"Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family"

- KOFI ANNAN
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VISION
To inspire Latino children to be lifelong learners and exemplary members of the community.

MISSION
To prepare underserved Latino preschool children for educational success by providing opportunities to develop their language, cognitive, social, and motor skills. Together with certified teachers, engaged parents, and trained teen volunteers, we inspire a passion for learning.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dear Los Niños Primero friends and families,

As we continue to see the blossoming of our students, youth, and families, we could not be more inspired by the impact that early childhood education and extracurricular activities have had on the academic performance of our students. Along with the youth and parent leadership program we have created a community of learners.

2018 was year of reaffirmation that in order to really develop and strengthen a community, we need to involve and learn from the existing community.

To this point, at Los Niños Primero, we value partnerships as a way to expand beyond our current horizons. This year we expanded our service to the north of the city and partnered with Fulton County Schools. Two of our Los Niños Primero summer academic programs were offered at Mimosa Elementary School, located in the city of Roswell, and Hapeville Elementary School, in the city of Hapeville. With this expansion we were able to provide academic instruction to the children in their own schools and support the school by giving priority to those children that needed the most attention. We were also hosted by Holy Innocents’ Episcopal School, North Springs Methodist Church, Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church, and the Catholic Center. Offering our services in six locations allowed us to reach more children and families. In 2018, we served 600+ children, youths and families throughout the year, a growth of 200% over last year.

This summer, for the first time, our teachers fully implemented the Los Niños Primero Academic Guidelines, which were designed to work specifically with our children. This represents a great academic accomplishment for us, delivering instruction based on both Georgia standards and Los Niños Primero values.

For our parents and youth volunteers, we focused our resources and leveraged new partners to provide the tools needed for them to become leaders in their communities. This year, we offered parents two new programs: Fostering Family Leaders, which focused on basic leadership skills, and a follow-up Civic Engagement Program, which supported parents in their roles as community leaders. These programs have resulted in more parents taking active roles as leaders in their children’s schools and community. For the Los Niños Primero youths, we crafted a youth leadership program in partnership with UGA’s JW Fanning Institute for Leadership Development. Their support helped us develop a coherent and current program to support Los Niños Primero youth.

We strengthened our own community by naming our first recipient of the Los Niños Primero Martha Barrios Mead Scholarship Fund. Rosa Moctezuma, who is the first in her family to attend college, is now in her second semester at Georgia State University.

As we move forward to 2019 my heart is full of joy knowing that our children and families are building a more promising future thanks to each one of you.

With profound appreciation,

Maritza Morelli
Executive Director

LNP ANNUAL REPORT
FINANCIAL GROWTH

In 2018 we began with a budget of $550,500, and augmented our database contacts by 18%, a significant increase to our potential donor base.

+19%
TOTAL BUDGET GROWTH

From $446,000 in 2017 to $530,000 in 2018.

STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2018 we placed the organization one year ahead of completing our five-year strategic plan, created in 2015. Now, with the implementation of the Los Niños Primero Academic Guidelines as well as the parent and leadership programs we are one year ahead. We have also expanded our partnerships with Fulton County Schools. In January 2018, we had 90 teens involved in Saturcay school, and during the summer of 2018 we had 140 volunteers (+6%). Moreover, in 2018 we more than doubled the number of people served from 300 in 2017 to 632 in 2018.

- Children served in 2018 (3-12 years old): 310
- Teens served in 2018 (13-19 years old): 132
- Adults served in 2018 (20+ years): 190

2018 FROM GOALS TO ACTIONS
Los Niños Primero's main focus is to provide children with opportunities to enhance their education and be ready for school. In 2018 we implemented the Los Niños Primero Academic Guidelines. Our holistic approach which is centered in the bi-cultural experience, incorporates the learning of academic content with the social, psychological and emotional worlds of these children.

The implementation of the Los Niños Primero Academic Guidelines represents a milestone in the development of the organization. Teachers have based their instruction on the approach of the project-based learning, and we are continuing to promote mindfulness at the beginning of the day, preparing little minds for a successful day.

**At the end of the four-week program:**

68% of the 3 year-old children were able to master social skills that will help them build the foundation for classroom readiness.

79% of the four year-old children were able to master the following metrics: listen and follow the teacher's directions, retell a picture story, recognize first name and identify letters in their name, identify seven numbers, five colors and four shapes.
At the end of the four-week program:

70% of five-year-old children were able to answer questions about a story read to them, identify prepositions, recognize their name and orally identify letters in name, identify upper and lowercase letters and the sounds of the letters, identify nine sight words, count to 20 by ones, count 10 objects with one to one correspondence, identify solid shapes and write first and last names independently.

70% of six-year-old children could identify prepositions, respond to story specific questions, read 40 sight words, count by 5s, 10s and solve simple addition and subtraction problems.
140 Youth Volunteers

+10K Hours donated

SUMMER PROGRAM YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

32 Los Niños Primero Alumni

30 Schools Represented
EMBRACING COMMUNITIES

Last summer we were very fortunate to increase our community of partners with the inclusion of Fulton County Schools. The Weber School continues to support Los Niños Primero by organizing a Fun Run to raise money for our sports programs. Mount Vernon Presbyterian School has also embraced our music program. In December of 2018, the children from MVPS and Los Niños Primero Chorus performed together at the Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center creating a fantastic experience for the children of both institutions.

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

As part of our strategic plan we partnered with United Way and adopted their leadership program "Fostering Family Leaders." Twenty Los Niños Primero mothers completed the 20-week course. The training propelled several of the women to pursue greater leadership roles in their communities.

Furthermore, the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta awarded Los Niños Primero a Civic Engagement grant. With this grant, the mothers trained in "Fostering Family Leaders" are working in two public schools to improve Latino family participation in the PTA/PTO. Twelve parents are now participating as active room parents at Lake Forest Elementary School. In partnership with students at MVPS and the Community Foundation, each parent coach also received a laptop to help them with their new role and with their computer skills.
"LOS NIÑOS PRIMERO IS AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM, WITH A HIGH EDUCATIONAL LEVEL. I WISH IN THE COMING YEARS YOU WILL BE OFFERING TO OLDER CHILDREN WHO STILL NEED HELP AND LIVE SIMILAR EXPERIENCE. CONGRATULATIONS!"

- MRS. RODRIGUEZ,
LNP PARENT
TRANSFORMING LIVES: SUCCESS STORIES

ROSA MOCTEZUMA
FIRST RECIPIENT OF MARTHA BARRIOS MEAD SCHOLARSHIP
LNP STUDENT: 2005

Rosa started at Los Niños Primero when she was 4 years old. She attended for two summers and her family maintained involvement with the organization. When she was old enough, Rosa returned with a different role. This time, she became a youth volunteer assisting our teachers in the classroom. Serving as a role model to children like her!

Last year, Rosa was the first scholar to receive an award from The Los Niños Primero Martha Barrios Mead Scholarship. Rosa is now in her second semester of college.

When asked about her experience so far, her candid reply was: "My first semester of my freshman year has been a roller coaster. I had several ups and several downs. There have been times when I doubted myself but I persevered and came cut stronger and smarter in the end. If given the option to redo my first semester at college, I wouldn't take that option. My freshman year was meant to happen the way it was meant to be. It taught me many life lessons that will help me evolve to a better student at GSU. If there's anything new that I've learned in college, it is to never ever give up!"

HANNAH NOHSTADT
FORMER LNP VOLUNTEER,
CURRENT TEACHER'S ASSISTANT

Has been part of Los Niños Primero since she was 12 years old. Now, she is senior at the University of Georgia, returning each summer as a youth volunteer, and last year for the first time, as part of the staff, working as teacher's assistant during the summer academic program.

Hannah will be graduating in December of 2019 and would love to do some work with Los Niños Primero as a future educator. In her own words: "Over the past year and a half I have learned so much through the education program and have been able to use my experiences with Los Niños Primero in my learning. I am so lucky to have had this program in my life! I have been able to become the teacher I want to be for all my future students"
LOS NIÑOS PRIMERO
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EMBRACING COMMUNITIES

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION
Fulton County Schools
Fulton County Arts and Culture
Fulton County Community Services Program
Lake Forest Elementary School
Mimosa Elementary School
Hapeville Elementary School
North Springs United Methodist Church
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
Mount Vernon Presbyterian School
Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church
Holy Innocents' Episcopal School
Sandy Springs Society
Sandy Springs Mission
La Amistad
Horizon
The Weber School
Centro Católico del Espíritu Santo
The Optimist Club
Latin American Association
Youth Leadership Sandy Springs
Emory University
Ser Familia
Georgia State University
Community Assistance Center

COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS
Buckhead Rotary Club
Global Payments, INC
Haven Campus Communities
Carlos Corless, Attorneys at Law
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Dance Studio Alpharetta
Tacos and Tequilas, Mexican Grill
International Gourmet Product
Bluming Creativity
Rubicom Global
Univison Atlanta
Mexican Consulate
Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta
United Way of Greater Atlanta
Kathleen Rastetter, Keller Williams Realty, Atlanta Partners
Halpern Enterprises

LNP ANNUAL REPORT
THANK YOU