

Spring Newsletter 2022

Upcoming Events:

- **Casitas Open House & Woman of the Year Ceremony**
April 29th 4:30pm - 7:30pm [Free tickets here](#)
- **Mayday March**
May 1st at Noon at Roosevelt Park, 900 E Santa Clara St.
- **Scholarship Mass**
June 17th at 5pm at St. Francis of Assisi Parish
- **10th Anniversary Celebration**
September 8th at 5 pm at Mexican Heritage Plaza

Amigos' Executive Director Named Woman of the Year for Senate District 15

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO

CASITAS DE ESPERANZA'S OPEN HOUSE



AND



Woman OF THE YEAR
PROGRAM AND RECOGNITION

APRIL 29, 2022 | 4:30-7:30 P.M.
PROGRAM AT 5:30PM
801 N. FIRST ST. SAN JOSE, CA 95110

Amigos is honored to share the news that our Founding Executive Director, Maritza Maldonado, has been named 2022 Woman of the Year by Senate District 15. Senator Dave Cortese said "Maritza is a transformative leader whose work building and transforming communities in East San Jose will have a lasting impact for generations to come." As staff, we are inspired by Maritza everyday and proud to work alongside her and the strong community of East San Jose. [Read more >>](#)



Happy 10 Year Anniversary to Amigos!

Whether you have been part of the Amigos' Family since its start in 2012 or have just learned about us recently, we are grateful for your support and partnership. As we celebrate 10 years of serving the Mayfair and East San Jose community, we remain focused on working hand in hand with the community to build a city where families and children are thriving and achieving their dreams

2022 is a monumental year for Amigos, and we invite you to join us in celebrating this milestone and building a strong future for the families and children of East San Jose. We are planning a **10 year Anniversary Event on September 8, 2022** to celebrate a "Decade of Dedication" to the community of East San Jose. Save the Date and stay tuned for more details.

Exciting New Developments...

Casitas Community Garden: Spring has sprung, and our Casitas Kids are busy working in their community garden on-site. They have learned about the importance of healthy eating and the science of gardening and have already harvested spinach, broccoli, kale, and cauliflower. They have also recently planted tomatoes, cucumbers, and chilies, so stay tuned!

Family Housing Hotel: Amigos expanded its services to include housing at Baymont Inn. Amigos will be able to provide stability for an additional 50 families, including 9 refugee families from Colombia, as we work together to move each family into permanent housing.

Scholarships and Mentors: We received 35 applications from first-generation college students from East San Jose. We look forward to reviewing their applications, matching them with mentors, and celebrating at a Scholarship Mass on June 17th. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, contact Vanessa Sandez at vsandez@amigosdeguadalupe.org to get more information.



Making a Difference in our Community

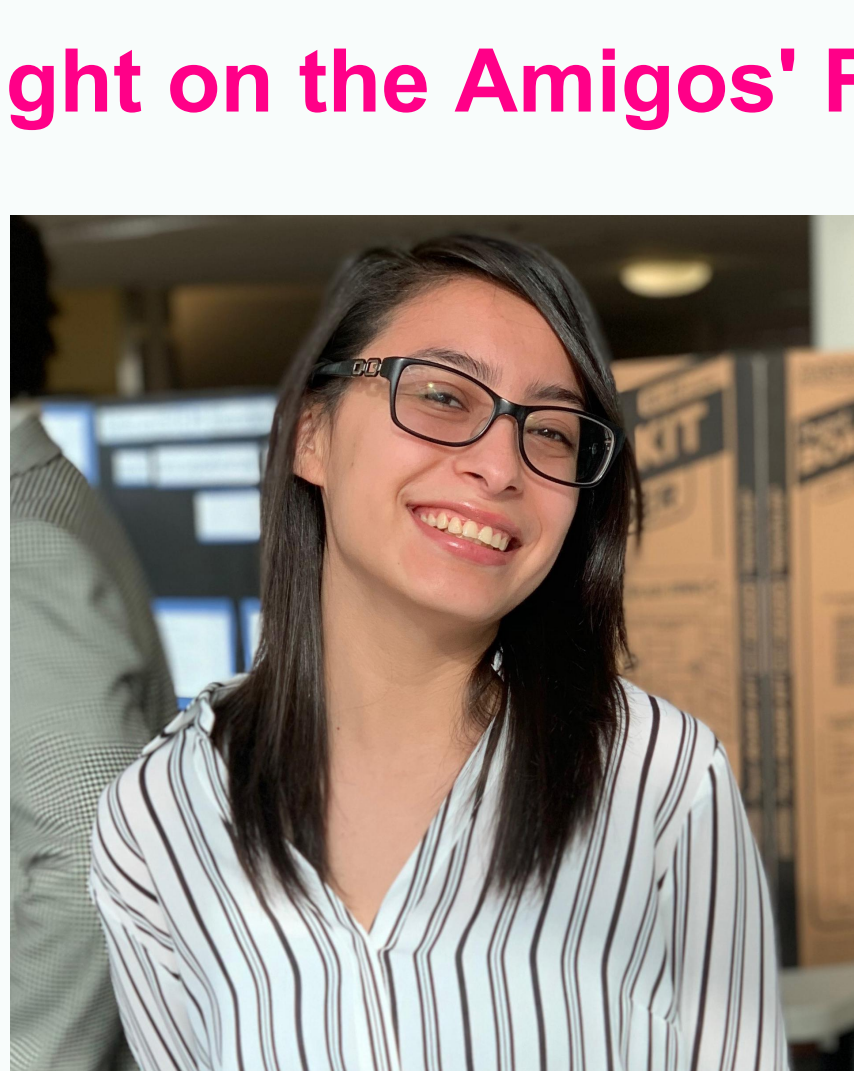
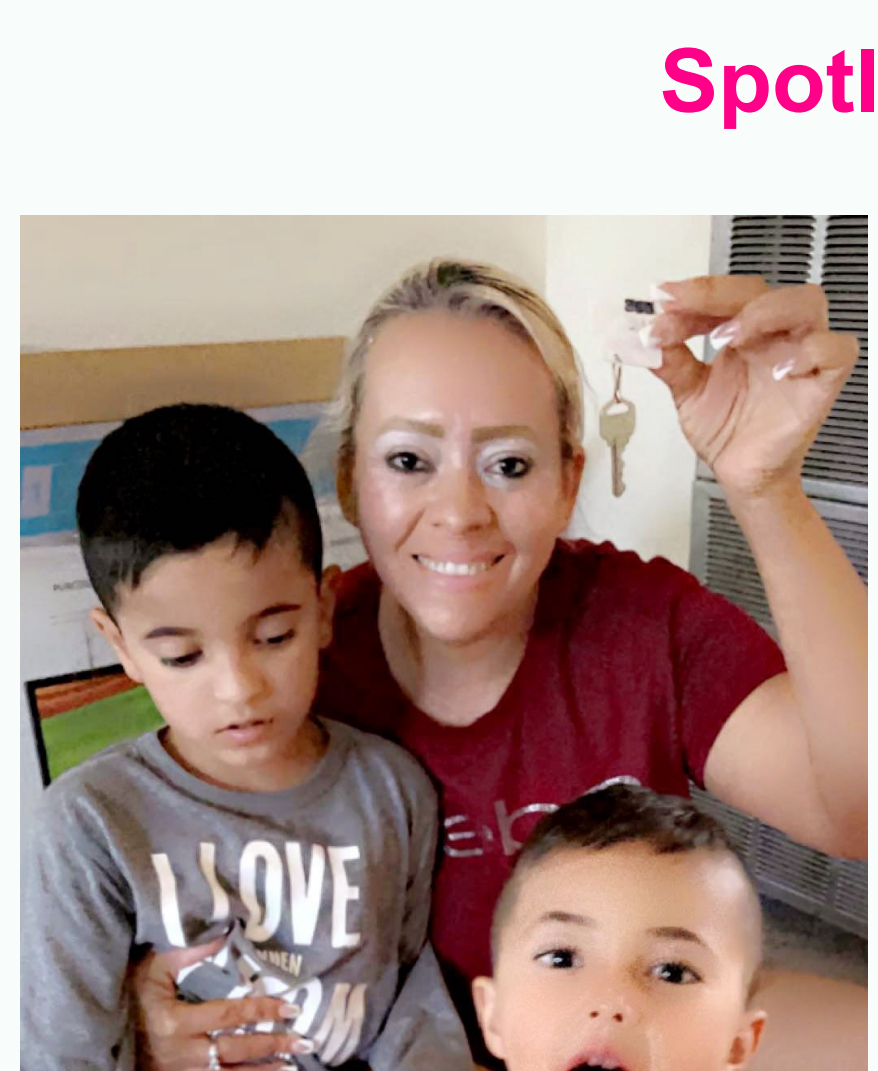
Rental Assistance: Amigos has assisted over 250 community members with rental assistance in the last 3 months, protecting many families from losing their homes.

Safe Park: Safe Park has welcomed 52 new guests into their program since Jan 2022. One of the Safe Park guests, Melissa, has been working with Amigos for 8 months and had been housing for over 5 years. After submitting multiple housing applications, Melissa finally received the great news that she had been approved for an apartment and moved into her own home on April 11th!

Rapid Response Network: RRR held its 2nd Immigration Legal and Rental Assistance Clinic, serving 175 families in a single day! People received immigration legal advice as well as support with rental assistance applications.



Spotlight on the Amigos' Family



Community Member

Aristina and her 2 young sons, one of whom has epilepsy and autism, have been part of the Amigos' Family since Sept 2021, when they came to live at the Quality Inn, our Family Housing Hotel. From the first day in the Amigos' program, Aristina started taking steps to get income and find housing and though it was overwhelming at times, she always had a smile on her face for her children. With the help of Amigos' staff, Aristina completed a 40 page rental application and moved into her own apartment on April 15th. Welcome home, Aristina!

Staff Member

Selena Ramirez is the Lead Education Coordinator for Amigos, and she runs the Amigos' Afterschool program, the Summer program, and the Scholarship and Mentorship program! Selena was also an Amigos' Scholarship student herself, grew up in San Jose, majored in Child Development and minored in Spanish and Elementary Education at Whittier College. Selena's favorite part of working with the students is their brilliance and creativity; it gives her hope for the future of this community.

Supporter

It was a welcome surprise when the Zoom Social Impact Team contacted us and expressed interest in supporting our work. We are thrilled to welcome Zoom into the Amigos' Donor Family, and we look forward to building a strong partnership. Zoom supports "organizations that demonstrate enormous perseverance, strength, creativity, and compassion as they work to serve their communities," and Amigos is honored to be among this group. Read more in the [Zoom Social Impact Report](#)

Community Organizing Corner

The Fight to Expand Voting Rights to All San Jose Residents

As part of the Voz, Derecho y Voto (Voice, Rights, and Vote) Campaign, Amigos is currently organizing to expand voting rights to all residents of San Jose, regardless of immigration status, to vote in city elections.

Please consider [signing the petition](#) to support expanding voting rights to all San Jose residents so that we can all have a voice in city elections. If you would like to get involved, please contact Misrayn Mendoza at mmendozaarivera@amigosdeguadalupe.org



Thank you for your support and partnership!



Support Amigos' Work

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

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