2013 HIGHLIGHTS

114 youth provided with emergency beds
200 households prevented from eviction
1,871 youth & families received comprehensive services to increase their housing stability

Housing

La Casa Norte’s Rapid Rehousing Program provides short-term temporary rental assistance to clients who are employed, experiencing homelessness and living in an emergency shelter. Through this program, La Casa Norte provides a security deposit and up to 3 months in rental assistance to youth and families who aim to increase their housing stability and prevent future homelessness.

132 households placed into apartments in Chicagoland area

The Solid Ground Supportive Housing Program for male-identified youth ages 16-21 provides stable transitional housing for up to 2 years for young people confronting homelessness in Chicago. Our talented and dedicated staff members provide 24-hour support by offering youth services that include life-skills, education and employment services, mentoring, and therapy.

In 2013... Solid Ground gave 35 male-identified youth the opportunity to live in transitional housing where they had access to an array of services and caring mentors to support them in achieving their goals.

Supportive Services

In 2013, our programs expanded to provide emergency shelter for youth confronting homelessness in three different locations throughout Chicago. In addition, we have expanded our drop-in center to support youth during the day. Here we provide youth with a safe environment, mentorship, and the tools that will support them in reaching their goals.

45 total emergency beds serving co-ed youth ages 18-24 who are confronting homelessness in Chicago

La Casa Norte is the lead agency of the Northwest Food Partners Network, a coalition of 16 organizations that focus on issues of food insecurity.

Our Food Initiatives Program reached 350 children through our live Aeggies! A Nutrition Puppet Show which employed 15 youth clients and provided them with employment training. The show was also released on DVD to teach countless young people about the benefits of healthy eating and an active lifestyle.

62% SOLID GROUND YOUTH enrolled in high school, GED, or college courses

20,381 LBS rescued donated food
youth

Juan is 23 years old was referred to us after he was released from Cook County jail and began sleeping at our south side emergency beds program in the Back of the Yards neighborhood. Though Juan’s family offered emotional support to him, they were living in poverty and unable to support his transition from incarceration to stable housing.

While staying in our shelter, Juan learned of other programs we offer at La Casa Norte. During the day, he began utilizing resources at our youth drop-in program to work on his resume, obtain professional clothing, practice his interviewing skills, and secure transportation assistance. Soon after, he was able to secure a part-time job at a local restaurant that allowed him to rent a small room at his friend’s apartment nearby. Juan has continued working with staff at La Casa Norte who have supported him in setting goals for himself and strategizing how he can best use the sanitation license he obtained in jail. Currently, Juan is applying for full-time jobs to increase his income and is excited about the possibility of securing his own apartment with the assistance of La Casa Norte.

families

Christina is a single mother and was living in her family’s home with her 6-year old daughter while she attended college. When their home was foreclosed upon, she had nowhere else to go, forcing her and her daughter to sleep in their car for months at a time.

In order to make ends meet financially, Christina sought work, but had to abandon her college studies to do so. However, even after she found a job, her wages were still not enough to afford a place to live.

At La Casa Norte, we were able to provide her with a security deposit and first month’s rent to secure an apartment. Our case managers offered her and her daughter support and access to other services to help them transition out of homelessness.

Currently, Christina is working, has returned to school, and lives in a safe home with her daughter.

964
VOLUNTEERS

2,765
VOLUNTEER HOURS

- Painting La Casa Norte’s south side emergency beds program.
- Runners in the 2013 Bank of America Chicago Marathon fundraising for La Casa Norte
- Distribution of winter coats to clients during the winter
- Cooking Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for clients in our housing programs.
- Wrapped gifts to ensure all of the youth and children in our programs had a special holiday.
2013 FINANCIALS

La Casa Norte Revenue 2013

Corporate/Religious/In-Kind 2%
Foundations 17%
Individuals 4%
Special Events 4%
Government 75%

La Casa Norte Expenses 2013

Fundraising 9%
Management & General 8%
Community & Support Services 24%
Casa Corazon 21%
Solid Ground 14%
Scattered Site Housing 25%

FOR A LIST OF DONORS, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.LACASANORTE.ORG

“YOUTH are in very different places when they come to Solid Ground. They have varying relationship with their families and support networks. We work really hard with these young people to build upon the strength and resiliency they bring to build upon the necessary skills they need to become stable in their housing.”
— Shawn Decker, La Casa Norte Program Coordinator

“A home is more than just brick and mortar. It’s a sense of safety and security for people and their loved ones... At La Casa Norte, we provide that…”
— Isaac Gonzalez, La Casa Norte Housing Team

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