## MANYMOTHERS

Improving Our Community, One Baby at a Time

#### ANNUAL REPORT

REFLECTS THE DATES OF JAN. 1, 2019 TO JUNE 30, 2020



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

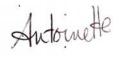
Dear Friends of Many Mothers,

There was a time when new parents would come home to a secure, multigenerational family that would gather to help them with the intense task of caring for a newborn. Today, far too many young families face the challenges of raising a child alone or they bring their newborns home to communities unable to provide necessary support, leading to familial stress. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, "The major reasons for physical and psychological maltreatment of children within the family often are parental feelings of isolation, stress, and frustration." Many Mothers began as a grassroots program in the 1990s when our founder began serving a handful of families out of her home. Now, twenty-five years later, our organization manages six active programs, positively impacting the lives of over 400 New Mexico parents, children, and infants each year.

Since 2017, when the number of families we support annually nearly doubled, our staff has been overwhelmed with the increasing needs of families. Today, we face additional challenges with the COVID-19 health crisis and the social distancing required. Our world looks quite different than it did just a few short months ago, and so this annual report reflects our work pre-COVID-19 until the present. In the midst of another shutdown, we are all learning to live with masks, uncertainty, and the hope that this time will pass quickly, that our loved ones will stay healthy and that our community will wrap its arms around those who are struggling.

Many Mothers is committed to continuing to meet the needs of families with newborns and infants in Northern New Mexico. We do so today with increased ingenuity and resolve to uplift those most in need of love and care.

In the spirit of community,



Antoinette Villamil Executive Director



### MISSION STATEMENT

Many Mothers contributes to the health and wellbeing of communities by providing physical, emotional, and practical support to any family following the birth or adoption of a new baby.

#### VISION

Dr. Gabor Maté, a leading pediatrician and author, says the key to raising healthy children is a nurturing home and community, but those environments are extinct. "We live in a society... that completely destroys the parenting environment and then we have all these kids in trouble and we medicate them."

What Many Mothers does is simple yet highly impactful: We reduce the level of stress that families experience by offering a way for families to feel connected with another member of the community through nonjudgmental, hands-on support. Our goal is for families to experience a "village" to raise healthy children.

"Being a mom can be very isolating. We need to be with other adults and feel supported. My days at home with the baby feel so long. Having support is what my lonely, stressed out brain needs!" ~Tara S. Supported mom & former board member

#### 2020 COVID-19 DEMOGRAPHICS

Out of the 89 families we served in our Babies' Basic Needs program from April to June, 2020:

- \* 46% of families reported income of 0-\$15,000/year
- \* 43% of families reported income of \$15-30,000/year

Compared to our 2019 data:

- \* 12% of families reported income of 0-\$15,000/year
- \* 16% of families reported income of \$15-30,000/year





## COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMS

Not being able to provide basics for your children can have "a cascading effect," said Myra Jones-Taylor, the chief policy officer for Zero to Three, a nonprofit focused on the well-being of infants and toddlers. Researchers at the University of Oregon surveyed 2,400 caregivers across the socioeconomic spectrum and found that when "caregivers report financial and material hardship, within a week it leads to caregiver emotional distress," which can include sleeplessness and anxiety. By the following week, "caregiver emotional distress is linked to child emotional distress."

Sarah was 7 months pregnant and living in a shelter. Sarah had experienced homelessness throughout her pregnancy and was determined to find stable housing before her baby was born. After connecting Sarah with Youth Shelters, the Many Mothers' navigator, Zoey, was able to connect the client with a short-term rental property in June 2020. With the assistance of Youth Works and Youth Shelters, Sarah and her partner will be able to remain together and have a home. Zoey is also working to connect Sarah to more sustainable long-term living solutions, transportation, healthcare, and baby necessities for her and the baby.



#### BABIES' BASIC NEEDS PROGRAM

The Babies' Basic Needs program is our response to the economic fallout caused by COVID-19. During a monthly distribution, we aid income-eligible families in Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, and Los Alamos with basic needs supplies: diapers, formula, baby food, and more, including a stroller to a family with twins and specialized hypoallergenic formula for a preemie baby. As part of this program, we have limited funding to assist with rent and utilities for families experiencing financial strain. Since April 2020, we have provided over 350 essential material items to 89 families. We have been serving 35-50 families during each cycle since April 2020, impacting well over 250 individuals to date.

Prior to COVID-19, 1 in 3 families in the US struggled to afford diapers for their children. In June 2020, The National Diaper Bank Network reported locations in the U.S. are distributing 50% more diapers monthly to families in need than before COVID-19.

#### FARM-TO-FAMILIES PROGRAM

Our Farm-to-Families Program was also launched as a response to COVID-19. During the monthly basic needs distribution, income-eligible families are provided with a bag of farm fresh produce from our partners at the nonprofit Reunity Resources, along with dry goods from DAYA, a local wholesale company, and beef from the New Mexico Farmer's Market Association. Since May 2020, we have distributed food bags to 58 families. Generous funding from the Santa Fe Community Foundation COVID-19 Response Fund will allow us to keep the program going through September 2020.

1 in 4 children in our community experiences hunger.









Many Mothers 2019/2020 Annual Report | 5



#### NAVIGATION PROGRAM

Our new Navigation program is designed to connect families to community resources in order to support positive outcomes in the areas of parenting support, housing, transportation, food, safety, and utilities. Our bilingual navigator provides one-on-one assistance to families with new babies in need of additional support. Our goal is to make sure every family requesting services is given access to available programs. We can help families address food security concerns as well as provide formula, diapers, and wipes. At times, we are also available to help families with emergency rental and utilities payments. Since April 2020, we have provided navigation services to 89 families in Santa Fe and Rio Arriba counties. Here is a breakdown of the number of families that have received navigation support:

- Food Assistance (58)
- Housing Assistance (10)
- Material Supplies Assistance (89)
- Transportation Assistance (3)
- Utilities Assistance (4)

# TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS

"I lost a baby to SIDS and want to make sure I know everything about how to keep my new baby safe. Thank you for this education!"



#### SAFE SLEEP PROGRAM

Our Safe Sleep Program, originally named after Many Mothers' volunteer Joy Lanum and launched in 2016, addresses issues of unsafe sleep practices. We provide families with a safe sleep space for babies and research-based education that is proven to reduce the incidence of SIDS in our community. CYFD adopted our one-page guideline for safe sleep, created by our staff members, for their own statewide use.

Since 2019, we have provided researched-based safe sleep education and portable safe sleep cradles to 263 families in Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, and Los Alamos counties.

## MATERNAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

Our long-standing Maternal Support Program has pivoted since the COVID-19 crisis began. We still provide practical, hands-on support to families, but since many volunteers and families are not comfortable working with families in their homes, our support has a new approach. Volunteers are available to assist families in a socially distanced way by helping with grocery shopping, meal preparation, errands, and meeting in outdoor areas to counsel new mothers. Since 2019, we have supported 129 families, impacting a total of 432 parents, babies, and children.

Family Size	Number of families supported
2	15
3	45
4	37
5	11
6	7
7	2
8	1

Family Income	Number of families supported
0-\$15,000/yr	22
\$15-30,000/yr	40
\$30-50,000/yr	23
\$50-70,000/yr	18
Over \$70,000/yr	26

"The tasks of parenting can be so overwhelming for a new mom. I appreciate this program and my volunteer's support in particular during this transition time. I really don't know how I could have done it without her." ~Supported Mother

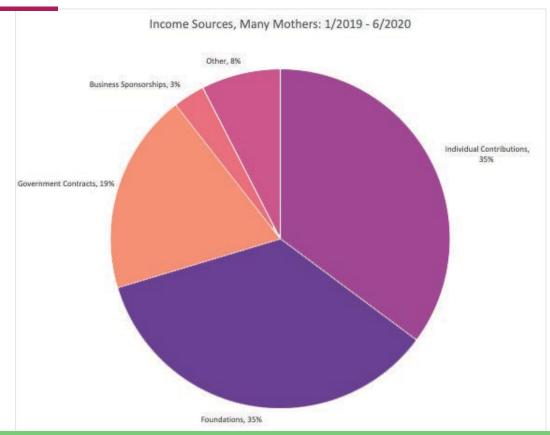


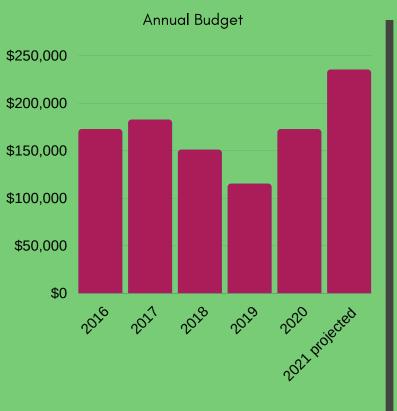
#### VILLAGE CLOSET

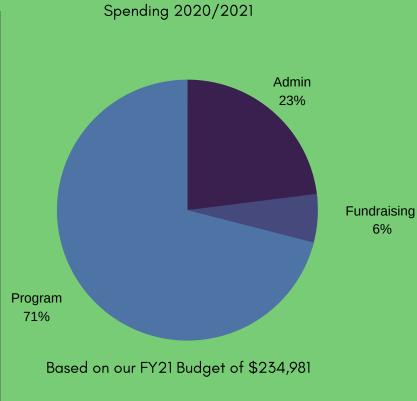
The Many Mothers Village Closet opened in July 2019 so that families can "shop" for new and gently used items for children ages 0-3, available on a sliding scale and donation-only basis, to get their children off to a healthy start. Items include breastfeeding supplies, clothes, toys, books, portable cribs, feeding supplies, and more. This resource significantly reduces the financial strain on families with babies and toddlers.

In the past year, 70 families have received 598 items from Village Closet, including at least 10 families who received free vouchers from partner agencies.

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW







Many Mothers 2019/2020 Annual Report | 8

## WHO WE ARE

#### 2020 Board of Directors

- Jeanne DuRivage, MA, OTR/L President
- Dennis Jung, CPNP Vice President
- Maxine Swisa, MA Secretary
- Dr. Ellen Pope, OTD/OTR Board Member
- Michelle George, MA, LMHC Board Member
- Patricia Reifel Board Member
- Eva Borins Board Member

#### 2020 Staff

- Antoinette Villamil, MFA, Executive Director
- Nayra Martinez Gallegos, Family Programs' Coordinator
- Anita Castillo, Volunteer Coordinator
- Zoey Barnes, MSW, MFA, Bilingual Navigator











Many Mothers 2019/2020 Annual Report | 9

### A HUGE THANK YOU!

#### 2019/2020 VOLUNTEERS

Francoise Alexander

Donna Bell

Vonell Bettencourt

Beth Bennett

Sarah Berg

Sue Bryan

Jennifer Burkholder

Martha Burns

Diane Carpenter

Mary Ray Cate

Avi Chatterjee

Laura Cowan

Sean Curry

Ruth Davey

Joalie Davie

Linda Dickson

Drucilla "Dru" Fergueson

Bernadette Freeman

Mary Alice Gillette

Caroline Goldthorpe

Sharon Gonzalez-Alei

Anna Griswold

Nancy Guthrie

Melinda (Mel) Hall

Richard Hall

Isabel Harkins

Sherie Hartle

Laura Henry

Carol Herrera

Marietta Hubler

Dennis Jung

Jeannine LaFontaine

Elaine Lansky

Nancy London

Abby McGahey

Laura Montoya

Ellen Moore

Chantal Pease

Michele Pennington

Martha Puryear

Patricia Reifel

Beverly Richardson

Margaret Rose

Sophia Rose

Alice Saland

Janet Salk

Mary Schultz

Marci Schwartz

Susan Theobald

Vivi Wagner

Amanda Zengel

OUR VOLUNTEER HOURS ACCOUNT FOR \$38,400 OF IN-KIND DONATIONS IN OUR ANNUAL BUDGET, OR 15%!

"This is a hard time to be alive. Climate crisis, corporate greed, it all leaves me occasionally feeling helpless and hopeless. I don't have my own grandchildren, so being with the newborns through Many Mothers gives me the opportunity to share my love, time and attention with a family in need. It restores my soul and sense of purpose, and puts right the world again." ~Volunteer Nancy L.



## PARTNERSHIPS

For the past three years Many Mothers has been a lead agency in the ¡Santa Fe Convive! collaborative working group (CWG), which is part of Opportunity Santa Fe. Connecting expectant parents and families to resources they need to succeed is a goal of the CWG. In 2019 and 2020, we scheduled and hosted 10 resource meetings for parents 1-2 times a month with our partners, Gerard's House and La Familia Southside Clinic. At each resource meeting we provided dinner, childcare, transportation assistance, and a presentation from a local agency about the resources or services they have available for families. This program is on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic.









## THANK YOU

#### BUSINESS DONORS

Agni Ayurveda Agua Fria Nursery BirthFit Santa Fe Clafoutis Collected Works ElleWell First Citizens Bank Emily Garcia, Barker Properties Harsam, Inc. Honeymoon Brewery Indigo Baby Joe's Diner Kaune's Neighborhood Market Long View Asset Management

Marilyn Biles Collection

Monarch Jewelry Network for Good

New Mexico Bank & Trust Newman's Nursery Northern New Mexico Quilt Guild Payne's Nursery Perspectives Fine Art Framing Plants of the Southwest Plaza Cafe Southside Santa Fe Bar and Grill Santa Fe Lavender Savory Spice Ten Thousand Waves Trader Joe's



## THANK YOU

#### Individual donors

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Patricia and Richard Arens

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Tamara Bates Kathleen Benecke

Karen and Raphiel Benjamin

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Tori Bove Glen Brandsma Sue Bryan

Jennifer Burkholder Martha Burns Peter Carlson Deborah Casillas Mary Ray Cate Barbara Chamberlin Avi Chatterjee Gerzain Chavez Vincent Chmielarczyk

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Renee Villarreal Celeste Villegas Lynn Walters Christine Wantuck Deboarah Weinberg **Deborah Weiss** Cynthia West

Cheryl and Rollin Whitman

Isabel Winson-Sagan

Marilyn and Edwin Winter-Tamkin Antoinette Woodruff

Bette Yozell

John Zeigel

## THANK YOU

#### **FUNDERS**

All Together New Mexico Fund - Santa Fe Community Foundation

Blue Cross/Blue Shield NM (Healthy Kids, Healthy Families)

Brindle Foundation

Brindle Fund, Santa Fe Community Foundation

City of Santa Fe - Children and Youth Commission (CYC)

Children, Youth, and Families Department

Clothes Helping Kids, Inc.

Community Foundation of Grant County, Indiana, Inc.

COVID-19 Response Fund - Santa Fe Community Foundation

**Cudd Foundation** 

Daniels Birth to Career Fund, Santa Fe Community Foundation

Francis X. Kelly and Ana V. Kelly Charitable Fund

NewMexicoWomen.Org - Gender Equity Emergency Fund

Jewish Community Foundation Los Angeles

Kate Klein Fund, Santa Fe Community Foundation

New Mexico Early Childhood Funder's Group

McCune Charitable Foundation

Nancy and John Guthrie Family Foundation

Nancy Ann Mellen Foundation

New Mexico Bank & Trust

New Mexico Children's Foundation

Refugee/Migrant Fund - Santa Fe Community Foundation

Santa Fe County

Santa Maria de la Paz Catholic Community

St. Bede's Outreach Committee - St. Bede's Episcopal Church

The John C. Griswold Family Foundation

The United Church of Los Alamos

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Santa Fe

"My life has been enriched tremendously by my support for "Natalie" and her baby. I was able to support a new mother in her choices and concerns, and she in turn was open and willing to let me bond with her baby. We worked as a team to meet Natalie's needs to complete training so she is able to work from home. Baby "Mary" smiles and laughs, and she sings with me when I sing to her! I am grateful for my opportunity to work with this wonderful mother and her baby. Many Mothers' staff support definitely made our match stronger. ~ Volunteer Ruth D.



## THANK YOU

**FUNDERS** 



## Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico







**New Mexico Early Childhood Funders Group** 



**Cudd Foundation** 









#### In Gratitude



Anne McCormick Founder of Many Mothers 1940-2008

