

ROOTED IN ISLA VISTA, NURTURING CENTRAL COAST FAMILIES

Advocate · Partner

Aprender · Participar · Abogar · Colaborar

ANNUAL REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY

From our Executive Director



Lori Lander Goodman, MSW Executive Director

THIS YEAR IVYP BECAME LEAP: Learn • Engage • Advocate • Partner

Our new name fits us perfectly. Certainly, it accurately describes what we do. We help children and adults learn. We engage families and our community. We advocate for the rights of children and parents, for equitable access to resources, and for adequate childcare reimbursement. We partner with individuals, with other organizations, and with our families to make our community better, stronger, and more resilient. The word LEAP evokes joy, one of our most cherished values. At our Family Fiestas we see children leaping with joy. It's delightful.

Becoming LEAP allows us to take risks and expand our horizons. At this moment, we are working on LEAPing into Lompoc. With our new name, we open the possibility of sharing our expertise, our deep commitment to children and family well-being, wherever it is most needed.

Our roots will always be in Isla Vista, and we will always serve the Isla Vista community. Now we can do that and so much more.

Great things come out of Isla Vista. LEAP is one of them.

Lou Lee

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Becoming LEAP

ON MAY 10 we officially announced our new name at a press luncheon at our Children's Center West Campus. Approximately 50 community members, including nonprofit leaders, partners, and elected officials, joined us to celebrate and cheered on our students as they unveiled the new logo.

Our new name was chosen through a two-year



community engagement and input process. During this period, we found that only 20% of families we serve live in Isla Vista, while the majority are still located in Goleta, some clients live as far away as Santa Maria and Lompoc. Our new identity honors our decades of services and reflects how we have come to serve the broader community to mitigate the effects of poverty, racism, and trauma for children and families on the Central Coast.

Alejandra's Journey of Resilience



I FIRST MET LEAP as a parent. I took the parenting classes through LEAP's Family Resource Center (FRC)—this was many years ago. My daughter Valeria was a student at the Children's Center at the time.

Later during the COVID pandemic I worked with the FRC as a health ambassador to help the community. I always like to be able to give them a hand in whatever I can because LEAP offers a lot of help to families in terms of food, counseling and classes for parents.

The pandemic was a very difficult period for me. I was left jobless and homeless and very scared because of all the talk about COVID.

I didn't know what would happen in the future. But I did not give up. I kept fighting.

When I finished the project with the FRC, I learned LEAP was hiring teaching aides for their Children's Center. I decided to apply and got the job! I am very happy and I really love being with the children. LEAP has also given me the opportunity to further my education. They gave me a scholarship so I could take Early Childhood classes. I graduated in May with my first 12 units as an infant teacher.

I don't like when a family goes through what I went through. It's why I like working



at LEAP. It allows me to help my community. When I have helped families and I see that smile and that gratitude, I feel happy.

Thank you LEAP for all the opportunities you have given me.

PERSONAL STORY BY ALEJANDRA GARCIA, TEACHER ASSISTANT

Respect... We honor identities to create the opportunity for



Above, right: Volunteers pack diapers for babies in need. LEAP runs the only Diaper Bank in Santa Barbara County.



LEAP Family Resource Center Services

WHEN FAMILIES come to LEAP for support, they know they will always be treated with respect and their privacy and safety will be protected.

CalFresh Childcare Clothing Diaper Bank Food Access

Housing

Immigration Support

Medi-Cal

Parenting Workshops

Rental Assistance

Resume Building

School Supplies

Unemployment Support

Vaccination Support

...and more!

authentic relationships and nurture social justice.

Engaging Families

At LEAP we work closely with families in order to **break the cycle of poverty**. We do so by helping them meet basic needs—like access to nutritious food, diapers for their children, and safe housing. Our Family Resource Center provides free educational resources like parenting classes, which focus on childhood development, effective communication and positive parenting, so families have the tools they need to raise the next generation of resilient, happy children. Our client-centered, joyful approach ensures parents and children have the resources they need to thrive.



LEAP es el refugio donde encontraremos la ayuda y apoyo para cualquier dificultad que se les presente sin limite de edad.

- LEAP CLIENT





from our parenting classes

Curiosity... We commit to being curious about our impact











by challenging assumptions.

Celebrating Community

LEAP provides **opportunities for families to connect**. One such initiative is the monthly *Family Fiesta* at our Children's Center, where parents, grandparents, and children of all ages gather to enjoy a shared meal, dance, and get to know one another. This vibrant and inclusive community is vital because it fosters a deep sense of belonging, strengthens social support systems, and significantly contributes to the overall well-being of our families.





You can make lifelong friends here. - LEAP CLIENT

Aquí puede crear amigos de la vida. – LEAP CLIENT

Creativity...

We are flexible and nimble, leveraging

creatividad

150

new friends made

resources in order to pursue new opportunities.

Joyful Learning

We are honored to be trusted with caring for the next generation at our Children's Center. Our students play, dance, learn to regulate their emotions, and hone their language proficiency. We provide a joyful, nurturing environment for babies and toddlers so they will succeed in kindergarten and beyond.





healthy breakfasts and lunches eaten





My sister Bella and I both attend LEAP. Our teachers were so inspiring, gentle, and diverse.

- LEAP CLIENT

Mi hermana Bella y yo asistimos a LEAP. Nuestras maestras fueron muy inspiradoras, gentiles y diversas.

- LEAP CLIENT

Collaboration... We believe that no one person,



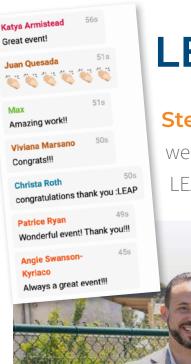


hugs given





no one agency can address our community's problems alone.



LEAP Awards '23

Steve Ortiz and Jordan Killebrew

were honored at our fourth annual LEAP Awards in May 2023.







"Partnerships with organizations like LEAP are essential to our community. They provide a service that many families need and they are a trusted organization in our community."

- STEVE ORTIZ CEO, UNITED WAY OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Above: LEAP Board Member Carrie Towbes presents award to Steve Ortiz



"When we all come together, I find that we always thrive. That's why LEAP is so perfect, because they bring people together so that we can all thrive and enjoy Santa Barbara County."

- JORDAN KILLEBREW DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR LAURA CAPPS

Above: Connie Alexander presents award to Jordan Killebrew attended virtually





Top: Ernesto Paredes and Lori Goodman; Above: Chuck Flacks

JOY... joy is as necessary as bread to our sustenance and survival.

alegría

THANK YOU to all of our generous sponsors!

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John Lewis and Carrie Towbes

Advocate

Isla Vista Community Relations Committee

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Learn

Flacks Seed Consulting Healing Justice Santa Barbara Jim Jackson Councilmember James Kyriaco and Angie Swanson-Kyriaco

LEAP Reads

Katya Armistead Bryan Berkett Spencer Brandt Marybeth Carty Maria Chesley Elizabeth Gaynes Jane Gray homegrown graphics Kathy Odell York Shingle and Jordan Killebrew Kristen Sullivan Megan Turley







Clockwise, from top: LEAP awards virtual production team; LEAP family; Top: Connie Alexander; Above: Eileen Monahan

Learn • Engage • Advocate • Partner

Thank you to everyone who supported LEAP through another successful year.

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* of blessed memory

Integrity...

We build trust by engaging in our work

2022-2023 Community Partners

Boys and Girls Club, Goleta campus[♥] California Department of Education California Department of Social Services CALM Carpinteria Children's Project CASC City of Goleta[♥] CommUnify[♥] **Cottage Hospital** County of Santa Barbara[♥] Deckers Outdoor Corporation[♥] **Direct Relief** Equalitech[♥] **Family Service Agency** First 5 Santa Barbara County[♥] Foodbank Santa Barbara County[♥] Girls Inc, Santa Barbara[♡] Gateway Educational Services[♥] Goleta Education Foundation[♥] Goleta Union School District[♥] Goleta Presbyterian Church Health Linkages[♥] Healthy Lompoc Coalition

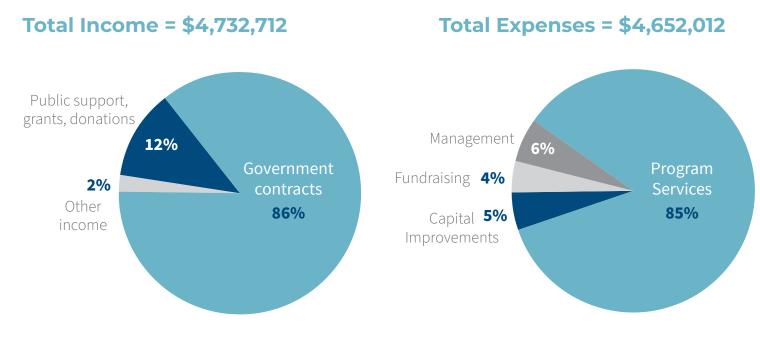
Hermanas Unidas Hospice of Santa Barbara **Immigrant Hope** Importa Isla Vista Community Services District[♥] Isla Vista Rec and Park[♥] Leading from Within Legal Aid[♥] **Mercury Press International** Old Town Coffee Oniracom **Operation School Bell** Pacific Pride PATH People's Self Help Housing **Planned Parenthood** Santa Barbara City College Santa Barbara Community Housing Corporation Santa Barbara County Education Office (Partners in Education)[♥] Santa Barbara County Public Health Santa Barbara Neighborhood Clinics[♥]

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♡ Participate in Goleta Valley Community Partnership

These lists reflect donors from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Please bring errors or omissions to the attention of Kara Shoemaker, Director of Development, KaraS@leapcentralcoast.org

Fiscal Year 2022-23



Audited financials and the current 990 can be found at LEAPcentralcoast.org after December 1, 2023

responsibly and with accountability.



LEAP: Learn · Engage · Advocate · Partner PO Box 1332 Goleta, CA 93116 (805) 845-0730 info@LEAPcentralcoast.org

We envision

a community where children are loved, valued, and respected and families are supported to reach their highest potential.



LEAPcentralcoast.org