Mayor Breed commits to provide $28.5 million in Emergency funding for the Latinx Community!

MNC co-led and coalesced with the Latino Task Force and the San Francisco Latino Equity & Parity Coalition (SFLPEC) to orchestrate a very cohesive and comprehensive, emergency funding request to Mayor London Breed. The urgently needed emergency funding will address vital housing and food insecurities, systematic health and social inequities exasperated by the devastating COVID-19 and provide culturally appropriate, uplifting services to our communities of color.

I am pleased to report, that as a result of our meeting with Mayor Breed, working in conjunction with the SF Office of Economic and Workforce Development, they committed to provide $28.5 million in funding. The City will initially release $22.5 million and will continue to leverage public and private sources to meet the remaining need.

Through this emergency funding, MNC is proud to share that we will be receiving $814,000 to introduce a new Essential Services Hub on Evans St. in the Bayview, that will expand and transform our previous Family Resource Center in the Bayview. The Essential Services Hub will include a Food Hub, a Learning Hub for youth, COVID-19 testing and expanded emergency supportive services in collaboration with Good Samaritan and Mission Economic development Agency (MEDA). The emergency funding will also allow us to expand our vitally needed services at our Family Resource Center at Centro de Alegría, in the heart of the Calle 24 Latino Cultural District.

Thank You First 5 San Francisco for your in-kind Donation of Diapers and Baby Formula!

Families are facing economic crises. Kind donations, such as First 5 San Francisco’s diaper and baby formula donation supports families in having access to their basic needs. Through a collaboration with First 5 San Francisco, our Family Resource Centers play a vital role in sustaining the lives of our working poor communities of color. FRCs provide grocery bag distribution, gift cards, home supplies, diapers, and personal protective equipment (PPE), in addition to other supportive services during this challenging time.
Celebrating Community Champion Sam Ruiz

Congratulations to our CEO and community champion, Santiago ("Sam") Ruiz, for his 40 years of unwavering leadership, advocacy, and dedicated service to our under resourced community!

Through his vision and leadership, Sam has steadfastly grown MNC into a multi-million-dollar, multi-generational, multi-cultural anchor organization in San Francisco.

Thank you Sam! We applaud your devotion to uplift and empower thousands of lives throughout your many years of service.

Keeping Our Seniors Healthy and Thriving

Mission Neighborhood Centers’ intergenerational program "Weaving Hearts" wins Aging Innovations Achievement Award!

“Weaving Hearts” incorporates intergenerational activities between seniors, preschool children and youth ages 6 through 12. Our curriculum includes technology education and music and culinary workshops. Our programming promotes engagement, shared creativity, and innovation. It fosters a transmission of ideas, culture, traditions, skills, experiences and values across multiple age groups. Our aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of our low-income seniors and adults with disabilities by reducing isolation and providing social engagement. The program fosters a positive outlook on life and builds the confidence needed for independent living. We are grateful for this honor by the N4A (National Association of Area Agencies on Aging).
Community Wellness Clinic

Through a collaboration with The Community Health Resource Center and Walgreens, MNC hosted a healthy aging workshop where over 100 seniors received flu shots and Blood Pressure, Cholesterol and Diabetes testing.

Community Learning Centers Continue Serving Our Youth

Phase 1 - Community Learning Hubs at MNC’s Precita Valley Community Center and Mission Girls, located at the Mission Language Vocational School are fully operational thanks to funding from the SFUSD/DCYF partnership. We provide essential full-day, in-person programming delivering, academic support, access to Wi-Fi and digital devices for distance learning, outdoor recreation and physical activities, healthy meals and snacks and family support services for our most underserved families and highest need youth.

At the Community Learning Hubs, we are currently serving elementary school aged youth and are in the planning stages of expanding our services in alignment with the DCYF ‘Phase 2’ rollout, which includes a separate program for Middle School aged youth. After months of isolation, the appreciation and excitement felt by the youth and families has been a grounding experience for our MNC team.
MNC Pit-Stop Ambassadors Keep our Streets Safer and Cleaner

Thirty-five dedicated Pit Stop Ambassadors work tirelessly 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to clean and maintain 5 Pit-Stop locations (16th St. & 24th St & Mission St., 5th St., Florida St. & Main St.). The Pit-Stops located in high traffic locations provide essential services to community members experiencing homelessness, BART riders, and the community at-large. Through the work of these committed ambassadors, the Pit-Stops and surrounding areas remain clean and sanitary for the public good.

Keeping Families Strong

Librada lives with her husband Carlos, and their eight children. Before the pandemic, Carlos worked two jobs in food prep to provide for his family. Unfortunately, Carlos was laid-off from both jobs in March when restaurants closed their doors to customers. He did not qualify for unemployment benefits. To make it through this time with no income, they have relied on CalFresh, which their children qualify for because they were born in the U.S., a one-time rental assistance payment, and their Earned Income Tax Credit, which now has run out.

Ismael and Adriana, like their older siblings, have attended our well-regarded early care and education program. Since March, all of their children have done their learning virtually. Unfortunately, due to social distancing, Ismael and Adriana are amongst the 285 children that we had to turn-away from in-person care and learning. If they lose much more in-person learning, they will start kindergarten behind. Through our comprehensive distance learning and family support model, we continue to work with Ismael and Adriana to provide virtual learning activities and family engagement and support services for their parents to address their most pressing needs.

Numerous families like Carlos and Librada are facing tremendous life affecting challenges. Families are on the verge of facing evictions and are experiencing food insecurity due to their lack of access to sufficient food for every family member to live an active, healthy life.

To support our families who have been most impacted by the pandemic during these turbulent times, this month, we will be launching an Essential Services Hub in the Bayview District of San Francisco that will provide vital, basic life services to fight food and housing insecurities. The Essential Services Hub will include a Learning Center for children, youth and families, a food pantry, COVID-19 testing and access to emergency funding for eviction avoidance and access to food.
How You Can Make a Difference Today

Through your kindness, we can join forces to help to sustain the lives of our underserved communities of color. Thank you for your continued support!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, PLEASE DONATE HERE

Lastly, remember, our vote is our power. Make sure you are registered to vote and make your voice heard this November. You can check your registration and learn how to vote safely by visiting: https://sfelections.sfgov.org/ways-vote.

With gratitude,

Sam Ruiz