

# Annual Services Report 2021

Intro



# The TransLatin@ Coalition, a trans-led organization based in Los Angeles organizing and advocating for trans lives.



Members of the TransLatin@ Coalition (TLC) are transgender Latina leaders who come together from all across the country, donating their time to organize and advocate for the issues and needs of Trans Latin@ community living in the United States.

3

#### Contents

### Index

	A Message from Our CEO	4
	What We Stand For	5
	GARRAS 2021	6
2	Services Intro	7
	Drop-in Center	8
	Violence Prevention Program	10
	Keeping Our People Safe	11
	Legal Services	12
	HIV Prevention	13
	Our Policy Work	14
	Areas of Growth & What's Next	18
	T.R.U.E. Program WEHO The T.R.U.E. Story of Success	19 20
	The HOPE House Keeping HOPE Alive	21 22
	Re-Entry Services A New Beginning	23 24
	Economic & Workforce Development	25

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Hello Dear and Beautiful Siblings,

I hope that this note finds you loved, in good health and in good spirits. As you know, 2021 has been hard for all of our peoples. 2021 was a record year of murders for our community with the murders of many of our Trans, Gender Nonconforming and Intersex (TGI) siblings, primarily our trans sisters. One thing that we have learned despite the atrocities that we continue to face, is that our people are strong, resilient and we continue to resist oppressive tactics from institutions and individuals who continue to try to erase our existence. This year we expanded our offices and our services, we continued to remain open and continued to offer lifesaving services to our peoples throughout these past two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, as the country continues to adapt to the new reality, with the support of many of our partners, we remain at the forefront providing services and support to our peoples. We doubled the space in Los Angeles where we provide assistance and services to our community to ensure our TGI siblings continue to receive the services and resources they need.

I am humbly honored to have the opportunity to present The TransLatin@ Coalition's second Annual Report. The 2021 Annual Services Report culminates a year of struggle, resistance, wins and loss, but certainly a lot of hope for our peoples. In this report, you will find some of the milestones we have taken to push trans-led organizations to have a voice and advance the leadership of trans people locally, nationally, and internationally. From our inception in 2009, we have grown tremendously and simultaneously opened the doors for other trans-led organizations like Alianza TransLatinx in Orange County, Projecto TransLatina in San Diego, Trans Fronteras San Diego to have a voice and increase the visibility of our collective power as TGI people.

In 2021 we ensured the allocation of 13 million dollars in health services to our community across California in collaboration with the CA TGI Policy Alliance (CTPA), a statewide coalition. But we need to do more and hold our elected officials accountable to #InvestInTGILives for our community to move from surviving into thriving and for all of us to have a better quality of life. We must continue to be intentional in our work to demand the liberation of TGI people across the globe, to ensure that we continue to build as a community so that we can continue to exist in this world without fear. Our commitment as an organization to our people, is to continue to fight for all of us!

We of course could not have done our work without the continued support and contributions of all of our partners and people like yourself. From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU. Please receive this report as an offering to our transcestors, our siblings in the struggle, and our siblings to come. Thank you so much for believing in our work and the difference we are making collectively.

In Solidarity and Gratitude,



Bamby Salcedo, M.A.
President & CEO
The TransLatin@ Coalition

translatinacoalition.org 5

#### **About Us**

#### What We Stand For

#### **Our Mission**

The mission of The TransLatin@ Coalition (TLC) is to advocate for the specific needs of the Trans Latin@ community that resides in the U.S.A. and to plan strategies that improve our quality of life.

#### **Our Values**

- Altruism, respect, and dignity for everyone
- ✓ Transparency, integrity, and honesty
- Multiculturalism and diversity
- Collaboration, inclusivity, and social justice
- Good resource administration

#### **Our Vision**

The vision of The TransLatin@ Coalition is to amplify education and resources to promote the empowerment of Trans leaders.





Our annual fashion show fundraising event returned in November as an in-person event.

Over \$160,000 was raised from the event. Thanks to all of our wonderful supporters.

More info at garras.org

#### Center for Violence Prevention and Transgender Wellness

## 2021 Report

The TransLatin@ Coalition is a national advocacy organization based in Los Angeles providing direct supportive and life saving services to other TGI people. We are the only national Trans led organization that focuses on building our community at the micro and macro level through life saving supportive services and advocating for policy change.

We focus on empowering our peoples with basic supportive services through the **Center for Violence Prevention and Transgender Wellness** in Los Angeles, while at the same time, we work to change and dismantle the structures that continue to marginalize our community locally and nationally. We influence policy change, societal and cultural transformation for our peoples to have better qualities of life.

Following is a report of the direct supportive services we provided to other TGI people in Los Angeles.

## **Drop-in Center**

Our drop-in center provides daily food distribution, clothing, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and a computer lab. Our organization continues to provide case management, legal and homeless services to members of our community who need them. Our drop-in space is currently closed to our clients due to COVID-19. However, our organization has remained open through this global pandemic providing critical services to our community in Los Angeles



The TransLatin@ Coalition Drop-in Center has provided warm meals, case management, clothing and other services to clients.

Totals in 2021

5,558 services rendered

3,354 meals served

2,204 incentives processed

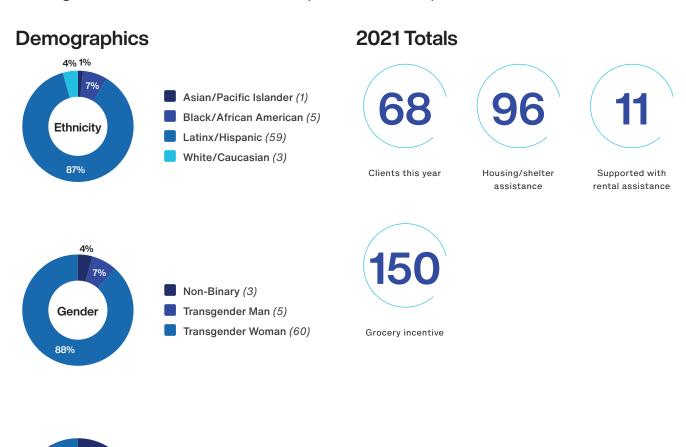
TGI people supported with emergency COVID-19 relief

emergency COVID-19 relief

Over \$250,000 distributed to TGI people in emergency COVID-19 relief.

## Violence Prevention Program

The focus of our anti-violence program is to address the specific needs of (TGI) individuals who have been victims of violence by providing comprehensive case management services, victim accompaniment, transportation, and referrals.



Age 15-24 (15) Age 25-59 (48)

Age 60+ (5)

Age

#### STORIES THAT INSPIRE

## KEEPING OUR PEOPLE SAFE

#### **Client Story A**

The client is a 26-year-old trans woman (she/her) originally from Pomona, California. She came to the center seeking support with housing due to experiencing homelessness in the Santa Monica area, where she felt safe. She became a participant in the Violence Prevention and Re-Entry Program. The client had the goals of Housing, Employment, and Mental Health support.

She has accessed services and was referred to Mental Health Support, Workforce Development. She had access to our Drop-In center services and other services at the center, including rental support. The Case Manager supported the client with incentives, emotional support, and the program's services.

The client was a resident of the H.O.P.E. House program, graduated, and found permanent living accommodations. She is still accessing mental health services and has recently reached out to the center for support with possible emergency housing. However, she was no longer in need. She is grateful for the center and understands she can always look forward to The TransLatin@ Coalition to support her if needed.

#### Client Story B

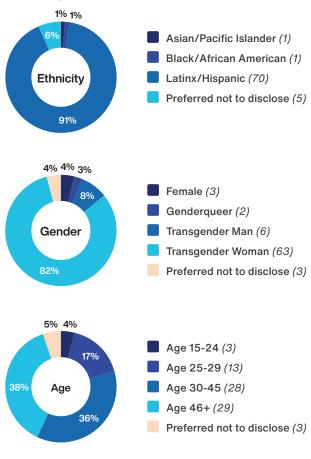
The client is a 24-year-old trans woman (she/her) originally from Los Angeles, California. She came to the center seeking support with housing. The client fled an abusive household and came to the center after hearing about The TransLatin@ Coalition while speaking to a Case Manager in our hallways.

The client received mental health support and continues services today.

The client became a participant in the Violence Prevention Program and accessed mental health, housing, and other services the program provides. She is also accessing our PrEP/ PEP Program. She accessed housing services and is now placed in transitional housing. The client is now employed and is currently working on obtaining permanent housing. The client has come to the center and let the CM know she is grateful for the services she has been provided, supporting her success to this day.

## **Legal Services**

#### **Demographics**



#### 2021 Totals



Legal intakes assessing clients' needs



Asylum cases placed with pro bono counsel



Asylum cases guided through until private counsel was available and clients placed



Asylum cases being handled in-house



Name and gender marker change applications granted



Work permit applications filed and/or permits obtained



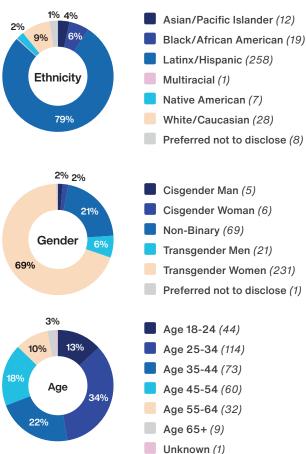
U.S. citizenship applications filed and/or granted



U-visa cases for immigrant crime victims handled

## **HIV Prevention**

#### **Demographics** 1% 4%



#### 2021 Totals



#### **Success Story**

One of the success stories of the PrEP program includes an 80-year-old trans Latina woman who was interested in PrEP as a preventive tool against HIV. The client had a limited income and had faced some challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The client would successfully be referred to medical services to obtain a PrEP prescription. Due to ongoing specific needs, the client would also receive comprehensive case management and navigation services. The client would be provided with rental assistance and other supportive services to ensure the client's needs were met, further supporting her adherence to PrEP. The client reports feeling safer taking the medication and is continuing to work on her goals.

## **Our Policy Work**



The year 2021 was a difficult year for many community members here at The TransLatin@ Coalition. Navigating violence daily and living in a society that does not value our humanity, all while continuing to survive through a global pandemic has been difficult, to say the least. But in our moments of struggle, we have found moments of victory. Moments of joy. Moments that we have shown that our collective power can make magic happen and move us toward the world we want to see, and many of these moments have happened through the critical work of our Policy Department. We have been able to see the system begin to invest in TGI lives and implement laws and policies that address our needs.

We have continued to build our TGI power by crafting legislation, inserting ourselves in the policy process, and building relationships with key decision makers at local, state and federal levels. We have invested in training and capacity building opportunities for our staff and community members at large, so that we can continue building the leadership of TGI people in the policymaking process. Lastly, we have created a network of TGI policy leaders across the state of California that continue fighting for systemic change for years to come.

We thank you for trusting us to lead on behalf of the community, and we are excited for you to see what is to come.

#### **Campaigns**

We have been a leading organization of various campaigns in 2021. Through our partnerships with other organizations and community members, we have been able to create community-based campaigns that create cultural change in our society.

#### **Progress Made**

#### ✓ AB 2218 - Transgender Wellness & Equity Fund

In 2020, we were able to pass AB 2218 - The Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund, in partnership with Assemblymember Miguel Santiago. Although this bill was passed in 2020, there were no dollars allocated to the fund. In 2021, we engaged in the California State Budget Process to advocate for funding to be allocated so that the actions required by AB 2218 could be implemented. From January to July we spent countless hours advocating within budget committees, meeting with legislators, and putting pressure on the Governor to allocate the funding that our community rightfully deserves.

Through our efforts, we were able to secure a 13 million dollar fund allocated to AB-2218 which is housed within the Department of Public Health for the purposes of funding holistic health services for TGI people across California. Majority of the advocacy that led to the passage of this piece of legislation took place virtually. We led several social media calls to action, gathered support letters, and mobilized community members to voice the importance of the passage of this bill as well as push for funding to be allocated.

In this bill's implementation process, there have been several difficulties, but we anticipate for the money for AB-2218 to be distributed through an ARP process some time next year.

#### ✓ SB 132 Transgender Respect, Agency, & Dignity Act

California Governor Newsom signed SB 132 into law on September 26th, 2020. It took effect state-wide on January 1, 2021. We worked alongside a coalition of advocates, attorneys, organizers, and community members on SB132 for over two years, keeping all people's safety at the forefront of our minds and work. In a nutshell, SB 132 changes several processes within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) for transgender, gender non-conforming, and intersex (TGI) people in ways that center their health and safety. SB 132 will require CDCR to ask everyone in its custody about their gender identity and whether they identify as TGI. It will require CDCR staff to respect each person's gender identity (in terms of pronouns like "he," "she," or "they" and honorifics like "Ms.," "Mr.," or "Mx.") when communicating with or about ANY person in its custody. The new law will also require CDCR to allow people who do identify as TGI to choose (with limited exceptions) whether they would feel safer being housed in a men's or in a women's facility, as well as whether they would like to be searched pursuant to CDCR's men's or women's search policy.

In this bill's implementation process, there have been several complications. We have been working alongside the coalition that worked on this bill to provide individual advocacy and support to trans people in CDCR facilities currently going through the transfer process because the implementation of this bill on the institution's end has been harmful and not meeting the expectations of the bill's intent.

#### ✓ SB 357 – The Safer Streets for All Act

Senate Bill 357 repeals California Penal Code Section 653.22, the law that criminalizes loitering for the intent to engage in sex work. which has historically been used to profile and criminalize Black and Brown trans people, especially trans women. We were a founding organization of the Decrim Sex Work California Coalition, where our Manager of Policy & Community Engagement serves on the steering committee and the policy advocacy team. We have supported legislative testimony, social media mobilizing, and legislative strategy. We anticipate SB 357 to be signed into law in 2022.

Throughout all of these campaigns, we have simultaneously worked to build our community's capacity to participate in policy advocacy while also building relationships with elected officials to ensure the passage of this bill that will eliminate the criminalization of trans people.

#### **Building TGI Power**

We have led several initiatives to continue building the power of our community through education and leadership development. This work cannot be done alone, and we are grateful for the individuals who have joined us on our journey to build TGI power.

#### ✓ Measure J Community Policy Cohort

The Measure J TGI Community Policy Cohort was a six-week policy program facilitated by The TransLatin@ Coalition policy department staff aimed at uplifting the participation of Black, Indigenous, People of Color Transgender, Gender nonconforming, and Intersex (BIPOC TGI) individuals as part of a community-oriented process for recommending budget allocations in the broader Measure J policy process. This program was supported by a grant from La Defensx, a Los Angeles community organizing collective with roots in abolitionist and BIPOC frameworks.

Measure J is a ballot initiative that was passed in 2020 in the wake of the months-long uprising that swept the country following the extrajudicial assassination of George Floyd by Minneapolis Police

translatinacoalition.org

Department officers. With its passage, Los Angeles County voters legitimated a standing budget reallocation of 10% of the County's locally generated revenue to support racial justice community programs. One of the first phases of Measure J's post passage process was a six-week public convening process calling for Los Angeles community members to provide feedback and join subcommittees in the subjects of economic opportunity and sustainability, re-entry, diversion, housing, youth, and education access.

#### ✓ California TGI Policy Alliance

We were the anchor organization in the creation of the California TGI Policy Alliance, a statewide network of TGI-led orgs working toward policy change in California, which worked to pass AB 2218 – The Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund. Through this campaign, we led the development of this coalition through a statewide retreat and weekly conference calls, which has resulted in the creation of a coalition manual and various teams and subcommittees. The mission of The California TGI Policy Alliance is to build the capacity and leadership of Transgender, Gender Non-Conforming, and Intersex (TGI) people in California to create and implement policy change, increase public education, and to gain resources that will improve the livelihood of TGI people, particularly TGI-BIPOC. We continue to be a key leading organization in this coalition as it grows and expands. Currently there are 25 individuals and organizations who are members of the CTPA. We hope to soon onboard a full-time coordinator for this coalition that will support meeting coordination, member expansion, and legislative strategy.

#### ✓ Policy Department Strategic Planning Process

In May of 2021, The TransLatin@ Coalition policy department participated in a 2-day strategic planning process to reflect and plan for years to come. Our policy department strategic planning process included input from leadership, case managers, and volunteers at The TransLatin@ Coalition to generate ideas as to how we can improve or continue our groundbreaking policy work. Three recommendations resulted from the retreat:

- 1. Develop Policy Department values and principles that will help us determine what policy campaigns and projects we support and do not support, while also assisting in guiding our work
- 2. Create a community advisory board which will help guide TLC's legislative and policy work
- 3. Implement bi-monthly policy trainings for staff to invest in our collective leadership development and policy knowledge.

We have begun implementing these organizational changes and will continue to do so in 2022, and beyond.

## Areas of Growth & What's Next

In 2021, we were able to expand our Policy Department capacity through the onboarding of various interns and a full-time Policy Associate that supported in expanding the reach of our policy advocacy work.

As we continue to expand our policy department work and portfolio, there is a need to expand the leadership of community members within our organization so that they are able to support in training others as to how to participate in this process as well. In an ideal world, we would have designated policy staff that would support in tackling the various issue areas that our community faces, such as a health policy advocate, a re-entry policy advocate, and so on. In order to expand these staffing opportunities, this requires ongoing fundraising and the support of funders that believe in the work we are doing.

Until we get there, we will continue to push for equity for our communities as we have for generations. We have been able to create systemic change with little to no resources and as we continue to grow and expand, our collective



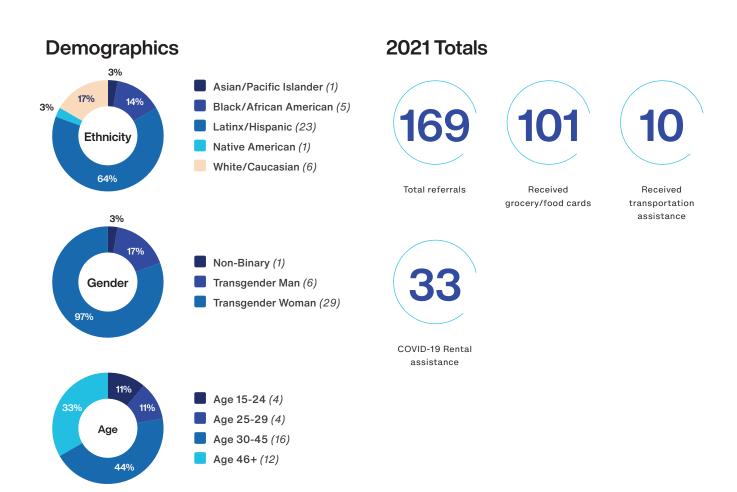
will only continue to get stronger. In the next year we will continue to push for resource allocation for our communities, building TGI power across the country, and creating campaigns that create cultural change that allow society to witness our humanity. We look forward to your support and fighting alongside you.

translatinacoalition.org

#### The TransLatin@ Coalition

## T.R.U.E. Program WEHO

Our T.R.U.E. (Transforming Resources Unveiling Excellence) program is funded by the City of West Hollywood. Our program provides comprehensive services including outreach, case management and referrals to TGI people who live, work, go to school or spend a significant amount of time within the City Of West Hollywood.



Data from October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021.

#### STORIES THAT INSPIRE

## A T.R.U.E. SUCCESS

A wonderful story showing the impact the T.R.U.E. Program has made on the community.

One of the success stories of our T.R.U.E Program was a 54-year-old trans man who came to California after experiencing a hate crime. The client would experience homelessness within The City Of West Hollywood and live in their van for about three weeks after arriving in California. The client would choose the City Of West Hollywood because they believe



they would be safer due to its LGBTQ-friendly reputation. Our case manager would meet the client at Plummer Park, where services were provided, including emergency housing, intensive case manager, food, and internal and external referrals to workforce development and mental health services.

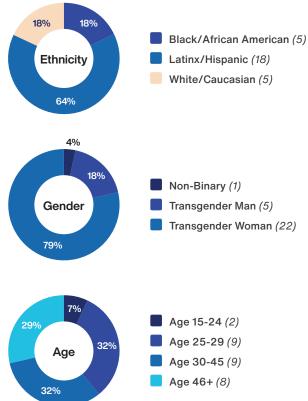
As a result of all the services provided through the T.R.U.E. Program, the client could secure a full-time job and was referred to The H.O.P.E. House, a transitional housing program here at The TransLatin@ Coalition. After six months in the program, they successfully graduated and were provided with the \$3,000 in savings they accumulated as part of their enrollment in The H.O.P.E. House program. The client has secured permanent housing and reported stability after participating in the T.R.U.E. Program.

## The H.O.P.E. House

#### **Helping Our People Evolve**

A 6-month transitional housing program and 7 day emergency housing, including case management, referrals, and linkage to our supportive programming.

### Demographics



#### 2021 Totals

clients in 2021







Number of clients in the program



#### STORIES THAT INSPIRE

## KEEPING HOPE ALIVE

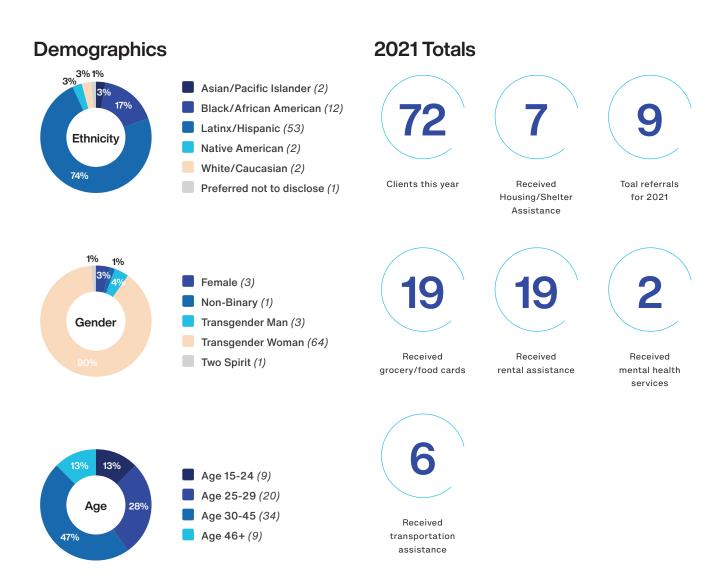
A vital tool in supporting our community.

#### **Client Story**

One of the success stories of the H.O.P.E. House included a 30-year-old transgender Latina woman originally from Los Angeles, California. The client had ongoing challenges with substance use that would lead to her homelessness and her ongoing encounters with the judicial system. The client came to The TransLatin@ Coalition looking for support and safety. She was referred from a housing program. The client would be placed at The H.O.P.E. House under emergency housing for several weeks and supported with job search preparation. Within a month the client was able to secure employment and was moved into the H.O.P.E. House Transitional program. During this time the client would be provided, clothing for her new job, food, and transportation. The client would successfully graduate from the H.O.P.E. House Transitional Housing program and was provided funds to move into her own apartment and successfully reported being stable as a result of all the services provided.

## **Re-Entry Services**

This program was designed to support (TGI) individuals who are being released from jails, prisons or immigration detention centers providing comprehensive case management services, food, transportation, rental assistance and referrals.



#### STORIES THAT INSPIRE

## A NEW BEGINNING

From client to staff member, Arburtha Franklin shares her story of how she came to work at TLC.

After 23 years in the California State Prison system, I had a very different idea about what to expect from society when I was released. All that changed upon coming here at The TransLatin@ Coalition (TLC). I immediately recognized the genuine compassion and concern for my well-being, in all areas of my life, from medical assistance, mental health, HIV prevention, violence prevention, and immediate emergency housing. I found the staff here at TLC to be professional in every way, and thoroughly respectful of my privacy. I was impressed! What I didn't know was that one day soon I would be asked to join this dynamic organization, first as an intern, where I learned the value of true compassion through my work with Terri Jay, Alexia Partida Cruz, and Angelika Carrillo, through the Case Management Support Services.

While working with case managers, I assisted a client by helping them get to their doctor's appointments, and to my surprise, this individual ended up helping me more than I would ever be able to help them by teaching me what is truly important...a positive



mindset. They inspired me to always "see the glass half full" instead of half empty! That change in mindset allowed me to approach life with more compassion and better serve our clients, other people like me.

My surprises were not done because through the generosity of Maria Roman, our COO, and other staff members I have been recently promoted to a full-time position here at TLC as the new H.O.P.E. House Coordinator, our transitional housing program. I began my new position in December 2021 and I am so appreciative of all the care that has been shown to me by each and every member of the TLC staff! I am looking forward to continuing to grow and become a professional working for my community.

Thank you,
Arburtha Franklin
H.O.P.E. House Coordinator
The TransLatin@ Coalition

# Economic & Workforce Development

We provide our community with economic development because economic power has value in our society. Through our work, we are changing the way society views our community. We are supporting our people to learn skills in entrepreneurship and financial literacy to create the jobs and opportunities that our peoples deserve.

#### **Demographics** 2021 Totals Black/African American (5) Latinx/Hispanic (38) Multiracial (6) **Ethnicity** Native American (1) White/Caucasian (4) 64% Enrolled Found employment Placed in Preferred not to disclose (5) in Workforce apprenticeship Development program program Genderqueer (2) Female (4) Non-Binary (3) Gender Transgender Man (9) Transgender Woman (32) Received Received Received 57% housing assistance transportation clothing assistance Preferred not to disclose (6) 6% 8% Age 15-24 (4) Age 25-29 (9) Age Age 30-45 (24) Received Age 46+ (13) grocery/food cards Preferred not to disclose (3)

The organizations and foundations listed below have supported our organization this year with funding to do our work with a minimum of \$50,000. We appreciate your support and we wish to build stronger partnerships. Thank you so much for trusting our work.

#### AIDS United

California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA)

California Community Foundation

California Office of AIDS

California Office of Emergency Services

California Workforce Development Board

City of West Hollywood

Clara Lionel Foundation

Community Partners

Gilead Sciences

Grant Makers Concern about Immigrant/Refugees (GCIR)

Groundswell Fund

Heising-Simons Foundation

Kaiser Permanente

LA CARE

Los Angeles LGBT Center

The California Endowment

# We anticipate to continue to expand our services in Los Angeles and beyond. We invite you to check our strategic plan on our website.

We are committed to continue to build the infrastructure of our community and to demand for our society, our government, policy makers and the philanthropic world to intentionally #InvestInTransLives.



#### The TransLatin@ Coalition

3055 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 350 Los Angeles, CA 90010 (833) 847-2331

hola@translatinacoalition.org www.translatinacoalition.org

#### Find Us On

www.translatinacoalition.org

- © @translatinacoalition
- facebook.com/translatinacoalition
- youtube.com/c/translatinacoalition
- @linktr.ee/translatinacoalition