support, and financial literacy. Over the past year, many have made remarkable progress, including enrolling in college, securing jobs, and building financial independence. Sunrise Lofts is a testament to what happens when we invest in young people with compassion, consistency, and belief. The one-year anniversary celebrated resilience, growth, and the power of wraparound care. As we look to the future, our commitment remains strong: to continue walking alongside these young adults as they write their own stories of strength and success.



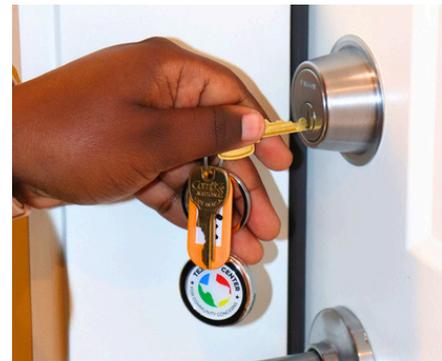
Danielle Stephen,  
Sunrise Lofts Resident and RA

Meet Danielle:

*“Before coming here, I was living on the streets, and now I have been consistently stable. It has allowed me to work on my mental and physical health without fearing financial instability to keep my apartment.”*

*Sunrise Lofts is the only one of its kind. This place has given people the chance to have the independence they want, yet still have support and wraparound services. If there were no Sunrise Lofts, I wouldn't be in the best position I've ever been in. Everyone here has given me the family and support I never had before.*

*This is my biggest blessing. I will always mirror the love and support I've been blessed with here.”*



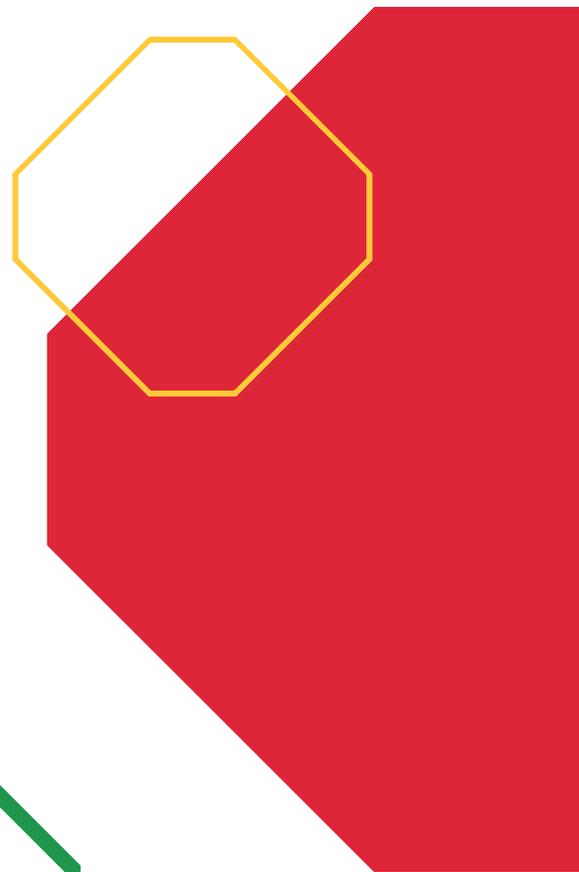


# HEALTH

## BREAKING BARRIERS TO WELL-BEING

At Tejano Center, health is not simply the absence of illness—it is the presence of opportunity, connection, and dignity. Our health initiatives are designed to uplift the whole person through a comprehensive network of care. Anchored in equity, our programs span community health outreach, adolescent medical services, and nutrition access. Through our Health Equity Program, we're cultivating trusted community infrastructure.

Through La Tiendita, we're turning food access into wellness empowerment - a commitment shared with our strategic partners - the Houston Food Bank and the American Heart Association. And our partnership with the Baylor College of Medicine Teen Health Clinic, allows us to deliver specialized, youth-friendly care to adolescents. Together, these efforts form a seamless continuum of support that meets people where they are and helps them thrive.



# LA TIENDITA

Tejano Center knows that food is the cornerstone of health, dignity, and community. La Tiendita embodies that belief by turning food access into a holistic gateway for wellness. More than a food pantry, La Tiendita offers culturally relevant nutrition, resource navigation, and wraparound support that strengthens families and fosters trust.

In 2024, we celebrated a major milestone with the opening of La Tiendita Pasadena, expanding our reach into a vibrant community. This newest location allows us to serve even more families, meeting them with compassion and care where they live and work. La Tiendita continues to operate community-centered sites and RYSS student volunteer-led School Markets at RYSS campuses, where whole families and households receive fresh produce and pantry essentials—reducing barriers to both nutrition and engagement.

Through each location, La Tiendita is redefining what food access can look like: dignified, relational, and deeply responsive to community needs. By reducing stigma, providing consistency, and building relationships, La Tiendita is helping families feel supported, seen, and nourished in every sense of the word.

This work would not be possible without the support and partnership of the Houston Food Bank, American Heart Association, and UnidosUS.



TOTAL LIVES IMPACTED

# 21,685

BROADWAY SITE

# 18,867

PASADENA SITE

# 2,818



# HEALTH EQUITY



NUMBER OF  
COMMUNITY  
HEALTH WORKERS

**41**

At the core of all our health work is the Health Equity Program, the backbone of a people-centered approach that elevates access, inclusion, and long-term resilience. Funded through the City of Houston Health Department's Health Equity Grant, our Health Equity strategy doesn't just treat the symptoms of disparity - it builds lasting infrastructure within the communities we serve.

By training and deploying Community Health Workers (CHWs), we've created a trusted, culturally responsive workforce that understands the communities they serve. In 2024, we trained and certified 41 Community Health Workers through 3 CHW trainings, and 4 certified CHWs joined the Tejano Center family! These CHWs deliver services, build relationships, advocate, and connect people to resources, acting as vital bridges between health systems and communities. In 2024 they led in supporting 22 outreach events.

In addition, our Health Equity Neighborhood Advisory Councils bring together local residents to provide critical insights, amplify community voices, and guide our work in meaningful ways. These councils, comprised of 17 neighborhood leaders, serve as advisors and community educators, ensuring that knowledge flows outward and upward. They also play a key role in disaster preparedness and recovery, helping to build trusted infrastructure that can be activated in emergencies.

Together, CHWs and Councils represent grassroots empowerment and resilience.



TOTAL  
PATIENT VISITS

**1,758**



## BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TEEN HEALTH CLINIC

Adolescents face unique and complex health challenges—and they deserve care that understands and respects their needs. Our ongoing partnership with the Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) Teen Health Clinic ensures that youth in our community receive high-quality, specialized care in a setting that feels safe and empowering. It provides a full spectrum of services, including preventive health screenings, mental health support, STI and pregnancy testing, and wellness exams—all delivered with the compassion and confidentiality that teens need to build trust in their healthcare journey.

The BCM Teen Clinic encourages young people to take charge of their well-being and equips them with the tools to make informed, healthy decisions. Through this partnership, we are investing in the physical health of adolescents, their confidence, independence, and long-term success. In 2024 we had 1,758 patient visits. The BCM Teen Clinic administered 534 wellness exams, provided 75 therapy sessions, and conducted 38 mental health risk assessments.



Total Lives  
Impacted:  
**3699+**

At Tejano Center, we believe that education is the most powerful tool for breaking cycles of poverty and unlocking human potential. From early childhood through adulthood, our educational programs create pathways to opportunity, equity, and self-determination.

Our Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success (RYSS) network nurtures students into future-ready leaders through STEM-focused academics, dual-credit options, and character development. With GRADcafé, we provide one-on-one guidance for students and adults navigating the college and career journey. Through NOVA, we support adult learners with the tools they need to earn their GED, improve English language proficiency, and gain workforce skills.

Across these programs, we are also intentionally addressing the digital divide by providing access to technology, digital literacy training, and support to ensure our students and families can thrive in an increasingly digital world. Together, these inter-and-multigenerational learning programs form an integrated ecosystem of learning that meets individuals at every stage of life—and helps them thrive.

# EDUCATION

**EMPOWERING LEARNERS FROM  
EARLY CHILDHOOD TO CAREER SUCCESS**

# RAUL YZAGUIRRE SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS

The Raul Yzaguirre Schools for Success (RYSS) Texas Public Schools are committed to providing high-quality, culturally responsive education that prepares students for academic excellence and meaningful lives beyond the classroom. Serving thousands of students across Houston, Pasadena, and Brownsville, RYSS offers a rigorous curriculum, strong family engagement, and a relentless focus on college and career readiness.

At RYSS Early Childhood STEM Academy at Leonel Castillo Community Center and PSTEM Academy, our youngest learners build strong foundations in literacy, numeracy, and social-emotional development through a play-based, STEM-integrated curriculum. These early learning environments ignite curiosity and set the tone for lifelong success. In 2024, we expanded the number of students enrolled at Leonel Castillo by 40% and 87% of Kindergarten students met or exceeded growth expectations in reading. PSTEM Academy is proud to celebrate significant academic growth and impactful community partnerships. This year, the campus has seen a 22% increase in student reading on or above grade level and a remarkable 38% in students performing on or above grade level in math.

The NESTEM Academy at RYSS, launched in 2021 through a partnership with Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia, serves 6th–8th grade students with a strong emphasis on math and science. Through hands-on, interdisciplinary learning, students build critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for success in today’s world. As a result of the academy’s focused STEM programming, NESTEM saw an impressive 11% increase in students performing at or above grade level in math, highlighting the impact of its rigorous and engaging curriculum. In 2024, NESTEM celebrated its first graduating class, “The Originals,” who completed their middle school education and moved on to high school.

RYSS STEM Academy Pasadena continues to shape the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators by immersing students in project-based STEM instruction. This campus offers enriched experiences in math and science, while also nurturing leadership and personal growth through extracurricular and enrichment opportunities.



AWARDED  
THE 2024  
NATIONAL  
BLUE RIBBON  
AWARD



# RAUL YZAGUIRRE SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS

GRADUATION RATE  
**100%**



Our RYSS Early College STEM and T-STEM Academies offer students access to dual-credit courses, enabling them to graduate with both a high school diploma and college credit. This model significantly reduces the financial and time barriers to earning a college degree and serves as a critical bridge for students—many of whom are the first in their families to pursue higher education. Both academies continue to show strong academic outcomes, with a 100% graduation rate. In 2024, the Early College STEM Academy increased the percentage of students scoring Advanced High on TELPAS by 7%, while the Early College T-STEM Academy achieved a 10% increase. These gains in English language proficiency are essential for student success in college-level coursework and future career opportunities.

In 2024, BRYSS (Brownsville Raul Yzaguirre STEM Scholars) Academy reached a major milestone when it was named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. This prestigious recognition highlights the school's exceptional academic performance and success in closing achievement gaps—an inspiring testament to the dedication of its teachers, staff, and students.



This level of excellence is what drives Tejano Center's commitment to expanding the RYSS model. In 2024, we expanded RYSS Pasadena STEM Academy to include 2nd and 5th grades, and BRYSS expanded to serve students through 9th grade—broadening our impact and deepening our investment in student success. Across all RYSS campuses, we are cultivating students who are not only academically prepared, but also community-minded, confident, and ready to lead. Our goal is clear: to empower the next generation with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to make a meaningful difference.



## EDUCATION

# GRADCAFÉ

Navigating the path to higher education can be overwhelming—especially for first-generation students or adults returning to school. GRADcafé, acquired by Tejano Center in 2021 through a partnership with Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia and the Harris County Public Library, is committed to making college and career access truly equitable for students and adults pursuing higher education, career advancement, or vocational training.

Whether it's completing FAFSA/TASFA, applying for college, identifying scholarships, or mapping out a career plan, GRADcafé provides personalized guidance every step of the way. Our workshops and individual sessions address financial aid, college applications, resume writing, and interview preparation—ensuring each visitor walks away supported and empowered.



GRADcafé also partners with workforce agencies and community organizations to offer training opportunities, job search assistance, and upskilling for adults seeking better employment. This wraparound approach meets individuals where they are and helps them take the next step toward a stable, fulfilling future. We are grateful to Lee College and the Pasadena Public Library for providing the space to offer these resources.

As part of our commitment to digital equity, GRADcafé also delivers digital literacy workshops and provides access to technology resources for students and families who may lack reliable internet or devices at home. This work is possible because of funding from and partnership with the Trellis Foundation, Rockwell Fund, United Way of Greater Baytown, and Chambers County. These services ensure that every learner, regardless of income or background, can fully participate in today's digital economy. By opening doors to education and careers, GRADcafé helps students and families build brighter, more secure futures—one conversation at a time.

*Gabriel, senior at Early College TSTEM Academy*

*"GRADcafé brings a lot of help and strives to make an impact to help us students graduate from high school and to make our future the best it can be. I am extremely grateful that I can always come to them for help, advice, and encouragement when things don't happen to follow through."*



**GRADcafé**  
CAREER AND COLLEGE SERVICES

ADVISING OR  
WORKSHOP  
SESSIONS  
COMPLETED

**5,599**

UNIQUE  
CLIENTS SERVED

**1,811**

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GUIDED  
THROUGH COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING

**915**

COLLEGE STUDENTS SUPPORTED

**196**

# NOVA

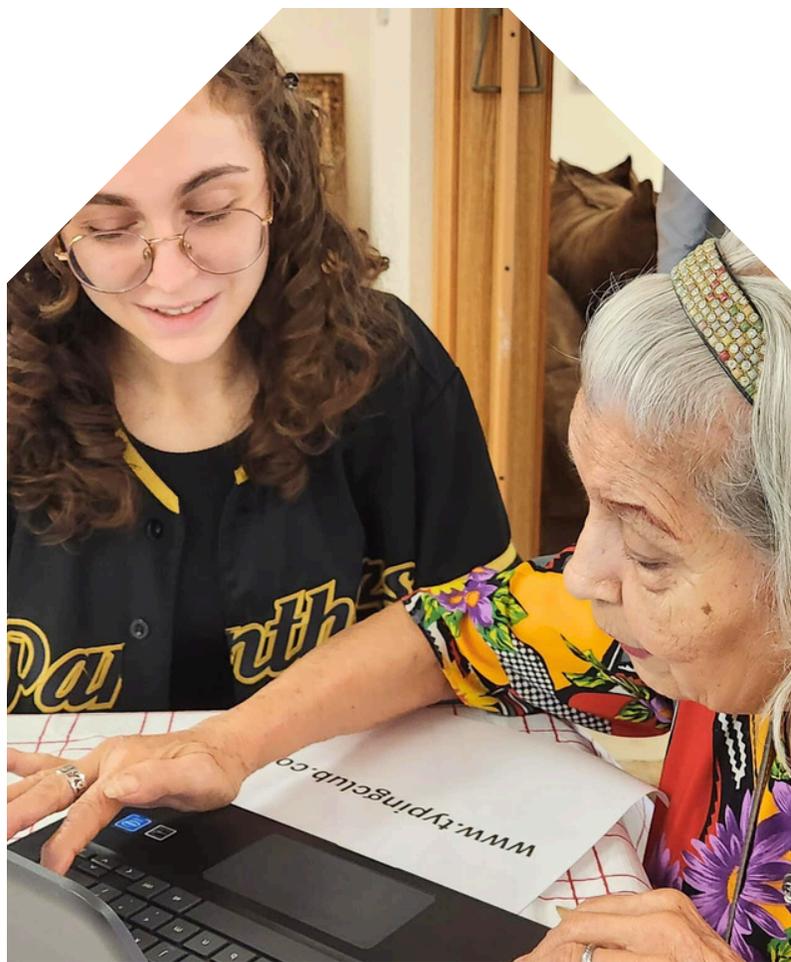
## ACADEMY FOR ADULT EDUCATION

Our NOVA (Navigating Opportunities, Vocations, and Advancement) Academy is a vital part of Tejano Center's cradle-to-career continuum. Focused on adult learners, NOVA provides critical support for individuals seeking to improve their education, employment prospects, and financial independence. This is achieved through partnerships with the Barbara Bush Foundation, UnidosUS, the University of Houston, and the University of Houston Downtown, who support by providing funding and Adult Education Instructors and interns.

Participants in NOVA can pursue GED preparation, ESL classes, digital literacy training, and financial empowerment sessions—building the confidence and skills necessary to thrive in today's workforce. In addition to offering digital literacy training, NOVA addresses the digital divide by helping participants gain access to devices and internet services, often in collaboration with partners like Comcast, Verizon, and AT&T that provide technology donations or subsidies. This ensures our adult learners are not left behind in a rapidly advancing digital landscape.

Many of our learners are parents or caretakers working toward a better future for themselves and their families. NOVA offers them a supportive learning environment where they feel seen, valued, and capable of achieving their goals. Whether it's mastering English to engage more fully in their community, earning a GED to open doors to employment, or learning digital tools to compete in a modern job market, NOVA is about transformation—one step, one skill, one success story at a time.

Through NOVA, we're proving that it's never too late to learn, grow, and pursue the life you imagine.



ADULT LEARNERS  
ASSISTED WITH  
CAREER READINESS

278





Total Lives  
Impacted:  
**3,408**

Our social initiatives are rooted in compassion, advocacy, and connection—strengthening families and supporting individuals in some of life’s most vulnerable moments. Through our Child Placing Agency, we are creating safe, nurturing, and permanent homes for children in need by facilitating foster care, kinship care, and adoption. Our commitment extends beyond placement, as we invest in the training of future social workers and collaborate with local universities to build a stronger support network for children and families.

Meanwhile, our Resolve Program serves as a critical resource for victims of trauma, abuse, and violence—offering immediate crisis response and access to long-term support services such as emergency housing, financial assistance, legal guidance, and mental health care. Through these programs, we are not only responding to crises—we are creating stability, resilience, and hope for those we serve.

# SOCIAL INITIATIVES

**PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE**

# CHILD PLACING AGENCY

At the heart of our Child Placing Agency is a deep commitment to the well-being and future of children who have experienced trauma, neglect, or separation from their biological families. We believe that every child deserves a safe, loving, and permanent home where they can heal, grow, and thrive. In 2024, our agency cared for 32 children per month and helped 8 children transition into adoptive families, each placement representing a life-changing moment of hope and stability.

Our work extends beyond placements. We continue to train and mentor social work interns—this year welcoming and supporting 5 interns through real-world experience in trauma-informed care and case management. We also formed new partnerships with local universities to provide hands-on learning opportunities for emerging professionals in social work, helping to build a more compassionate and skilled future workforce.

In a significant step toward statewide collaboration, we joined the Orphan Care Collaborative, a network dedicated to improving foster care and adoption outcomes through shared advocacy and resources.

This partnership strengthens our voice and expands our reach, ensuring more children receive the love, care, and permanency they deserve.



**CHILD PLACING AGENCY**  
FOSTER, ADOPT, & KINSHIP CARE



CHILDREN CARED FOR  
FOSTER HOMES

32

ADOPTED  
CHILDREN

8

SOCIAL WORK  
INTERNS TRAINED

5

# RESOLVE



The Resolve Program is a lifeline for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and other traumatic experiences. With a trauma-informed, survivor-centered approach, Resolve meets individuals where they are - offering both immediate support and long-term assistance to help them reclaim safety, dignity, and independence.

This year, Resolve served 3,376 survivors through crisis intervention, counseling, and comprehensive case management. Survivors received 1,059 hours of direct counseling, helping them process trauma and rebuild their lives with a renewed sense of agency and strength. Resolve also assisted 347 survivors through the legal process, providing compassionate guidance and advocacy at every step—from restraining orders to court appearances.

Recognizing that healing goes hand in hand with stability, the program also provided emergency financial assistance to 1,058 survivors, helping to cover urgent needs such as rent, utilities, transportation, and other essentials that support safety and independence.

Resolve is a safe space and a powerful force for healing. More importantly, it's a trusted partner. In 2024, it became integrated into the programming at Sunrise Lofts, offering on-site counseling to residents two days a week. Our Resolve Program team has been invited by the Harris County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council to participate in multiple round table discussions as leaders in the work.

Through funding and partnerships with the Office of the Governor and the Office of Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez, we are connecting survivors to critical resources and walking alongside them through recovery. Resolve helps individuals and families break free from cycles of violence and build a future rooted in resilience.

TOTAL  
SURVIVORS  
HELPED  
**3,376**



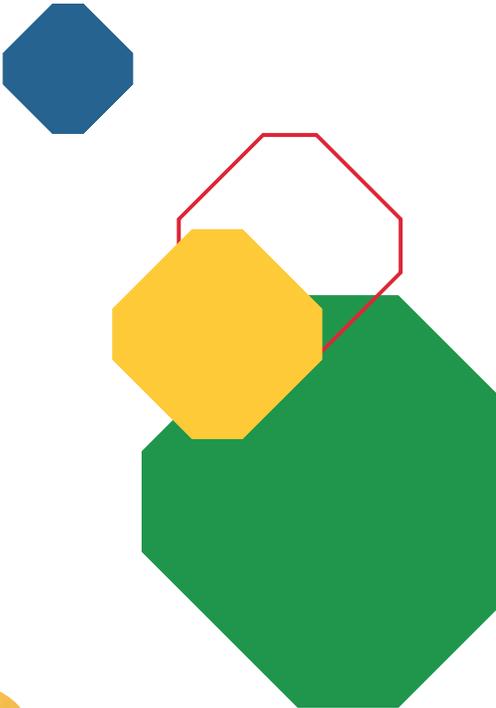
SURVIVORS  
RECEIVED EMERGENCY  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
**1,058**



COUNSELING  
HOURS  
PROVIDED  
**1,059**

SURVIVORS  
ASSISTED THROUGH  
LEGAL PROCESS  
**347**





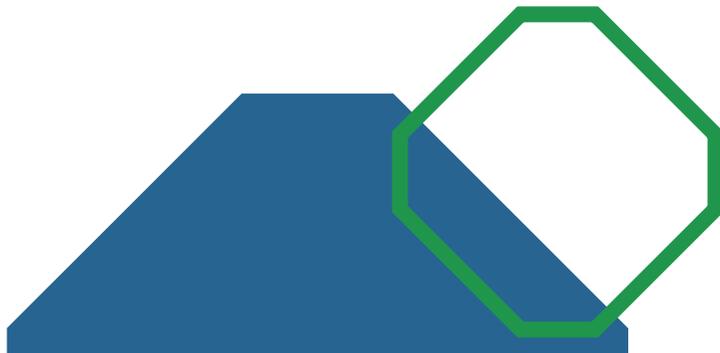
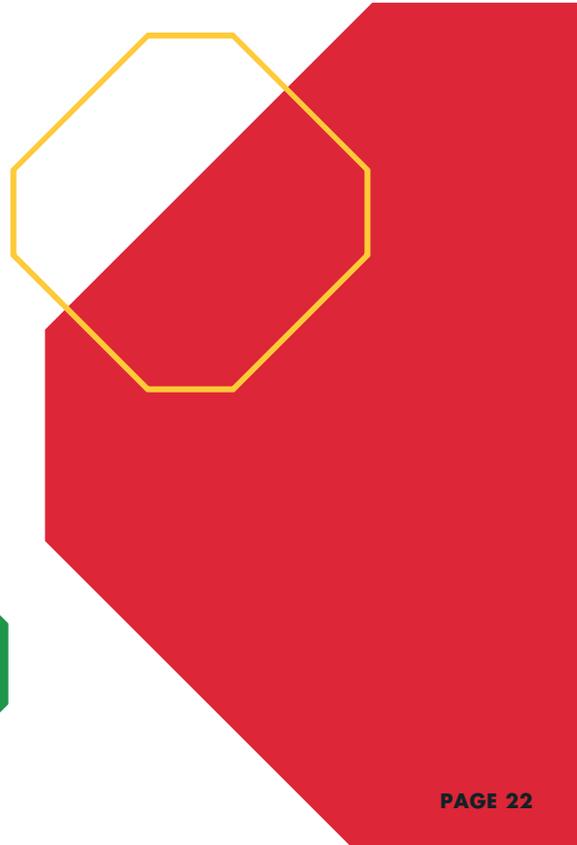
# STATE OF THE CENTER

## MAKING IT HAPPEN TOGETHER

Tejano Center continued its evolution as a trusted anchor institution—moving beyond service delivery to lead in systems-level change. Grounded in equity, informed by data, and guided by community voice, we delivered integrated solutions across education, housing, health, and social services—reaching over 30,000 individuals.

We ended the year on strong financial footing, backed by a clean audit, diversified revenue, and increased philanthropic engagement. Volunteerism and in-kind support continued to strengthen our mission, while expanded fundraising strategies and strategic partnerships positioned us for long-term sustainability.

Our progress laid the foundation for Impact 2030!, our new strategic plan focused on equity, community-led innovation, and measurable impact. As we look ahead, we remain committed to addressing root causes, scaling high-impact models, and creating lasting change—together.



# FINANCIAL STATE

**TEJANO CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**August 31, 2024 and 2023**

	August 31,	
	2024	2023 (Restated)
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 26,327,715	\$ 8,167,553
Due from other governments	6,531,175	5,715,295
Other receivable	312,690	55,536
Prepaid expenses	12,706	15,011
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>33,184,286</u>	<u>13,953,395</u>
<b>Property and Equipment:</b>		
Land	16,129,561	6,295,798
Construction in progress	11,449,085	387,334
Buildings and improvements	45,779,121	29,675,838
Furniture, vehicles, and equipment	5,175,319	4,588,472
Accumulated depreciation	(14,706,625)	(13,372,498)
<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<u>63,826,461</u>	<u>27,574,944</u>
Construction in progress - Sunrise Lofts		16,580,123
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 97,010,747</u>	<u>\$ 58,108,462</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	6,171,636	\$ 2,227,787
Accrued liabilities	526,150	407,109
Wages payable	-	499,335
Deferred revenue	-	535,864
Due to state	7,998	-
Notes payable, current portion	692,010	654,070
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>7,397,794</u>	<u>4,324,165</u>
Long-term liabilities:		
Notes payable, net of current portion	57,025,304	26,027,749
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>64,423,098</u>	<u>30,351,914</u>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		
Without donor restrictions	13,501,275	17,380,093
With donor restrictions	19,086,374	10,376,455
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>32,587,649</u>	<u>27,756,548</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 97,010,747</u>	<u>\$ 58,108,462</u>

# FINANCIAL STATE

“We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Tejano Center for Community Concerns, Inc., (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of August 31, 2024 and the related consolidated statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Tejano Center for Community Concerns, Inc., (the "Center") as of August 31, 2024, and the changes in its net assets, functional expenses and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.”

- Audit conducted by Whitley Penn

## TEJANO CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CONCERNS, INC.

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended August 31, 2024

(with Summarized Financial Information for 2023)

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	August 31,	
			2024	2023 (Restated)
<b>Revenues</b>				
Federal grants	\$ -	\$ 13,580,138	\$ 13,580,138	\$ 14,808,470
State grants	-	22,756,231	22,756,231	18,641,875
Local grants and contributions	-	8,609,615	8,609,615	4,756,902
Net assets released from restrictions	36,236,065	(36,236,065)	-	-
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>36,236,065</b>	<b>8,709,919</b>	<b>44,945,984</b>	<b>38,207,247</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program services:				
Charter school	33,436,987	-	33,436,987	26,379,900
Affordable housing /homebuyer education	979,805	-	979,805	795,347
Child shelter/placement	769,075	-	769,075	641,542
Community services	1,238,122	-	1,238,122	2,363,102
College and career advising	626,925	-	626,925	1,060,357
Supporting services:				
Tejano commercial properties	1,750,861	-	1,750,861	1,786,421
Management and general	1,313,108	-	1,313,108	499,173
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>40,114,883</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,114,883</b>	<b>33,525,842</b>
Total Change in Net Assets	(3,878,818)	8,709,919	4,831,101	4,681,405
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year, Restated</b>	<b>17,380,093</b>	<b>10,376,455</b>	<b>27,756,548</b>	<b>23,075,143</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 13,501,275</b>	<b>\$ 19,086,374</b>	<b>\$ 32,587,649</b>	<b>\$ 27,756,548</b>

# RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

## A VOLUNTEER'S IMPACT

Our mission is strengthened every day by the hands and hearts of our volunteers. In 2024, 512 volunteers contributed 2,255 hours to our programs, providing vital support to our operations, events, and families. Using the estimated value of volunteer time at \$33.49 per hour, this equates to a value of \$75,519.95 to our organization and to the community. These individuals demonstrated the power of community, supporting our mission across education, health, housing, social services, and emergency response.



## VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

DESCRIPTION	# OF VOLUNTEERS	# OF HOURS	VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS
LA TIENDITA SHELF STOCKING	14	621	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BREAD OF LIFE</li> <li>• RELIANT ENERGY</li> <li>• CENTERPOINT ENERGY</li> <li>• HLSR GO TEJANO</li> <li>• NASA</li> <li>• NCL LAS PALOMAS</li> <li>• HEB</li> <li>• JOHNSON &amp; GARCIA</li> <li>• CALPINE</li> <li>• VERIZON</li> <li>• VALERO</li> <li>• OXY</li> <li>• UH DOWNTOWN</li> <li>• COMCAST</li> <li>• REVIVE! CHURCH</li> <li>• UST RISING STARS</li> </ul>
BRYSS EVENT SUPPORT	8	64	
ADULT EDUCATION CLASS ASSISTANCE	1	16	
RYSS EARLY COLLEGE SCHOOL MARKET FOOD DISTRIBUTION	280	840	
BEST CHRISTMAS EVER EVENT	136	408	
LA TIENDITA PASADENA FOOD DISTRIBUTION	18	72	
HOLIDAY PARTY FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE	14	84	
DISASTER RECOVERY	41	150	
TOTAL	512	2255	

# STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATES

2020-2025 Strategic Plan Goal	Status	Outlook
Birth-to-Two Program Revamp and Early Childhood Centers Expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funds and space secured to relaunch Birth-to-Two Program thanks to funding and support from Curtis and Lori Huff and Freebird Partners LP; scheduled to open Spring 2025</li> <li>Planning, recruitment, and enrollment underway for Early Childhood Center at OST Lofts; discussions in progress for site in the Andover community</li> </ul>	On track for 2025 opening. Expansion potential at multiple sites supports long-term growth.
RYSS Expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing growth with RYSS Pasadena expanding to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade and Brownsville starting their first High School student class</li> <li>Planting roots through Tejano Center community-based programs as we plan for expansion of RYSS campuses in Humble, Aldine, and Andover communities</li> </ul>	Growth trajectory is strong. RYSS remains central to broader Tejano Center expansion strategy.
Resolve Program establishment of tracking system to support victims/witnesses of violent crime at all points of their engagement with the criminal justice system and reduce repeat victimizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated the Resolve Program into Salesforce platform to track data that will illustrate our impact and support data driven decision making</li> <li>Continued support of state funding and partnership with the Office of the Governor and the Office of Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez</li> </ul>	Improved tracking will strengthen program evaluation and support funding and policy efforts.
Affordable housing inventory increased through single-family homes and innovative multi-family development	Slight delay due to recent disasters and ongoing supply and demand challenges, but commitment remains strong. Building on last year's progress—with architects, engineers, and partners engaged—planning is actively underway. Remain focused on thoughtful, community-centered, and forward-thinking development to meet the evolving needs of the families we serve.	Project remains a top priority. Resilience and long-term planning position development for success.
Disaster Relief and Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Established and continue cultivating role as a trusted partner in Disaster Alliance funding and collaboration efforts</li> <li>Leveraging our Health Equity Neighborhood Advisory Councils – that were created as part of our work through the City of Houston Health Equity Grant - for proactive planning, response coordination, and the equitable deployment of critical information and resources</li> <li>Public partnerships—as well as those with community-based organizations—remain central to our approach in ensuring underserved communities receive timely and effective support in times of crisis</li> </ul>	Empowered by aligned funding and strong partnerships, we are advancing a more responsive and resilient system to meet the urgent and long-term needs of vulnerable communities when disaster strikes.
La Tiendita and Health Equity Program Expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upheld commitment to expand - opened La Tiendita Pasadena; established partnership with Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones to open fourth site – La Tiendita Gulfton/Sharpstown in Fiscal Year 2025</li> <li>Continue planning for the launch of La Tiendita To Go concept to bring food commodity resources directly to food insecure communities in need and build sustainability for the program</li> <li>Partnerships with the Houston Food Bank and American Heart Association continue to thrive and are critical to expansion plans for Eastex Jensen and Independence Heights communities</li> </ul>	Continued momentum with new models and partnerships. Poised for deeper neighborhood impact.
OST Lofts, multi-family affordable housing and early childhood center completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development complete and leasing launched</li> <li>Recruitment and enrollment for RYSS STEM Academy at OST Lofts underway for 2025</li> <li>Partnership conversations underway with DWR Development on replicating the model</li> </ul>	Poised to serve as a model for housing + education integration. Key hub for early learning.
Sunrise Lofts fully leased with residents progressing on a career path and/or life plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieved goal to be 100% leased</li> <li>Case management discussions and life planning with Tejano Center Resource Navigators well underway for residents; life skills workshops held on-site</li> <li>Ongoing programming and support integrated from all Tejano Center programs; Resolve provided over 30 weeks of on-going site counseling; 32 peer support group sessions held to create a safe space for residents; Peer Navigators and University of St. Thomas Rising Stars Interns provide daily peer support and mentorship</li> <li>Over 25 events hosted through more than 15 partnerships to provide resources and services that support residents in building self-sufficiency</li> </ul>	Early indicators of success in resident stability and engagement. Programming to scale with resident goals.
GRADcafé intergenerational college and career readiness evolution/expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built on foundation established in 2021 to acquire GRADcafé through partnership with Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia</li> <li>Achieved 87% of college applications, 92% of financial aid applications, and 98% of career investigations</li> <li>Expansion plans underway to open new GRADcafé Gulfton Sharpstown site in 2025 through funding earmarked by Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher, and in partnership with Harris County Commissioner Lesley Briones, Harris County Juvenile Probation Department, and Harris County Public Library</li> <li>Partnership discussions continue with Houston Food Bank to open a GRADcafé site in the new warehouse and food distribution center scheduled to open near Acres Homes</li> <li>Pursuing new funding streams to strengthen sustainability</li> </ul>	Scaling reach through strategic partnerships and data-driven results. GRADcafé is well-positioned as a leading model for intergenerational college and career readiness.
NOVA Academy for Adult Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to bridge the digital divide through various partnerships, including Comcast, Verizon, and AT&amp;T; 167 adult learners served through Basic Digital Literacy Program, ESL Beginners Course, and one-on-one advising with HCC ESL enrollment</li> <li>Ongoing conversations with higher education partners, including the University of Houston and Lone Star College to expand this critical work</li> </ul>	Strong outcomes with high potential for scale. Technology and partnerships are key to continued success.
US Citizenship and Naturalization Program implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to collaborate with community leaders and partners to host Know Your Right forums and informational sessions</li> <li>Staff planning and cross-training are underway to support the growth of this work in 2025</li> </ul>	Solid foundation in place for growth. Strong community interest supports 2025 expansion goals.
RISE Senior Citizens Activity Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underway at Nueva Vida Senior Living facility; open to seniors across the Greater Houston area</li> <li>Continue to seek additional facility/space to further engage seniors through wellness, enrichment, and social connection activities</li> <li>Initiated planning for expanded programming in alignment with community needs and aging-in-place and with dignity priorities</li> <li>Collaborating across Tejano Center departments, and with public, private and nonprofit partnerships to integrate supportive services, including health screenings and digital literacy</li> </ul>	Focused on growing reach and programming to meet the evolving needs of seniors. RISE is positioned to serve as a hub for aging with dignity, connection, and purpose.
Culture & Engagement Prioritization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed and updated the organization's values as part of strategic planning for 2025-2030</li> <li>Remain committed to developing a culture of collaboration and inclusion by calendaring quarterly Synergy Sessions; created the opportunity for employees to celebrate successes and diversity, cultivate cross-organizational relationships, and build comradery</li> </ul>	Culture work now embedded. Sessions support belonging and cross-functional alignment.
Marketing & Communications focus on elevation of Tejano Center brand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launched and aligned rebrand of Tejano Center and RYSS marketing elements including social media</li> <li>Revamped and aligned websites to brand and made more user friendly</li> <li>Secured contract to conduct a complete overhaul of the website to be completed by 2025</li> </ul>	Brand visibility growing. Website overhaul to further drive engagement and access.
Acquisition and Stand-alone Tejano Center Community Center to expand programs with a disaster recovery space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquired nearby property on Kimble through partnership with Harris County</li> <li>In the process of finalizing a Master Plan and launching a Capital Campaign to develop this and other properties to allow for the expansion of programs, build new facility for Nueva Vida Seniors Living, and house disaster recovery initiatives</li> </ul>	Major milestone in development. Community-focused design and planning underpins future success.

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ADULT SEEKING A FRESH START

**\$1000**

PROVIDES A FAMILY  
WITH FRESH FOOD  
FOR A WEEK

**\$25**

FUNDS A MENTAL  
HEALTH  
COUNSELING  
SESSION FOR A TEEN

**\$50**



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