

In 2021, families of children with disabilities struggled with missed special education services, delayed diagnostic evaluations, disability stigma, community isolation and more. In response, VELA showed up bigger and better by expanding our geographic reach and services!

# 2021 IMPACT REPORT

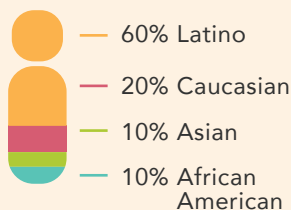
## VELA SERVES FAMILIES WITH DIFFERENT DIAGNOSES AND BACKGROUNDS

SERVING OVER

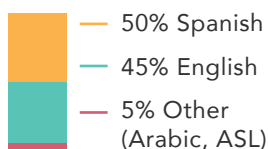
**21**

**DIFFERENT  
DIAGNOSES**

Down Syndrome, Autism,  
ADHD and more



**LANGUAGE SPOKEN**



**91%**

of families  
receive  
medicaid

## CREATING ACCESS FOR MORE FAMILIES

Our virtual programming allowed us to serve families across 84 zip codes. Now, any family of a child with a disability can join us from anywhere.

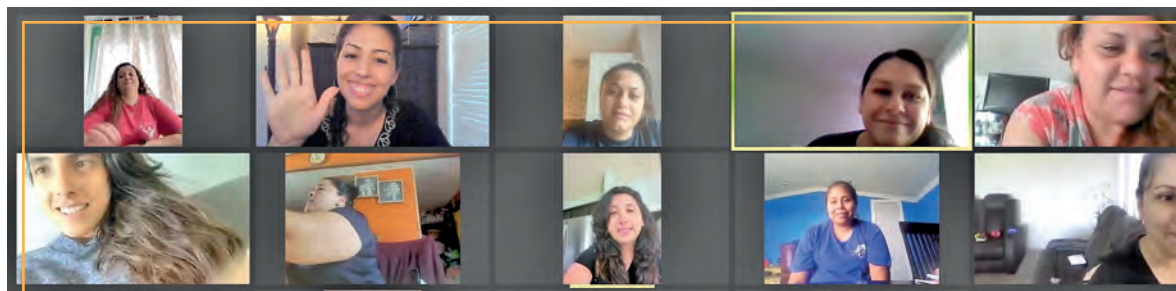


I gained **KNOWLEDGE**.  
I now understand my child's  
diagnosis and how to get  
more ambitious special  
education services.  
Brian, Austin Tx

I gained **RESOURCES**.  
I now know which therapies  
to access, what supports to  
get after school and who to  
call when I need more  
support. Lorena, Houston Tx

I gained **EMPOWERMENT**.  
I now know I am my child's  
strongest advocate- I know  
how to get what he needs.  
Tania, San Antonio Tx

Ahora tengo **COMUNIDAD**.  
Se que no estoy sola en este  
camino. (I gained Community.  
I now know I am not alone on  
this journey.) Selma, McAllen Tx



## GROWTH YEAR-OVER YEAR

VELA SERVICES	2020	2021	20-21 % CHANGE
# of Graduates from our 4 Courses	150	256	<b>70%</b> increase in overall graduates as a result of virtual programming access
# of Case Management Sessions	134	258	<b>92%</b> increase as a result of increased special education supports
# of families in Support Groups	173	250	<b>33%</b> increase of families joining Monthly Support Groups
# of Referrals from our Website	179	351	<b>96%</b> increase of referrals from healthcare providers

We were busy! We also served 967 families through our Drive thru Family Fun Days and 293 families through workshops with school districts.

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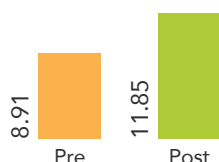


## 2021 OUTCOMES

VELA is values-driven and data-informed. All families that participate in VELA's courses complete standardized pre and post tests to measure change. In 2021, after just 5 sessions of our virtual courses, hundreds of families reported significant improvements in advocating for services, building community and accessing emotional support, knowing their rights and connecting to resources.

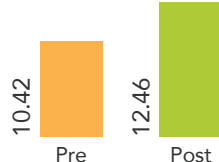
I know who to contact and what to do when I have questions or concerns.

33% ↑



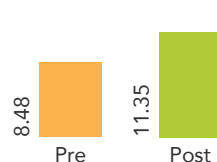
I am able to talk with other families who have a child with similar needs.

20% ↑



I know my rights related to my child's disabilities.

34% ↑



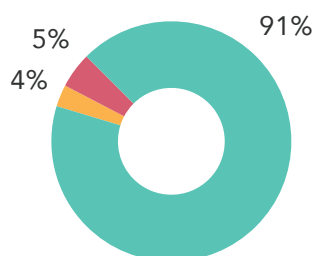
I am able to find and use the services and programs available to me.

20% ↑



## EXPENSES

\$349,008



- 91% Program Services
- 4% Administrative
- 5% Fundraising

## MUCHAS GRACIAS TO OUR 2021 FUNDERS

Our grantors and corporate sponsors:

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Shield Ayres Foundation                      | URS Medical                           |
| Superior HealthPlan                          | Austin's First Steps                  |
| Northwest Sertoma                            | Sonrisas Therapies                    |
| Ascension                                    | Child Neurology Consultants of Austin |
| Regions Bank                                 | Cigna Foundation                      |
| Charles Schwab                               | MAYA Consulting                       |
| Charles Maund Toyota                         | ACF Hispanic Impact Fund              |
| Donald D. Hammill Foundation                 | HEB Tournament of Champions           |
| Garrison Family Foundation                   | Siete Family Foods                    |
| Austin Smiles                                | Liz Olivarez State Farm               |
| Tito's Handmade Vodka                        | Coalition of Texans with Disabilities |
| UT Health Austin Pediatric Neurosciences     | Kendra Scott                          |
| Independent Pool and Spa Service Assoc. Inc. | TKO Advertising                       |
| Every Texan                                  | Hispanic Heritage Fund                |