



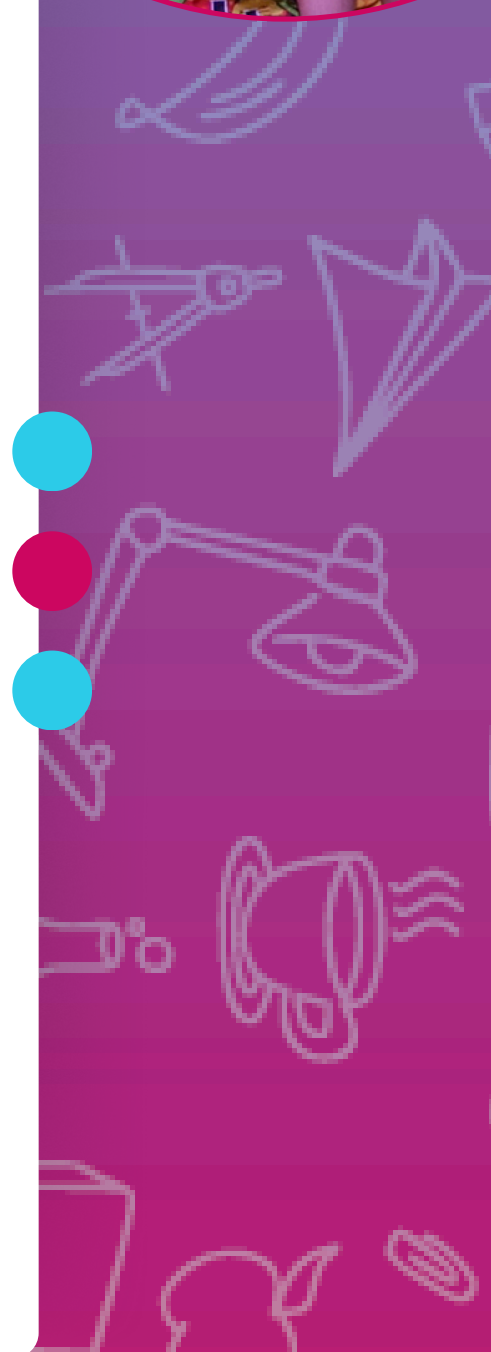
San Antonio

**AVANCE**<sup>®</sup>

**Adult Education Programs**  
*Evaluation Report*



**2023-2024**



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# A Letter From the Executive Director



Stepping into the role of Executive Director is both an honor and a deeply personal milestone, as I continue a mission that has been close to my heart for over two decades. This year, our Parent-Child Education Program (PCEP) served 464 parents and children, providing families with the tools to learn and grow together. We also launched our in-house Child Development Associate (CDA) credential program, creating new opportunities for parents to become educators and leaders in their communities. Looking ahead, we're expanding PCEP through Sobre Ruedas, bringing our services directly to families across San Antonio and into the Texas Wintergarden region, ensuring more families can benefit from our programs.

For 50 years, AVANCE has worked tirelessly to create opportunities for families—fighting for a seat at the table when it wasn't freely given. That resilience is woven into our identity and propels us forward with hope and determination. As we look to the future, it is clear that our early childhood educators are at the heart of our mission. Their work shapes the futures of the children and families we serve. As someone who began my own journey as a home educator, I understand the profound impact this work has, and I am deeply grateful for the continued dedication of our staff.

Equally important are our community partners. Your collaboration is essential in helping us innovate, grow, and learn together. By working hand in hand, we strengthen our programs and create lasting change for the families we support.

***The future is ours to build together.***

*Yesenia Alvarez-  
Gonzalez*



## AVANCE

*(Uh-vahn-say)*, To create pathways to economic mobility for families through high quality, culturally responsive, two-generation programming that ensures school-readiness for young children and opportunities for parents to build social and economic capital.

## Mission

AVANCE walks alongside children and caregivers in primarily Latino communities to achieve social and economic justice.

## Vision

A world where all children and families have equitable access to resources and opportunities to reach their fullest potential, transforming the communities in which we live.



# Parent-Child Education Program (PCEP)

The foundation of all our programs is the nine-month Parenting Education and Early Childhood Education Program (PCEP), designed for parents with young children under the age of three. Families participate once a week, Monday through Thursday, from September to May. PCEP empowers parents to become their child's first teacher and transforms the home into the first classroom. While parents attend PCEP sessions, their children receive high-quality instruction guided by the PCEP Early Childhood Education Framework. Beyond early education and parenting education, the program helps parents build social capital—a supportive network of connections within their cohort and the broader community. This is achieved through activities like toy-making, community engagement, and advocacy. PCEP consists of three main components: 1) Bilingual Parenting Curriculum – Equipping parents with the skills to foster their child's learning. 2) Socialization Through Toy-Making – Encouraging creativity and connection among participants. 3) Community Engagement and Advocacy – Empowering families to actively participate in their communities.

## **Services Provided:**

1. 9-month Parenting Education
2. Toy Making
3. Early Childhood Education and Care
4. Community Resource Awareness
5. Home Visitation
6. Support Services

## **Support Services:**

- Transportation
- Parenting Education
- Home Visits
- Referrals and Guidance (Health Services, Mental Health Services, Community Resources)
- Services to Fathers

## **Services to Fathers Program:**

This component is integrated into the Parent-Child Education Program, which addresses the 5 Protective Factors that ensure the healthy well-being of children and their families. The program promotes father involvement in their children's development through parenting, early childhood education, and support.





## Framework

- Parenting
- Parent-Child Interaction
- Family Well Being
- School Readiness

## Science-Based Principles

- Supports Responsive Relationship
- Reduces sources of stress
- Strengthen core life skills (planning, adapting, and achieving).

## Evidence-Based Parenting Curriculum

- The PCEP bilingual parenting curriculum is aligned to the latest science in early childhood and is informed by the core principles proven to improve outcomes for families and children.
- PCEP is a 9-month program.
- Consist of 10 units of instruction and 23 lessons taught in Spanish and English.
- Designed to support parents to develop positive parenting skills
- Promote healthy brain architecture in children
- Reduce sources of stress to ensure the well-being of children focused on the parent-child relationship.
- Engaging and interactive lessons are delivered in a group setting, providing parents with opportunities for peer learning and collaboration.



### Toy Making (1 hour)

- First hour of class
- Learning through play
- Creates a connection with their peers
- 16 educational toys from household items.



### Parenting (1 hour)

- Second hour of class
- Provides the opportunity for parents to engage in a safe learning environment
- Curriculum redesigned: 10 units
- Culturally sensitive delivery



### Community Engagement (1 hour)

- provides a platform to connect with the services that participants need.
- Safe place to ask questions
- Opportunity to collaborate with other non-profit organizations



### Early childhood Education (3 hours)

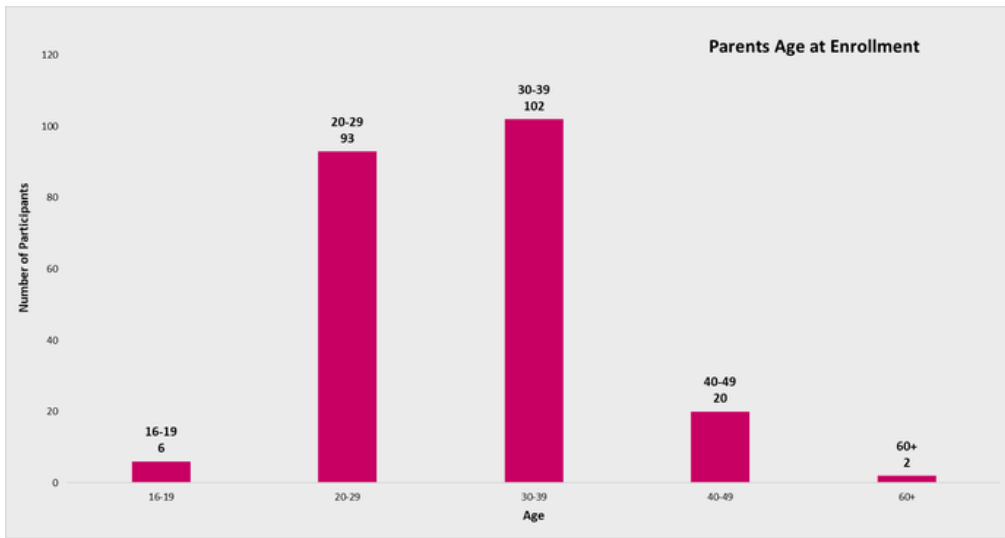
- Enriched environment to learn the basic concepts needed to be ready for school
- It reflects the school schedule and routine.
- Research-based curriculum.



### Home Visits (Once a month)

- Opportunity for **parent – child** interaction
- Observation and Guided instruction for optimal interaction.
- Reinforces the learning process from the classroom through home practice.
- The **connection between the program and the home**

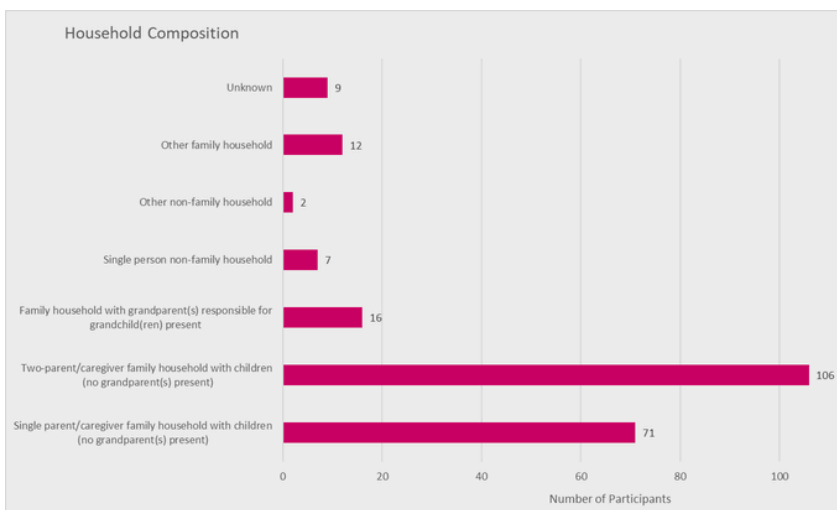
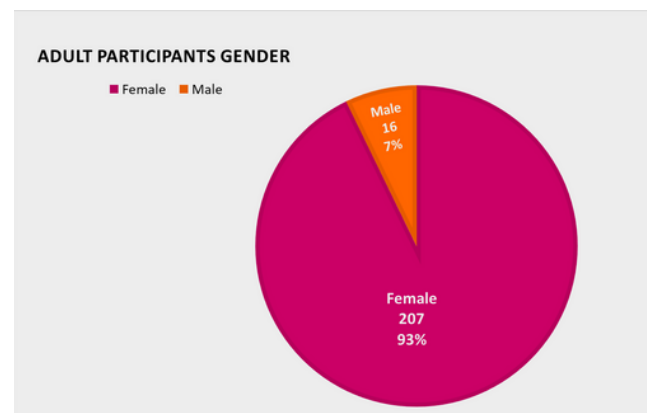
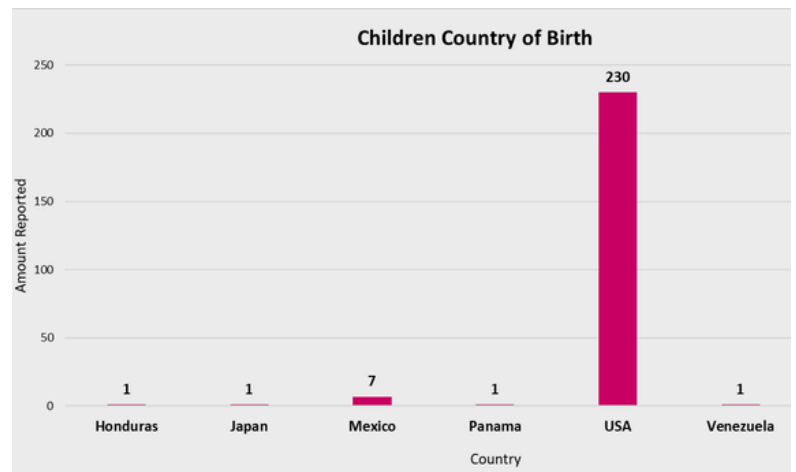
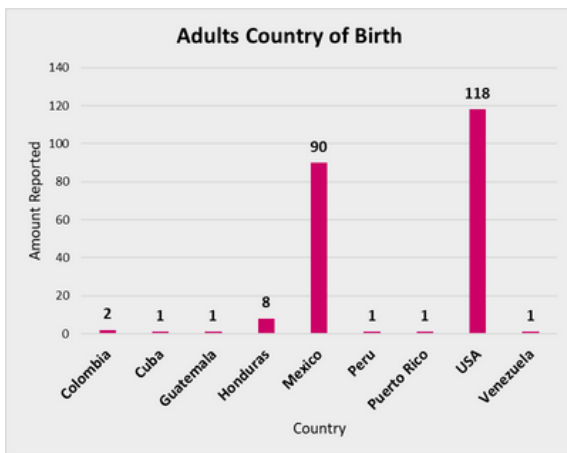
# Who Do We Serve

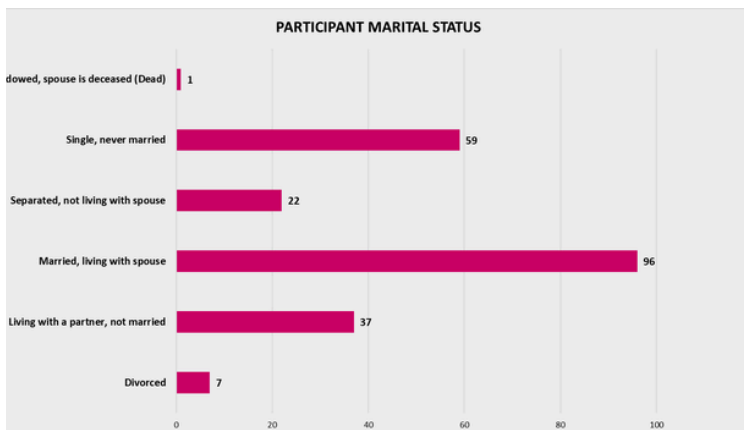
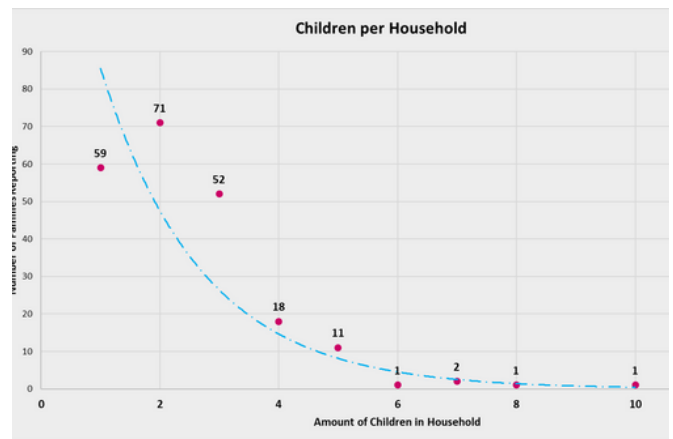
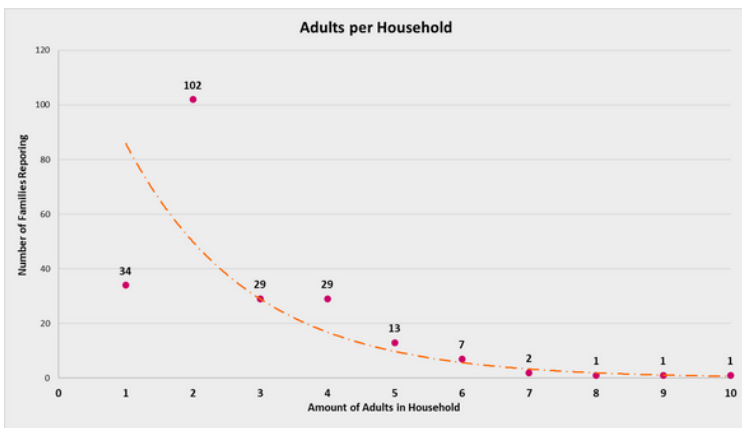
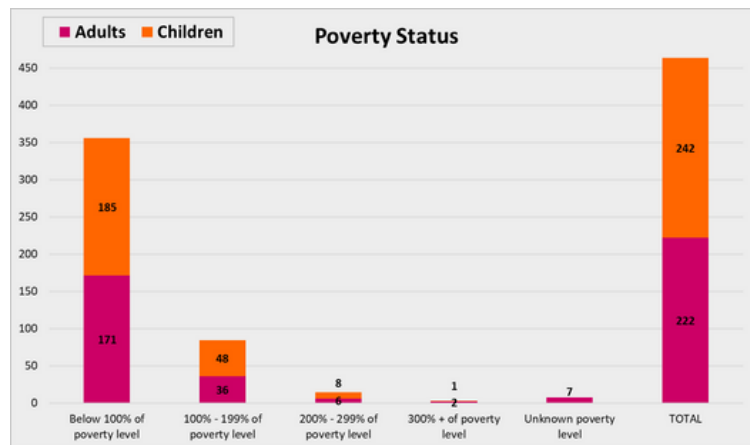
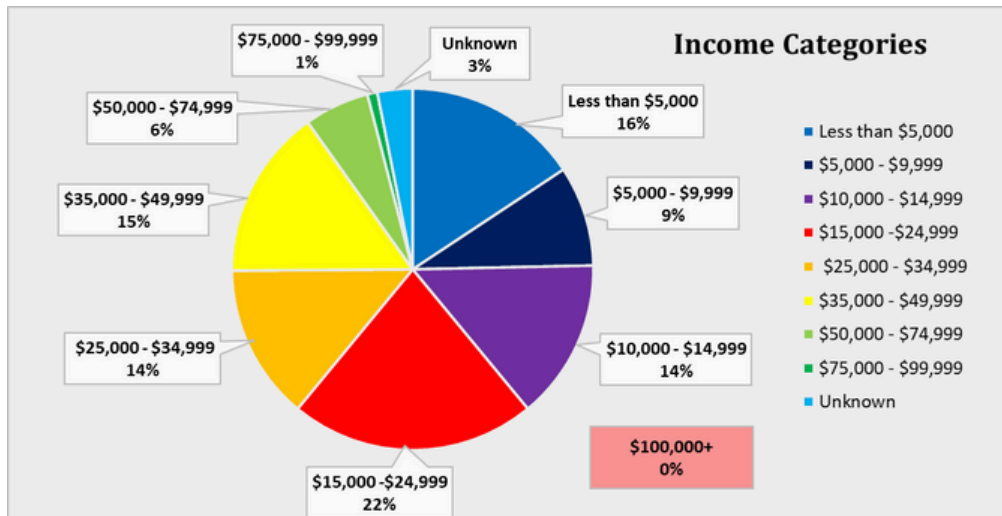


## Participant Served (464)

Total number of children and adults served. (household sizes below)

- 241 total children participated
- 223 total adults participated







**Growth in Participation:** The PCEP served 223 parents and 241 children (total 464), marking an increase from 2022-2023's 167 parents and 191 children. A total of 145 parents graduated, up from 136 the previous year, showing high engagement.

1

**Hybrid Participation Model:** The program enabled more accessible participation by offering both in-person and virtual sessions. A majority (116) graduated through in-person sessions, with 29 completing them virtually, indicating a preference for in-person involvement but allowing flexible engagement.

2

**Retention Rate:** With a 65% retention rate, the program demonstrated strong commitment from participants, supported by the flexibility in participation options, which helped accommodate family schedules and reduce dropout rates.

3

## Key Outcome Improvements

- Parental Involvement in Home Activities (ECL) showed 57.93% growth, fostering better early childhood development.
- Parental Confidence (PSOC) increased by 63.45%, reflecting reduced parental stress.
- Family Engagement (FIQ) saw 74.48% growth, indicating enhanced school and home engagement.
- Family Empowerment (FES) rose by 71.03%, improving families' access to resources.
- Parent-Child Connectedness (SCS) improved by 59.31%, strengthening emotional bonds.
- Knowledge of Child Development (SPEAK) increased by 65.52%, preparing parents to support school readiness.

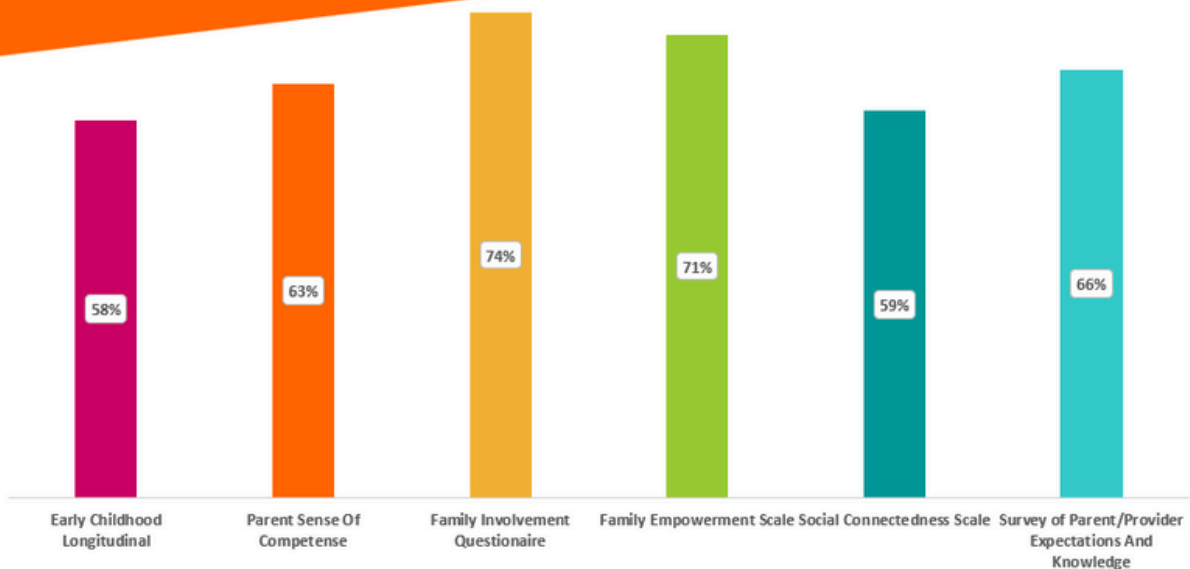
## Participants enrolled in PCEP

- Parents: 223
- Children: 241

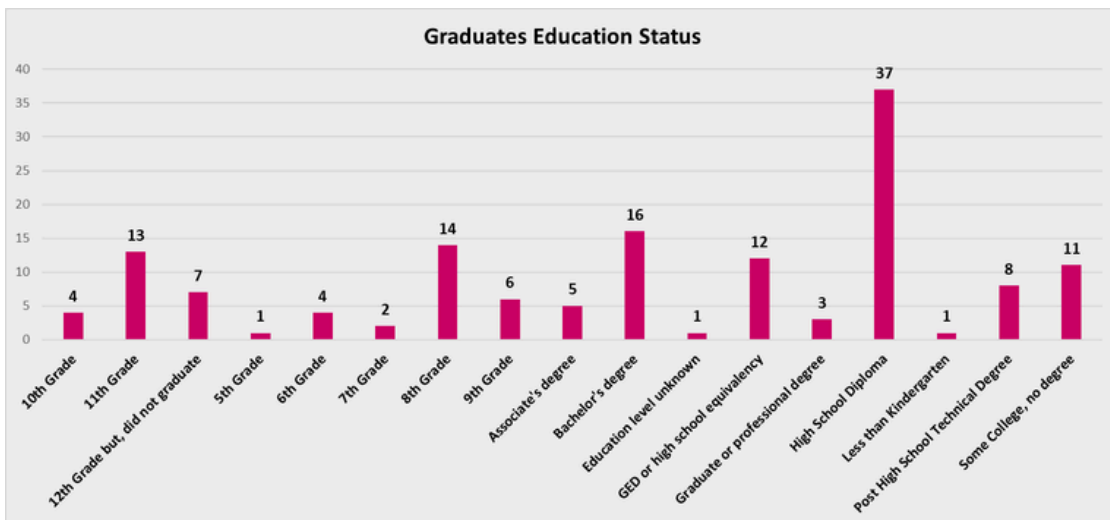
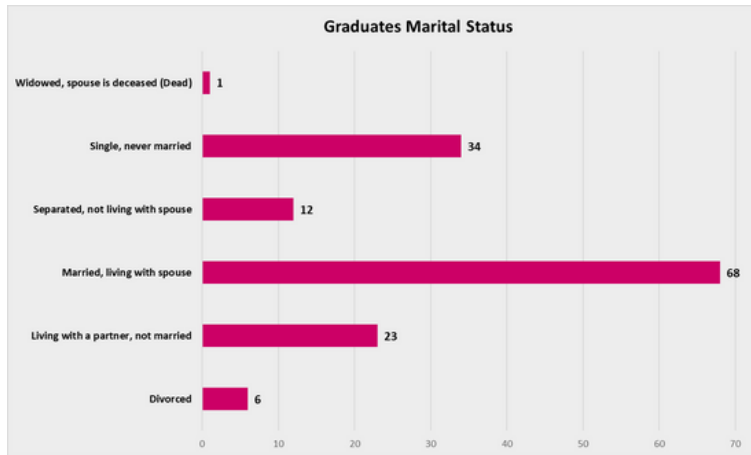
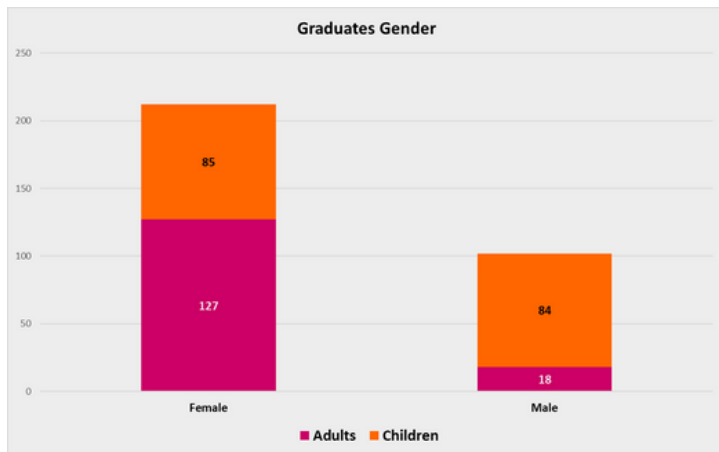
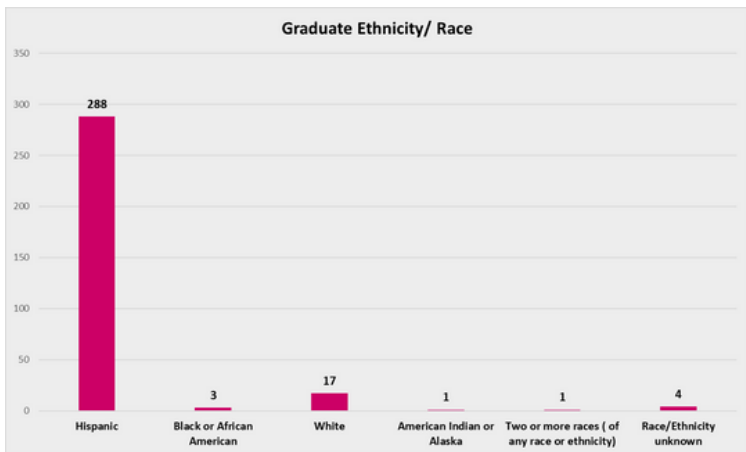
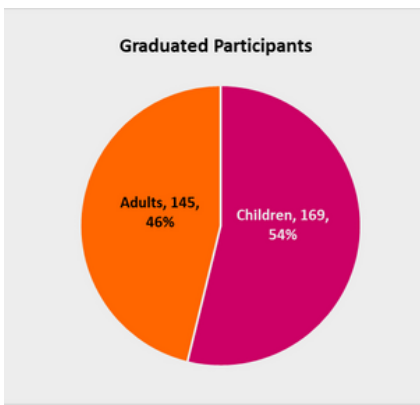
## PCEP Graduates (145 Total)

- In-Person Graduates: 116
- Virtual Graduates: 29

## PCEP 2023-2024



- In Person Participants: 116
- Virtual Participants: 29
- Grand Total: 145



# Children Outcomes (Child School Readiness)

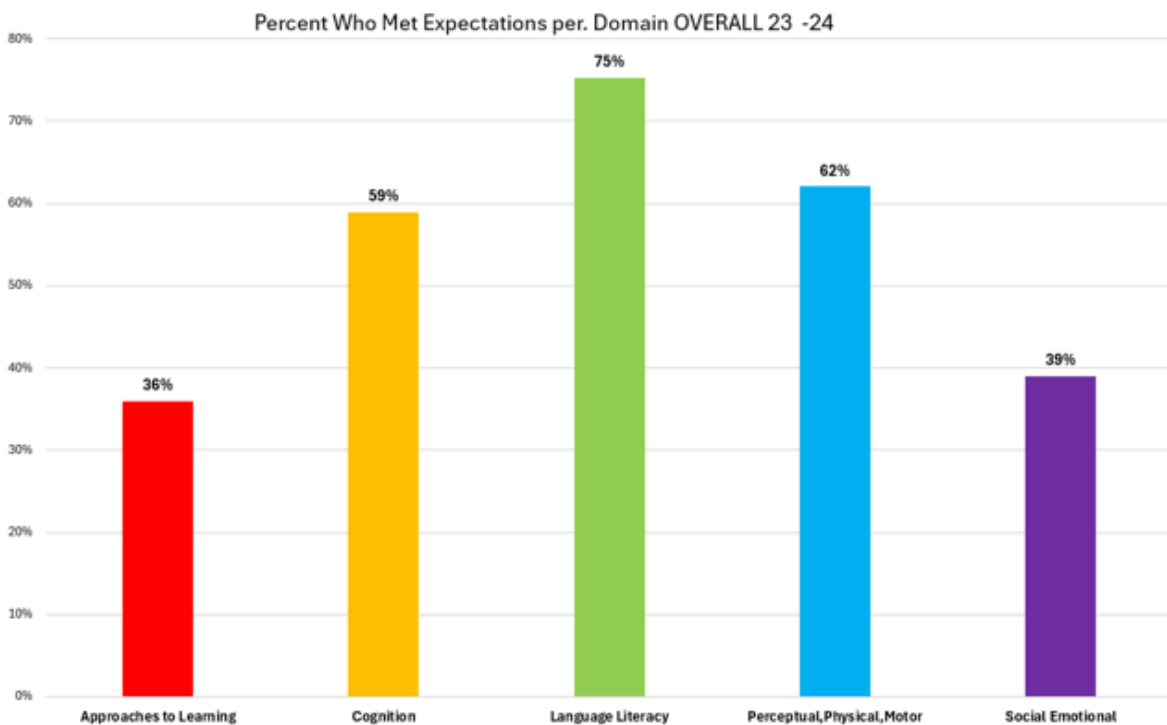


The CTB was used to measure children's performance in key developmental domains (physical, cognitive, socio-emotional, and language development).

1

2

School readiness outcomes by domain (percentage of children meeting or exceeding expectations).



## Community Support

- Percentage of parents who learned about and used new community resources (e.g., health clinics, libraries, financial literacy programs).
- Social network building (e.g., number of friendships made through the program).



## Satisfaction with the Program

- Parent feedback regarding the program's strengths and areas for improvement (e.g., satisfaction with educators, suggestions for program changes).

## Barriers and Challenges

- Reasons for considering dropping out (e.g., conflicting schedules, transportation issues).
- Strategies implemented to help retain participants.



## 30+ YEARS OF NUTRITION EDUCATION

### AVANCE - Texas A&M Partnership

Texas A&M AgriLife extension Service (“AgriLife”), is a member of The Texas A&M University System, an agency of the State of Texas.

# 116 Parents



# 1

## Positive Changes in Food Groups

- 88% of participants experienced a positive change in at least one food group.
- 90% of participants who demonstrated improvement in one or more food resource management practices



## Improved Resource Management Practices

- Cooking dinner at home
- Comparing food prices
- Planning meals before shopping, checking the refrigerator or cupboard before shopping, and making a shopping list.
- Increased consumption of fruits, vegetables, and red/orange vegetables.
- Decreased consumption of soda, fruit punch, sweet tea, and sports drinks.
- Increased frequency of cooking dinner at home.
- Exercising for at least 30 minutes

# 2





**PCEP Sobre Ruedas:** Expansion to Gardendale Elementary in partnership with Pre-K4SA.

20 Fathers completed the Services to Fathers workshops



30 Families were enrolled in both PCEP and Early Head Start or Head Start.



314 AVANCE Parents and Children Graduates



# What's Coming...



1

## PCEP Sobre Ruedas/On Wheels

Partnership with Harlandale ISD Morrill

## Expansion of PCEP Classes

Added Friday class option at both PCEP sites.

2

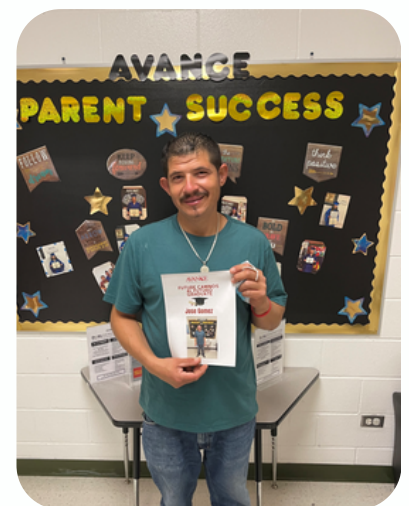
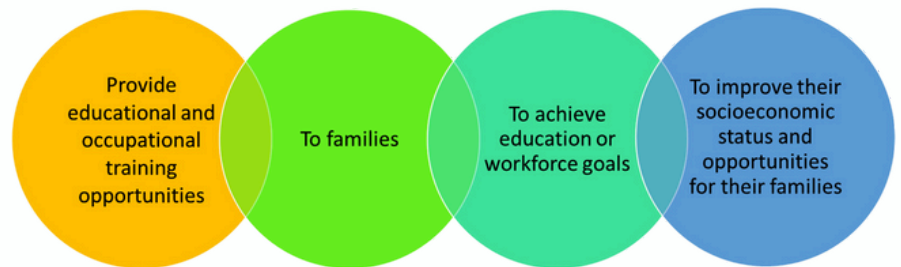
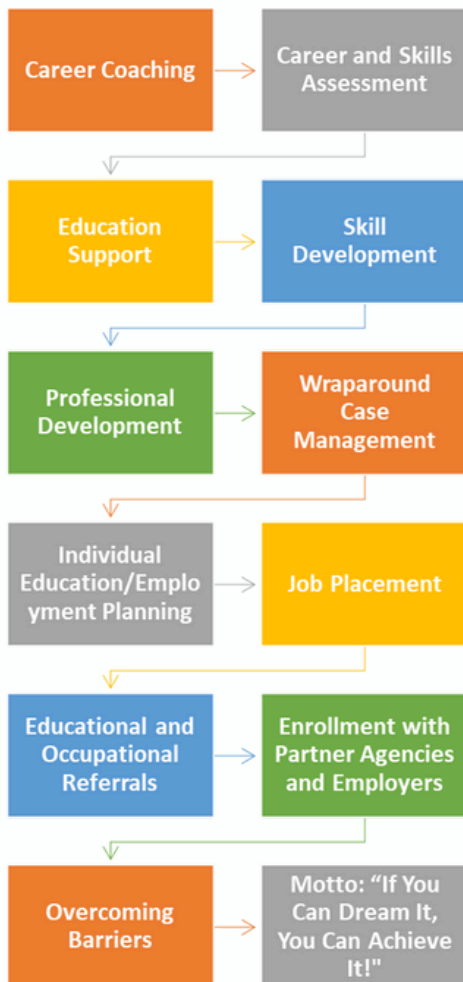
# Caminos al Futuro

## **Caminos Purpose:**

*Provide education and occupational resources to AVANCE families and the community in order to facilitate economic mobility for their family's success.*

- Caminos al Futuro exists to provide educational and occupational training opportunities and resources to families to help them achieve education or workforce goals to improve their socioeconomic status and opportunities for their families.
- Caminos provides wraparound case management services. From intake to ONET assessment, Individual Education/Employment (IEP) Planning, family coaching, educational and occupational referrals, and enrollment with partner agencies and employers, Caminos works with families to overcome barriers and accomplish their goals.
- Our motto: "if you can dream it, you can achieve it!"

**What Caminos Offers**

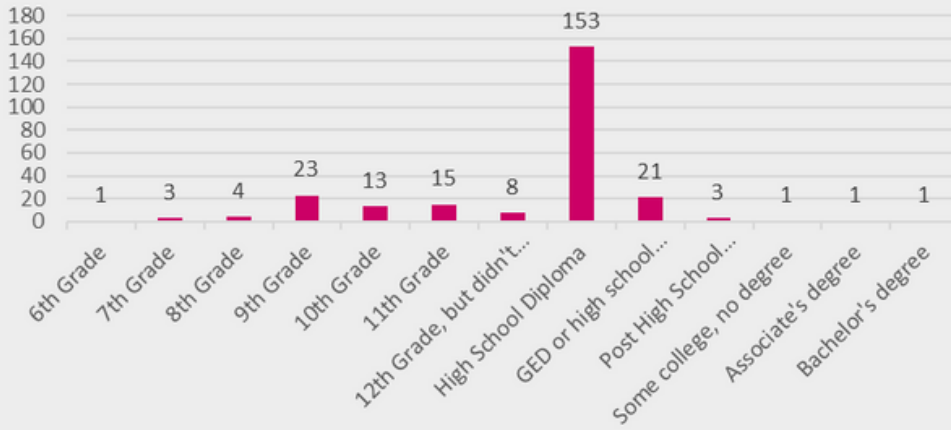


123 Rollovers from 2022-2023

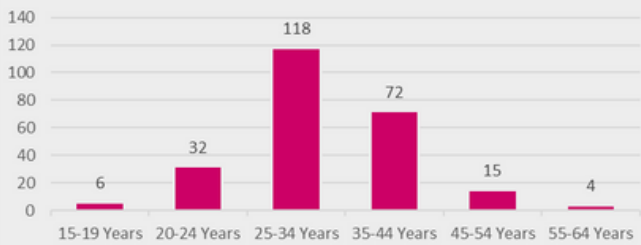
124 New participants enrolled in 2023-2024

**Total Enrolled 247**

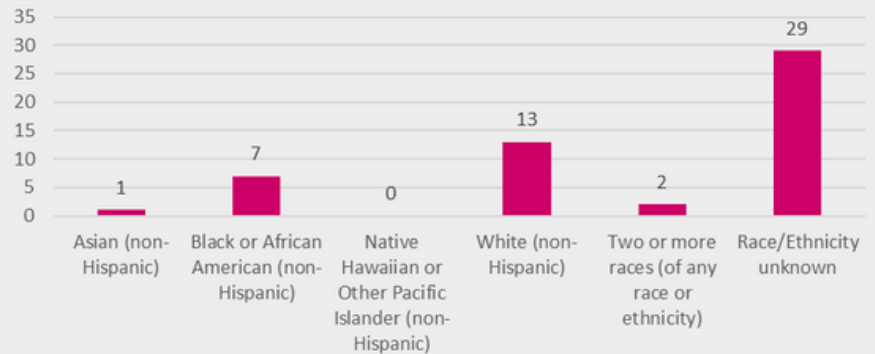
### Camino's Education Status



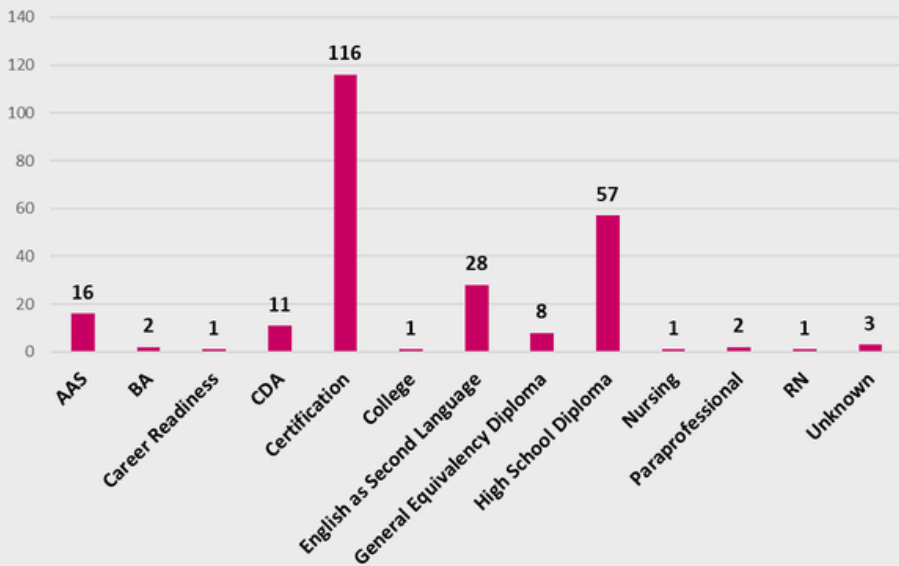
### Camino's Ages



### Camino's Race/Ethnicity



### Camino's Pathways





46

**Total Completions for 2023-2024**



74

Parents obtained their High School Diploma or GED

17

Caminos participants completed AVANCE Career Readiness

15

Parents completed their Technical Certification Program

4

Parents obtained the CDA Certification

28

Parents Enrolled and Continued their ESL Classes





**Community Involvement** - The Caminos team attended the KLRN Fall Festival and encouraged recruitment for the Dual Generation initiative.

**New Location** - The team was thrilled to witness the transformation of the former AVANCE Early Head Start location into a dedicated space for our workforce and education program. The new program location at 526 SW 19th on the west side of San Antonio.



**Job Fair** - The Caminos al Futuro team planned a Career Fair for AVANCE families with 20 Vendors, to include SAPD.



# What's Coming...

## Enhancing Adult Education

1

Enhancing the Adult Education opportunities for parents through Caminos.

## Open House

New stand alone site and satellite site

2

## Career Readiness

3

Updating curriculum

## AVANCE CDA Cohort

Offering CDA cohort to AVANCE families.

4

