

# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Championing Equity, Empowering  
Communities.

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underserved  
communities  
foundation



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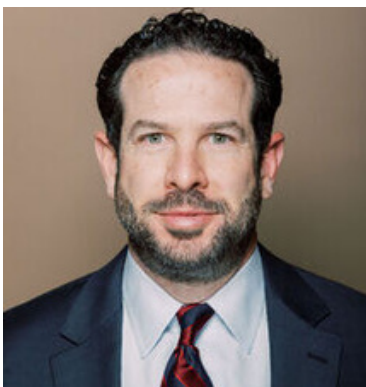


# underserved communities foundation

**The Underserved Communities Foundation is  
committed to reducing poverty by empowering  
the underserved.**

**[UnderservedCommunitiesFoundation.org](https://UnderservedCommunitiesFoundation.org)**

# Chairperson's Report



**Max Villaronga**  
**UCF Founder and Board Chair**

As Chairman of the Board and founder of UCF, I am immensely proud of our organization's growth and impact in empowering underserved communities. Since its founding in March 2021, UCF has stood as a beacon of hope and progress, rooted in fostering communal and individual economic growth through mutual support.

UCF dedicates its resources to initiatives addressing financial accessibility, diversity, equity, education, healthcare, and environmental sustainability. From providing equitable access to services to promoting educational opportunities, UCF aims to create lasting positive change.

Our commitment extends beyond words. Through philanthropy, volunteerism, strategic partnerships, and grants, UCF supports underserved communities, ensuring every contribution leads to meaningful outcomes.

In our pursuit of social and economic justice, UCF inspires hope and opportunity where needed most. What began as a vision to impact our community has grown into a mission to help individuals break free from poverty. This year, we proudly celebrated UCF's third anniversary.

Throughout 2023, UCF demonstrated unwavering commitment to underserved communities, achieving significant milestones:

- In February UCF opened its annual request for proposals, awarding grants to five exceptional local nonprofits at the vibrant UCF Gran Fiesta in May.

- In May we held The UCF Gran Fiesta, our signature event, united community leaders and supporters, doubling its fundraising from the previous year and showcasing growing enthusiasm for our cause.
- In June we welcomed Dr. Ankur Patel, an expert in musculoskeletal radiology, to our Board of Directors, enriching our team with his valuable expertise.
- October was busy with our second annual Strike-Out Poverty Bowling Event mirrored the success of the Gran Fiesta, doubling funds raised and highlighting increased community engagement.
- During November the Board and Executive Director embarked on strategic planning for 2024, setting ambitious goals and approving a robust Strategic Plan.
- As 2023 concluded we finalized the 2024 Budget and designated funding priorities, ensuring our resources are strategically allocated for maximum impact.

These milestones highlight UCF's dedication to fostering positive change and inspiring hope where it's needed most. Demonstrating our unwavering commitment, the UCF Board of Directors and Executive Director personally visited each 2023 grant recipient to ensure that donor contributions are making a tangible difference in underserved communities.

Our achievements in 2023 reflect UCF's mission to create meaningful, sustainable change, and we are eager to continue this vital work in the years ahead.

It is truly an honor to work alongside compassionate individuals dedicated to alleviating poverty and supporting marginalized communities. My heartfelt appreciation goes to the Board, Executive Director, UCF members, and donors for their unwavering support. Your contributions have been instrumental in UCF's growth, allowing us to expand our reach and impact countless lives.

Thank you for your invaluable commitment to our mission.

# Executive Director's Report



**Diana I. Hastings**  
**Executive Director**

I am deeply grateful for the privilege of dedicating my career to assisting individuals and families in their journey toward self-sufficiency and prosperity. I also extend my heartfelt appreciation to Chairman Villaronga and the UCF Board of Directors for their unwavering commitment to empowering underserved communities.

In 2023, we focused on refining our narrative and messaging, emphasizing that the cornerstone of a thriving society lies in the development and empowerment of underserved communities. These communities, often facing additional barriers, are comprised of individuals and families striving to break the cycle of poverty. UCF collaborates with individuals and nonprofit organizations to identify and address service gaps.

A significant focus in 2023 was enhancing our fundraising efforts. We launched initiatives to attract new lifetime members, resulting in 279 new members who share our vision of fostering equitable opportunities. Our signature event, the UCF Gran Fiesta, raised \$62,850.49—double the previous year's amount—and attracted over 300 community leaders and supporters. Similarly, our second annual UCF Strike-Out Poverty Bowling Event doubled its fundraising, raising \$19,105.05. Participation in the Paso del Norte Community Foundation's El Paso Giving Day secured \$7,096.24 for our Sweet Beginnings Program. We also secured grants from the ADP Foundation and Johnson & Johnson.

The UCF Board entrusted me with identifying additional service gaps and developing targeted programming.

In 2023, we created:

- **Sweet Beginnings Program:** Which provides home essentials to young adults and families transitioning from homelessness to independent living.
- **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging & Accessibility (DEIBA) Initiative:** Enhances access to opportunities and offers strategic DEIBA programming and workshops.

In February 2023, we opened our second request for proposals and funded five projects with \$10,000 each:

- **Amistad's Money Basics program:** Financial education for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **El Paso Human Services:** Rental assistance for young adults and families transitioning to independent living.
- **Tocando program by the El Paso Symphony Orchestra:** Music education for children in underserved communities.
- **Paso del Norte Center of Hope:** Expanded services for survivors of sexual and human trafficking.
- **University of Texas at El Paso's CASS:** Adaptive technology for students with disabilities.

UCF is dedicated to championing initiatives that provide equitable opportunities for historically marginalized individuals. Despite being a young organization, we are gratified by the transformative impact we have witnessed.

Looking ahead, I am filled with anticipation for UCF's future. I am deeply grateful to the UCF Board of Directors for their dedication and leadership, and to our members, donors, and supporters for your trust and generosity. Your contributions make a tangible difference, and together, we will continue to break the cycle of poverty and cultivate a more equitable world where all can thrive.

# Treasurer's Report



**Frank Shindo**  
Board Treasurer

In 2023, UCF showcased its financial strength, reporting robust revenue of \$287,327.51 from diverse sources, including contributions, fundraising events, and membership drives. Careful financial stewardship resulted in expenditures of \$233,480.40, with \$50,000 allocated to impactful grants for the El Paso Community.

Throughout the year, the UCF Board of Directors remained committed to safeguarding the organization's assets by implementing rigorous fiscal control policies and procedures, underscoring our dedication to UCF's fiscal health and growth. An additional \$48,462.40 was allocated to the reserve fund, enhancing UCF's financial resilience.

We express our deepest gratitude to our valued members and donors for their unwavering support and confidence in UCF's mission. Your continued partnership is instrumental in driving positive change in underserved communities. Thank you for being the cornerstone of our success.

# Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. Mountain Time on March 15, 2024 through a video conference. The following individuals were present: Nominating Committee Chair Christopher Montoya and committee members Eliana Avila, Frank Shindo, Bruce Goldsby, and Luis Valdez.

Based on the information provided and after careful consideration; the Nominating Committee nominated the following individuals to serve on the Board of Directors for a three year term: Jennifer Alarcon, Dr. Ankur Patel, and Edgar Ortiz.

The Nominating Committee voted to accept all nominations by acclamation. The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m. Mountain Time.



**Christopher Montoya**  
Nominating Committee Chair



**Jennifer Alarcon**  
Board Member



**Dr. Ankur Patel**  
Board Member



**Edgar Ortiz**  
Board Member

## UCF Nominating Committee

**Chair Christopher Montoya**  
**Eliana Avila**  
**Frank Shindo**  
**Bruce Goldsby**  
**Luis Valdez**

# 2023 Financial Statement

The Underserved Communities Foundation, Inc.

## Statement of Activity

	TOTAL
Revenue	
Donations	204,057.75
Events	83,165.63
Dividends Received	104.13
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 287,327.51</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ 287,327.51</b>
Expenditures	
Advertising & Marketing	4,226.21
Bank charges & fees	1,361.07
Compensation & Benefits	122,037.06
Contractors	
Grants Awarded	50,000.00
Job supplies	2,070.80
Legal & Professional Services	4,417.88
Meals & Entertainment	17,540.00
Office Supplies & Software	9,929.79
Other Business Expenses	7,777.82
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	25.00
Payroll Tax Expenses	9,051.47
Postage	192.00
Rent & Lease	4,841.30
Travel	-
Taxes and Licenses	-
Uncategorized Expense	10.00
Utilities	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 233,480.40</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 53,847.11</b>
Reserve	\$ 48,462.40
<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$ 5,384.71</b>

# 2023

# UCF IMPACT REPORT



## \$50,000

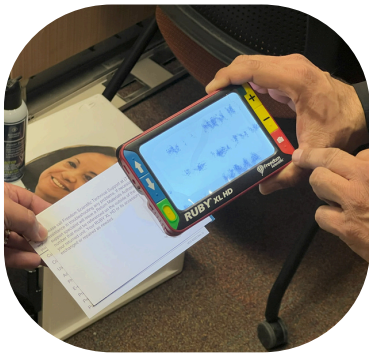
Funded local projects and programs designated to empower underserved communities in El Paso.

## 1,465\*

Individuals impacted

## 5

Grants Awarded



### UTEP Center for Accommodations and Student Support Services (CASS)

The funding supported assistive technology, empowering students with various disabilities to access course materials and capture information independently.



### Paso del Norte Center for Hope

Funding provided temporary housing, doubled shelter capacity, and supported 20 clients with basic needs and emotional support.



### El Paso Symphony Orchestra "Tocando"

The funds have positively affected students by offering solutions for storage, transportation, and organization of their most frequently utilized items: instruments and seating.



### Amistad Money Smart

The Money Basics Program now collaborates with monthly Region 19 meetings and is integrated into various district classes, enhancing connections with educational institutions and client support networks.

### El Paso Human Services

EPHS assisted seven homeless households, including six youth households and one single 34-year-old mother with four children aged newborn to 12.



\* This number represents the participants served from May 2023-April 2024

# Mission Partners & Sponsors

UCF relies on generous support from Mission Partners, Sponsors, Donors, Community Partners, Sustaining Donors, and Lifetime Members to carry out its mission and work. Thank you for partnering with us to empower underserved communities!

## Mission Partner



## Sponsors

\$5,000 - \$9,999



\$2,500-\$4,999



\$1,500-\$2,499

Education Service Center Region 19  
CT Construction Management  
El Paso Independent School District  
Johnson & Johnson  
Lark Industries

Lauterbach Borschow & Co.  
LINK Logistics  
Number One Expedite  
Schneider Electric

ScottHulse Attorneys at Law  
Subaru El Paso  
Synergy Temperature Control  
UTEP College of Education

\$1,000-\$1,499

Culture Span  
Diana Hastings  
Dr. and Mrs. Ankur Patel  
El Paso Center for Family and Sports Medicine  
ESC Region 19

HAWK Construction  
Money Smart Week El Paso  
Technimark  
YWCA El Paso del Norte Region

\$250-\$500

A & B Labels and Printing  
El Paso Five Points Lions Club  
Amistad  
Crowning Point In Her Element  
Datamark

HUB International  
Lauterbach Borschow CPA  
Max Villaronga  
One Source Federal Credit Union  
Subaru El Paso



# UCF Board of Directors



**Max Villaronga**  
Founder and Board Chair



**Frank Shindo**  
Board Treasurer



**Eliana Avila**  
Board Secretary



**Jennifer Alacon**  
Board Member



**Christopher Montoya**  
Board Member



**Edgar Ortiz**  
Board Member



**Dr. Ankur Patel**  
Board Member

## UCF Sustaining Donors

Sustaining donors play a vital role in enabling UCF to conduct its daily operations and deliver essential programs aimed at empowering underserved communities to overcome the cycle of poverty.

**Thank you, Sustaining Donors!**

Eliana Avila  
Lydia Cisneros  
Diana Hastings  
Helena Ortiz  
Luis Valdez  
Maria Villaronga  
Max Villaronga  
Susan Young  
Alejandro Yu

***Become a Sustaining Donor today!***





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