



UNION CITY FAMILY CENTER 2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2021



ABOUT THE UNION CITY FAMILY CENTER

OVERVIEW

The Union City Family Center (UCFC) part of the New Haven Unified School District, is a partnership of families, schools, community, and public and private organizations working together to promote “cradle to retirement” success.

Established by stakeholders from the community as the Union City Kids' Zone in 2012, the UCFC has impacted the lives of more than **19,000 individuals** through a broad range of services delivered by our staff or through referrals to our partners and community.

MISSION & IMPACT

We seek to build and sustain healthy neighborhoods and families by ensuring access to services and supporting collaborations that empower youth and adults to transform their lives and communities.

During shelter-in-place we pivoted to effectively work remotely and in hybrid remote-in-person models as vaccination systems and County guidance permitted. We provided services to more than 3000 individuals in Southern Alameda County.

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY



2006 INTERVENTIONS

TO ADDRESS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY, INCLUDING

247 HOME VISITS.

750 CHILDREN

RECEIVED ACADEMIC & ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN SCHOOL & OUT OF SCHOOL.

4000 + INDIVIDUALS

ACCESSED WEBSITE RESOURCES

2175 + VIEWERS

OF OUR PUBLIC SERVICE INFORMATIONAL VIDEOS.

The UNION CITY FAMILY CENTER removes barriers to educational success for students in the New Haven Unified School District. 2020-21 supports included the following:

- Check-ins for students who haven't been attending school regularly (online).
- Home visits to address truancy, attendance, and other issues as needed.
- Problem solving for unhoused students (Learning Pod, headphones, hotspots).
- Incentives that are meaningful to support engagement.
- Building and sustaining relationships with families.
- Developing affinity groups for parents and caregivers to learn and engage in leadership opportunities.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS



OVER 2.9 MILLION
POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED
THROUGH OUR PARTNERS AND
SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY.

14200 +SUPPORTS
INCLUDING FOOD, CLOTHING
AND HOUSING REFERRALS AND
CASE MANAGEMENT.

1467+ SERVICES
PROVIDED INCLUDING HEALTH,
HYGIENE, AND TAX SERVICES.

The Union City Family Center works to ensure that all children, individuals, and families have access to seamless health, nutrition, and housing support from birth onward.

In 2020-21, our activities included

- Food, diaper and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) distribution.
- Support for bill pay for households experiencing economic distress during COVID-19.
- Gas, grocery and household supply gift cards.
- Clothing pantry access.
- Family Learning Portal.
- Facebook Live Events for families.
- Creating and expanding opportunities for caregivers to learn parenting skills and develop voice, agency and community leadership.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

The Union City Family Center advances equity by building social and regional capital through individual agency, stakeholder engagement, and community transformation. In 2020-21 we:

- Hosted quarterly forums for over 40 + regional agencies and 60 individuals to collaborate and share ideas and resources online.
- Linked over 1000 individuals and their families to needed partner services such as health/mental health, financial coaching, taxes, legal services, and housing through direct "warm hand" referrals.
- Aligned resources for urgent health and safety concerns including COVID 19 testing, vaccines, and hosted pop-up partner events.
- Developed partners as guest presenters for family engagement and other workshops to expand regional knowledge and relationships.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR THE 2020-21 YEAR INCLUDED

Alameda Alliance for Health * Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
Alameda County Community Food Bank * Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Alameda County Library (Union City Branch) * American Heart Association
Bay Area Community Health * Big Smiles * CAREavan * Centro de Servicios
City of Union City * Cypress-Mandela Training Center * Daily Bowl
East Bay Agency for Children* East Bay Regional Parks District
Faith in Action East Bay * Family Education Resource Center
Filipino Advocates for Justice * First 5 Alameda County *
Fremont Family Resource Center* Help A Mother Out
Kaiser Permanente * Kidango *La Familia *
Mental Health Association of Alameda County (MHAAC-FERC)
Mujeres Unidas Activas * New Haven Unified School District *
New Haven Adult School * One Nation Dream Makers
Safe Passages * Safe Routes to Schools* SAVE * SparkPoint
Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center * TriCED * United Way
Vision to Learn * Washington Hospital

INNOVATIONS & LEADERSHIP

LEARNING HUB

Starting in November 2020, we created a “learning pod” to provide a safe and secure environment for TK-12 students experiencing homelessness to do schoolwork in a physically distanced environment. The learning pod support services allowed students to use district devices (computers, tablets) and to better monitor and provide clothing, mental health services, and counseling, to vulnerable families. We also provided transportation tickets and gas reimbursement, help with locating shelter, and connections to resources, like CAREaVAN for secure overnight parking, case management, and supports.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

UCFC was awarded the 2021 Partners in Educational Excellence Award from the Association of California School Administrators for Region 6, encompassing Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Executive Director Nancy George was nominated for a Diversity Award and recognized by the City of Union City during Women's History Month for her leadership. We continued to serve as a model for other collaborative programs across the region with presentations including for the Alameda County Office of Education and the Board of Supervisors and distribution of our media by other agencies.

CHANGES & DEVELOPMENTS

NANCY GEORGE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RETIRES

Executive Director Nancy George will retire at the end of June to be with her family. Since our first conversations to build the “Kids’ Zone” in the Decoto Neighborhood, nearly a decade ago, Nancy demonstrated a bold vision and modeled engagement and empowerment for the community and staff.

She has had a remarkable career of nearly 37 years of public service. A skilled leader empowers those that they work with to provide them with the agency, skills, and knowledge to continue the work of the organization, and Nancy has done so. We wish her the best in her retirement and frequent visits.



UNION CITY FAMILY CENTER CORPORATION (UCFC-C)

One of Nancy's many enduring legacies will be the development of the new nonprofit fund development arm, the Union City Family Center Corporation. The Corporation, run by volunteers, will enable us to work in deeper connection with our community, as we seek funding open to nonprofits and expand upon services provided in partnership with our collaborative agencies.

PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

NEW LEADERSHIP AND ALIGNMENT

Marcus Lam, has become the Director of Student and Family Services for New Haven Unified School District (NHUSD) and will oversee the Family Center. Formerly the Director of Pupil Services, Marcus worked with Nancy over the past year to enable greater alignment between NHUSD and the center.

Jennifer Hawkins, former Manager of the Family Center has become the Coordinator for the Family Center, and will oversee the daily operations including the Expanded Day Programs. Our **Community Specialist Team** has expanded from two to three personnel providing guidance in early childhood, community services, and data support.

STRENGTHENING OUR CAPACITY

Time to learn: We recognize the value and need for ongoing professional learning for staff including self-care for service providers, technology tools, and community needs.

Behavioral health: Supporting social emotional development for children and youth and providing equitable access to behavioral support are crucial needs for 2021 and beyond. We look forward to collaboration to coordinate and implement community-based strategies.

Data management: We are exploring alternate data systems that work in concert with each other for more efficiency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND INFORMATION

THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF, VOLUNTEERS,
PARTNERS, AND THESE KEY FUNDERS
THAT SUPPORTED OUR COMMUNITY
DURING THIS VERY CHALLENGING YEAR.

21st Century Community Learning
Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Alameda County Health Care Service Agency
City of Union City
East Bay Community Foundation
First 5 Alameda County
Kaiser Permanente
New Haven Schools Foundation
New Haven Unified School District
Private Donors
S_Foundation
San Francisco Foundation

CONTACT INFORMATION

UNION CITY FAMILY CENTER

Website: unioncityfamilycenter.org
Facebook: Union City Family Center
Email - info@unioncityfamilycenter.org
Phone - (510) 476-2770
725 Whipple Road, Union City, CA 94587

Monday to Thursday - 8:00 AM - to 4:00 PM
(Summer Hours)
Monday to Friday - 8:00 AM - to 4:00 PM
(Academic Year)