

NUESTRO
MUNDO INC.
2021-2022

ANNUAL REPORT



Nuestro Mundo Inc. advocates for social justice through quality dual-language immersion in the Madison Metropolitan School District and serves Nuestro Mundo Community School (NMCS) and NMCS students and families.

FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Mis queridos amigos--

I am incredibly humbled and honored to have served another year as President of Nuestro Mundo, Inc. (NMI). As I step into this role for the last time, I am excited about the opportunities for Nuestro Mundo Community School (NMCS) as we prepare next year to move into a new space to better support the communities we serve.

Across the country, young people – especially those whose skin color, ethnicity, gender, immigration status, disability, sexual orientation, has prevented them from realizing their full potential – are struggling to gain access to basic needs, and receive a quality education. NMCS, the Family School Alliance and NMI continue to work together to bridge these opportunity gaps and create a Welcoming School where all of our scholars can and are thriving. We collectively came together to use our talent and resources to support students and family to be their best.

I could list the many accomplishments and gifts that we all bestowed on this incredible community--the fun run alone raised over \$16,800!--but I invite you to read the report and reflect on all of the great work done by the NMCS staff, parents and volunteers. You all are doing the work; this is a team effort, and I am truly grateful to the community.

Nuestro Mundo Community School was envisioned as a resource for the hispanohablantes of Madison, and you should be proud to deliver on that mission amidst many challenges. As NMCS moves into a bigger space, let us all continue to keep our bonds strong because there is no limit on what this community can do!

Te agradezco mucho por todo,

Francesca Rodriguez
Board President

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON: ACADEMIC SUPPORT GRANTS, FOOD PANTRY, & EXPANSION

Each year, through Nuestro Mundo's Family & School Alliance, NMI supports teachers at Nuestro Mundo Community School with grant funds to enhance student learning. Thanks to your generosity, NMI was able to provide \$5,470 toward these grants for the 2021-22 school year. Here's a snapshot of how these funds were used by teachers.

- Diverse posters, organizers to display student work
- Flexible seating options, wiggle cushions
- Books for classroom library, graphic novels, journals
- Dance ribbons, metronomes, books, stickers, hand puppets
- Student water bottles
- Materials for a ceramics projects
- Hands on science projects, STEM supplies
- Supply organizers, Fidgets
- Classroom record player
- Tangrams, wooden geoboards
- Realia, Spanish Language Materials
- Beast Academy Materials, phonics games



FOOD PANTRY BACK IN-PERSON!

Nuestro Mundo's in-school food pantry was back in person this year. It was open on Tuesdays from 12-4 pm. Between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021 our food pantry provided 75,749 pounds of food, equivalent to 63,124 meals, through its partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank of Southern Wisconsin. We are grateful for our partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank and the generosity of our community members which has allowed us to provide and expand food access for members of our community. A special thanks also goes out to Kathryn A Beyer, David and Joy Schroder, and Eric Cimino Huesca for their food pantry contributions!

A PERMANENT HOME FOR NMCS

As you may know, local voters in the November 2020 election passed a referendum that allocated both capital and operating funds to the Madison Metropolitan School District. Some of the capital funds are being used to construct a new elementary school on Rimrock road, adjacent to Badger Rock Middle School, to house the school now known as Frank Allis. When that school community moves into the new building, Nuestro Mundo Community School will permanently relocate to the current Frank Allis building at 4201 Buckeye Road. Construction on this new building is on schedule to be completed August 1, 2023. Nuestro Mundo will begin its move into its new, permanent building in June 2023. Since the Frank Allis building is approximately twice the size of Nuestro Mundo's current building in Monona, there is opportunity for expanding programming. Through several community input sessions throughout 2021 hosted by Nuestro Mundo, Inc, the decision has been made to expand programming into preschool. This expansion is currently planned to begin in the 2024-25 school-year. Nuestro Mundo Inc. is grateful for all of the thoughtful and creative input provided by so many families, community members, and NMCS staff members. It truly is a community school!

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON: FSA ACTIVITIES

The FSA had another successful year of building school community, hosting events, fundraising, and appreciating our wonderful staff.

The FSA showed their appreciation of NMCS staff through thank you cards, decorations, flowers, and gift cards throughout the year, a hot cocoa bar in December, and celebrating teachers during Teacher Appreciation week in May. They took care of Nuestro Mundo's first vegetable garden over the summer so that it was ready to be used and explored by students in fall and started the school year off by recruiting room parents for classrooms with the goal of building community within each classroom and grade level.

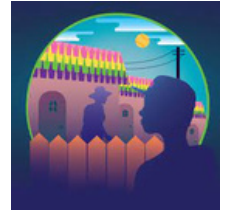
The NMCS Día de los Muertos celebration on October 23 was the FSA's first in-person community event since the pandemic started. It was a great way to reconnect and remember our loved ones who have passed. There was wonderful entertainment from Ballet Folklórico de Maria Diaz, and our community altar was powerful. The FSA hosted their second annual virtual Children's Equity Book Read and Family Chat in December. NMCS families gathered to read and discuss issues of equity and inclusion, race, and racism, and our school's efforts to build a more socially just world. The #BlackInSTEM event in February was another great event! NMCS families were treated to the amazing work of Lashay the Artist, who zoomed with art classes and created powerful and affirming poetry. The Dairyland Dancing Diamonds shared an amazing dance performance. The FSA also hosted a Día del Niño celebration in April. Families enjoyed an evening of music, food, entertainment, and carnival games. The year wrapped up with an End of Year Celebration in June complete with a dunk tank! Many thanks to all the parent and school volunteers who helped organize these events.

The Fun Run in fall was an amazing success! The FSA appreciated the opportunity to work with Culver's, Ian's, and Monona Bakery & Eatery to host three business profit-share fundraisers throughout the year. The success of these and other fundraisers helped the yearly fundraising goal to be reached by March, allowing the FSA to cover the cost of 200 yearbooks for students in addition to the yearly support that they provided for NMCS programs. Thank you for your generosity!

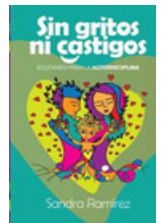


SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON: CTM FIELD TRIP & GUIDED BOOK CLUB

NMI was pleased to provide a \$1,000 subsidy to the Children's Theater of Madison last spring for a school field trip to MyArts' Starlight Theater. Third through fifth grade students at NMCS had the wonderful opportunity of seeing the bilingual theater production of Calabosas Street, a story of improbable friends, second chances, and the transformative power of art which featured NMCS's very own Anamaria Peralta!



NMI also had the privilege of sponsoring a parenting book club during quarters 2 and 3 for NMCS parents guided by bilingual author, school psychologist, and facilitator, Sandra Ramirez. Sandra Ramirez is an ESL teacher in Whitewater, WI and is also a school psychologist, author, and international speaker on child development. She has written in English and Spanish, and in this effort, Spanish language speakers, discussion, and readings were the focus as English language speakers and their needs are much more frequently served. Participants in the DLI Cumbre 2020 suggested exactly that, which is another reason this club came to be, and specifically in Spanish. In other words, linguistic and cultural equity was a central goal of this effort. Participants read one of Sandra's books on parenting, *Sin gritos ni castigos*, chapter by chapter, and then met on Zoom a half dozen times to discuss the concepts in each section. It was an enriching experience that also brought parents together during a time in which many were isolated and disconnected due to the Covid pandemic and protective measures such as social distancing were prevalent.



LANGUAGE CLASSES

For the seventh straight year, NMI partnered with the Literacy Network to offer free language classes for adults. Due to COVID-19, Community English classes were taught remotely this semester. Twenty three participants joined online group classes through Zoom. Classes were offered at beginner and intermediate levels to tailor curriculum to participants' needs and goals. All participants also benefited from free level appropriate textbooks and weekly homework assignments. They learned to introduce themselves, talk about health, and describe their everyday routine and also practiced cross-cultural exchange through conversation. 100% of participants surveyed reported that this class helped them to feel more confident communicating in English and reported that this class helped them to improve English speaking, listening, reading, or writing skills. Here's what some of the participants had to say about their experience:

"I learned to speak English more. This class helped me to communicate at the doctor's, talk with my children's teachers, and use English at the store. Of course I want to continue."

"I learned new vocabulary and pronunciation. Also about how to make doctor's appointments."

"Thank you for the conversations. It's very nice and the teacher is very nice. Thank you!"

"I learned new vocabulary. This class helped me communicate in English at work, at the grocery store, and with friends."

"The teacher is perfect. She likes to help students. This class helped me improve English at work. I use English at work all the time."

DLI ADVOCACY

NMI AWARDS GRANT TO EAST HIGH SCHOOL

Thanks to the generosity and fundraising efforts of many, NMI has designated funds to support creative and innovative projects that support Dual Language Immersion (DLI) in the wider Madison community. In the 2021-2022 school year, the \$500 DLI Advocacy Grant was awarded to East High School. Barbara Davis, Spanish Language Arts 9, 10, AP Hispanohablantes teacher, submitted the winning proposal, "Latinx Street Art". Davis shared that, "Positive messaging around the theme of identity is particularly important this year as students return to school from virtual learning, where they had no outlet for creative expression...This is a way to honor their creative work, and create positive messaging in the World Language wing for ALL students to enjoy...The street art project sends a message that honors student expression in a creative and positive light." Students from Spanish Language Arts 10 and Spanish IV classes created their own street art based on their studies of street art in Latin America. Designs were voted on by peers, and the winning designs were replicated on 4'x8' panels that will be mounted on the walls of the World Language wing of East High. Grant funds were used to purchase boards and paint supplies, and Farm & Fleet graciously donated paint for the murals. The winning designs were titled, "Desapareciendo," "Amor," "Un pueblo, todas las voces," "Trata la naturaleza con amor," and "El arte cura."



DLI SUMMIT

On May 14, NMI hosted an in person DLI Summit with a focus on mental health and managing stress. The Summit was facilitated in Spanish with English translation offered by Anamaria Peralta, Nuestro Mundo's Bilingual Resource Specialist.

Parents, teachers, and community members practiced relaxation techniques with Sandra Rivera, social worker of Nuestro Mundo, learned about resources and strategies to address stress and mental health during a presentation with Daniela Haught, MMSD mental health coordinator and psychologist at Nuestro Mundo, Kristi Nelson, celebrated along with graduating seniors during the Luz Celedon Scholarship award ceremony, and wrapped up the morning with food, conversation, and raffles.

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON: DLI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

NMI awarded scholarships to four impressive DLI grads from the class of 2022. Jocelyn Pedriana, Yasmine Garcia Ramirez, Mariel Duran Martinez, and Alejandro Torres Viveros demonstrated strong academic achievement and wrote insightful essays about their experiences as bilingual and bicultural individuals. All four students are graduates of Nuestro Mundo Community School and reflected on the ways that bilingual education strengthened their sense of self and connection to family and community.

Jocelyn is a strong advocate for DLI and prioritized taking nearly all the courses offered at La Follette. Jocelyn is a natural leader who participated in the Latino Student Group OLA, was active in the Escalera program through Centro Hispano, and was a member of National Honors Society. She formed part of La Follette's DLI Student Advisory Committee and graduated with the Seal of Biliteracy. She will be taking her passions and strengths to UW Madison next year where she hopes to study Political Science and Chicano Studies.

Yasmine is an ambitious and capable student that sought out many opportunities to achieve her goals during her highschool career. She nurtured her leadership skills through her involvement in Escalera, a college and career readiness program for Latinx youth to develop their academic and leadership skills and explore their culture and personal identity and participation in [Re]Generación, a community-based program for Latinx youth to acknowledge Latinx issues and undertake action research. She plans on studying Criminal Justice at UW Milwaukee.

Mariel is very involved with her community and was an active member of Escalera, ReGeneracion and many other organizations throughout her high school career. For her Senior year, she took early college classes through the STEM Academy in Madison College and was an exceptional student. She plans on studying Early Education through Madison College's Liberal Arts Transfer Program.

Alejandro is a dedicated and driven student who prioritized DLI coursework during his high school career. He has strong leadership skills and a deep commitment to achieving his goals. He actively participated in the Information Technology and Communications Pathway and took advanced coursework in computer sciences in preparation for his future studies. He graduated with the Seal of Biliteracy and will be studying Computer Science at UW Whitewater.

NMI is proud to support these young scholars, and we wish them all the best as they pursue their goals.



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS!

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BETWEEN JULY 1, 2021 - JULY 30, 2022

While NMI is grateful for support in all forms, including time and donated goods, this listing reflects only direct financial support for Nuestro Mundo Inc.

Please let us know of any inadvertent errors, misspellings, or omissions.

\$1,000 and up

The Dotzour Family
David & Joy Shroder
Jacob Seeber

\$500 - \$999

Katy Kaufman
Derek Peterson
The Rodriguez - Hancock Family
Bich Tran-Steichen

\$250 - \$499

Michelle DeLeon
C.H. Robinson*

\$100 - \$249

Anonymous (2)
Luz Arroyo
Piper Bacskai
Tara Beck
Beth Esser
Richard and June Fries
Linda & Jerry Hancock
Sharon Holthaus
Barb & Jeff Homar
Vera C Lara-Hooge
Libby Meister
Ginny Powers
Catalent*
Katharine Stubbendick
Kimber Wilkerson
Eric Zitske

\$50 - \$99

Anonymous (2)
Camfield/Bauhs Family
Gary Bents
McKinney de Royston Family
Mel Freitag
Dan and Ann Shuda
Rebecca Smith

Up to \$49

Anonymous (3)
Liz Dannenbaum
K.E.
Carol Kraemer
Elizabeth Lara
Joe Leung
Shirley Scriver
Catherine Williams

*Thank
You*

*Represents an employer matching gift

THANK YOU TO OUR WORKPLACE DONORS!

Nuestro Mundo Inc. would also like to recognize and thank donors who support us through Community Shares of Wisconsin and other workplace giving programs. NMI is a member agency of Community Shares of Wisconsin, and many of these supporters donate to CSW but direct their giving to benefit NMI.

Jodi Auron
Martin Bailkey
Michael A. Basford
Danessa Bishop
Jenny M. Binzley
Cynthia M. Blankenship
Beau Brummund
Jeff Carter
Evelyn Cumbajin

Denise Danczyk
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William Parsons
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Michael Quist
Hollis Rudiger
Terry Ruzicka
Daniel Jon Shapiro
Rebecca L. Smith
UW Credit Union*

*Represents an employer matching gift

2021-2022 BUDGET REPORT

Revenues

*Direct individual donations to NMI	\$8,725 (25%)
Community Shares of Wisconsin	\$10,854 (33%)
NMCS fundraising	\$10,413 (31%)
The Big Share	\$2,205 (7%)
NMCS sales of spirit wear	\$824 (2%)
Business contributions to NMI	\$600 (2%)
Other / interest income	\$111 (<1%)
Total revenue	\$33,282

Expenses

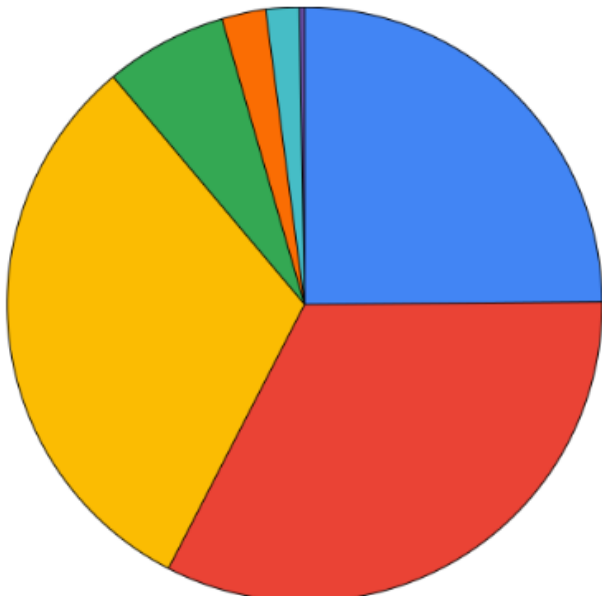
Social justice #	\$5,927 (24%)
Academic support grants	\$5,470 (23%)
Administrative	\$4,347 (18%)
Scholarships	\$2,500 (10%)
DLI grant/enhancements	\$1,948 (8%)
NMCS Programs	\$4,104 (17%)
Other program expenses	\$80 (<1%)
Total expense	\$24,376

includes expenses for food pantry and language classes

These figures are reflected in our audited financial statements. Our full audit is available to the public and can be found at www.nuestromundoinc.org.

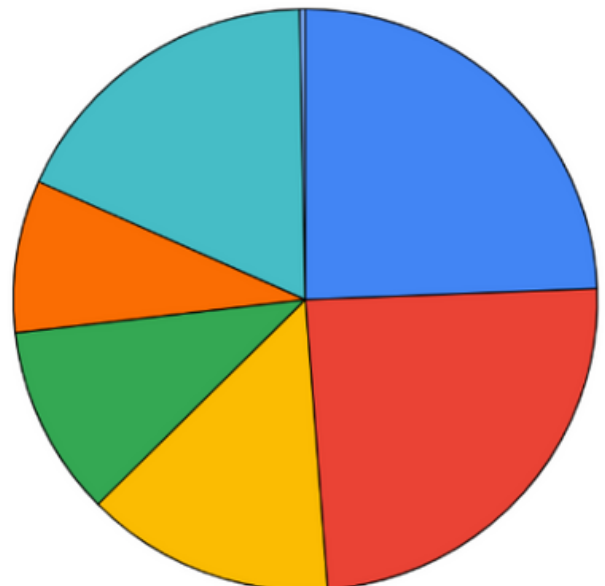
Revenues

- Direct Individual Donations to NMI 25%
- Community Shares of Wisconsin 33%
- NMCS Fundraising 31%
- The Big Share 7%
- NMCS sales of spirit wear 2%
- Business contributions to NMI 2%
- Other/Interest income <1%



Expenses

- Social Justice 24%
- Academic Support Grants 23%
- Administrative 18%
- Scholarships 10%
- DLI grant/enhancements 8%
- NMCS programs 17%
- Other program expenses <1%



2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Francesca Rodriquez, *President*

Luz del Carmen Arroyo Calderón, *Vice President*

Becky Smith, *Secretary*

Katy Kaufman, *Treasurer*

Jerrod Buckner

Mikaela Hagen

Caroline Hesse

Nathan Olson

Jeremy Pieper

Aaron Seligmann

Allison Shuda

Claudia Triana

Board members typically serve three-year terms, and the commitment includes monthly board meetings. If you're interested in board service, email info@nuestromundoinc.org for more information.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Websites:

Nuestro Mundo Inc.: nuestromundoinc.org

Nuestro Mundo Community School: nmcs.madison.k12.wi.us

Facebook:

Nuestro Mundo Inc. [Page](#)

Nuestro Mundo Community School [Page](#)

Nuestro Mundo Community School [Group](#)

P.O. Box 6494, Madison WI 53716, info@nuestromundoinc.org

JOIN US!

We welcome your greater involvement in the Nuestro Mundo community. Individuals can volunteer as mentors in the classroom, help with events and after-school clubs, or serve on NMI's board of directors. Families can attend community programs. Businesses can sponsor an event or fund key programs.

Nuestro Mundo Inc. is a volunteer-run organization. If you would like to help enrich the lives of children in our community, please reach out to inquire about opportunities to help us manage our website and social media presence, write grant proposals, plan events and programs, and more. We are eager to grow our base of volunteers! Interested? Email us at info@nuestromundoinc.org!

The Family & School Alliance acts as Nuestro Mundo's PTO and works to build community, celebrate staff, generate financial support, and provide opportunities for families to volunteer and support the work of our school. Interested? Email alianza@nuestromundoinc.org for more information.

Some photography in this publication is courtesy of Althea Dotzour Photography