



# Transforming Lives

Annual Report 2022

Houston  
**AVANCE**<sup>®</sup>

## Our Mission

To create pathways to economic mobility for families through high-quality, culturally responsive, two-generation programming that ensures school readiness for young children and opportunities for parents to build social and economic capital.





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**Luz E. Flores**  
*Executive Director*



**David Vassar, Ph.D.**  
*AVANCE-Houston Board Chair*

Dear friends and supporters:

At AVANCE-Houston, Inc., we are rooted in trust and Transforming Lives in our community. In 2022, AVANCE-Houston transformed the lives of more than 2,618 people by implementing our two-generation holistic approach to ensure our families build their social and economic capital. We continue to adapt and innovate with creativity to accommodate the needs of the hardest-to-reach populations, strengthening our programs for children and adults, giving them a common space to learn, share and thrive. Internally, we implemented the same strategy for our staff by placing a focus on self-care and mental wellness agency-wide.

In principle and in practice, we continue to embrace and advocate for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (DEIB) by focusing on equal access to social and economic mobility for all. We value diversity within our board, our employees, the families we serve, and our community. AVANCE-Houston's DEIB committee continues to assess and improve inclusivity in the workplace by implementing new strategies to promote and celebrate diversity internally and externally.

In 2022, AVANCE-Houston received valuable support from our partners: The Powell Foundation; Houston Endowment Inc.; Capital One; CenterPoint Energy; Comcast; Pasadena Independent School District, and the United Way of Greater Houston. Thanks to those funds, our Parent-Child Education Program (PCEP), Adult Literacy, and GED programs were expanded. In addition, our Board of Directors made history in 2022 by once again achieving 100% board contributions and raising more funds than ever before.

Furthermore, we held a very successful Second Annual Inspiring Dreams Celebration and transformed the lives of 13 AVANCE-Houston children who proudly displayed their distinctive style and future aspirations; that resonated across a room filled with mission-driven individuals and community leaders who advocate and support high-quality education in Houston.

Finally, during the holiday season, organizations, businesses, and individuals came together through the Angel Tree initiative to donate gifts and turkey dinners for more than 100 AVANCE children and families.

We cannot do this work alone. AVANCE-Houston is entirely grateful to our donors, partners, colleagues, staff, and volunteers. You are critical to ensuring that we continue Transforming Lives in the Greater Houston community.

With gratitude,  
Luz Flores (Executive Director) and David Vassar (Board Chair)



## Who We Are

At AVANCE-Houston, we transform lives by creating pathways to economic mobility for families through our innovative two-generation programming. Our programs capitalize on parents' inner strength and innate love for their children to help them become the teachers and advocates of their children's growth and success. AVANCE-Houston's five programs lift our families up to achieve success at school, at home, and at work.

Our approach centers on meeting families where they are and building on their strengths to foster community, trust, and learning. We have 20 locations across Greater Houston and a team of nearly 400 employees focused on the success of children and parents in our community.



## Parent-Child Education Program

The Parent-Child Education Program (PCEP) is a nationally acclaimed two-generation program that provides parents with the tools they need to support their child's healthy social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development. The program offers an array of services to enhance parenting practices that promote positive parent-child interactions through various parenting workshops, creative toy-making sessions, and community resources. Furthermore, the PCEP curriculum emphasizes that parents are their children's first and most important teachers, while preparing parents for higher education and joining the workforce to become self-sufficient.



## Healthy Relationships Program

Healthy Relationships Program is comprised of two subprograms: Building Futures (ages 14-18) and FRAMEWorks (adults only). Both provide interactive workshops and a safe place for personal and professional relationship skills. The workshops aim to strengthen relationships and improve economic stability for the individual and the family's well-being.



## Early Head Start & Head Start Programs

The Early Head Start (EHS) program serves pregnant women, infants, and toddlers (newborn to 36 months old), and the Head Start (HS) program serves preschool children (3 to 5 years old). Both programs provide comprehensive services such as child development, education, health, nutrition, developmental functioning and behavioral intervention, and parent engagement to prepare children for kindergarten success and support families in achieving their self-sufficiency.



## Adult Education Program

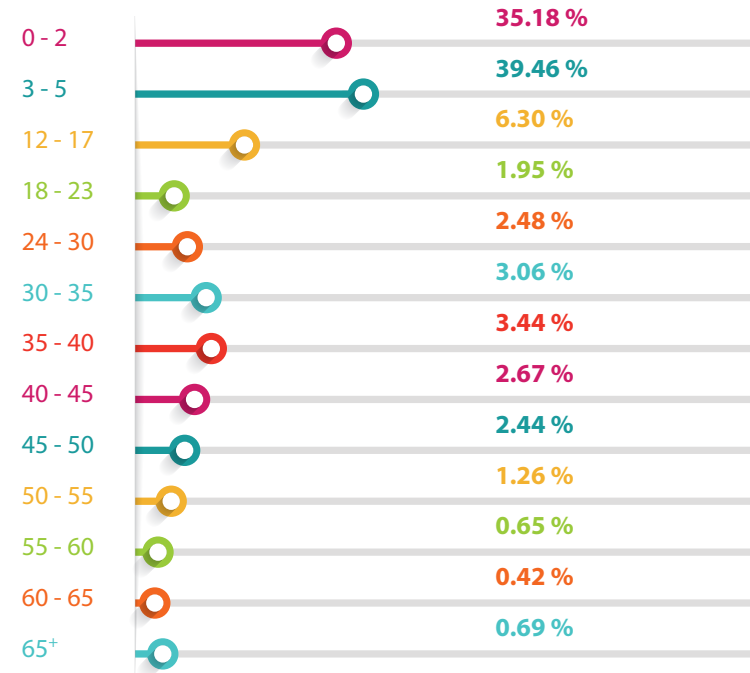
The Adult Education Program provides a continuum of services to individuals (ages 17 and older) who have not attained a high school diploma or equivalent. The program strives to increase opportunities for students to transition to post-secondary education and vocational trade schools for training and/or employment.

# Transforming lives through a two-generation approach.



## Age of Participants

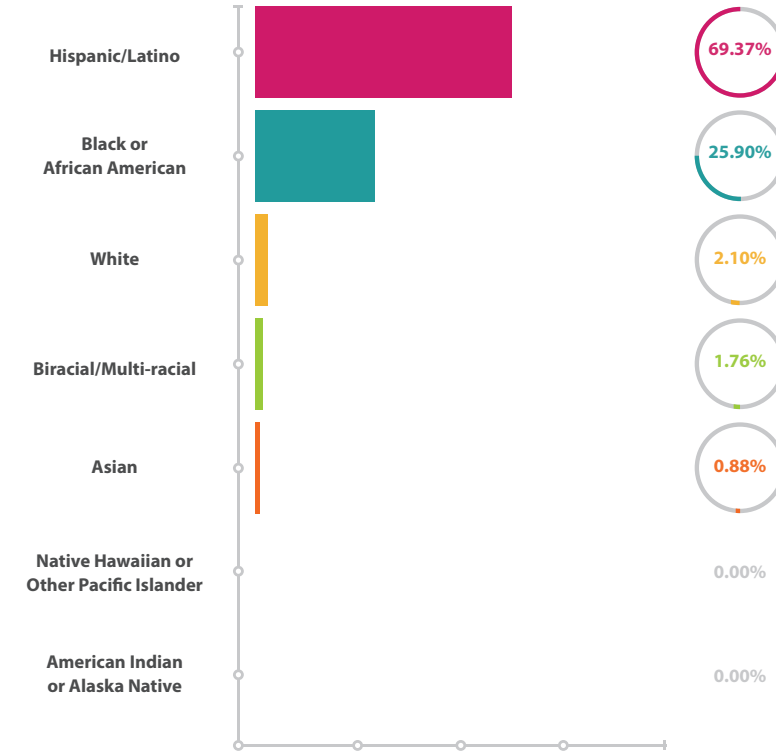
All Programs (0-5, Youth, Adults)



Demographics - Age of all program participants combined.  
Source: AVANCE-Houston's CAP 60 Database.

## Ethnicity

All Programs



Demographics - Age of all program participants combined.  
Source: AVANCE-Houston's CAP 60 Database.



Through its Second Century Vision, The United Way of Greater Houston "creates opportunities for individuals and families to thrive by leading, serving, and influencing, while convening the nonprofit social services sector to deliver quality services with exceptional outcomes." AVANCE-Houston was selected for funding and entrusted with executing this vision.

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) conducted a 3-year administrative review of our Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which provides all meals and snacks for Early Head Start and Head Start children during the school day.

AVANCE-Houston released a new mission statement that better reflects our services and the communities we serve.

**January–March**



FRAMEWorks served 399 participants with a target goal of 400 participants. We had a 99.75% target completion goal for 2022 (465/400, 116% for the program year). Ready4Life served 225 participants with a target goal of 200, resulting in a 112.5% target completion goal for calendar year 2022 (217/200, 108% for the program year).

Week of the Young Child was celebrated April 2–8, 2022. We focused on physical play activities and celebrating each other's cultures through lessons highlighting geography, foods, dress, and music.

AVANCE-Houston participated in a very successful federal monitoring review by the Office of Head Start. The federal monitoring process is designed to evaluate the program's compliance with Early Head Start and Head Start's Program Performance Standards.

**April–June**



We held virtual graduations to celebrate 42 participants completing our Parent-Child Education Program (PCEP) and six individuals earning their GED through our Adult Education Program.

AVANCE-Houston teachers participated in the Cultivating Awareness and Resilience in Education (CARE) program offered by Children Learning Institute (CLI). The program focused on promoting the social and emotional well-being of Head Start and Early Head Start educators.

We brought together all 385 AVANCE-Houston employees for the first time since 2019. We discussed self-care, announced our cost of living adjustment for all full-time employees, and received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from Congresswoman Sylvia Garcia.

**July–September**



AVANCE-Houston's Inspiring Dreams Celebration had the highest attendance of any fundraiser in the organization's history, with more than 350 guests. In addition, AVANCE received two Congressional Recognitions, one from Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (District 18th) and one from Congresswoman Sylvia R. Garcia (District 29th), to commemorate the occasion.

Healthy Relationships team was awarded the Captains Data Award from the Office of Financial Assistance in recognition of our complete data collection and demonstration of strong client engagement during COVID-19 and staff shortages.

During the holiday season, organizations, businesses, and individuals came together through our Angel Tree initiative to donate 132 gifts for AVANCE children and 100 turkey dinners for families.

**October–December**





## Meet the Galeano-Duarte Family

When Dulce and Luis first came to AVANCE-Houston in 2015, they faced financial hardship and struggled to provide for their young family. However, with the support of our programs, they were able to turn their lives around and achieve their goals.

Dulce enrolled her son Ramses in Early Head Start, where he quickly advanced his physical, cognitive, and emotional development. She also participated in the Adult Education Program and successfully obtained her GED, paving the way for her to pursue higher education. Meanwhile, Luis participated in the Fatherhood program which supported his personal growth and development as a young father and husband.

Together, Dulce and Luis joined AVANCE's Parent-Child Education Program, which provided them with the tools and knowledge needed to become better parents. They also attended the Healthy Relationships Program and were empowered to become business owners. Today, their company builds and installs commercial exhaust fans for restaurants, which has improved their economic stability.

In 2023, Dulce decided to take the next step in advancing her own career by pursuing a General Business Associates Degree from the University of St. Thomas, after receiving a scholarship from AVANCE. Her perseverance and commitment are the first steps to improve her own family's social and economic capital, while setting the example for more AVANCE families to achieve success at school, at home, and at work.

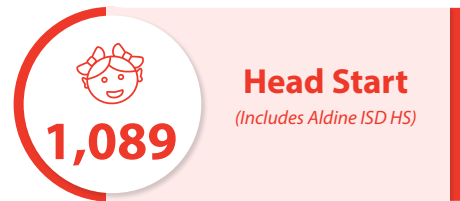
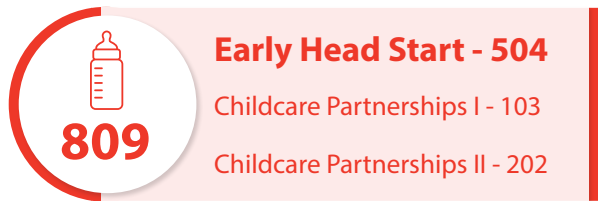
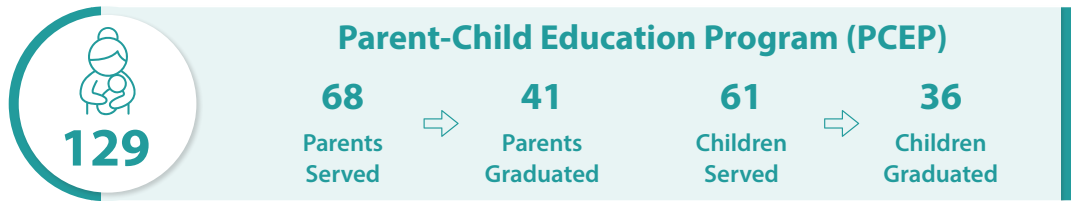
At AVANCE-Houston, we believe that education is the key to unlocking opportunities and achieving success. Our programs and partnerships provide families with the resources and support needed to build brighter futures for themselves and their children.

Luis and Dulce's story is a testament to the power of resilience, determination, and support. AVANCE's two-generation approach and commitment to equity have played a pivotal role in their success, and their journey serves as an inspiration for current and future families. With continued support and collaboration, we can create a community where all families can access the resources and opportunities needed to thrive.

# 2,618

## Total Served

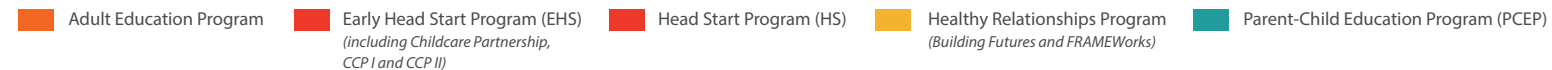
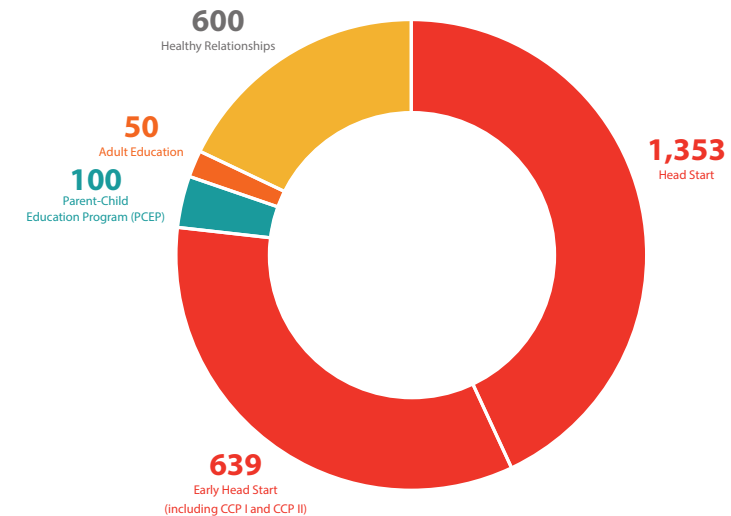
2021-2022 At-A-Glance



# 2,742

## Total Funded

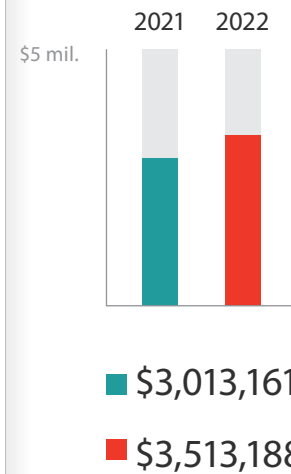
Program Year (2021-2022)



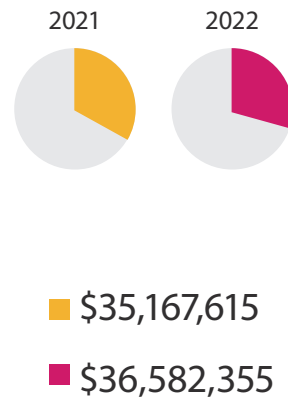
Early Head Start Program | Head Start Program | Healthy Relationships Program Funded by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.  
 Parent-Child Education Program | Adult Education Program Funded by United Way and other private funding sources.  
 Note: Due to COVID-19, programs experienced under-enrollment in 2021-2022.

## 2021 - 2022

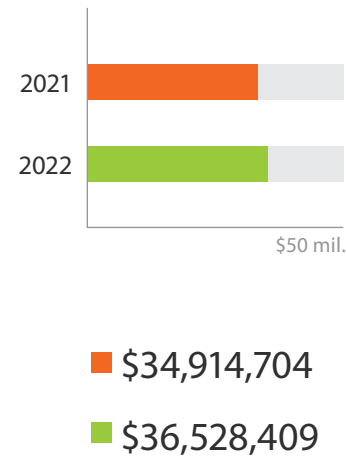
### Total Liabilities & Net Assets



### Total Revenues



### Total Expenses



100%  
OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTRIBUTED

- |  |                                |  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Ana Salinas                              | Durwesh Khalfe                 | Nicole McZeal Walters, Ed.D.               |
| Adedokun & Gbosi Families                | El Centro de Corazón           | Pedro Abasolo                              |
| Antionette Montgomery                    | Elliott Witney, Ed.D.          | Platinum Premier Global Equity             |
| Alex Melgar                              | Evelyn Bean                    | Robert Sandifer                            |
| Benavides Law Group                      | Gonzalez Olivieri LLC          | Rogelio Marroquin                          |
| Bethannie Canter                         | H-E-B                          | Sandeep Kibey                              |
| Carina Benavides                         | Holland & Knight               | Saul Valentin                              |
| CenterPoint Energy Foundation            | Houston Community College      | SHARP Business Systems                     |
| Cindy Tran                               | Houston Endowment Inc.         | Sonja Gee                                  |
| Challenge Office Products                | Jessica Gonzalez               | Southwest Space Ventures LLC               |
| Chevazz Brown                            | John Hess                      | Spyros Catechis                            |
| Claudia Ortega Hogue                     | Jose & Sylvia Villarreal       | Teresa Granillo, Ph.D.                     |
| COMCAST NBCUniversal                     | JP Morgan Chase                | The Powell Foundation                      |
| Comerica Bank                            | Keith Argueta                  | United Way of Greater Houston              |
| Com For Care Assisted Living             | Littler Mendelson, P.C.        | University of Houston College of Education |
| Community Health Choice                  | Longevity Development Partners | University of St. Thomas                   |
| David Vassar, Ph.D. & Claudia Gee Vassar | Luz Flores & Michael Baerga    | Vanitha Pothuri, M.D.                      |
| Digital Group                            | María E. Pérez, Ph.D.          | Victor Mondragón                           |

A special thank you to AVANCE-Houston employees for their contribution!

## Our Service Locations



**Educational Partners**  
 Houston Independent School District  
 Spring Independent School District  
 Pasadena Independent School District

## Our Service Locations

- Acres Homes (EHS, HS)**  
6719 W. Montgomery  
Houston, TX 77091  
713-694-1619
- Bammel (SISD, HS)**  
17309 Red Oak Drive  
Houston, TX 77090  
281-819-1320
- Browning (HISD, HS)**  
607 Northwood  
Houston, TX 77009  
713-869-1684
- Dakoma II (Adult Ed., PCEP)**  
4301 Dakoma  
Houston, TX 77092  
713-812-0033
- Dekaney (SISD, EHS)**  
22351 Imperial Valley Dr.  
Houston, TX 77073  
281-888-0013
- Eickenroht (SISD, HS)**  
15252 Grand Point Rd.  
Houston, TX 77090  
281-891-8840
- Freeman Elementary (PCEP)**  
2323 Theta St.  
Houston, TX 77034  
713-740-0568
- Janowski (HISD, EHS/HS)**  
7500 Bauman Rd.  
Houston, TX 77022  
832-301-8060
- Jensen Drive (EHS, HS)**  
2702 Aldine Westfield  
Houston, TX 77093  
713-742-8952
- Krayola Kidz (EHS-CCP)**  
2200 Spears Road  
Houston, TX 77067  
281-537-5454
- Kruse (PISD, EHS, CB/HB)**  
400 Park Lane PB #172  
Pasadena, TX 77506  
713-534-0350
- Lewis (SISD, HS)**  
3230 Spears Road  
Houston, TX 77067  
281-891-8733
- Looscan (HISD, HS)**  
3800 Robertson  
Houston, TX 77009  
281-404-7058
- Mangum (EHS, HS PCEP)**  
4503 Magnum Road  
Houston, TX 77092  
713-686-5228
- Mt. Houston (EHS, HS)**  
11703 Eastex Freeway  
Houston, TX 77039  
281-219-2256
- Oakwood (EHS, HS)**  
7211 Oakwood Glen  
Spring, TX 77379  
281-370-9665
- Tegeler (PISD, HS)**  
4949 Burke  
Pasadena, TX 77504  
713-740-0412
- Walters Road I (EHS, HS)**  
11910 Walters Road  
Houston, TX 77067  
281-919-2931
- Walters Road II (Healthy Relationships)**  
11920 Walters Road  
Houston, TX 77067  
713.493.6388
- Wesley (EHS-CCP)**  
1410 Lee St.  
Houston, TX 77009  
713-821-8920

Program Legend	
	Adult Education Program
	Early Head Start & Head Start Program
	Healthy Relationships Program
	Parent-Child Education Program (PCEP)

## Board of Directors

David Vassar, Ph.D., *Board Chair*

Nicole McZeal Walters, Ed.D., *Vice Chair*

Keith Argueta, CPA, *Interim-Treasurer*

Durwesh Khalfe, *Secretary*

Elliott Witney, Ed.D.

Evelyn Bean

Carina Benavides

Ana Salinas

Rogelio Marroquin

Ife Gbosi

María E. Pérez, Ph.D.

Jessica Gonzalez

Sandeep Kibey

Claudia Ortega Hogue



David Vassar, Ph.D.  
*Board Chair*



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*Vice Chair*



Keith Argueta, CPA  
*Interim-Treasurer*



Durwesh Khalfe  
*Secretary*



Elliott Witney, Ed.D.



Evelyn Bean



Carina Benavides



Ana Salinas



Rogelio Marroquin



Ife Gbosi



María E. Pérez, Ph.D.



Jessica Gonzalez



Sandeep Kibey



Claudia Ortega Hogue

## Chief Leadership

Luz E. Flores, *Executive Director*

Antionette Montgomery, Ed.D., *Deputy Director*

Cindy Tran, *Chief Financial Officer*

Victor Mondragón, *Chief Innovation & Strategy Officer*



Luz E. Flores  
*Executive Director*



Antionette Montgomery, Ed.D.  
*Deputy Director*



Cindy Tran  
*Chief Financial Officer*



Victor Mondragón  
*Chief Innovation & Strategy Officer*



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