

CentroNía Consolidated Report for FY2020-FY2021

July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021

Crecimiento | Aprendizaje | Liderazgo

Growing | Learning | Leading



A Letter from Myrna

To all our Families and Supporters,

CentroNía, since our founding in 1986, has worked to increase access to high-quality, affordable early childhood education and family support services in the greater D.C. metropolitan area. As the COVID-19 pandemic has made clear, such services are vital for the wellbeing and success of children and families in communities across the nation.

Our 35th anniversary year differed greatly from our pre-pandemic expectations, but was marked by renewed resolve. Despite the strain of operating under the pandemic, CentroNía kept its doors open and served a record number of children and families. We opened a new center for infants and toddlers at Stevens Early Learning in downtown D.C. and continued to work towards the opening of a center in Silver Spring, MD. While much has changed, our commitment to increase accessible child care services for those families who most need our services has been the one constant.

As the public health crisis evolved, we adapted. Teachers created virtual learning programs to keep children progressing towards kindergarten readiness, and our Out-of-School Time program supported children enrolled at DCPS schools by offering full-day services tailored to their individual class schedules. Through it all, the children and families we serve showed remarkable resilience, as did our staff, by finding new ways to connect through socially-distanced activities such as drive-by graduation ceremonies and take-home barbecues.

As the following report shows, CentroNía also dramatically ramped up community outreach and relief activities throughout 2020 and 2021 in order to respond to rising community needs.

None of this would have been possible without the committed donors, supporters, adult alumni, volunteers, and staff who allow CentroNía to provide children and families with the services they need to learn and grow.

We are grateful for your support as our community continues to face the ongoing social, health and economic impacts of the pandemic and we work to build a stronger future for our families.



Myrna Peralta,
President & CEO



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CentroNía at a Glance



CentroNía is a nationally recognized, award winning early learning center providing affordable high-quality early childhood education to low-income families in the greater D.C. metropolitan area. For 35 years, our mission has been to educate children and youth and strengthen families in a bilingual, multicultural environment.

We offer a continuum of high-quality Early Childhood Education and care from a mother's pregnancy until the child is five years old. This includes home-visiting programs as well as full-day infant, toddler and pre-kindergarten classes that lay the foundation for school readiness. Wraparound services include an out-of-school time program, Studio R.O.C.K.S. which offers academic enrichment and arts exploration for children from kindergarten through third grade.

Our Food & Wellness team aims to have children adopt lifelong eating habits that promote health and wellness, educates parents and

early childhood educators about the importance of developing healthy behaviors early in life, advocates for better food policies, and embeds its holistic model within communities. Our catering arm NiaCentral, a subsidiary of CentroNía, is a key component of our Food & Wellness work, allowing children at centers and schools across D.C. to enjoy the same fresh, tasty meals that have nourished children at CentroNía for over a decade.

At CentroNía, we know parents are children's first and most important teachers. Through a range of Family Services, CentroNía builds strong relationships with families to create positive parent/child relationships so both can learn and grow together. We offer workshops and activities on a wide range of topics including parenting skills, child development, employment readiness, adult education, and English language courses. We also partner with local agencies and organizations to connect parents to

community resources.

Finally, through the CentroNía Institute, we provide professional development and promote best practices in early childhood education and work to create a highly qualified workforce that advance the social, emotional, physical and cognitive growth of our youngest learners. Our Child Development Associate (CDA) training program was the first in the country to achieve Gold Standard certification from the Council of Professional Recognition.

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Demographic Snapshot for FY2020-FY2021

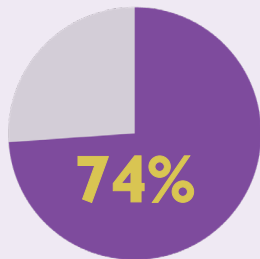
WHO DID WE SERVE?

73%

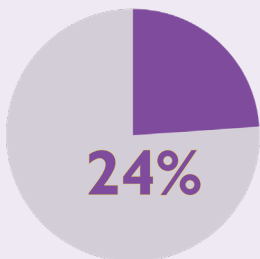
DUAL LANGUAGE LEARNERS SPEAKING A PRIMARY LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH.

THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGES WERE REPRESENTED:

SPANISH



AMHARIC



AFRICAN LANGUAGES



Represented languages under 1%: American Sign Language, Arabic, French, Chinese, Mandarin, and Russian.

“

EDUCATING CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND STRENGTHENING FAMILIES IN A BILINGUAL, MULTICULTURAL ENVIRONMENT.”

1,640

CHILDREN WERE SERVED IN 2019-2021

OVER 90%



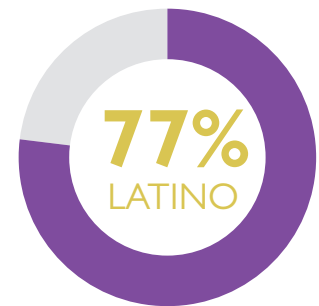
OF CHILDREN WERE FROM LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS



Defined as those earning under 200% of the federal poverty guideline.

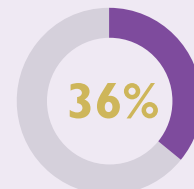
DEMOGRAPHICS

ETHNICITY

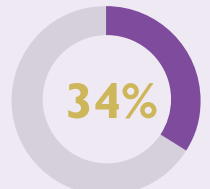


RACE

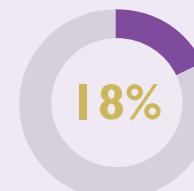
BI-RACIAL/ MULTI-RACIAL



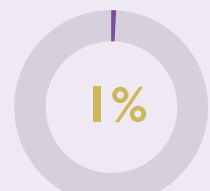
BLACK



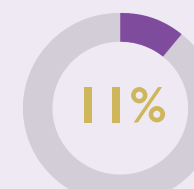
CAUCASIAN



NATIVE AMERICAN



OTHER



Our Impact

SERVICE DURING THE PANDEMIC



89% of CentroNía's graduating Maryland Pre-K students achieved school-readiness.

CentroNía largely serves children who face significant opportunity gaps that place them at risk of poor learning and developmental outcomes. We address persistent achievement gaps based on race, household income, learning disabilities, limited English proficiency, and access to early childhood education services which are already present when

young children enter kindergarten. Our model has allowed CentroNía children to outperform broader kindergarten-readiness rates, which were reported at 47% in Maryland's 2019-2020 Kindergarten Readiness Report.

MEASURING OUR IMPACT



348 educators received their Child Development Associate Degree



538,203 diapers distributed



30,000 lbs of fresh produce distributed



778+ family hygiene and PPE packets distributed



1,329 free on-site COVID-19 tests & vaccines



Total meals prepared for 16 DC centers and schools:

644,000 total meals prepared in 2021

365,000 meals prepared in 2020

\$1,000,000

in cash assistance distributed under DC CARES to 1,000 families ineligible to receive other relief.

CentroNía's Major Events & Milestones

FY2020-FY2021



October 2019

CentroNía was among the 15 center-based providers rated High Quality by Capital Quality, D.C.'s enhanced Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS).



March 2021

The first graduates from CentroNía's Amharic Child Development Associate (CDA) Training Program celebrated earning their credential. The greater Washington region has the country's largest concentration of residents of Ethiopian descent, and CentroNía's is the first Amharic-language CDA cohort in the country. Of the 29 inaugural candidates, 100% of candidates successfully obtained their CDA!

January 2020

CentroNía opened a new Infant and Toddler Center at Stevens Early Learning, DC Public School's (DCPS) first stand-alone early learning center opening in downtown DC.

"The energy at CentroNía is so positive... and this new CDA course in Amharic is a testament to their commitment to ALL children and families. This is about everybody thriving." - Sebawit



CentroNía's Major Events & Milestones

FY2020-FY2021



June 2021

Vice President Kamala Harris met with CentroNía children, staff and families and held a press conference at the center to announce increased supports for children and families under the American Rescue Plan.



June 2021

CentroNía hosted the Washington, D.C. kickoff of Little Free Library's Read in Color initiative, which aims to bring diverse books to book-sharing boxes around the world, providing readers of all ages with stories from historically marginalized voices.



Meet a CentroNía Family

Mynor & Iquer



(Pictured above) Mynor with his son, Iquer.

Mynor came to the United States, like many immigrants, with the hope of building a better future for his family—specifically for his only son, Iquer. As life would have it, Mynor soon saw his entire life change when he separated from his wife. Amidst this painful process, a doctor determined that Iquer was on the autism spectrum. With limited resources and unable to speak English, Mynor was terrified for his son and the future of his family. Fortunately, one day while waiting for the metro, a woman approached him noticing he was visibly upset and frustrated. In conversation, Mynor shared his concerns regarding Iquer's diagnosis and she recommended he visit CentroNía to learn about the resources in the community available to young children like Iquer. Upon visiting the center, Mynor applied for the waitlist and was eventually able to enroll Iquer into CentroNía's Pre-K program when a space became available.

When Mynor's son joined the program, CentroNía's priority was to develop an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for Iquer to ensure he received the

proper services he needed to thrive. As part of this plan, Iquer was visited by therapists throughout the week who assessed his behavior, physical functioning, and speech development. His team of therapists then worked with CentroNía teachers to tailor the learning environment to his needs. CentroNía partners with local D.C. agencies such as **Strong Start** and **Early Stages** in order to provide these specialized services to early learners and their families. As a result of this care, Iquer's behavior improved in just a few months. "My son's teachers are spectacular!" Mynor said. "There are no words to express my gratitude for the patience and love they have for Iquer."

Iquer showed incredible improvements. He worked on his speech development, became very social with other children in his class and took an interest in helping with routine tasks at home. Iquer dresses himself in the morning, washes dishes with his father after meals, and loves to paint.

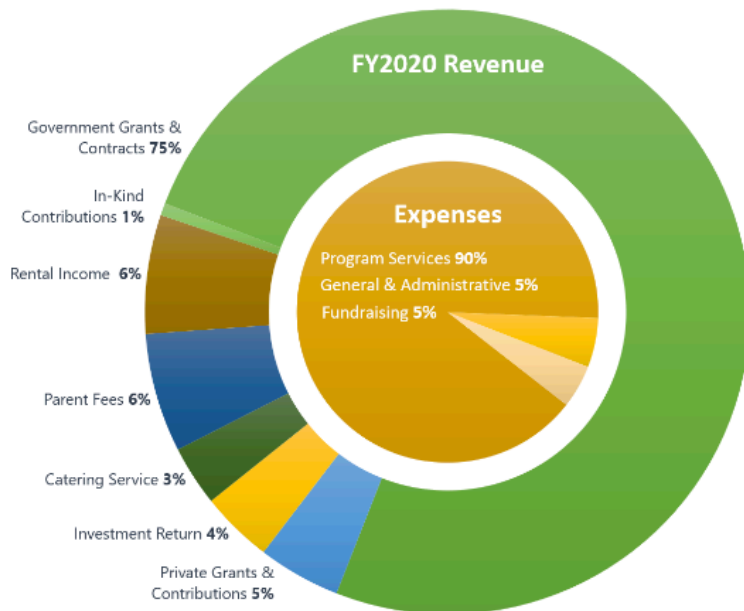
The support from CentroNía was a huge relief for Mynor, as it allowed him to go to work in peace, knowing Iquer was safe and cared for during the day. The program's extended hours allowed him the flexibility he needed, and outside the classroom, Mynor received diapers and hygiene products on a weekly basis from CentroNía's Family Center, thanks to a partnership with the Greater DC Diaper Bank. "Michael is such a generous, kind person," he said of CentroNía's Family Center Manager. "Whenever I see him, he always asks how I'm doing and if there's anything my son and I need. At first my son and I were alone in DC, but now we have found a family at CentroNía."

When the time came for Iquer to enter Kindergarten, CentroNía provided him and Mynor with transition support to ease the process. Even as they continue on their journey to learn and thrive together, they will always be a treasured part of the CentroNía family!

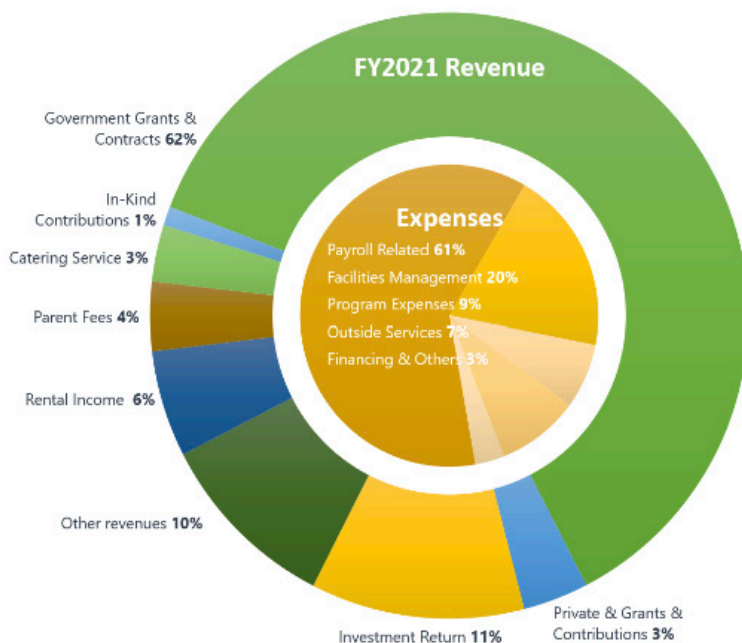
Financials

FY2020-FY2021

2020



2021



CentroNía has always invested in the quality of young children's education and their wellbeing.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to present challenges for the organization as it limits our centers from operating at full capacity, and at the same time the costs of labor and goods are rising.

This has led CentroNía to dip into its reserves. For the coming year, fundraising will be critical for CentroNía to continue to provide quality early childhood education and care long-term.

-Ignacio Bravo, CFO

For complete audited 990 Forms, please visit our Guidestar page:
<https://bit.ly/CentroNia>

Thank You to Our Donors and Supporters!

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Twitter: @CentroNia

LinkedIn: CentroNia

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