

# Our Legacy

Building our Future  
Generations

# 2023

Impact Report



**APRENDAMOS**  
Family of Services



# TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## Dear Community, Partners, Colleagues, and Champions for Children & Families,

Our community and colleagues are the heartbeat of Aprendamos. This year's Legacy Report serves not only as a testament to our collective achievements but as a celebration of the collaborative spirit that defines our community. Your dedication, passion, and unwavering support have played a pivotal role in making a meaningful impact on the lives we touch and the communities we serve.

As we navigate the challenges and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead, I am confident that our community will continue to thrive. The impact we create together extends far beyond numbers and statistics; it is a testament to the collective power of a community united by a common purpose.

Thank you for your commitment to our mission, your collaborative spirit, and your belief in the positive change we can achieve together. I am excited about the future and the continued impact we will make. Let's continue to forge partnerships that go beyond transactions, evolving into collaborations that uplift and empower!

With Hope and Gratitude,



**Abel Covarrubias**

Chief Executive Officer  
Aprendamos Family of Services



“  
**Planting seeds for  
future generations -  
Abel Covarrubias**

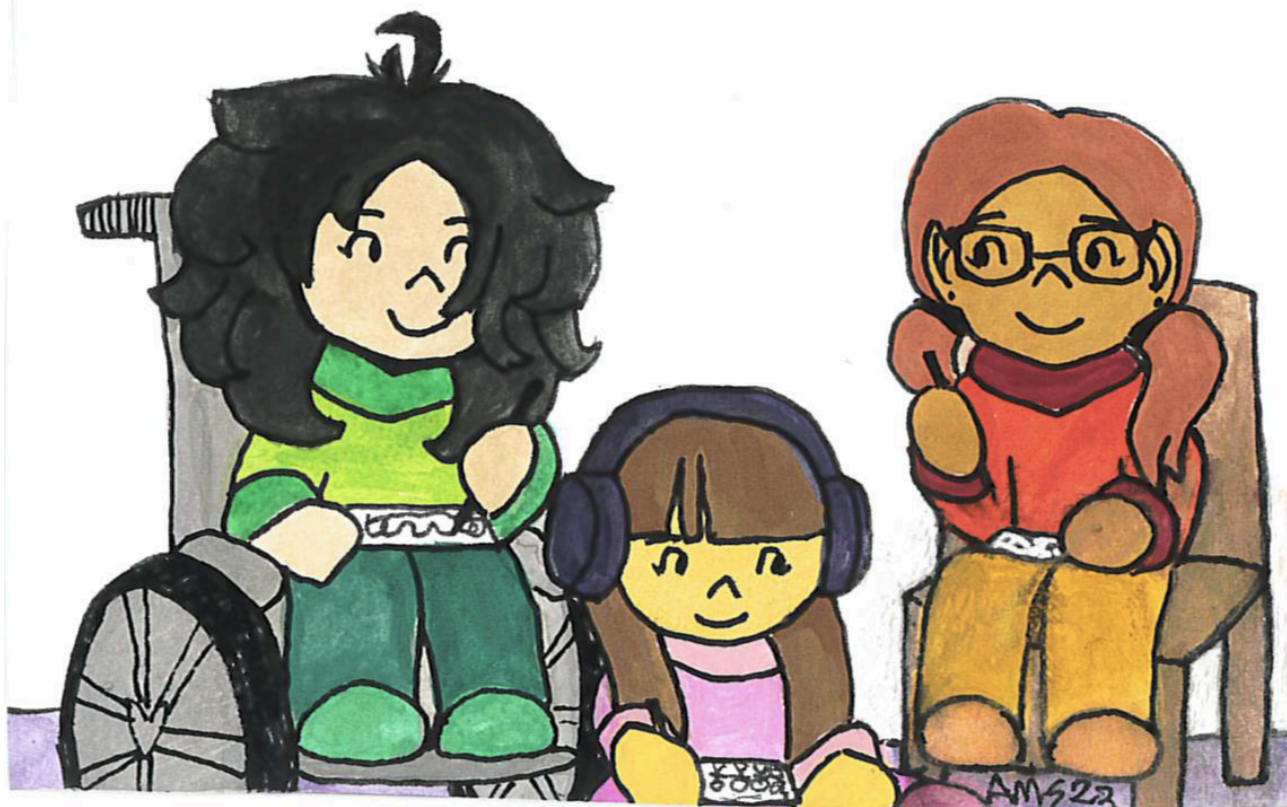
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# Who We Are

## OUR VISION

Aprendamos is a committed team of professionals that value trust, honesty, and respect while providing quality early intervention, children's therapy, family therapy, and autism services. We honor diversity in our community while maintaining sensitivity to individual differences. We do what we do because we LOVE what we do!



Artwork by Anelise M. Elmquist

## OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

### **Celina Waller**

Chief Operations Officer  
& Director at Esperanza  
Children's Therapy

### **Grace Legarreta**

Director of Family &  
Community Engagement

### **Cassandra Varela**

Early Intervention  
Program Director

### **Elke Wunderlich**

Chief Strategy Officer

### **Laura Elmquist**

Culture, Equity, &  
Belonging Champion

### **Trisha Braecklein**

Director of Autism  
Services at Mariposa

### **Ruby Sambrano**

Cariño Home Visiting  
Program Manager

### **Maggie Provencio**

Chief Financial Officer

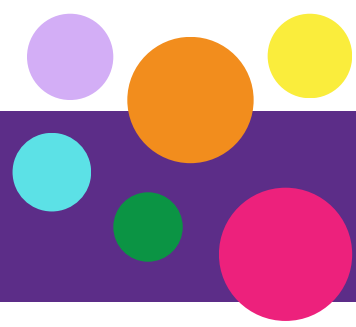
### **Erin O'Donnell**

Community & People  
Engagement Officer

### **Alejandra Covarrubias-Parra**

Director of Counseling  
Services/Clinician at Alegria

# Our Values



**Families  
First**



**Integrity  
Always**



**Pursuit of  
Excellence**



**Meaningful  
Difference**



**Shaping  
the  
Future**

# Putting Families First

## HOW EARLY INTERVENTION HELPED ELIZEO

When Elizeo was just one year old, his mother, Eliza, noticed that he wasn't speaking much. She became concerned that he may not be meeting his speech milestones and shared her thoughts with a family member who worked at Aprendamos. Together they referred Elizeo for a complimentary evaluation to see if he could benefit from early intervention services.

Elizeo qualified for services and was soon surrounded by a team of speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, family therapists, service coordinators, and more. Eliza said, "In the beginning it was frustrating because you want your child to succeed. I asked the team if they could increase the time spent with him because we weren't noticing progress and didn't meet our goal."

With time and patience, Elizeo began to show signs of improvement. Eliza said, "Once we increased our time together, it was like night and day. Elizeo made so much progress! The therapists were so great and they were patient and calm."

Elizeo received services for two years and showed incredible signs of success. His mother shared, "The biggest Impact was Elizeo not only meeting his goals, but exceeding his goals and milestones! He went from saying nothing to using big, descriptive words." However, these aren't the only areas where he has shown improvement. "He cuts with scissors really well and is stacking blocks and kids his age can't do these things yet," she added.

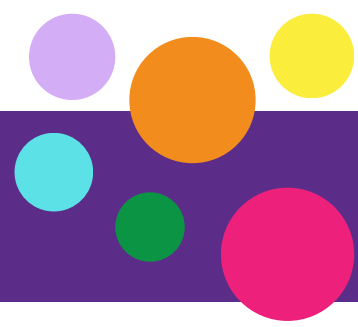
Elizeo has now officially graduated from the Aprendamos Early Intervention program and is thriving and continuing to learn and grow. However, support for Elizeo did not stop once he stopped receiving services. "Graduation was bittersweet. The team helped with all the research for other programs after graduation. It's a great foundation for learning," Eliza shared.

We look forward to witnessing Elizeo continue to develop to his greatest potential. Keep shining bright, Elizeo!



“  
**He went from saying nothing to using big, descriptive words.**  
”

# Shaping The Future



## APRENDAMOS EARLY INTERVENTION:

Services for children ages birth to three affected by a developmental delay or disability.

## ESPERANZA THERAPY CLINIC:

Speech & Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy services for children ages three to eighteen.



**1,014 children**  
served in 2023

## CARIÑO HOME VISITING PROGRAM:

Home visiting services that promote prenatal, maternal, infant, and early childhood health, safety, and development.

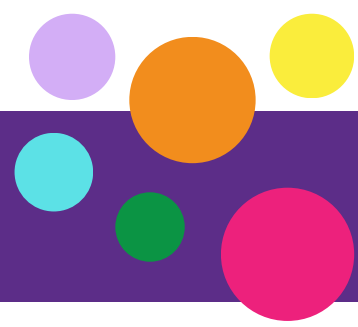


**529 children**  
served in 2023



**363 children &  
303 families**  
served in 2023

# Making a Meaningful Difference



## ALEGRIA FAMILY COUNSELING:

Counseling services for children, families, couples, and individuals.

## MARIPOSA AUTISM SERVICES CENTER

Services for children diagnosed with autism utilizing Applied Behavior Analytic techniques.



**407 active clients**  
in 2023

## CONSCIOUS FATHERING PROGRAM:

Hands-on classes that prepare fathers to care for their newborn babies.

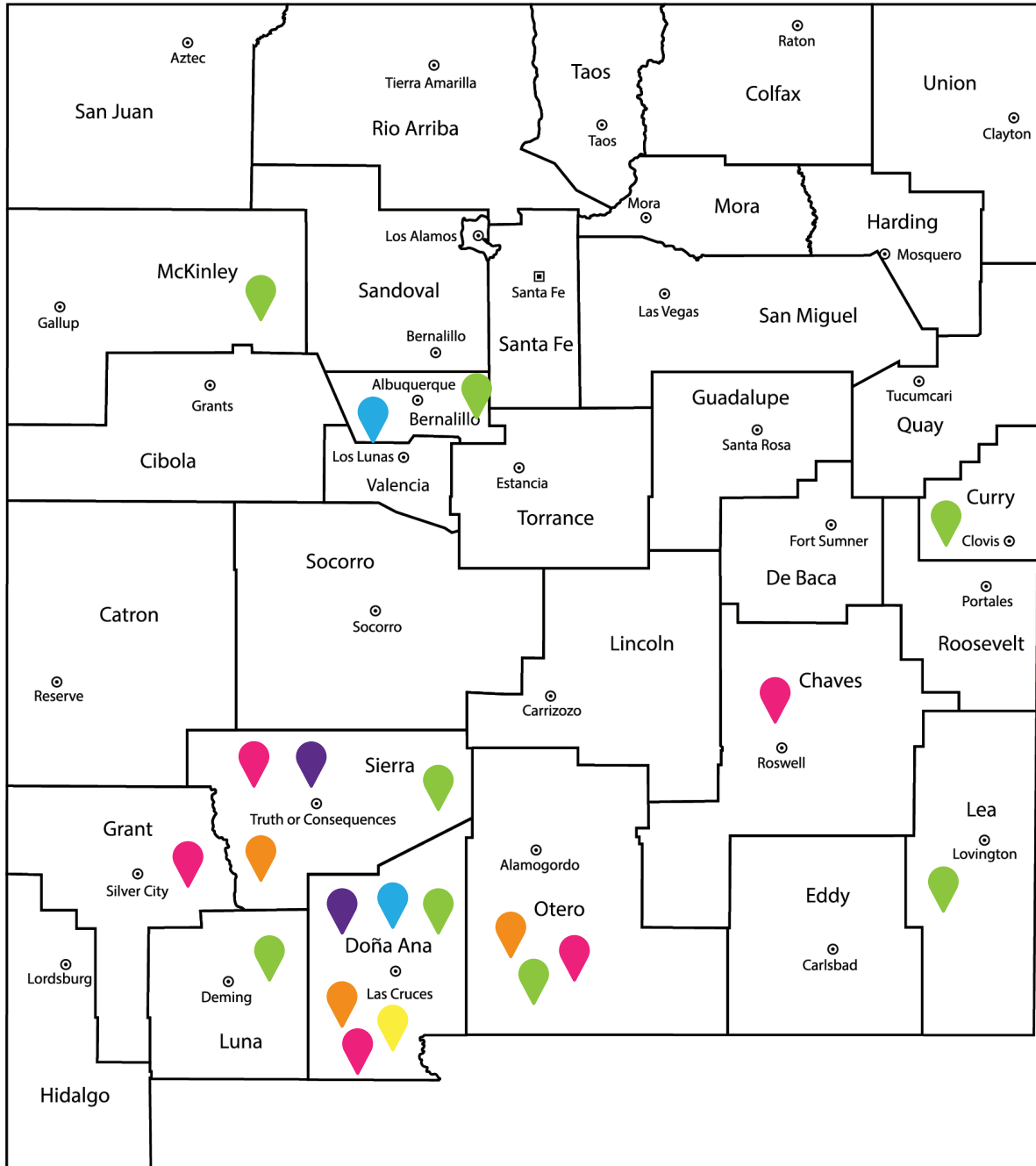
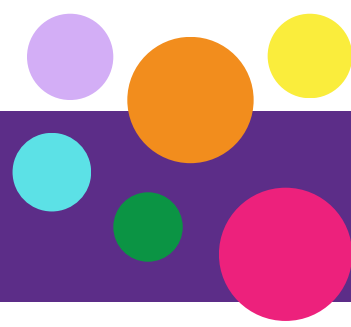


**120 families**  
served in 2023



**8 fathers**  
served in 2023  
\*began in Q2

# Areas of Impact



-  Alegría Family Counseling
-  Aprendamos Early Intervention
-  Cariño Home Visiting Program
-  Conscious Fathering Program
-  Esperanza Children's Therapy
-  Mariposa Autism Service Center

# An Aprendamos Success Story

## EARLY INTERVENTION FOR BABY ELIZABETH

Norma wasn't a stranger to early intervention. Two of her children had received services in the past, and she knew first-hand the difference access to these services could make in a child's life. However when Elizabeth, her now six-month-old baby was born, it was a different set of circumstances.

"Our baby was not able to feed or latch and no one could help us or give me answers. She was rejecting breast feeding and the bottle wasn't working," Norma shared. Elizabeth's parents were fearful because of Elizabeth's lack of feeding, and while doctor's told them things would soon improve, even the lactation consultants could not provide necessary solutions. After seeing five different doctors, one final visit to a different lactation consultant resulted in a referral for an early intervention evaluation through Aprendamos.

"They gave us an earlier appointment to accommodate us since we felt like it was an emergency," Norma said. "The intake process was amazing. They checked all her milestones and referred me to a dentist because they identified intense lip ties on our baby." With newfound hope, Norma began the process of finding solutions for Elizabeth.

"We went to the dentist and my baby was able to have a surgery to help everything. Because of Aprendamos, we finally got the help we needed," she shared.

Elizabeth continues to develop and strengthen her skills daily. When we asked Norma what the biggest impact of early intervention has been for her baby, she said, "It was knowing what was wrong and being able to feed our baby. The therapist provided exercises for us to help our baby and in a sense, the therapist saved our baby's life!"

Every day, babies like Elizabeth benefit from Aprendamos Early Intervention services. We can't wait to see Elizabeth and all the other children we have the honor to serve, reach their milestones!



“  
**In a sense, the therapist saved our baby's life!**

”

# Philanthropy in Action

In our community, we are surrounded by organizations that are committed to making a difference for our region's children, families, friends, and neighbors. These organizations work to feed the hungry, shelter the unhoused, provide a safe space for children after school, are a resource for homeless or near homeless children, provide scholarships for students, and so much more.

The Aprendamos Family of Services team believes in doing all we can to support these organizations so they can continue to serve our community. These are the nonprofits that work tirelessly to not only provide resources to those in need, but also offer hope and inspiration for a better today and brighter tomorrow.

We are also dedicated to ensuring youth in our community have access to meaningful opportunities and experiences. From supporting tournament travel costs for youth sports leagues, to sponsoring a guitar so a child can learn to play mariachi music, we are committed supporting the dreams and aspirations of our youth and creating future generations of leaders for our community.



**\$69,378**

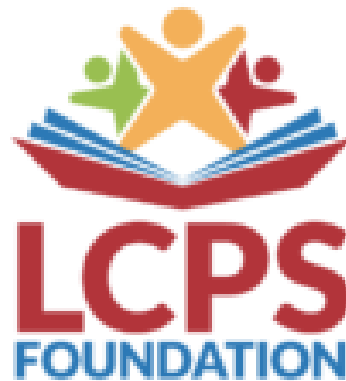
2023 Charitable  
Donations

**\$63,060**

2023 Company  
Sponsorships

# Investing In Our Future Generations

In collaboration with our local foundations, we are dedicated to nurturing the dreams and aspirations of our youth through scholarships. These scholarships serve as a beacon of hope, empowering young individuals to pursue their academic dreams and unlock a brighter future. Thanks to the support of our local foundations, deserving students have the opportunity to reach their full potential!



“  
Together, we are  
fostering a culture  
that values planting  
seeds for our future  
generations!  
”



# APRENDAMOS

Family of Services



*Artwork by Anelise M. Elmquist*

## **ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

Anelise M. Elmquist is a student at Las Cruces High School. Her passions are art, music, and science. Some day she hopes to be an astrophysicist and a role model for other children with neurodiversities, such as herself, which she is proud of. Her wish is that every child is accepted for who they are and gets the services they need to thrive, without barriers.



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