



2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Letter from our Executive Director



As I reflect on the past few years at Casa Esperanza, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for what we have accomplished together. The 2022-2023 fiscal year has been a period of re-growth, resilience, and transformation for our organization. It is with great pleasure that I share with you the progress we have made in our mission to provide a "Home Away From Home" for New Mexico families facing some of life's most challenging moments.

Over the last few years, we have supported 2630 families, providing them with not just shelter but also the emotional support and care they need during serious medical treatments. Casa Esperanza has continued to be a beacon of hope, offering a safe,

nurturing environment where families can focus on healing and recovery without the added stress of finding affordable lodging. The impact of your support can be seen in the smiles of the families, the sighs of relief from the parents, and the sense of community that each guest experiences during their stay.

We continue to have many support services that enhancing the quality of care we provide. We have re-launched our traditional wellness program, partnering with First Nations Community Health; Michele Wooton continues with our family support sessions, supporting the mental and emotional well-being of our residents; our dinner's program provided by community volunteers; and our transportation assistance program, have been met with overwhelming positive feedback. We believe that caring for the whole person—mind, body, and spirit—is essential to the healing process, and we are committed to continuing these efforts in the years to come.

Our successes this year would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication of our staff, volunteers, and donors. You have all played a vital role in ensuring that Casa Esperanza remains a place of comfort and hope for those in need. To our volunteers, your selfless giving of time and energy has touched the lives of so many. To our donors, your generosity has allowed us to keep our doors open to families regardless of their financial situation. And to our staff, your compassion and professionalism have created an environment where our guests can feel truly cared for.

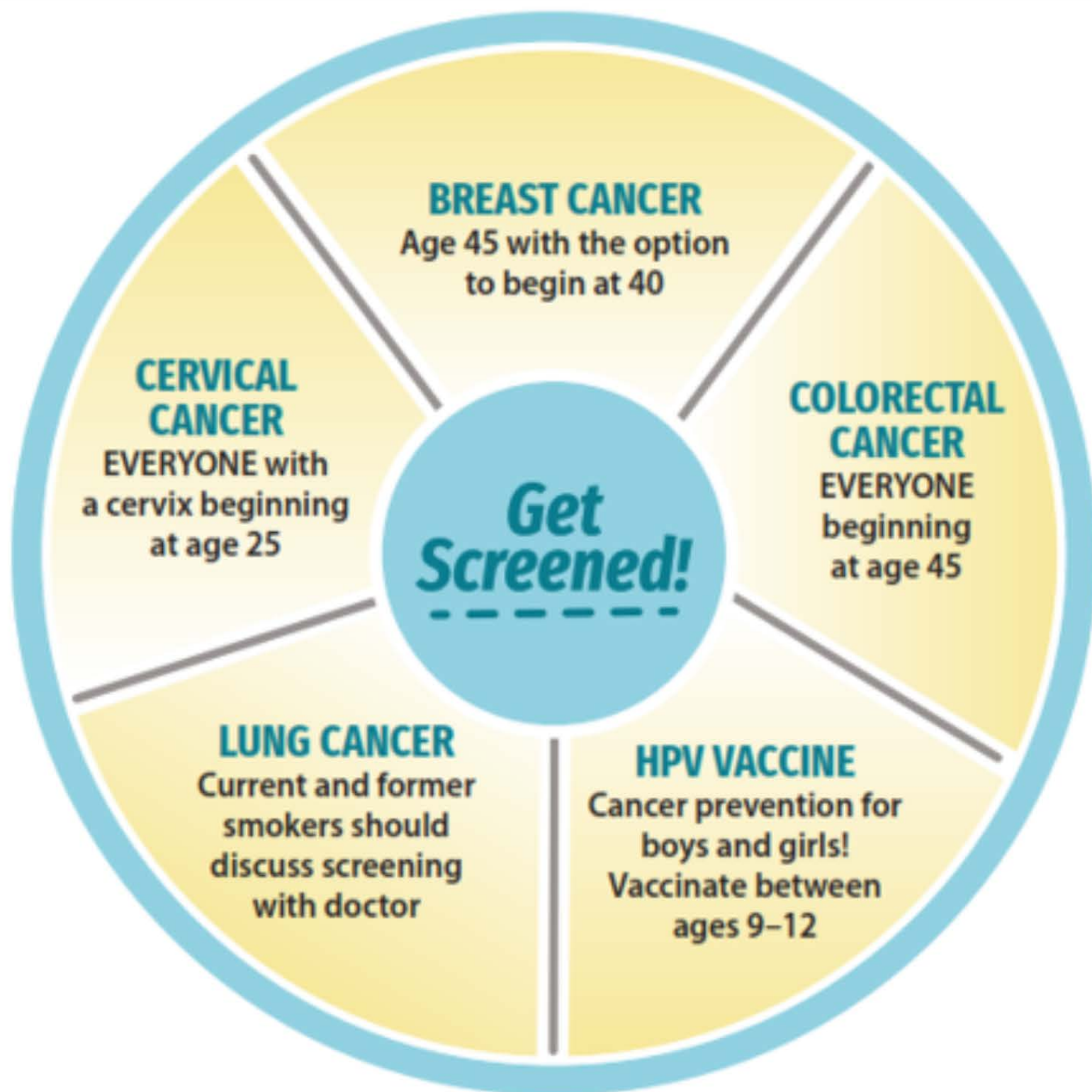
Looking ahead, we are excited about the future of Casa Esperanza. We have plans to further expand our reach, strengthen our partnerships with local healthcare providers, and continue to innovate in the ways we support our residents. We are also committed to deepening our engagement with the community, as we believe that a strong, supportive community is the foundation of everything we do.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you who have supported Casa Esperanza over the past few years. Your belief in our mission fuels our work, and together, we are making a tangible difference in the lives of families facing a serious medical crises. As we move forward, I am confident that with your unwavering support, Casa Esperanza will continue to be a place of hope, healing and home for all who walk through our doors.

Thank you for being part of our journey.

Chrisann Gray

Early Cancer Detection Can Save Your Life or Someone You Love



Be Active In Your Healthcare – Get Screened!

Letter from our Board President

Casa Esperanza has served as a home away from home for those navigating the tumultuous waters of medical treatment during a very vulnerable time in their lives. For 32 years, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to providing not just shelter, but a sanctuary where individuals and families can navigate their healing and ongoing follow up with whole person support including emotional and physical safety. Our mission, rooted in compassion, guides every decision we make and every action we take. It is a mission that calls upon us to extend a hand to those in their greatest time of need, to offer respite, and to advocate for the ongoing screening and equity in access to care.



However, we cannot fulfill this mission alone. It is only through the generous support of individuals like you, our corporate sponsors, foundations and grants that we are able to continue our vital work. Your donations enable us to provide a safe haven for those seeking refuge temporarily in Albuquerque for their health care needs, to offer connection to support services partnering with government and health care systems to advocate for ongoing improvements in access to quality and equitable care.

In the face of unprecedented challenges, Casa Esperanza remains unwavering in our commitment to serving our community. But as the need for our services continues to grow, so too does our need for support.

In 2024 our Board of Directors engaged a consulting firm to support us in defining a strategic plan that will help us not only meet today's demand for support but help lead us into the future delivering on our growing mission and expanding our areas of support. In the short 4 years I've served on the board I've witnessed the full upgrade and remodel of our facilities and this is a reflection of the amazing individual and corporate sponsors that have invested in our work and entrusted us with their treasures, who believe in the important work we do. I'm so proud to serve with a diverse and engaged board of directors that together bring their networks to help connect us out in the community and our state keep this resource available for future needs. Our amazing staff led by our incredible Executive Director, Chrisann Gray for the last 13 years, tirelessly show up every day to make a difference in the lives of what now amounts to thousands of families. Casa Esperanza will be here for every family that needs our services, and will continue to advocate for improved access to screening and whole person support during healthcare treatment and ongoing follow up.

Together, we can build a future where every individual and family seeking a home away from home in Albuquerque and beyond has the support Casa Esperanza provides, so they can focus on their better health and wellness.

Lore's Drawings

Lore stayed at Casa Esperanza as a caretaker for a close friend for over a month. In that time Lore became close with several families at Casa, and many of the staff. Lore donated two pieces of artwork she created after her own battle with cancer, and provided her thoughts on both pieces, as well as her experience staying at Casa Esperanza.



“What’s Beyond”

“This is the feeling when a doctor tells you you have cancer or other life threatening illness. You find yourself looking into a dark place of unknowns. I myself survived cancer 35 years ago. I know the sinking feeling it brings. Going into a dark place unknown.”

“What’s to Come”

“As most people approaching the end of treatments, though feeling sick and weak, so look forward to leaving the darkness and rejoining life lived in the light. With sadness we left Casa Esperanza and our friends. With light hearts we rejoin our lives. However we will always be changed by what we went through, and the people who helped us through it all.”



On Casa Esperanza

“Casa Esperanza is that safe place you go to as you go through the days, weeks, months of treatments. I thank God that my friend had this place to stay. I have been through treatments with other family members and have never seen a kinder, more welcome place. I have never encountered staff as caring and loving, they welcomed each person with open and loving arms.”

Casa Cuentos: Nisa's Story

Nisa Brown's family has a unique connection to Casa Esperanza. As you enter the dining room at Casa you will see a framed portrait of Nisa's sister, Vanessa, on the wall to your right. Vanessa battled cancer in 1984 and would often talk about seeing lots of kids her age from around the state sleeping in their cars as they also underwent treatment at UNMH. She couldn't believe how many people she saw without a place to stay while seeking treatment in Albuquerque. Unfortunately Vanessa passed away in 1986, five days after her 19th birthday, but her friends were ready to begin making Vanessa's dream a reality.



The mother of a close friend of Vanessa's approached the board of realtors and was relentless in her pursuit of realizing Vanessa's dream. 6 years later Casa Esperanza was ready to open our doors and Nisa and her family have been involved since the groundbreaking.

Nisa has been a donor for over 15 years and would often come cook dinners with her coworkers while she worked at Sandia Labs. She was also active in promoting Casa Esperanza at Sandia Labs when there were United Way campaigns, and would often help organize volunteer groups to come volunteer at Casa.

Nisa and her husband both retired from Sandia labs in the past few years, and have been enjoying the retired life. Nisa loves hiking and scrapbooking in her free time, and both enjoy spending time travelling to southern Colorado. Nisa has had to take a step back from being as active as she likes at Casa Esperanza, but hopes soon she can begin volunteering again with her whole family. "Casa Esperanza is the place I want to spend my time and money, it is my place!"

Lindsay's Story

Lindsay Nelson is the friendliest most welcoming human that anyone will find staying at Casa Esperanza. With a smile and a helping hand, the families can always rely on her for help or an ear to lend.

Although her spirit is always up and her smile is endless, Lindsay has recently fallen on hard times. Officially, Lindsay's diagnosis was Stage 3 Breast Cancer that spread into her lymph nodes. Her doctors recommended an aggressive treatment of chemotherapy, radiation and surgery. During that time, Lindsay lost her strength, which led her to lose her 25-year career as a Chef. A career she had worked diligently to learn.



Lindsay finished her last chemotherapy treatment on March 27, 2024. Two days later, the person she was staying with told her she had to leave. Because of previous circumstances and the loss of her job, Lindsay was now homeless and still dealing with the effects of her treatment. Lindsay's mother offered for her to come to Arizona to stay with her, but her ongoing treatment meant she had to stay in New Mexico.

Since April, Lindsay has stayed at Casa Esperanza and has been a beacon of hope to the families and staff, even planning a birthday party for one of her fellow residents. She has expressed her excitement at the prospect of starting a whole new career when she finishes treatment. In all the trials she had gone through in the past year she mentioned, "I could have lost hope, but because I ended up here, I didn't. My hope was reinforced."

Casa Esperanza Inc.

Fiscal Yr. Ending June 30, 2022

<u>Revenues</u>	
Grants	232,554
Program Income	185,284
Contributions & Support	213,370
Foundation Support	83,285
Event Income	32,650
Interest income	21
Other revenue	86,830
In-Kind Income	<u>54,435</u>
Total Support and Revenue	\$888,429
<u>Expenses</u>	
Program	548,002
General & Administrative	167,055
Fundraising	18,503
Total Expenses before Depr	<u>733,560</u>
Change in Net Assets before Depr	<u>\$154,869</u>
Depreciation Expense	112,325
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$42,544

Casa Esperanza Endowment Foundation

Fiscal Yr. Ending June 30, 2022

<u>Revenues</u>	
Car Donation Program (net of cost of sales)	299,993
Event Income	44,857
Contributions & Support	864
Investment Return	59,998
In-Kind Income	0
Other Income	55,635
Total Revenue	<u>\$461,347</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	
Program (Support to Casa Esperanza Inc.)	83,285
General & Administrative	178,571
Fundraising	390,420
Depreciation Expense	0
Total Expense	<u>\$652,276</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	<u>-\$190,929</u>

Casa Esperanza Inc.

Fiscal Yr. Ending June 30, 2023

Revenues

Grants	312,372
Program Income	224,239
Contributions & Support	315,667
Foundation Support	70,100
Event Income	13,233
Interest income	258
Other revenue	87,733
In-Kind Income	<u>33,653</u>
Total Support and Revenue	<u>\$1,057,255</u>

Expenses

Program	590,645
General & Administrative	188,523
Fundraising	90,172
Total Expenses before Depr	<u>869,340</u>
Change in Net Assets before Depr	<u>\$187,915</u>

Depreciation Expense	<u>120,546</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	<u>\$67,369</u>

Casa Esperanza Endowment Foundation

Fiscal Yr. Ending June 30, 2023

Revenues

Car Donation Program (net of cost of sales)	245,345
Event Income	0
Contributions & Support	23,928
Investment Return	52,484
In-Kind Income	0
Other Income	74,218
Total Revenue	<u>\$395,975</u>

Expenses

Program (Support to Casa Esperanza Inc.)	116,855
General & Administrative	154,090
Fundraising	219,747
Depreciation Expense	0
Total Expense	<u>\$490,692</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	<u>-\$94,717</u>

Casa Esperanza Staff



Casa Esperanza Staff

Chrisann Gray - Executive Director

Desiree Mcbrayer - Finance Director

Leslie Sullivan - Program Manager

Breanna Adams - Bookkeeper

Jacob Romero - Development Supervisor

Mike Gallegos - Facilities Coordinator

Veronica Enriquez - Family Care Team Supervisor

Esmeralda Vasquez - Family Care Team Member

Carolina Zavala - Family Care Team Member

Casa Esperanza Board of Directors

Gabriel Castro - President

Essence Hand - Vice President

Paula Casey - Secretary

Bryan Runyan - Treasurer

Sharon Austin - Member at Large

Amy Blasing - Board Member

Anneliese Elrod - Board Member

Rhiannon Gallegos - Board Memeber



Donate your vehicle @casa**NM**.org

Tired of that old car sitting in your yard?? Have an old car or truck you're not using?? Donate it to Casa Esperanza's Give Hope a Ride! All proceeds benefit Casa Esperanza families. Give us a call at (505) 246-2722 or visit casaNM.org to learn about donating your vehicle today!