Excellent Education.
Powerful Families.
Strong Communities.

Since 1980, Para Los Niños has responded to the needs of undeserved children and families in Los Angeles. Today, PLN supports over 6,000 children, youth, and families through its integrated model of education in nine schools, and comprehensive social emotional services in classrooms and communities.
Letter from the CEO & Board of Directors Chair

Thank you so much for being a part of the Para Los Niños community, and for believing in the children and families we serve. Our model has measurable impact on over 6,000 children and families in need each year, because of your support.

Since our founding nearly forty years ago as a safe place for children on Skid Row, we continue to serve the most vulnerable populations in Los Angeles. Our integrated model of education and comprehensive wraparound services educates children starting at six-weeks-old, guides youth into college and the workforce, and provides families with critical social services to reach their full potential.

As you will see in the pages ahead, we are in the process of implementing an exciting new strategic plan. This plan, produced by our Board of Directors, staff, and key stakeholders, is designed to continue the articulation of our model, improve academic performance, recruit and retain top talent, and develop a robust data collection and collaboration system to maximize the academic and life outcomes of our children and youth.

The plan reflects three primary guiding principles:
- **Excellent Education**: Starting as young as six-weeks, through 8th grade graduation, we provide students with the tools to succeed academically, physically, and social-emotionally.
- **Powerful Families**: Through counseling, support groups, workshops, and clinical services, we engage parents to ensure students are supported and parents can be their best.
- **Strong Communities**: We strengthen our neighborhoods by facilitating leadership development, educating families on wellness, and provide workforce training to connect those in need with the resources to reach their potential.

This report also features the story of a remarkable family whose sons started in our preschool and who are now in our middle school. Their journey poignantly illustrates the impact that Para Los Niños has over a sustained period of time on the lives of the children and families we serve.

It is because of you, and the support of all our donors that we are able to impact the lives of so many, so meaningfully. Our generous 2018 donors are listed in this publication, and we are deeply grateful for all of you who have joined our mission, and believe in the potential of our community.

Together, we are helping children and youth thrive. With sincere thanks,

Drew Furedi
President and CEO

Marjorie Ehrich Lewis
Board Chair
The Challenge
Research continues to show that children born into low-income households have the odds stacked against them and their chance for success.

18 months
By then, low-income toddlers are already several months behind more advantaged children in language proficiency.

Kids exposed to very high doses of adversity have more than double the lifetime risk of heart disease and cancer.

61%
The percentage of low-income homes with no age-appropriate books for their child.

Para Los Niños fosters pathways to success through excellence in education, powerful families, and strong communities for children and youth to thrive.

Real Impact
Our model is working and helping our students and families overcome these challenges to reach their full potential.

83%
of preschoolers kindergarten-ready

506
Work experiences for disconnected youth ages 14-24

31% Higher
Scores than LAUSD in third grade Math*

2,884
Home visits to support families and keep children safe

93%
Parents read to their children at least once a week

13,165
Mental health sessions for Para Los Niños families

* 2018 Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Results for English Language Learners
Our Schools & Services

Early Education

At our six learning sites, we provide more than 450 children with high-quality academic and social emotional education to become lifelong learners. Working closely with children as young as six-weeks and engaging parents, we ensure they have a strong support system that will carry them to success well beyond preschool.

TK- 8th Education

Through our Gratts Primary Charter School, Charter Elementary School, and Charter Middle School we provide quality education, wraparound services, and after school support to more than 1,100 children grades TK-8. Our interdisciplinary and project-based approach keeps students intellectually enriched and our social emotional integration ensures vital soft skills like confidence and character.

Youth Workforce Services

Each year, approximately 2,000 youth and adults are provided opportunities to build their careers and engage in their community. Through workshops, mentorship, internships, and case management, our Youth Workforce Services give new opportunities for students and families to become self-sufficient and reach their full potential.

Family & Community Services

We build a strong foundation with over 4,000 children and adults annually through leadership and support groups, ESL education, in-home counseling, clinical support, and parenting workshops. Our services strengthen families and create a supportive community to help children and families thrive.

“The investments we make today in disadvantaged young children promote social mobility, create opportunity and foster a vibrant, healthy and inclusive society and economy.”
- James Heckman, Professor of Economics at The University of Chicago, Nobel Laureate in Economics
Updates & Accomplishments

- **100%** of Youth Workforce Students are assisted in their college application process - including **FASFA support for students and families**.

- **1,994** Parents of Early Education students attended over seventy trainings to be the best parent they can be.

Para Los Niños is the **lead agency for the Region One Best Start initiative**—a community-based parent engagement program funded by First 5 LA—empowering hundreds of families to create neighborhood groups that **develop strategies of resilience and prevention** for their communities.

- **84%** of participating families reported knowing how to help others get resources to cope with or prevent violence.

- **Students scored higher** on California test SBAC than neighboring schools in English Language Arts and Math in almost every grade level at our Elementary School.

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**93%**
Parents reported that their child likes going to school*

**6,000+**
Children, youth, and adults served annually

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* TK-8th Grade Education Parent Survey
Who We Serve

Our families are working to provide the best for their children. Unfortunately, many of their circumstances statistically hinder their chances, and their child’s chances at success.

POVERTY, RACE AND/OR ETHNICITY, PARENTAL EDUCATION, AND PRIMARY LANGUAGE.

Two or more of these factors markedly diminish a child’s chances for success because he or she is even more likely to experience the following: stressful family environment, domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, teen pregnancy, mental illness, community violence, unstable housing, and unemployment. Children who have witnessed traumatic events can develop toxic stress that in time can impact their physical and emotional health.

We partner with families to overcome these obstacles and give each child the chance to reach their full potential.

UNDER $25,000 Annual income for majority of Para Los Niños families.

53% Para Los Niños students TK-8th grade are English Language Learners

41% Para Los Niños Parents do not have a high school diploma

PRIMARY LANGUAGE

69% SPANISH

30% ENGLISH

1% OTHER

ETHNICITIES

91% LATINO

7% BLACK

<1% ASIAN

<1% WHITE

1% OTHER

*Children whose primary language is not the language of instruction are more likely to fall behind in academics or drop out.
I wanted to know that my kids were somewhere they were going to learn and be safe,” remembers Maria, who found Para Los Niños through a family friend when her sons were just out of diapers.

She was quickly impressed at the welcoming and communicative way PLN worked with families. “Anytime I have a question or a doubt about how my kids are doing, the teachers are there to help,” Maria says of the schools’ openness. She was so impressed that when the kids graduated preschool, she enrolled them in the elementary school, and then the middle school.

Maria was committed to learning and growing as well, attending nurturing parent classes and workshops as they became available. “They gave me the tools and resources I need to prepare my kids for university,” says Maria of the experiences. She adds, “They taught me how to go and ask the right questions, and made me feel confident to do so.”

Recently, Maria noticed that Bryan was having behavioral issues at home and at school. She felt comfortable talking to school case worker Lionel Chavez, about her concern. “We were able to work together and enroll Bryan in therapy to determine what was causing him to act out, and help him to learn other ways to express himself,” remembers Lionel. “That’s one of the great things about Para Los Niños, we can help families in so many ways beyond the classroom,” says Lionel.

Maria is grateful for the impact PLN has had on her and her family. “I’ve always felt comfortable and supported here,” says Maria. She added, “From everything I’ve learned, it’s opened my mind too. That I can help not just my family, but help those in my community too.”

Maria’s Family Story

Bryan (far right) as a preschooler at The Tina & Rick J. Caruso, Para Los Niños Early Education Center.
Our 38 year history of working with at-risk families and youth has taught us to continually evolve, adapt, and grow to best meet the needs of the communities we serve. With our unique, holistic model serving children and their families, our board of directors, families, staff, and other key external stakeholders want to see Para Los Niños become an organization that disrupts generational poverty, provides excellent education, and empowers families to create strong communities.

In conversations with stakeholders about our past, there was one element of our work that stood out — our reputation as an organization that has greater impact on the children and families we serve the more we connected with them, and the longer we partnered to help them thrive. Ultimately, a value proposition was articulated: Academic and life outcomes are maximized when Para Los Niños can serve students earlier, longer, and with more touch-points within a student’s community and life experience. This proposition will guide our future.

Stories like Maria’s (on page seven) illustrate the way all the parts of Para Los Niños work together to help a family thrive. The new strategic plan zeroes in on ensuring families are both academically successful and socially-emotionally healthy. We know that if a child doesn’t have a safe, nurturing environment at home, they can’t reach their potential in the classroom. Partnering with parents and communities, and providing high-quality education integrated with social-emotional health, is how we can best prepare our families for the future with the resources they need now.

To provide the highest level of education and care, we need to be internally strong and efficient. This plan looks inward to define our strengths and identify areas for opportunity to be wholly successful. We want to be sure that we are creating opportunities for our employees to thrive too, and have long careers in our organization as we build capacity to best serve our children and families.

There is much to celebrate, and over the next five years there will be even more.
These are the goals we will use to track our progress over the next five years:

**Outcome Goals**
1. Children and youth are physically, socially and emotionally healthy
2. Families and communities are engaged and empowered
3. Children and youth are developmentally and academically successful, and ready for the future
4. Leaders execute on an organization-wide vision, implement aligned goals, and maintain a culture of compassion and excellence

**Input Goals**
1. Leaders have what they need to lead effective, successful teams
2. Staff have what they need to provide excellent services
3. Organization is financially thriving
4. Stakeholders develop a clear growth plan

To achieve these goals we need vision, top-talent, and support of donors like you. If you would like to learn more about our strategies or see how you can be involved visit paralosninos.org/2019plan.

Excellent Education.
Powerful Families.
Strong Communities.
Financials
Revenue and expenses from July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016-2017</th>
<th>2017-2018</th>
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<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
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<td>In Kind</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td>246,755</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
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<td>$34,754,233</td>
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| **EXPENSES**          |                 |                 |
| Salaries & Benefits   | 21,273,191      | 21,595,650      |
| Occupancy             | 2,510,946       | 2,755,639       |
| Subcontractors        | 1,036,435       | 992,715         |
| Outside Services      | 1,079,301       | 1,221,666       |
| Supplies & Meals      | 1,572,215       | 1,845,569       |
| Family/Participant Support | 532,174 | 925,334         |
| Information Technology| 317,990         | 473,647         |
| In Kind Expenses      | 1,231,773       | 1,889,107       |
| Other Operating Expenses | 3,830,428 | 2,938,798      |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES**    | $33,384,428     | $34,638,125     |

| **NET INCOME**        | $1,478,511      | $116,108        |

| **ASSETS**            |                 |                 |
| Cash                  | $1,384,307      | 2,070,499       |
| Grants and accounts receivable | 4,911,755 | 4,526,282      |
| Pledges receivable    | 667,605         | 646,532         |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 303,621 | 320,015         |
| Split Interest agreement | 146,921  | 146,921         |
| Investments           | 94,261          | 121,948         |
| Property & Equipment  | 11,478,900      | 11,192,702      |
| **TOTAL ASSETS**      | $18,987,370     | $19,024,899     |

| **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** |                 |                 |
| Accounts Payable       | $1,228,928      | 1,265,170       |
| Accrued Liabilities    | 1,862,500       | 1,881,449       |
| Line of Credit         | –               | –               |
| Notes Payable          | $3,563,994      | 3,427,227       |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES**  | $6,655,422      | $6,573,846      |
| **NET ASSETS**         | $12,331,948     | $12,451,052     |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** | $18,987,370 | $19,024,898 |

* Unaudited at time of print.
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Donors from July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Thank you to all our donors joining the mission to help children and youth thrive!

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- Dr. Vincent Feletti, Founding Chairman of Preventative Medicine, Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program