



**PUERTAS  
ABIERTAS**  
COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE CENTER  
NAPA VALLEY • 2005

# Annual Report

## 2024 - 2025



Puertas Abiertas Community Resource Center

305 Soscol Ave, Napa, CA 94559 | Mailing: PO Box 3009, Napa, CA 94558  
(707)-224-1786 | [info@puertasabiertasnapa.org](mailto:info@puertasabiertasnapa.org) [www.puertasabiertasnapa.org](http://www.puertasabiertasnapa.org)  
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# Executive Director's Update

**Dear Friends,**

As we share this year's Impact Report with you, we find ourselves at a meaningful crossroads, one of both reflection and renewal.

Over the past year, Puertas Abiertas has continued to be a steadfast presence in the Napa Valley Latino community. From hosting Know Your Rights presentations and supporting families in developing emergency preparedness plans, to standing strong alongside our partners in the Napa Valley Together collaborative, our work has remained deeply rooted in community. At the same time, we've witnessed the continued and disproportionate barriers our community faces in accessing housing, food, employment, and safety. It is this intersection of need and resilience that drives our mission forward.

Internally, this year has also brought change. We honored the transition of longtime Executive Director Blanca Huijon, who concluded her leadership at Puertas Abiertas this past spring after more than 15 years of service. Her legacy and compassion remains deeply woven into the heart of Puertas Abiertas.

We also entered a bold and exciting new chapter with the move into our new building, a generous gift to the community and a symbol of what can be achieved through collective effort and shared purpose. This space is more than just a home for our programs; it is a testament to all those who came before us and a promise that we will continue to show up for our community with care and commitment.

As we look ahead to FY 2025–2026, we aim to expand our existing programs, explore new initiatives, and grow into this new space as a true beacon of hope and advocacy in Napa Valley.

Thank you for walking alongside us. We invite you to explore this report as a celebration of what we've accomplished together and a reflection of the strength, spirit, and potential of the community we serve.

*Con mucha gratitud.*

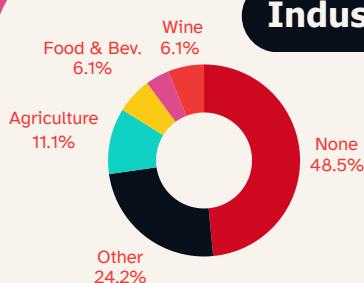
**Esmeralda Gil**

**Interim Executive Director**



# Our Client Demographics

We served about **4,605** individuals throughout our fiscal year 2024-2025



Most of our clients this year have faced immense difficulties this year securing a job or any stable, long term positions.



Seeing what type of health insurance coverage our clients have, helps us guide them to other local resources and programs they may qualify for.

## Other Important Demographics



### Race/Ethnicity

98% of our clients self identify as Latinx/Hispanic.

### Form Filling



We filled about **1,612** forms and sent **138** referrals.



### Outreach

We reached about **5,133** individuals through our outreach efforts.



### Household Income

About **95%** of our clients are under the median household income for Napa County.

### Geography



**81%** of our clients reside in Napa County & the remaining **19%** live in neighboring counties.

### Language



About **87%** of our clients are native Spanish Speakers

# Program Highlights

Anytime our clients come for services, we try in many ways to be a one stop shop for them. By providing comprehensive social services like **case management, form filling, referrals, etc.** We are able to lessen the burden and confusion most of our clients have to go through navigating through current systemic barriers.

## LEGAL NAVIGATION

Over the past year, we have helped clients stay informed about important legal changes affecting programs they currently have or may wish to apply for, such as CalFresh, Medi-Cal, and Social Security benefits, among others.

Within our organization, we also collaborate with local agencies to offer workshops on topics like labor law, consumer fraud, know-your rights, and citizenship. These sessions provide clients with reliable information and a safe, trusted environment to learn about sensitive issues.

## CITIZENSHIP LEGAL SERVICES

Through our **Citizenship Legal Services** program,

**174**

clients directly benefited from our immigration navigation services that include: **Spanish Civics Preparation classes, referrals** to local immigration agencies, and general information regarding the citizenship process and resources.

**200**

individuals attended our Know Your Rights Presentations and learned more about their constitutional rights regarding immigration.



**2600**

individuals were informed, regarding our collaborative Citizenship Legal Services program.

# Program Highlights

## HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE

At the end of each calendar year, we love coming together to spread the joy of giving! This year, our team helped more than

# 52

families sign up for the **Salvation Army Toy Assistance Program**, ensuring that dozens of children received special toys and smiles for the holidays.



## FINANCIAL LITERACY

Aside from our Social Services, we try to provide educational programs such as **financial literacy**, where clients learn the importance of budgeting, managing their household finances and savings, and how to spot possible scams.

Our **Financial Literacy** workshops serve as a gateway for our Spanish speaking clients and arm them with valuable tools to better understand and manage their personal and family finances.

These sessions enable participants to reassess their existing expenses with a fresh perspective, helping them use their income more effectively and to work towards greater financial stability and independence.



# 13

families benefited from these workshops, creating a positive life change for more than **40** individuals.

# Program Highlights

Our Latinx culture has always been rooted in health spiritual, and holistic practices to cure most ailments or to solve a family issue. By implementing these cultural practices and beliefs through our **health and wellness programs**, we are able to tailor and improve our clients experience when participating in our programs.

## LA CULTURA CURA - ARTE

**La Cultura Cura Arte** is a special program designed just for our older Spanish speaking Latinx community members, as part of our larger La Cultura Cura mental health workshops.

It's a warm, welcoming space where folks can come together to connect, share stories, spark creativity, and most importantly, nurture and heal their inner child through the joy of making art in community.



**46**

clients attended La Cultura Cura Arte.

## SEMILLAS DE ESPERANZA

**Semillas de Esperanza** (Seeds of Hope), provided a culturally responsive and healing-centered virtual space during early - mid 2024 for our Latinx community. In response to the ongoing social and emotional challenges impacting our community, this program focused on cultivating strength, resilience, and collective healing.



**18**

clients attended las Semillas de Esperanza Workshops.

**“Estas sesiones calmo mi ansiedad, y me enseño que no estoy sola con todo lo que esta pasando en el mundo. Gracias.”**

Client Quote

# Program Highlights



## FRUIT & VEGGIES PROGRAM

Our **Fruits and Veggies Bucks** program with the **Napa Farmer's Market** helps families in need access fresh, healthy and locally grown fruits and vegetables.

By providing this support, we help ease the burden for many families including those facing financial or health challenges, offering a sense of food security during difficult times.

# 166

families received over **\$42k**  
impacting over 500  
individuals through the FVB  
program.



## MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

In partnership with the **St. Helena Hospital Foundation**, we are able to provide monthly food distributions to our community with culturally relevant foods that promote nutrition, dignity and a sense of belonging.

# 1500

Over **1500** families  
received food though our monthly  
food distributions.

# Client Story

**In early February**, our Senior Case Manager received a call from a client in deep distress; her daughter had been in a life-threatening car accident while driving home from work late at night. Overwhelmed, she explained the situation, and our Case Manager immediately scheduled an in-person appointment to assess the family's most urgent needs.

During their meeting, the client shared that her family had already been struggling. Her husband was recently diagnosed with cancer and undergoing chemotherapy so he was unable to work. Though he had applied for disability benefits, payments had yet to arrive, leaving the client and her daughter to support the household. Now, with her daughter in a coma for over two weeks, she was trying to hold everything together, working day by day and spending nights at the hospital. Emotionally and physically drained, she turned to Puertas Abiertas for help.

Our Senior Case Manager responded with care and comprehensive support, providing: **Emergency grocery gift cards** to address immediate food needs, enrollment in the **Fruit & Veggie Bucks program** for access to fresh produce, a **referral to the Seasons of Sharing program** for rental assistance, help completing **medical bill assistance** applications and a **direct referral to the Employment Development Department (EDD)** to expedite her husband's disability claim.

Over the next two months, our Case Manager stayed closely connected and continued advocating for the family. With her support, the client finally secured her husband's disability payments, bringing stability to their household. Although her daughter's recovery is ongoing, she is now home, a milestone that offers renewed hope.

This story reflects the heart of Puertas Abiertas' holistic case management approach: meeting people where they are, walking alongside them through crisis, and ensuring no one falls through the cracks.

Thanks to our incredible supporters, community members, partners, and donors, we were able to help families like the one above; in more ways than one. Your generosity and commitment make our work possible and truly impactful.

Thank you for reading our **FY 2024–2025 Impact Report** and for standing with us on this journey. Together, we can continue creating lasting change, so please keep supporting!

# A Permanent Home for Napa's Latino Community

Puertas Abiertas reached a historic and joyful milestone with the gift of our first-ever permanent home, made possible through the extraordinary generosity of the Gasser Foundation. We are incredibly grateful to the Gasser Foundation for their vision, trust, and profound belief in our mission. This transformational gift is more than a donation—it is a bold investment in the future of the Latino community in Napa Valley and a moment we will carry with us for generations.

Located at 305 Soscol Avenue in Napa, this 6,000-square-foot building is becoming Napa County's first Latino-centered cultural and community resource center. This space will be a vibrant, welcoming hub where families can access trusted services, celebrate culture, heal, connect, and build resilience together across generations.

For nearly two decades, Puertas Abiertas served the community without a permanent home—yet still created spaces of safety, trust, and belonging wherever possible. Now, having a home of our own represents stability, dignity, and the ability to dream and grow even bigger. This building reflects the strength, culture, and aspirations of our community—a place built with and for our gente.

We proudly opened our doors and moved into our new home in July 2025. Every day, this space reminds us what's possible when community is rooted in care and shared vision. It is truly a beacon of hope and opportunity, and it will allow Puertas Abiertas to deepen its impact for many years to come.

**Visit us at 305 Soscol Ave., Napa, CA 94559!**

