

SEPA MUJER



2022

ANNUAL REPORT



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Letter from the Executive Director & Board Chair



Dear Friend,

We would like to take a moment to reflect on what incredible year for SEPA Mujer was in 2022! We are grateful of our neighbors, friends, allies and supporters through out the year.

We recently were able to celebrate together with almost 400 friends and supporters at our gala. It was so wonderful to see our partners, sponsors, and friends in person and thank them for supporting our work through the challenging times we all faced during the COVID-19 shutdown. The support everyone showed us made it possible for SEPA Mujer to still provide the same level and quality of services and programs to those who needed it. As this year comes to a close, we can't help but feel the excitement starting to build for 2023. It marks the 30th anniversary of SEPA Mujer; a humbling milestone that will bring upon a great deal of reflection on the past but also a celebration for the future.

We are pleased to share with you our fiscal year 2022 Annual Report, which contains quick snapshots of SEPA Mujer's social justice efforts and the impact of our programs'. In 2022 we saw the catastrophic effects of COVID in our community, but especially on our immigrant community. Our clients often lack housing, have a need for support services, have limited legal representation, and limited financial support from their families. In response, we continue advocating and fighting for social and economic justice for them. Our mission is always to embrace our community with love and empathy to move forward while simultaneously providing the tools to improve to move forward.

Thank you for believing in us and we look forward to work for a better Long Island with you over the next year and the next 30 years.



Martha Maffei



Johanna Rotta-Genna

OUR MISSION:

SEPA Mujer, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has been working to support immigrant women on Long Island since 1993. SEPA Mujer stands for the well-being and success of Latina immigrant women on Long Island. Through our work, we strive to nurture and improve civic engagement by way of leadership skills and legal representation.

FINANCIALS

FY 2022

Private Grants:

Long Island Community Foundation
NY Community Trust
New York Immigration Coalition
CDC Foundation
Hispanic Federation
NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Unbound Philanthropy
Jessie Smith Noyes Foundations
Scherman Foundation
Unitarian Universalist of Shelter Rock
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the South Fork

Government Grants:

Suffolk County Department of Social Service
OVW (Office of Violence Against Woman)
OVC (Office of Victims of Crime)
NYS Department of Criminal Justice
OVS (NYS Office of Victim Services)
NYS- Department of Labor
Town of Brookhaven
Town of Southampton
NYS-Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence
Emergency Food Shelter

Corporate Grants:

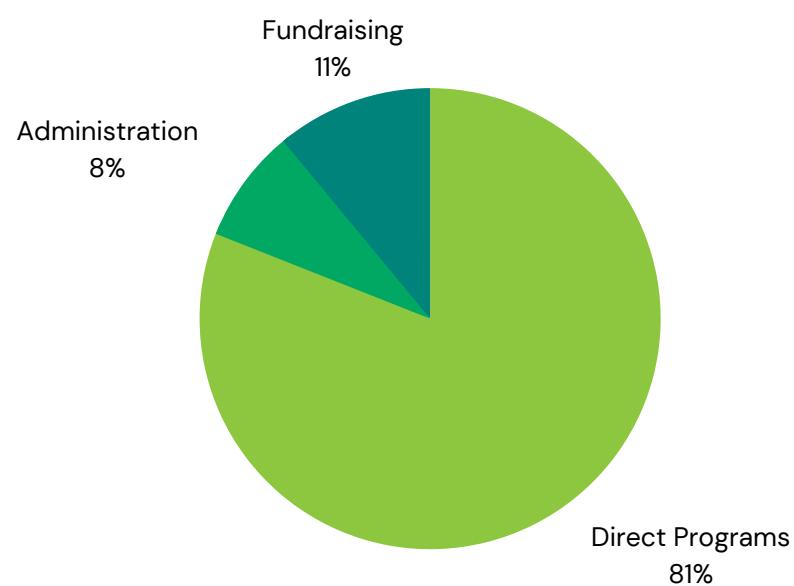
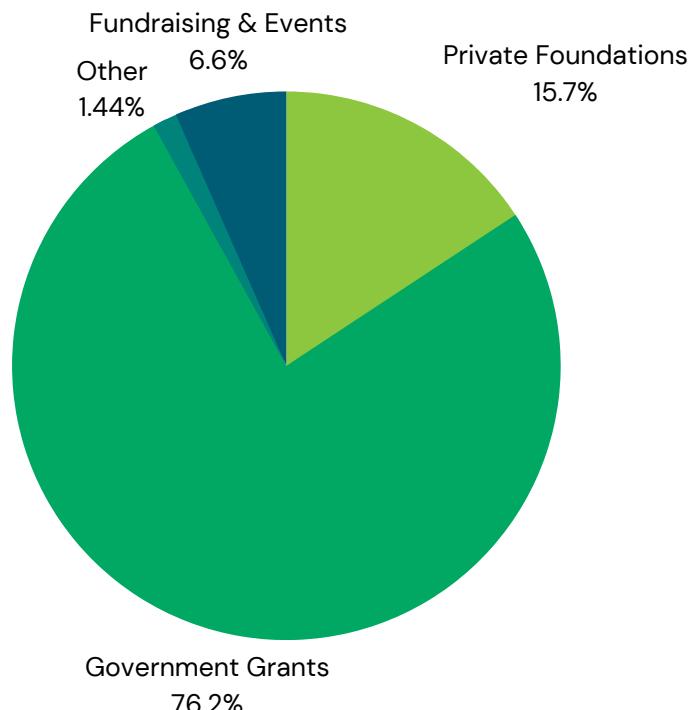
MT BANK
Vanessa Gonzalez Realty Connect

To all our individual donors:

Thank you for your support and the impact you've made!

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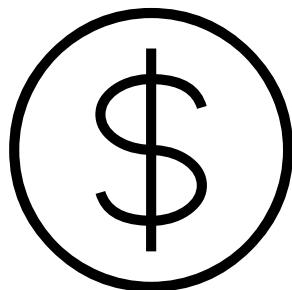


COVID-19 AND FINANCIAL RELIEF EFFORTS



48,500+ INDIVIDUALS REACHED

The Vaccine Saves Lives initiative helped over **165** families receive the flu and/or covid19 vaccines at their local pharmacies. Indirect and direct means of outreach reached over 48,500+ individuals with vaccine information. Over **3,800+ COVID19 protection supplies** such as masks, COVID-19 self tests, and hand sanitizers were also distributed.



\$334,400 DISTRIBUTED

The cash assistance program allotted over families with emergency financial support to access healthy supermarket foods and hygienic supplies.



\$200,000 (Est.) DISTRIBUTED

The emergency rental assistance program (ERAP) helped many families in the Town of Brookhaven with emergency rental assistance financial support.

Social Justice Campaigns

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused long lasting effects on our immigrant community. Our community members were at either two extremes: working at the forefront of the pandemic or unemployed and ineligible for unemployment insurance all while being affected by COVID-19. SEPA Mujer recognized the importance to advocated on behalf of our community members and their families.

7 Campaigns

1. Excluded No More.
2. Coverage for All.
3. Welcoming NY.
4. Language Access.
5. Pathway to Citizenship.
6. Redistricting.
7. Good Neighbor Initiative.



10 Lobby Visits

Lobby Visits for *New York for All*, *Excluded Workers Fund*, and *Coverage for All* in Albany were essential to creating an equitable living for all New Yorkers.



6 Financial Literacy Workshops

15 community members gained financial literacy knowledge this year.

6 Rallies Across Riverhead to Albany

Community members and organizations united their voices to be heard by the social and political in our communities.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS



149 BACKPACKS DISTRIBUTED

Thank you M&T Bank (Riverhead Location) for your donations!



420 MEALS DISTRIBUTED

Thank you to Branches of LI for your food donations!



300+ KIDS RECEIVED TOYS

Thank you to the John Theissen Children's Foundation, Holistic Dental Wellness and NYS Assemblyman Jarett Gandolfo for donating toys this Christmas!

COMMUNITY PROJECTS



FIRST CITIZENSHIP CLINIC

10 individuals helped in 1 day during citizenship clinic & 1 getting sworn in this year.



65 YOUTH ENGAGED

Our first Girls A.C.T. soccer tournament!



6,000 FLYERS DISTRIBUTED

Outreach volunteer and staff reached many individuals across **30 towns** of Long Island!

GIRLS A.C.T.

The Girls A.C.T. (Activists. Creating. Transforming.) program has committed to creating a safe space for growth, mentoring, and leadership development for Suffolk County's Latina youth ages 14-20 years. This year our summer leadership program and bi-monthly chapter meetings provided a warm, constructive, and encouraging space where **24 Latina youth** were mentored and celebrated for their creativity, leadership, and their growing interest in social justice. Participants toured **Suffolk County Community College (Selden & Riverhead Campus), Stony Brook University, and SUNY Old Westbury.**



Girls A.C.T. participants attended a New York Gun Safety Press Conference and met NY Governor Hochul.

159 TOTAL MEETING HOURS

Alin Perez of Girls A.C.T. receiving the Rising Star of the Year award with Patchogue Village Trustee Liz Carillo and Legislator Sam Gonzalez.

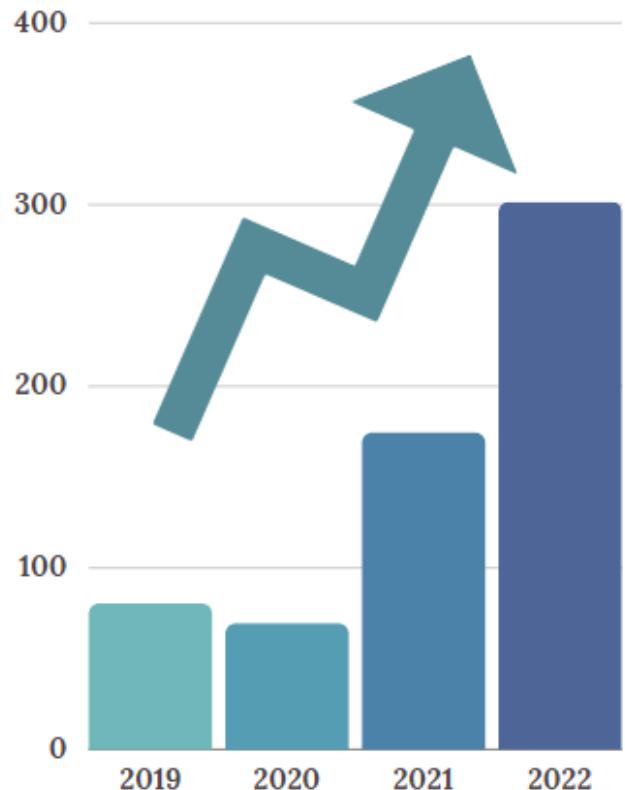


“ Girls A.C.T really teaches you so much about your ancestors that had immigrated from their country to the United States and they show you the obstacles and struggles your people had to go through just because of the language they spoke, the color of their skin and overall just because of their ethnicity. They also teach you how the real world works when it comes to growing up which was what I really needed because I was scared of growing up. -- Itzell Luna, Girls A.C.T. Summer Leadership Academy Graduate

Legal Department Impact

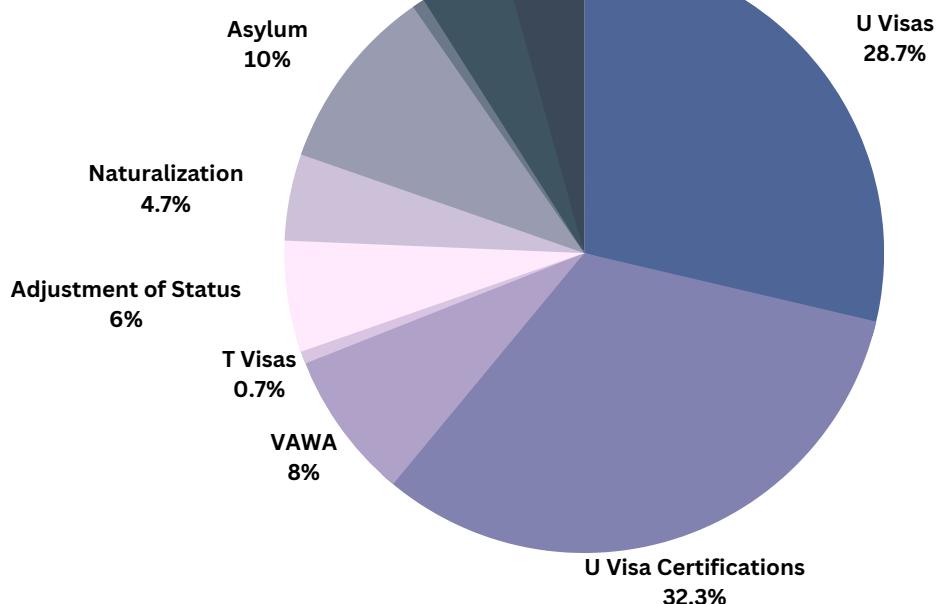
Caseload Growth

The legal department's impact is demonstrated by a **72% caseload growth** from 2021 to 2022. Acquisition of two immigration-dedicated attorneys sparked a **275% caseload increase** in the past four years! Given the current rate of growth we expect to continue to expand our services and widen our reach.



Caseload Matters

Geographically, we serve victims/survivors from all of Long Island. Matters served include U Visas Certifications (32.3%), U Visa (28.7%), Asylum (10%), VAWA (8%), Adjustment of Status (6%), Naturalization (4.7%), SIJS (4.7%), and T Visa (0.7%).



Victim's Assistant Program



Domestic Violence Awareness Vigil

20 attendees at our vigil at Family Court. Thank you to our partners The Retreat, Brighter Tomorrow's, EAC and Hawkeye!



Take Back the Night

Thank you to Suffolk County Community College for hosting us!



104+ Counseling & Support Groups

Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault received support throughout the year.

The Next Step: The Freedom Plan

We serve Latina immigrant victims of Human Trafficking on Long Island through educating our community on labor and sex trafficking, how to properly identify victims and refer them to safe culturally adapted services.

**15 trainings with
the Office of
Victims of Crime**



**14 volunteers with 140
hours of human
trafficking training**



**Over 100 members &
volunteers trained**



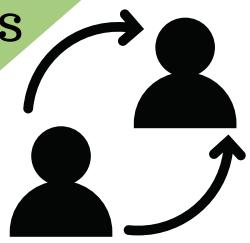
Hotline Ayuda Latina

1200 calls to
our hotline



425 people helped
with case
management services

(833) SM-AYUDA



Our hotline provides services for victims of domestic violence,
human trafficking, sexual assault and legal services.

19 volunteers covers 6,384 hours



325 mental
health referrals

165 housing
referrals

Thriving Latinas Project

Culturally specific programming that focuses on:

- Building strong communication skills
- Promoting positive emotions and practices
- Cultural empowerment
- Leadership encouragement
- Personal action plan

23
attendees
at open
house



“ The classes have helped me to have a little more confidence and I feel calmer. I am distracted by sharing with other women who have gone through the same thing as me and still do. They don't give up because life goes on and we have to keep fighting. Thanks to your support, your advice and your way of welcoming. Since I've been in the group my way of seeing life has changed for the better. -YZ ”

Volunteers

Thank you!

Jacquelin Canizalez
Vilma Chavez
Allison Bonilla
Ana Archaga
Victoria Lopez
Fatima Rodriguez
Karol
Aracely
Matthew
Natasha Torres
Merly Fuentes
Adriana Delgado
Maria Guzman
Elisa Irvolino
Kimberly Zambrano

Allison
Julie
Mariela
Ashley
Jenny
Ludmila Molina
Aide Morales
Nancy Ortiz
Juliana Rodriguez
Ashley Lopez
Itzell Luna
Megan
Nancy Largo
Stephanie Alfaro
Indira Murillo
Elida Alfaro
Maria Castillo
Sara Chilligalli
Estrella Martinez
Alin Perez
Yesenia Garcia

Dilcia Erazo
Marisol Lucero
Juana Torres
Stephanie Leon
Diane
Joseph
Mirna Silveira
Georgina Leon
Ana C. Hernandez
Teresa Serrano
Bertilia Argueta
Flor Reyes
Rhina Mejia
Reina Linarez
Maria E. Toro
Delmi Quintanilla
Jasmin Perez
Liz Aguilar
Deisy Amaya
Mirna Silveira
Ashley Paz
Paula Sabando
Fanny Vera
Allison (Marisol)

Rosemary Rivera
Hayde
Ana Molina
Analia Quispe
Betty Alvarado
Gabriella Ferreira
Joselin Magana
Luna Eskarlata
Luz Estrella
Marcia Estrada
Marcia Gachinado
Maria Argueta
Maria Caballero
Mariella Suarez
Mayra Azusena
Noemi Sanchez
Noreli Norena
Olga Perez
Sandra Calderon
Susana Umana
Yari Deleon
Mariella Molina
Pamela Fernandez
Laura Sofia Castro



Thank you!



We're looking forward to working with you in 2023!

Visit our website to support the advancement of women



24/7 Hotline
(833) SM-AYUDA