

Shepherd  
**Best** of  
Milwaukee  
★ 2019  
**WINNER**



# La Causa, Inc. 2019 Annual Report



**La Causa**, Inc.

Where Children and Families Come First

# Letter from the Board Chair and President & CEO

Dear Friends,

We can't believe we ended another great year and decade! 2019 was a remarkable year for us with many milestones. We served more than 4,600 individuals through our Crisis Nursery, Early Education & Care Center, Social Services (adult and youth programs), and the Charter School.

Our Charter School once again received an "Exceeds Expectations" rating from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Thanks to your vote, Shepherd Express named La Causa as Nonprofit of the Year in their Best of 2019 issue. This is a testament to all the hard work from our staff.

We are also happy to announce that after 48 years, we are breaking ground on corporate offices for our administration division. We hope you enjoy reading about each of our divisions and their highlights. We truly couldn't do the work we do without our partners, donors and volunteers. Thank YOU for being a part of the La Causa family.

Sincerely,



**Lyman Tschanz**  
Board Chair



**George A. Torres**  
President & CEO

# 2019 Board of Directors

Lyman Tschanz, Chair  
Rockwell Automation

George A. Torres,  
President & CEO  
La Causa, Inc.

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Associated Benefits &  
Risk Consulting

Erika Colon  
Advocate Aurora Health

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TKK Electronics

Teri Severinsen  
Midwest Fiber Networks  
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Lockton Companies, LLC





# Charter School

La Causa Charter School is an authorized, non-instrumentality charter school of Milwaukee Public Schools that provides education to students in K4 through 8th grade in a bilingual, multicultural environment. Our dedicated teachers and staff provide high-quality educational instruction, afterschool programs and support that motivates students to reach their full potential.



## What We Do:

- Our robust *Careers in Technology* curriculum includes:
  - Robotics
  - Project Lead the Way
  - Eagle News Network (ENN)
  - Computer Labs I and II where students learn:
    - Web & App Design
    - Animation & Special Effects
    - Coding
- Bilingual and Dual Language programs in English and Spanish
- Before and After school programs
- Extracurricular activities including:
  - Choir and Cultural Dance
  - Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts
  - Guitar Ensembles & Orchestra
  - Girls on the Run & Boys on Track
  - Soccer, Volleyball & Taekwondo
- Afterschool Academic Program
- High school and college scholarship program
- UnidosUS programs
- College partnerships:
  - University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee/ College prep program
  - University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh – STEAM, Smart & Spaces, SMARTS, SAFE



“Any time anyone asks me about La Causa, I highly recommend them. I have three daughters and would never think of sending them anywhere else.”  
- Norma, Parent



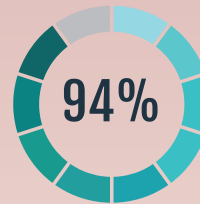


# 2019 Highlights

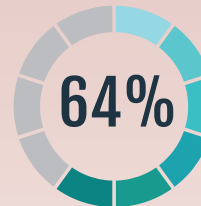
- For the third consecutive year, the Charter School earned an Exceeds Expectations rating from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
- The Charter School was awarded a grant towards robotics from the Toshiba Foundation! During that grant round, we were the only Wisconsin organization to receive a grant.
- Much-needed new computers were purchased for the school thanks to the Brewers Community Foundation, Frank Weyenberg Charitable Trust, Lowe's Toolbox for Education and the Pick Charitable Trust.
- Delta Dental awarded the Charter School with a new water filling station. They celebrated with an assembly where students learned about the importance of drinking water and received a new water bottle and toothbrush.
- The parent committee sponsored two community events for the school - Breakfast with Santa and El Día del Niño.
- The Afterschool program was revamped and now includes academic-focused instruction by licensed teachers in small groups.



8th grade graduation rate



Qualify for free or reduced lunch



Students are English Language Learners



# Crisis Nursery & Respite Center

For 30 years, La Causa Crisis Nursery & Respite Center (CNRC) has been addressing the issue of child abuse and neglect by keeping children out of harm's way. The CNRC is a 12-bed shelter and a free resource to the community.

The CNRC is the only facility of its kind in Wisconsin, providing a safe haven to children ages birth to 12 as families face homelessness, domestic violence, medical needs or other emergencies. Children can stay a few hours or up to three days. In addition to care in times of crisis, parents are also able to request respite care for their children during times of high stress.

## What We Do:

- Remain open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year at no charge.
- Provide home-cooked meals, warm baths, clean beds, transportation to and from school and other necessities for children.
- Empower families through support which helps to stabilize the families. Our dedicated staff cares for children and helps identify resources to strengthen families and alleviate stress.



"La Causa is such a lifesaver. I'm able to rest and recharge to keep going. I love the Nursery."  
- Latasha H.



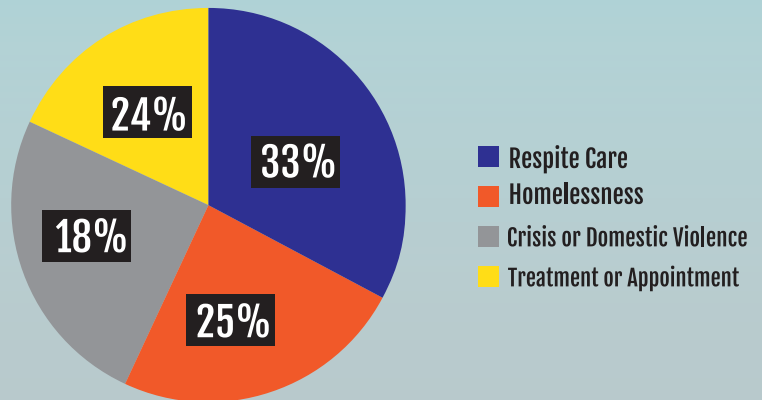
# 2019 Highlights:

- The Tropical-Luau themed Annual Fundraiser & Celebration raised more than \$100,000 for the CNRC.
- Outcomes are measured throughout the year by reviewing case files and documentation, obtaining feedback from parents via a survey developed by United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County and tracking the number of reports the CNRC makes to the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS).

## Our 2019 Results:

- 100% of children served received quality care in a safe environment.
- 95% of parents that utilized the Crisis Nursery reported decreased stress levels.
- 95% of families reported increased positive interactions with family and friends.

## 2019 Reasons For Stay





# Early Education & Care Center

The Early Education & Care Center (EECC) is a full-service bilingual center that focuses on the education and development of children ages birth to 3 years old in a creative, positive learning environment. The EECC also offers before and after school programs and summer programs for children up to age 12. All children receive developmental screenings, create goals with their parents and track progress to ensure they are on target to achieving age-appropriate skills.

## What We Do:

- Infant and Toddler Care is provided to children ages 4 weeks to 36 months.
- Three & Ready is developed for children ages 3-4, providing them with the skills and knowledge needed to prepare for Kindergarten.
- Early Head Start provides education to children ages 4 weeks to 3 years old.
- Before and After School provides homework assistance, games and enrichment activities to children up to age 12.
- An eight-week summer camp for children up to age 12.



# 2019 Highlights:

- Maintained a 5-star rating by the State of Wisconsin's YoungStar program. Only 19% of all centers in the State of Wisconsin have achieved this rating.
- Started a new family initiative with all children under age 3. We began connecting children's individual goals with free activities that family can do with their children. We collected 2,217 hours of high-quality intentional positive family interaction in 2019.
- The summer camp theme was "Sports Extravaganza" with field trips to Lambeau Field, Brewers games, mini-golf, bowling and swimming. The intent of summer camp is to expose children to new experiences and learning.
- A new parking lot was installed at the EECC, providing additional spaces for families during pickup.



"I always feel welcome when I come to the Early Education & Care Center. My children are both turning out to be well-behaved, socialized students and they have met all milestones on time. The teachers' profound experience, talents and big hearts are the key to La Causa's success." - Angela, Parent

# Social Services - Adult Programs

Our Adult Social Services provides an array of supportive, recovery and strength-based services for adults and families throughout Milwaukee County. Core service areas include mental health, substance use and recovery support.



## What We Do:

- Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Ancillary Services
- CLASP
- Treatment Services Clinic
- Recovery Support Coordination (RSC)
- Crisis Mobile Team Expansion
- WATTS
- Targeted Case Management

## 2019 Highlights:

- Launched a new mental health therapy group for the outpatient clinic. The group is open to adults with mental health needs.
- Formed a new partnership with the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee to offer a weekly free legal clinic in the Community Enrichment Center.
- The Crisis Mobile team expanded to a more effective assessment tool, allowing for improved scheduling, response time and increased accuracy of gathering data.



“One of Jackie’s clients called me last month to tell me what a great help Jackie had been to her in her recovery. She had been in our program for almost two years and also participated in Family Drug Treatment Court. She was maintaining sobriety, had her children returned, and was living independently at her time of discharge. She said Jackie was “wonderful” and was the reason for her success.”

- Jackie is a Recovery Support Coordinator





# Social Services - Youth Programs

Our Youth Social Services provides developmental and supportive services for youth and families who experience mental or emotional health needs and create a plan that helps them improve the quality of their lives. Whether services are court-ordered or voluntary, our programs focus on a strength-based approach that encourages stability, empowerment and family development.

## What We Do:

- Wraparound
- Project O-YEAH
- Comprehensive Community Services (CCS)
- Treatment Foster Care (TFC)
- Coordinated Opportunities for Recovery & Empowerment (CORE)
- REACH Care Coordination

## 2019 Highlights:

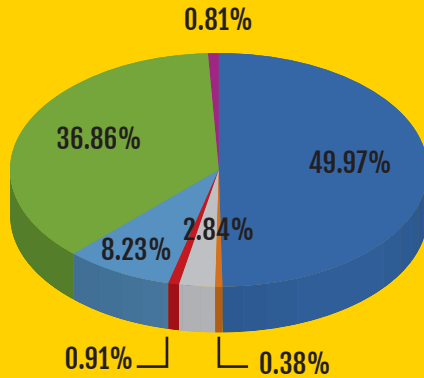
- La Causa continues to be the only Wraparound agency participating in the Division of Youth & family Services Aftercare Collaborative for youth transitioning back into the community from corrections.
- The O-YEAH team has now become the largest out of all the agencies.
- A third CORE team was launched in July.
- La Causa remains the only agency that can work with Spanish-speaking CORE enrollments.
- TFC had four children reunified with their parents and four children adopted by foster parents in 2019.



"I am writing to give you an update on the superior service, hard work, dedication, attention to detail and over all amazing work Heidi has displayed since she came on our case. She is very thorough and dedicated."

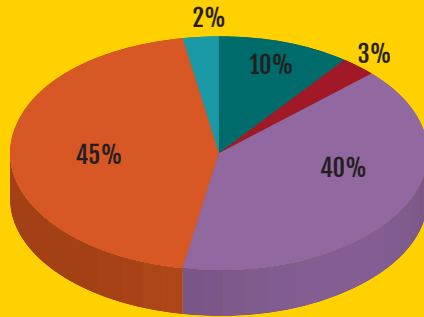
– Michelle, REACH parent

# 2019 Financials



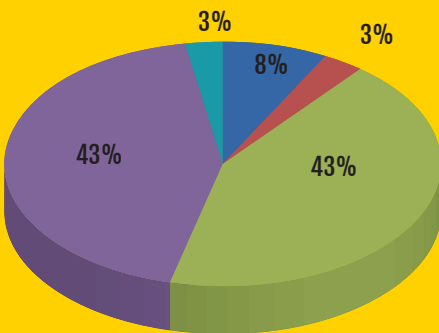
## 2019 Revenue By Sources

Government	\$9,607,217
United Way	\$73,310
Donations	\$546,929
Special Events	\$174,071
Child Care & Program Fees	\$1,583,050
Fees for Service	\$7,084,590
Miscellaneous	\$155,403
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$19,224,570</b>



## 2019 Revenue By Division

Early Education & Care Center	\$1,983,689
Crisis Nursery & Respite Center	\$543,581
Social Services	\$7,620,538
Charter School	\$8,580,003
Supporting Services	\$496,759
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$19,224,570</b>



## 2019 Expenses

Early Education & Care Center	\$1,429,736
Crisis Nursery & Respite Center	\$536,928
Social Services	\$7,628,430
Charter School	\$7,726,306
Supporting Services	\$452,169
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$17,773,569</b>

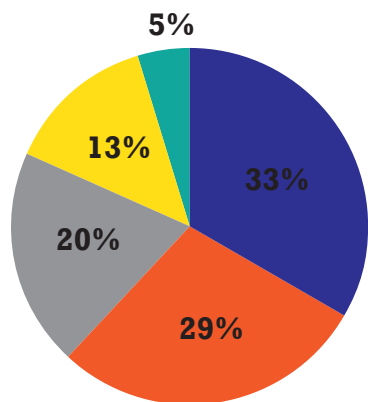
## Assets

Current Assets	\$4,794,323
Property, Plant & Equipment	\$9,787,344
Other	\$205,607
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$14,787,274</b>

## Liabilities

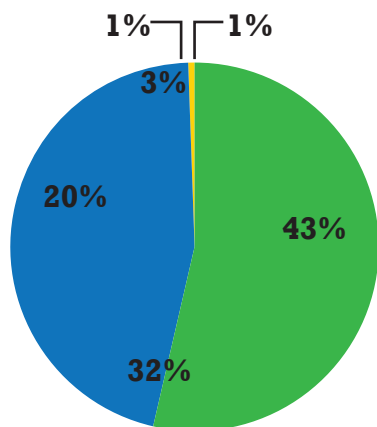
Current Liabilities	\$5,748,022
Long-term Liabilities	\$1,861,807
Net Assets (Deficit)	\$7,177,445
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$14,787,274</b>

# 2019 Client Data



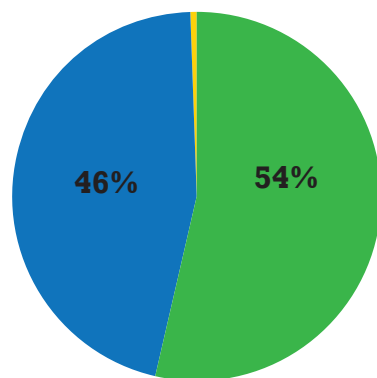
## Total Individuals Served by Division

Social Services Adult	1557
Charter School	1335
Crisis Nursery	912
Social Services Youth	631
Early Education & Care	215
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,650</b>



## Total Individuals Served by Ethnicity

Hispanic	1,977
African American:	1,502
White	934
Other	153
Asian	48
American Indian/ Alaskan	36
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,650</b>



## Total Individuals Served by Gender

Female	2493
Male	2136
other	21
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,650</b>





# Thank you to our 2019 Donors

## Donations of \$250 or more

### Foundations

American Cancer Society – Kohl's Healthy Families grant  
Bader Philanthropies, Inc.  
Brakebush Family Foundation  
Brewers Community Foundation, Inc.  
Draper & Kramer Foundation  
The Farrior Family Fund  
Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation  
Four-Four Foundation, Inc.  
The Gardner Foundation  
Greater Milwaukee Association of Realtors' Youth Foundation

### Businesses

Anonymous  
Associated Benefits & Risk Consulting  
Aurora Health Care  
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP  
Charles Schwab & Co. – Mequon Independent Branch  
Children's Community Health Plan  
Educator's Credit Union  
Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin  
Gartner Inc.  
GE Healthcare  
Green Bay Packers  
Greendale Community Church  
Gruber Law Offices, LLC  
Hall, Render, Killian, Heath & Lyman, P.C.  
Hunger Task Force, Inc.  
Innovative Fiber LLC

William and Sandy Heitz Family Foundation  
Herzfeld Foundation  
Kohl's Community Relations - Field Trip Program  
Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant  
Milwaukee Bucks Foundation  
Navient Foundation of the Delaware Community Foundation  
Northwestern Mutual Foundation  
Palmer Family Foundation, Inc.  
Park Bank Foundation, Inc.  
Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation  
Melitta S. and Joan M. Pick Charitable Trust

Johnson Controls – Women's Network  
KAPCO Inc.  
King of Glory Lutheran Church  
Landmark Credit Union  
Leader Paper Products, Inc.  
Lockton Companies, LLC  
Marcus Theatres Corporation  
Midwest Fiber Networks, LLC  
Milwaukee Urban League  
MSI General Corporation  
Park Bank  
Peoples State Bank  
PNC Bank  
Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, S.C.  
Rockwell Automation, Inc.  
St. Mary Catholic Faith Community  
Straight Up, Inc.

Racine Dominicans Mission Fund  
The ROS Foundation  
Service Club of Milwaukee, Inc.  
Burton and Audrey Strnad Donor Advised Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation  
Toshiba America Foundation  
Veridian Foundation, Inc.  
Waukesha County Community Foundation / Wildcat Fund  
We Energies Foundation  
Weiss Family Foundation  
The Frank L. Weyenberg Charitable Trust  
Wochinske Family Foundation

The Nurturing Nook, Inc.  
TKK Electronics LLC  
UMOS Inc.  
UnidosUS  
UnitedHealth Group  
United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County  
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago  
Wellenstein & Sons, Inc.  
Wellspring Construction Group, LLC



# Individuals

Anonymous	Harry & Lisa Gramoll	Greg & Rebecca Melgares	Tim & Meg Schoenecker
David & Linda Arend	Sara Grover	Rodney & Cynthia Michael	Kathy Schultz
Robbie & Sandy Armstrong	Steve & Kristin Hasbrook	Aaron Miller	Teri Severinsen
Isabel Bader	Tony "Radar" Hess	Doug & Ginny Mills	Chris & John Smith
Tom & Kristy Banaszak	Trudie Hughes-Sontoski & Lawrence Sontoski	Susan Mogren	Steven & Lisa Sperka
John Blanchard & Elizabeth Vokac	Niksa & Kelly Ivancevic	William Mongan & Linda Mohr	Kevin & Kim Stoll
Keith & Elizabeth Blystone	Nancy & Frank Jelen	Cassandra Morales-Salcedo	Thomas & Marilyn Swiontek
David & Erin Burchett	Eduard Jimenez	Michael & Victoria Morrison	Ken & Chris Szafranski
James & Julie Cappleman	Adam Jussel	Jennifer Nissen	Zachary & Mercedes Taft
Aaron Carreno	Christopher & Sharon Kailas	Julie Olson	James Tamblingson Jr.
Roy & Teena Cook	Brad & Amy Kay	Cynthia & Nef Pagan	Adam & Dori Tooke
Patrick & Carol Corbett	Kurt & Kathleen Kellogg	Pedro Pierri	George & Denise Torres
Gustavo & Jana Cueto	Robert & Julie Kotecki	Jose & Ana Pimienta	Thomas & Susan Touchett
Dan DeBehnke	Douglas & Barb Lackey	Carolyn Rausch	Lyman & Susan Tschanz
Karl & Lisa Dickson	Martha Lamelas	Julio & Veronica Reyes	Jennifer Vankirk
Jerry Doran	Lloyd & Cynthia LaRoque	Scott & Diane Roeker	Daniel & Viet Vignieri
Catherine & Kevin Flaherty	David Leiker	Cheryl Rosinski	Jill Wesloski
Andy & Jan Fleckenstein	Kenneth & Daphne Little	Scott & Amy Sanders	Brian & Rebekah Wickert
Henry & Barbara Fuldner	Dr. Raúl & Pamela Mateo	Killian & Caroline Schachtlie	Ralph & Marilyn Wilke
David Garcia		Karl Schoendorf	Randall & Sara Wondergem
Andres & Jessica Gonzalez			Zapata Family

# Group Volunteers & In-Kind support

American Family Insurance	Humana, Inc.	New Threads of Hope, Inc.
Amerigraphics Group	Johnson Controls	Old St. Mary's Parish
Annex Wealth Management	Junior League of Milwaukee	Our Lady of Divine Providence Parish
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP	Kforce	Rockwell Automation, Inc.
BMO Harris Bank	Kids in Need Foundation	Rotaract Milwaukee
Brady Corporation	J.K. Lee Black Belt Academy	Saint Peter & Paul Parish
Braise Restaurant & Culinary School	La Causa, Inc. Tropical Luau volunteers	Scout & Molly's of Brookfield
Boucher Automotive Group	La Causa, Inc. Employees	Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
Cardinal Stritch University	Lela Boutique	Spectrum Investment Advisors
Carroll & Van James Studios of Photography	Manheim Milwaukee	St. Mary Catholic Faith Community
Colonial Life Insurance	Mayor Barrett's Office	The Jewelry Center
Delta Dental of Wisconsin Foundation	Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club	The Sybaris Pool Suites
DoubleTree Hotel	Milwaukee Labor Council	Tiffany Kells Photography
Eaton	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District	United Way Day of Action Interns
Family of Four Parishes	Milwaukee PBS	United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County
Fleck Scholars	Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM)	Wisconsin Athletic Club
Godfrey & Kahn, S.C.	Milwaukee Repertory Theater	W Girls
Hispanic Professionals of Greater Milwaukee	Molson Coors Beverage Company	Wipfli LLP
HSA Bank		

# Engage with us!

Be a part of La Causa. We couldn't do our work without the time and generosity of our volunteers and supporters. How can you help?

- **Make a tax-deductible donation** to support any of our divisions.
- **Spread the word!** Follow us on social media for the latest news, stories, events and more. Like and share our posts!
- **Volunteer with us!** Volunteers make the difference in the lives of the families we serve by cooking meals, reading to children, helping with homework, assisting at our annual gala or by helping in one of our facilities.
- **Host a donation drive!** Our divisions are always in need of items such as books, school supplies, coats, formula, diapers, etc.
- **Become a sponsor** at our annual gala or donate an auction item

Contact the Awareness & Engagement Department to find out how you can plug in!  
Engage@lacausa.org or (414) 316-5511.

To make a safe and easy donation online, please visit [www.lacausa.org](http://www.lacausa.org).





# Locations

## Administration

136 W. Greenfield Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
414.647.8750

## La Causa Charter School

1643 S. 2nd Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
414.902.1660

## Crisis Nursery & Respite Center

522 W. Walker Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
414.647.5990

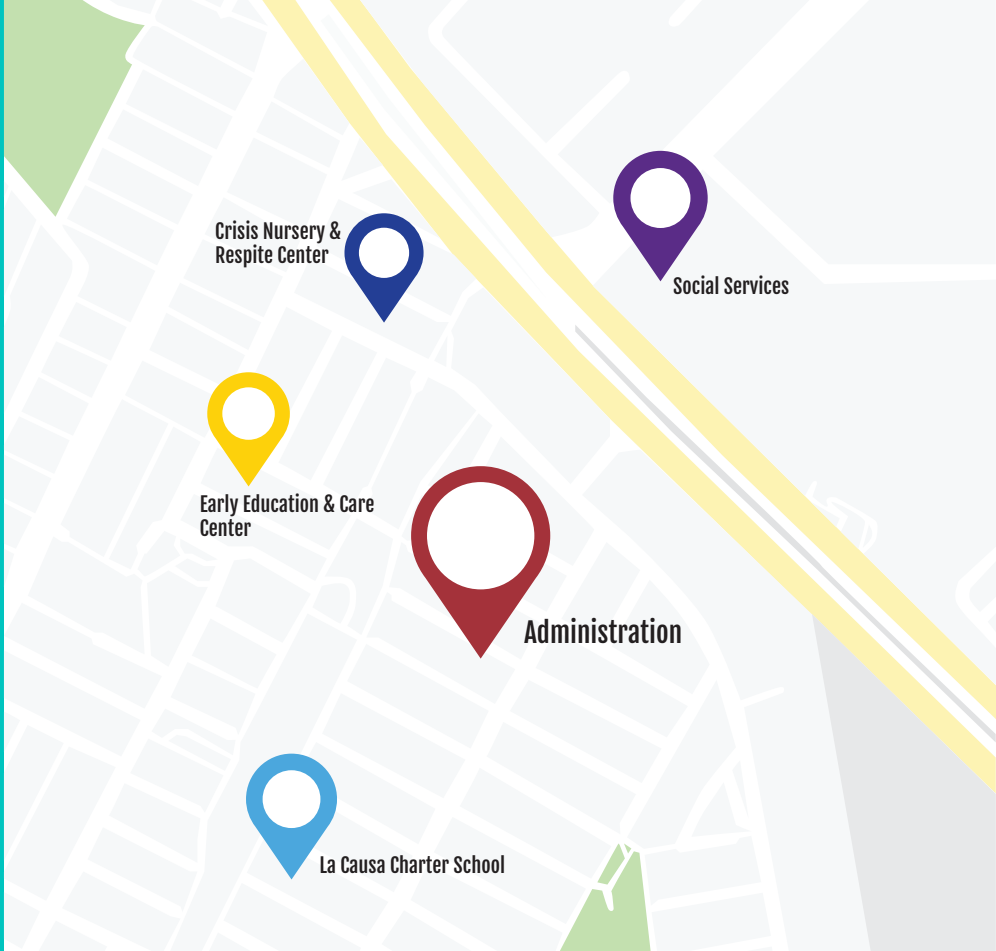
## Early Education & Care Center

809 W. Greenfield Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
414.647.5980

## Social Services

5235 N. Ironwood Road  
Glendale, WI 53217  
414.902.1500

[www.lacausa.org](http://www.lacausa.org)





**La Causa**, Inc.

Where Children and Families Come First

# WHERE & CHILDREN





# **& FAMILIES COME FIRST**





*Thank you for your support!*



[www.lacausa.org](http://www.lacausa.org)

2019 Annual Report

La Causa, Inc. is an AA/EEOC/LEP Employer and Participates in E-Verify. We are an equal opportunity service provider.