



Annual Report

A Year of Growth & Resilience

2025



A Message From Our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

2025 reminded us why El Futuro exists. In a year marked by uncertainty, loss, and increasing barriers to mental health care, our communities continued to show courage, and El Futuro remained committed to walking alongside them. The challenges were real, and at times overwhelming, but so was our determination to keep care accessible, culturally responsive, and rooted in dignity. Indeed, you stood with us in affirming that all humans have worth and value.

This was not an easy year. Families faced stress, and our staff carried heavy loads. Yet, even in these conditions, El Futuro continued to grow. We expanded our reach, strengthened our services, and deepened partnerships that allowed us to respond with flexibility and compassion. Growth in 2025 did not mean moving faster; it meant standing firm, adapting with intention, and choosing resilience every day. Even still, as you will find in this report, we served more people than ever before with remarkable outcomes.

None of this would have been possible without you. To our donors, partners, staff, and community members: your trust and support sustained our work and made it possible to meet this moment with integrity and hope. For many years, your investment has helped El Futuro remain a steady presence for Latino families seeking healing and connection.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for being an essential part of the El Futuro family.




Luke Smith, MD
Executive Director

Here's How Your Support Made a Difference in 2025

Total People Served:*

3,168
in **67 counties**
(11.5% increase)

1,172
through the
walk-in-clinic
(11% increase)

280
through case
management services
in **17 counties**

98
farmworkers through
virtual care

781
through our substance
use treatment program
(30% increase)

2,509
adolescents through
our Latine Adolescents
and Young Adults
Program (LAYA)

1,305
through parenting
groups and
workshops

148
through the Community
Mental Health Workers
Program
(Strong Minds)

Total Visits: 20,690 treatments provided (4% increase over last year)

Client Improvement: 88% stabilization in social and family roles, and **92%** clinical stabilization

Services Expanded:

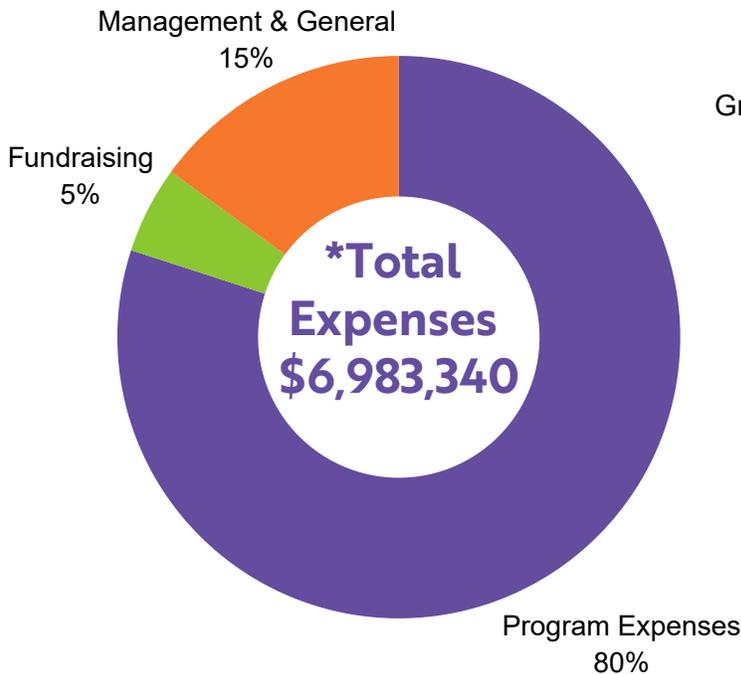
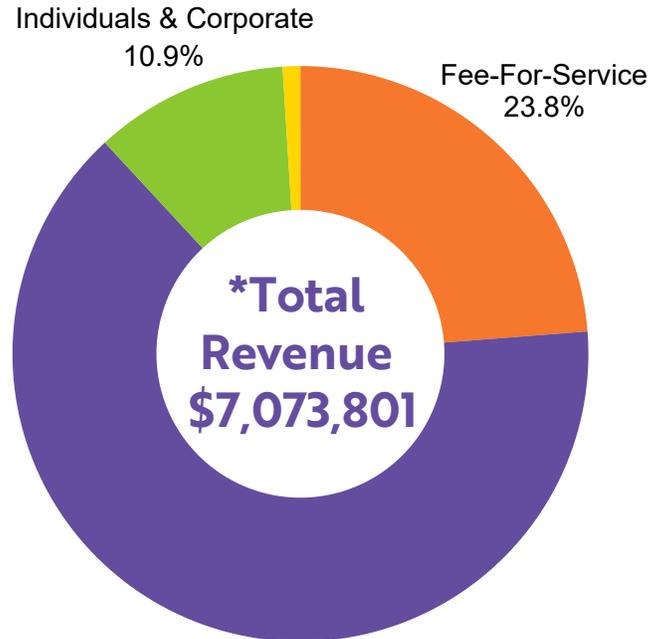
- **6** new Community Mental Health Workers were hired and trained, helping to reach over **1,420** people through outreach events
- **17** referrals and **7** active patients launched our new Peer Support Program
- **2,528** families attended **29** greenspace community events, and **140** volunteers helped
- **558** mental health professionals across North Carolina were trained through our La Mesita Network for Behavioral Health Professionals (33% increase over last year)
- La Mesita's membership in 2025 grew by **3%** to **1,812** members
- **10** clinicians participated in La Academia Cohort #3, El Futuro's internal mental health training program (La Academia is an eight-month program that equips early-career therapists with tools to serve Latino families with confidence, compassion, and cultural humility.)



*Fiscal Year 2025 Data:
July 1, 2024 to
June 30, 2025

Strengthening Futures Through Giving

Behind every number is a commitment to care responsibly for the resources entrusted to us so families can access the mental health support they need at the time they need it.



Tiana Hooker, Controller

“After closing 2024 with a deficit, we set a bold goal to return to the black, and thanks to your extraordinary support, we did just that. We also took important steps toward more sustainable funding, with a growing share of support coming from healthcare partners. As community needs continue to rise, we expect both expenses and revenue to grow, and we remain deeply committed to meeting that growth with transparency, stability, and care.”

*Fiscal Year 2025 Data:
July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025



Thank You to Our Supporters



Behind every service we provide is a network of partners and institutional supporters who believe in equitable, culturally responsive mental health care. We are honored to stand alongside our community partners who made this impact possible.

“We are grateful for the important work that El Futuro does in our community and are excited to continue supporting this mission in 2026!”

- Ruby Bakhshi
Alpaca Co-Owner

- ABC Board of Durham
- Alliance Health
- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation
- Bull City Future Fund, City of Durham
- Burt's Bees Foundation
- Chatham County, North Carolina
- Dogwood Health Trust
- Durham County, North Carolina
- Durham County ABC Board
- Durham Open Space and Trails Commission (DOST)
- F.M. Kirby Foundation
- Foundation for the Carolinas
- Fox Family Foundation
- Frontline Solutions International
- Galloway Ridge Chatham County Charitable Fund
- Governor's Crime Commission
- Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Oak Foundation
- Orange County, North Carolina
- Orange County ABC Boards
- TD Charitable Foundation
- TELUS Agriculture & Consumer Goods
- The Leon Levine Foundation
- Town of Carrboro
- United Way of the Greater Triangle
- University of North Carolina Greensboro

Be Part of the Impact

In addition to grants and individual donations, El Futuro raised critical support through community-powered fundraising events. Our annual **Art Auction** welcomed more than **300 guests**, raised **\$213,000** to advance our mission, and was made possible by **27** local and national sponsors. We invite our supporters to deepen their impact by joining **El Futuro's Partner Club**, hosting a Breathe-a-thon at their business, or sponsoring one of our Kermes Community Fiestas, joyful events that bring neighbors together in support of mental health and wellbeing.



A Path Rooted in Culture, Growing with Intention



Launching Our 2025–2028 Strategic Plan

We are excited to launch El Futuro's new 2025–2028 Strategic Plan—a roadmap shaped by community voice, lived experience, and a deep commitment to equitable, culturally responsive mental health care. This plan reflects where we are headed and the future we are building together.

This moment also calls us to think beyond growth alone. As the need for culturally responsive mental health care continues to rise nationwide, El Futuro is committed to sharing, replicating, and scaling what we have learned, so that communities across the country can build and sustain models of care rooted in dignity, culture, and healing. Our vision is not only to expand access here, but to help shape a future where this kind of support is possible everywhere.

Our 3 Strategic Priorities:

Expand Access: Expand culturally-responsive care through strategic partnerships, new technologies, innovative workforce development, community wisdom, and cultural pride to improve mental well-being across community ecosystems.

Launch a Center of Excellence: Validate the most critical levers of change in our community-rooted, globally-proven mental health framework, and disseminate broadly to amplify our impact.

Build a Thriving Workforce: Invest in the resilience, growth, and leadership of the bilingual workforce, both within El Futuro and across our communities, to sustain and enhance community well-being.

Multiplier Effect

The Strategic Plan will help us to:

- Improve our ability to show value in the system to create long-term economic sustainability of the efforts, hastening the shift to value-based care strategies
- Disseminate this bold new model to exponentially replicate the impacts across underserved communities nationwide
- To position NC as a model for providing community-based mental health support for vulnerable populations at a cost lower than the system can provide





Thank You

This work is rooted in love for our community and sustained by your trust. Together, we continue building spaces where healing and belonging can thrive. We are deeply grateful to walk this path with you.

Your involvement is crucial to this mission. Here's how you can continue to make a difference:

- **Donate:** Your contributions directly support our programs and services.
- **Volunteer:** Share your time and talents to help us reach more people.
- **Partner:** Collaborate with us to create meaningful change in our community.

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