As we launched 2020, we had no idea that the world we knew would change forever. We saw incredible opportunities to pivot quickly as COVID-19 fears shifted everyone's perspective. We continued to believe in and advocate for families in Redwood City like never before.

Our hard-working families are strong and incredibly resilient in the face of mounting challenges that change every day. In the midst of a global pandemic, political conflict, racial unrest, and disparity in our communities, we found that people can be kind and generous, looking beyond themselves to form new rhythms that include being a blessing to those in most need in Silicon Valley. There was a shift from personal concerns to community awareness and actively working together to find solutions with families.

Thank you to our incredible staff, who have forged the way to accomplish great things. Watching you shine in the midst of great transition has been nothing short of miraculous. Our dedicated board members, community and corporate partners, and many volunteers embody the mentality that a kind smile delivering essential provisions can make a world of difference to a family in need.

We are humbled and honored to continue our work. We rejoice over the many positive outcomes through your help and support! Here are some of the great reports: new relationships being formed, new volunteers and programs launched, expansion of our staff, board, donor base, and new offices in 2021.

There are still challenges and work to do ahead in educational equity, minority business opportunities, and continued emergency support. Together we will continue to do good and be bridge builders as we empower a community to succeed in crisis and beyond.

All I can say is a resounding THANK YOU! Let’s continue our work together. So many children and families are counting on us to do the right things every single day. We have much to do together this year. Would you continue to partner with us in 2021 to affect change while addressing the economic disparity and education gap together?

Angie Ibarra Miller
Founder & Executive Director
Generations United (GU) empowers children and families of North Fair Oaks (NFO), Redwood City & surrounding neighborhoods with a high LatinX population to reach their full potential through building relationships via Academic Enrichment Centers (AECs) that equip them to succeed. AECs are situated at or near public schools, providing a safe after-school venue where adult volunteers come alongside elementary-age students and impart literacy & study skills. AECs offer wraparound services through local partners, providing instruction in ESL, nutrition, fitness, dance, and personal safety. They also provide emergency assistance (which includes weekly food drives) for families adversely affected by Covid-19, economic displacement, and ongoing immigration challenges.

Educational programming has been a key component of GU since its inception. Mentoring students, Mom’s ESL, and Redwood City Reads were early programs (2011) that created a foundation for the current Academic Enrichment Centers - as part of GU’s service to socioeconomically disadvantaged children and families in North Fair Oaks and Redwood City. Another critical component in all of Generations United’s services is the connection and support to the community. GU intentionally builds relationships with our community and collaborates with other community agencies to identify effective ways to advocate for our students and families.

Our “secret sauce” is our volunteers. We utilize and empower our community volunteer base to be actively involved with providing our services - a real hallmark of our work’s importance and a testament to GU’s reputation and trust in the community. We will continue to increase our emergency relief efforts in the face of COVID-19’s calamitous effects on the social and economic well-being of our most vulnerable families.

Language barriers, employment stress, discrimination, and poor living conditions combine to undermine children’s ability to learn and thrive. Stressors of the family impact children and exacerbate their health factors like proper nutrition, sleep, and mental health, negatively affecting their ability to engage in learning. These harsh on-the-ground realities make the families of NFO a truly at-risk community.
AECs
Academic Enrichment Centers

GU has used a targeted approach over the past decade to meet educational inequality by developing long term relationships via our academic enrichment centers. The AECs are intentionally designed to serve this community by:

1. Focusing on literacy.
2. Providing whole-family, wraparound services.
3. Centering the work relationally.
4. Fostering local collaboration.

The GU model has afforded us the opportunity to continue to work with students one-on-one in the midst of school closures and an ever-changing pandemic environment. We take all safety and sanitization precautions while still providing a fun and safe space for students, staff, and volunteers. Volunteers can still come and read as well as support students in their academic studies. Additionally, we have been able to take field trips and plan to incorporate more activities into our daily routine.

We now operate several AECs throughout the community and on-campus at Connect Community Charter school. This provides a much-needed space for students who had been challenged to complete their virtual studies without adequate educational and technological support and were already living in cramped environments.

"We are so grateful for the work of Generations United. We are more like a family because they understand what is happening in our community. They truly care about our families. We feel blessed by the encouragement and support we have received for over a decade." - Gloria Rangel, Parent
RESPIRA STEAM CAMP
Thanks to our partners at the City of Redwood City and PAL, we were able to provide a safe and fun learning environment for 30 students over the course of 8 weeks this summer. Twenty volunteers, our dedicated staff, and local community members and organizations helped make this possible by cooking meals, driving students, and providing camp activities (art, math, sports, and more).

CAKES FOR KIDS
Cakes 4 Kids is a nationwide organization with local chapters. The gifted and generous bakers make goodies for kids who need celebrating! We celebrated 30 students in 2020 with beautiful cakes, cupcakes, and treats.

SPONSOR A FAMILY
Nearly 500 members of our community were blessed with holiday cheer in the form of clothing, toys, festive meals, and so much more. With 50 caring neighbors’ help, we brought JOY to families at the end of a very trying year. Volunteers and staff shopped, wrapped, cooked, and delivered to over 80 beautiful families. What a thrill!

GU has worked with Edgar’s family since he was in elementary school. He made some shifts in his health last year and was reliant on his bike to get to and from school and for daily exercise. One of our faithful donors and volunteers learned that Edgar’s bike had broken down. Jenn reached out to Buck, who rallied with a group of men to bless Edgar with a new one.

“These men didn’t even know Edgar but wanted to help. They had no connection to him or even cycling really, and yet they were compelled to do something good.” - Buck Ellis
Our most significant challenge in 2020 was to respond to the families affected by Covid-19. When California closed schools on March 16, Generations United began a new service era to our families. With no physical space to gather our students and families safely, we shifted strategies and worked diligently to provide support and resources to our community. The devastation was unprecedented. Parents were out of work, unable to pay rent, utilities, or even provide groceries to feed their families.

Workers who were deemed “essential” faced tremendous challenges as they struggled to secure childcare or academic supervision for their children who had been forced into virtual school models. GU staff and volunteers have been actively engaged in helping families navigate these difficult times by assisting with emergency fund applications, educating them about rent and eviction moratoriums, pointing them to community agencies for support, mental health, and immigration services.

Due to the overwhelming financial challenges in Silicon Valley, we partnered with Peninsula Covenant Church to assist when families faced hardship. Rent, food, & utility bills were provided for and will continue on a case-by-case basis when families find themselves in life-altering scenarios (loss of income, medical challenges, death). In addition to the emergency funds, we provided much-needed school supplies, clothing, household goods, and shoes.

In partnership with Renaissance Entrepreneur Center, Kingdom Equity Partners [a new program for GU] identified and secured $360,000 via the San Mateo County STRONG program. These funds were given directly to struggling small business owners.

$88,209.83 IN EMERGENCY FUNDS WERE PROVIDED FOR 41 FAMILIES
Our model is unique in that we have remained focused on some of the most vulnerable families with whom we have developed relationships over the last decade. Our generous partners from Good Roots/Facebook have come weekly with boxes of fresh, organic food since before our sites’ closure. We launched our efforts at the American Academy of Dance, where they graciously allowed us to utilize their parking lot. Emboldened by a partnership with World Vision, Food Runners, and Peninsula Covenant Church (PCC), we mobilized volunteers from the community and moved our distribution to PCC. As we interact with 125 families, our volunteers have developed lasting and meaningful relationships with these neighbors. This was a new program and it was the most impactful of 2020.

**Food Distribution**

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**World Vision = 12 weeks**

1,200 BOXES + 2,220 BAGS

67,680

**Good Roots/ Facebook Market = 35 weeks**

5,375 BOXES

51,600

**Bianchini’s = 17 weeks**

170 BAGS

1,360

**Weekly Individual Donors**

700 BAGS

5,600

**Noah's Bagels = 12 weeks**

78 BAGS

1,560

127,920

**MEALS (EQUIVALENT)**

“The first thing I did when I received it, without knowing what it was, was to thank God. and to send many blessings to the people who sent it to me. I felt that I am not alone despite some things that I am going through. Blessings.” Gris Borgo

“I wanted to say that I thank you very much for everything that you have been giving us and all those who take their time to help you distribute things, thank you very much!!” Mirilla Farias
"This project is worthwhile by showing everyone that people are loved and cared for. It's an opportunity for people to be visited by and visit others when human contact is minimal. The Lord’s prayer states, "you will be done, your kingdom come." This program is one opportunity to help restore God's kingdom and live out our God-created design. This program is an opportunity to meet and engage with people that I don't normally meet because our worlds don't otherwise mix. I am learning to engage them by name, and they are always happy and appreciative when I arrive."

Brian DuBois

"During the summer months I would bring one of my boys with me each week and this was a precious time that we were able to pray together and help some families in our community. This experience with my boys has been eye-opening to realize that we don't have to go too far to find families in need. It has also been a good reminder of how fortunate we are in life and how we need to help others." David Cowan

"Having the opportunity to meet with the kids in North Fair Oaks has been as life-changing as it has been humbling for me. Over the last five years, I've been fortunate to get to know a few dozen of them and their families. We read, we play games, sometimes we run around and dance (thank goodness those videos haven't surfaced), and other times we talk about how their weeks are going. Every time I go, I feel more blessed than the time before. This is my community, these are my neighbors, and I want to do everything I can to give them some of the life skills they will need to get ahead. But more importantly, I want them to know how much Jesus loves them. If He can work through me, He can work through anybody." Chris Dorst

**1,722 = $54,260**

**IN-KIND VOLUNTEER HOURS VALUE**

*Food Distribution*

**1,081 = $32,400**

**IN-KIND VOLUNTEER HOURS VALUE**

*Holiday Cheer, Summer Camp, AEC's.***

**TOTAL IN-KIND VOLUNTEER HOURS VALUE**

**2,888 = $86,660**
Despite COVID, GU did a fantastic job continuing our mission, as evidenced by gross revenue increasing 28% over 2019. A big part of this was the mobilization of emergency donations to distribute to the community at large. We are so pleased that giving for 2020 included 63 new donors – resulting in an increase of 54%
I agreed to spend an afternoon with Angie Ibara delivering food resources to several in-need East Redwood City families. I should have known better and I should have understood before I headed out with my friend. I walked right into an emotional hurricane and I did not see it coming. In hindsight, I guess I thought I was going to exercise some kindness and be a part of helping to drop off some food boxes...Doing nothing is NOT an option. I walked into that hurricane for a reason. I cannot write out [all of] the interactions, as I feel I would need to start a novel... The hurricane winds pick up again. Who am I here? Why do I have more than I need and others struggle to have their basic needs? Costco is no more than ½ mile from where I am eating lunch. The “hill people” are filling their SUVs with more than they need. I am one of those people, and we head back to our warm homes, in our expensive vehicles where the heat automatically comes on every morning and every evening. As the storm is raging in me, I see the brand new gas heater she (one of the mothers) cannot use. Why? The propane that fuels the heater, and the new tank that is just outside the back of the trailer, is too expensive to operate. This is NO longer a mission to drop off some food, I have been wrecked by an unexpected hurricane. The moral of the story is if you want to play is safe, be careful what kind of lunch break offers you accept. Testimonial from Stan Johnson (edited for length)

LOOKING AHEAD

We are excited to announce that in February 2021, we have secured offices and program space with a partner church in the area. This will enable a much-needed staff and programming expansion to serve our community well in the days to come. We will focus on replicating our supportive learning spaces (AECs) for socioeconomically disadvantaged students engaged in distance learning. We will continue to provide after-school tutoring, mentoring, and support for children and families.

Our 2021 plans include supporting businesses through launching a program called Kingdom Equity Partners (KEP). KEP will function similarly to a business incubator and will be a training program, micro-equity investment, and mentorship opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs in a cohort model.

IN THE EYE OF THE HURRICANE
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Alliance for Girls/Project Glimmer
American Academy of Ballet
Boy Scouts
BraveMaker
Bridges Community Church
Cakes 4 Kids
Central Peninsula Church
Church of the Epiphany
City of Redwood City
Connect Community Charter School
Danza Colibri
Design Tech High School
Exclusive Image
Facebook/Good Roots Farmers Markets
Fair Oaks Community Center
RCEF
First Baptist Church of San Carlos
First Tee
Kim Arden Consulting
KIPP Excellencia
Menlo Church
Melendez Boxing
Mercy High School
New Community Church
One Life Counseling
Police Activities League (PAL)
Redeemer Church
Peninsula Covenant Church
Peninsula Food Runners (Noah’s Bagels, Bianchini’s)
Redwood City Library
Redwood City Parks and Recreation
Sequoia Christian Church
Schaberg Library
Sheriff’s Activity League (SAL)
Siena Youth Center
Stanford University
Stewart Chapel AME Zion
Street Life Ministries
Street Code Academy
Victory Taekwondo - Henry Villar
West Gate Church
World Vision
YMSL - Young Men’s Service League

CORPORATE/CHARITABLE SPONSORS AND GRANTS
Apple
Atkinson Foundation
Castellano Family Foundation
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
Facebook
Genentech
Gunderson Dettmer
Jacques M. Littlefield Foundation
Kiwanis Club of Menlo Park
Lee Cheerful Giving Fund
Meraki Real Estate
Oracle
Philanthropic Ventures Foundation
Renaissance Entrepreneur Center
Saga Foundation
San Mateo County Strong
San Mateo County - Warren Slocum

STAFF
Angie Ibarra, Founder & Executive Director
Candice Bun
Andrew Cruz
Mary Martinez
Diego Medina
Cynthia Nava
Melany Romero
Julia Sanchez
Crystal Tapelu
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BOARD MEMBERS
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Steve Joh
Stanley Johnson
Peter Morris
Carol Patterson
Vera Quijano
Kylie Rudolph
Rica Ruiz
Sharon Seeberger
Henry Villar

ADVISORS
John Becker
Keith Miller
Doug Morton
We invite you to join us as we continue to meet the needs and challenges of our community. If you would like to donate or sign up as a volunteer for our ongoing efforts, please visit our website. To fill out our volunteer form, you can also scan the QR link below. We offer safe in-person and virtual opportunities.