



Nuestra Casa

2002

With funding from Peninsula Community Foundation* and assistance from One East Palo Alto, a group of community representatives develops a plan to address the political, economic, and social context of East Palo Alto. One of the results of this effort is the creation of Nuestra Casa to address the needs of the emerging local Latino population. Using this directive, One East Palo Alto incubates and develops Nuestra Casa, and Community Initiatives becomes our fiscal sponsor.



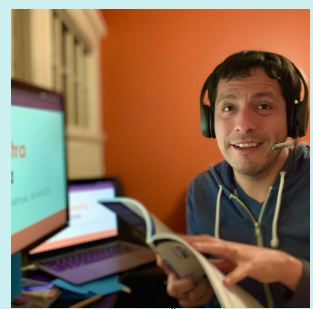
2003

Nuestra Casa's Board establishes the organization's mission and vision statements and approves a set of bylaws. A grant from Peninsula Community Foundation supports our first hire, a part-time executive director.



2004

Hewlett Foundation awards Nuestra Casa a grant to support two of our early and long-term programs: Parents as Leaders and the English Language Program.



2010

The Red Comunitaria program kicks off our community outreach and leadership training work. We begin training and hiring promotoras (community outreach workers) to support this work.



2014

Nuestra Casa becomes an independent 501(c)(3), separating from its fiscal sponsor of many years, Community Initiatives.



2017

The Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) learns about Nuestra Casa's deep roots in the local Spanish-speaking community. It taps us to translate and field surveys about water quality in East Palo Alto. We identify top resident concerns: unsafe drinking water, bad taste, and poor infrastructure. This work continues today as we collect residential tap water quality samples and work on a blueprint for improvements.



2018

During the Fall of 2018, Nuestra Casa receives a San Francisco Foundation Community Impact Award. [This video](#) highlights our work and includes former executive director Andrés Connell and interviews with staff and Promotoras.



2019

With funding from San Mateo County Office of Sustainability, we start our Edible Food Recovery and Food Distribution program. Today this program serves 6,000 grocery boxes and saves thousands of pounds of food from landfills per month.



2020

Grants from the San Francisco Foundation and the City of East Palo Alto allow us to begin housing justice work formally. We also started offering our Environmental Justice Academy class. Based on the structure of our earlier Parents as Leaders program, the Academy organizes and empowers community residents to take ownership of their advocacy abilities. The goal is to ensure low-income and immigrant communities' inclusion in discussions and policies related to climate change.



2022

Nuestra Casa celebrates 20 years of transformative community change.

