

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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



**UNIDOS**

## DEAR FRIEND,

UNIDOS exists to empower the community, break the cycle of domestic violence, end sexual assault, and promote healthy family systems. With your support we provide bilingual services, programming, and support hundreds of families affected by domestic or sexual abuse in Wisconsin. Services are bilingual free, confidential, and available regardless of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, or disability... none of this would be possible without you.



Our work is far from done. As the leading provider of support to Latino victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Wisconsin, we know that we have the responsibility to grow our resources, expand our reach, and maintain our commitment to transformational work alongside the community we serve. We know that we have the responsibility to stand with those who are most vulnerable, and we are committed to doing this, until all of us feel safe.

In this spirit, I want to thank you for joining with UNIDOS in supporting Latino victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in Wisconsin. Please know that when you choose to support UNIDOS you are taking action for a safer community for us all. For more information about our work please visit our website: [www.unidoswi.org](http://www.unidoswi.org)

Sinceramente,

*Virginia Gittens Escudero*

Virginia Gittens Escaduro

**Executive Director**

**UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence**





# MISSION

UNIDOS EXISTS TO EMPOWER THE COMMUNITY TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, END SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND PROMOTE HEALTHY FAMILY SYSTEMS.

## VALUES

### ***Social justice***

*Respect human dignity and promote social equity.*

### ***Education***

*Provide safe venues to dismantle myths about domestic and sexual violence.*

### ***Empowerment***

*Support victims/survivors to seek community-driven solutions to end violence.*

### ***Collaboration***

*Build a strong coalition of victims, survivors and allies.*



# ABOUT US

**UNIDOS was started in 1996 as a group of volunteers committed to helping Latino survivors of domestic violence access local services.**

The organization started as a result of social action research conducted with migrant farm worker communities in central WI in the 90s. **This early research indicated that, although domestic violence (DV) was a serious problem within the Latino migrant and immigrant community, local DV services did not have the resources to work with Latino victims.** Staff from local agencies needed assistance to learn about Latino culture and how the problem of domestic violence was uniquely experienced by our community.

To that end, UNIDOS has become a leader around the state as a resource for training and technical assistance to a variety of agencies around the state working with Latinx victims and survivors. In 2001, UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence became a 501©3, not-for-profit agency.

**Today, UNIDOS works providing direct service in Dane, and surrounding Counties across Wisconsin to hundreds of survivors and their families. We also provide statewide education and technical assistance to colleagues and professionals who wish to improve their services to Latinos in Wisconsin.**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Will Hutter - **Interim Board President**

Cecilia Goldschmidt - **Vice-president**

Gabriella Gaus Hinojosa - **Secretary**

Tom Ward- **Interim Treasurer**

Nicole Sandoval- **Director**

Nela Kalpicr- **Director**

# PROGRAMS & SERVICES



## **La Red Helpline**

Our 24-hour bilingual and confidential helpline provides support, crisis intervention, safety planning, referrals to other community resources, and information for survivors and anyone seeking support and information about domestic violence and sexual assault.



## **General Support Advocates**

Our advocates provide individualized support and information to anyone affected by recent or past domestic violence or sexual assault. This includes providing general information, explaining a victim's legal rights, assessing and responding to a crisis (safety planning, basic needs, etc.), supporting survivors' mental health, assisting families navigating the welfare system, connecting survivors to community resources, and much more.



## **Legal Advocates**

Many survivors become involved with the legal system after their victimization. Our legal advocates work directly with case workers, attorneys and government authorities to provide culturally sensitive support and guidance to victims navigating the legal justice system after an assault. Advocates help report assaults, assist with filing of temporary restraining orders, and accompany victims to court hearings.



## **Support Groups ~ *Mujeres Adelante***

We provide survivors with a safe and confidential space for their healing process. Support groups are led in Spanish by trained counselors twice a month and aim to lessen a survivor's sense of isolation, provide emotional support, and encourage healthy coping strategies. Through peer support, participants help each other overcome feelings of loneliness, frustration, and despair so they can continue to heal and thrive.



## **Counseling Services**

Survivors may experience short- and long-term emotional and psychological effects from abuse, including feelings of confusion or hopelessness, depression, anxiety, panic attacks, and post-traumatic stress disorder. We provide free one-on-one counseling in Spanish to survivors who complete our intake process and qualify.

## STAFF

**VIRGINIA GITTENS**

Executive  
Director

**TANIA HERNANDEZ**

Administrative  
Assistant

**LORENA GUIMARAENS**

Associate  
Director

**ANGIE SECCHI**

Bilingual  
Counselor

**FATIMA MACIAS**

Bilingual Youth  
Advocate Coordinator

**SINDYA CARDONA**

Domestic Violence  
Advocate

**JHONATAN REAL**

Bilingual Help  
Line Supervisor

**FANYA VALENCIA**

Sexual Assault  
Advocate

## AFTER HOURS RESPONDER TEAM

**MANUEL CERDA**

**LINDBERGH RODRIGUEZ**

**NANCY GOMEZ**

**GISEA TLAHUEXTL**

**LORI NELSON**

**KATIE WILLIAMS**

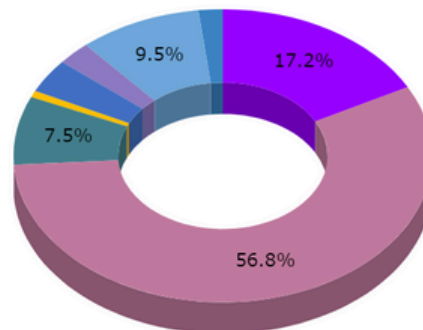
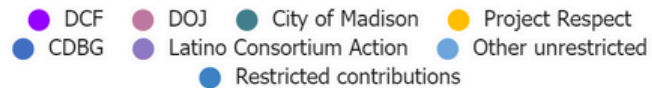
# INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT



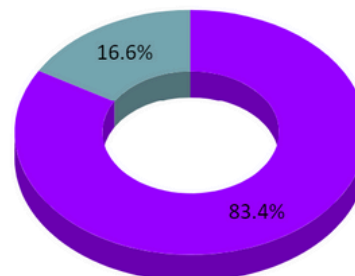
EXPENSES	
Programs	\$776,697.00
Operations	\$154,412.00
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$931,109.00</b>

REVENUE	
Government	\$854,922.00
Unrestricted contributions	\$119,926.00
Restricted contributions	\$18,580.00
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$993,428.00</b>

## INCOME



## EXPENSES





**[WWW.UNIDOSWI.ORG](http://WWW.UNIDOSWI.ORG)**

2005 W BELTLINE HWY STE 211

Fitchburg WI 53713