We provide youth and families, particularly those in need, with comprehensive programs that connect them to resources, strengthen skills, build community, and support their academic, emotional, and physical growth.

Proveemos amplios programas que conectan a jóvenes y familias, especialmente a los más necesitados, con recursos, mejoramiento de habilidades, creando comunidad y apoyando a su crecimiento académico, emocional y físico.
Dear Friends,

It was an incredible year for the Novato Youth Center, thanks to your support. 2,653 youth and families received essential services. As part of our strategic plan, we launched new services that helped parents and guardians skill build, connected more people to basic needs support, and deepened conversations with our community partner the Novato Human Needs Center to determine how best to serve mutual clients in Novato. Conversations will formalize this fall, and we believe this partnership will be even more beneficial to those we serve.

This year we increased the cultural competence of our staff and volunteers to better serve our diverse community. With your contributions, and the support of our entire donor community, we are able to offer equitable, inclusive services to all families. Our staff regularly advocate for the underserved, at public meetings with politicians and community partners, to build more resourceful family systems. We know that youth thrive when their families are thriving.

As you make your philanthropic giving decisions this year, we appreciate you including the Novato Youth Center. Our programs need your support especially now as demand for our services is increasing. Thank you for being a critical member of the NYC Community.

In appreciation,

Cheryl Paddack
Executive Director

Michael Domer
Board President

Dear Friends,

As President of the Board of Directors from 2015-17, I was honored to work with dedicated volunteers and staff and assist in the development of our 3-year strategic plan that is focusing on how to best serve Novato residents. I joined the Board originally because of the NYC services that my family received, and have grown a deeper appreciation for the depth of services and dedication of all involved. Thank you for your continued support.

Andrei Jigalin, Outgoing Board President
FISCAL YEAR 2017/18 OPERATING BUDGET: $2,503,680

**INCOME**
A: 34% Program Fees  
B: 26% Government Grants and Contracts  
C: 17% Foundation Grants/Individual Donor-Advised Funds  
D: 23% Community and Other Funding (Individuals, Businesses, Service Clubs, Rental Income/Other)

**EXPENSES**
A: 45% Child Development  
B: 13% Health and Wellness Programs  
C: 11% Family & Community Engagement  
D: 31% Allocated Overhead, Capital Purchases, Fundraising Costs

**CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS**
Total: 2,653 clients

- 47% Latino
- 29% Caucasian
- 3% African American
- 4% Pacific Islander/Asian
- 17% Multi-Racial/Other
PROGRAMS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

322

44
Early Childhood Education

68
Kinder Academy

107
Sparks Enrichment Program: Elementary School

46
Sparks Enrichment Program: Middle School

57
Child Development Parent Workshops

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

1,443

503
Community and School-Based Counseling

492
Adolescent Health Education and Peer Health Promotion

263
Novato Teen Clinic

8
Counseling Internship Training

101
Indoor Soccer

76
Zumba
FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Developmental Playgroup**: 60
- **Promotores/Leadership Program Volunteers**: 14
- **Promotores Program Clients and Workshops**: 760
- **Novato Blue Ribbon Coalition for Youth — Participation and Fiscal Sponsorship**: 54
- **Case Management**: Service integrated throughout our programs; served 219 clients.

**TOTAL CLIENTS**: 2,653

**TOTAL VOLUNTEERS**: 164 people, 6,183 hours
Accomplishments
and Outcomes

Kinder Academy: 80% of families who participated in the 5-week Kinder Academy summer program reported that, as a result, they felt better prepared to participate in their child’s Kindergarten classroom.

Early Childhood Education:
One aspect of being Kinder ready is having specific strategies to regulate feelings and behavior, becoming less reliant on adult guidance over time. According to assessments conducted on Learning-Self-Regulations, 70% of NYC Preschool children demonstrated they reached a high level of new skills.

Sparks Enrichment Program
Elementary School: 86% of school age families find that morning and after school transportation services throughout the school year is their number one reason why they chose NYC as their childcare provider. A fleet of state-of-the-art passenger vans make the loop to and from NYC to NUSD schools to ensure that students arrive at school—and parents arrive at work—on time.

Sparks Enrichment Program
Middle School: Students participated in eighteen sessions of Second Step, an evidence based program that improves socio-emotional skills. As a result, the group decreased their tolerance of harmful behaviors (like physical violence, put-downs and isolating their peers) by over 25%.

Parents/guardians who participated in NYC’s satisfaction survey felt 100% satisfied with their child’s classroom in the following five areas: 1) Interaction between NYC staff and children; 2) Health and safety policies and procedures; 3) Languages spoken by NYC staff; 4) Teacher-to-child ratio; 5) Location of program.
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Promotores/Leadership Program Volunteers
- Promotores Program Clients and Workshops
- Developmental Playgroup

Accomplishments and Outcomes

Promotores/Community Health Volunteers: 100% of Promotores reported they experienced growth as community leaders due to their participation in the Promotores Program.

"The trainings made me feel more confident in communicating with others and being more prepared to help my community.” —Promotora

Promotores Program Clients and Workshops: 59% of those who participated in Cafecitos (in-home cafes) hosted by Promotores committed to making at least one change at home to reduce youth access to alcohol. During the three-month follow-up, 92% reported successfully making that change. 100% of parenting workshop series participants reported having the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully talk with their children about alcohol and drug use.

Novato Blue Ribbon Coalition for Youth: 100% of the Coalition’s Executive Committee reported the Promotores’ participation in the Coalition increased the cultural competency of prevention efforts.

Developmental Playgroup: 100% of families who participated in NYC’s weekly playgroup reported that, as a result, they felt more connected to other adults/parents in their community.

Novato Blue Ribbon Coalition for Youth—Participation and Fiscal Sponsorship

Case Management: 219 teens and families were screened for basic needs support such as food, housing, healthcare, and legal services. Of those who set goals with the Case Manager, 80% increase a level on the self-sufficiency index in at least one key domain (such as food, childcare, mental health, etc.). For families who set goals and were provided referrals to support services, the rate of engagement in those services was 76%.
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

In a survey of NUSD Administrators, 80% agreed the consultation and training services provided by NYC counselors increased the capacity of school personnel to work effectively with students.

Accomplishments and Outcomes

Novato Teen Clinic:
A full 28% (over double the state average) of females who accessed the Teen Clinic used a Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptive (LARC). Our health educators teach teens about LARCs because they are the best methods for preventing teen pregnancy.

Adolescent Health Education:
95% of youth who attended sexual health workshops said they intended to reduce their risk for health problems by taking concrete steps such as communicating more, visiting the teen clinic, or abstaining from sex.

Community & School-based Counseling:
Crisis and ongoing counseling, provided in six NUSD schools and the NYC Counseling Clinic, gave youth in our community tools to increase their problem-solving and coping skills when facing a variety of issues, including substance use, relationship challenges, suicidal thoughts, abuse, and academic pressure. Of those students who participated in three or more sessions, 80% self-reported an increase in their overall well-being.

Indoor Soccer League:
100% of youth agreed that participating in NYC’s indoor soccer league increased the amount of time they spent being physically active. 100% of parents agreed that the communication provided by the league was adequate and the NYC facilities and playing field were clean and comfortable.
With your support this year, the Novato Youth Center’s Team (50 Staff and 164 Volunteers) were able to serve 2,653 youth and families through three program areas that are designed to work together in a comprehensive manner create a deeper impact. The following client stories provide a few illustrations of how our programs are making a difference.

**Story #1:** This year we served 200 children in our Child Development Program, over half of whom were from low-income, working families. Childcare is the second highest cost in the family home and an essential service for parents/guardians to remain in the workforce. Thanks to generous donors who stepped forward this year, NYC created a Working Family Fund to provide childcare discounts so that even more low-income families can remain in the workforce. Families meet with our Case Manager who qualifies them for scholarships as well as assesses them for other needs. One family shared that they were having a hard time making ends meet and affording food for their family. The Case Manager then enrolled them in the CalFresh Program (formerly food stamps) and shared local food pantry options. They now receive the benefit of subsidized childcare services and food, both of which are safety net services that are essential to their health and wellness.

**Story #2:** An NYC Counselor worked with a 6th grade student who was referred for low self-esteem and anger. This client was seen for eight sessions. Through the practice of anger management strategies (scaling 1-5 using a volcano metaphor) and by identifying his triggers, he was able to practice calming himself when he experienced frustration. This client also revealed he felt nervous about his academic performance, but after discussing and using time management tools to better organize his study schedule, he was able to feel more confident in specific classes and oral presentations. The client’s ability to recognize that his “angry outbursts” at home and at school were due in part to his fears around the academic challenges that had increased as he transitioned from elementary to middle school. In time as he applied his organization and self-soothing skills, he was also able to feel more confident with group classwork and expand his peer group within an activity he enjoyed.

**Story #3:** NYC’s Peer Health Promoters (PHPs) are the youth ambassadors of the Novato Teen Clinic. They provide support and education to clients in the waiting room, assist clients via social media to access the clinic’s services, present on the clinic’s services in their high school health classes, and reach out to the Health Educator if they are not sure how to answer a peer’s question. When one of the PHPs first joined the team, she appeared shy and reserved, but after she was given an opportunity to take a leadership role in guiding newer PHPs, she bloomed. She is now excited to participate in outreach, mentor others in the qualities of a PHP, and expand her knowledge on adolescent health. Giving her a safe place to express her opinion has allowed her to step into her leadership and help the rest of the group become a better team. She now frequently says “Let me know if there is any other time when you need my help because I really want to be involved.” It is PHPs like her, with confidence and skills, who link their peers to critical services that improve their health.

If you know of someone in-need, please let them know about our services [www.novatoyouthcenter.org](http://www.novatoyouthcenter.org).

Thank you for your continued support that makes providing these services possible.
The Novato Youth Center’s Giving Tree Society recognizes a special group of friends who contribute a total of $1,000 or more annually to support our mission. The Giving Tree Society donors provide crucial funding so that youth and families, particularly those in need, have access to our comprehensive programs that connect them to resources, strengthen skills, build community, and support their academic, emotional, and physical growth.

Whether you choose to make an annual gift or contribute monthly, as a member of the Giving Tree Society you qualify for many benefits including VIP tours, invitations to exclusive events, direct access to leadership, and opportunities to experience the impact of your contribution first-hand.

Your gift today will help thousands of youth in Novato, and we thank you for your investment. Your contribution may be matched so that even more youth and families will benefit. Due to the generosity of an anonymous investor, your contribution will be matched $.50 on the $1.00 if you are a new donor or have increased your contribution amount from your previous gift.

Your donation is tax deductible. The Novato Youth Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your investment in the success of our community’s youth and families makes a tremendous difference, thank you!

For more information, or to join the Giving Tree Society, please contact us at fundraising@novatoyouthcenter.org or (415) 892-1643 x228.
We appreciate all of our donors who help make our mission of service possible.

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Thank you to the 25 generous donors who contributed towards the Gondola Pre-Toddler Playground. Built in honor of the retirement of Kathy Gondola, after 31 years of dedicated employment at the Center, the playground will be enjoyed by generations of children.
CONTRIBUTE AND HELP FAMILIES SUCCEED

MAKE A DONATION TODAY
Your contribution makes a difference in our ability to offer programs to youth. Donate online, by mail, or call us! Donors who contribute $1,000 or more annually will become members of our Giving Tree Society. Monthly and quarterly giving options are available.

SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME YOUTH
Underwrite scholarship assistance for children ages 12 months to 14 years of age as part of the Novato Youth Center’s Child Development Programs. We are seeking donors to provide scholarship assistance so low-income children can receive ongoing quality care in a safe and nurturing environment.

MAKE AN HONOR OR MEMORIAL GIFT
Honor a friend or a relative by making a contribution in their name. We will send a card of celebration or sympathy to that special person in your life.

JOIN OUR LEGACY CIRCLE
Make a lasting commitment by naming the Novato Youth Center in your will, trust, or as a life insurance policy beneficiary. You’ll be invited to attend our Legacy Circle event as a thank you for your investment in our long-term success.

IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
Our programs are offered in our 23,000 square-foot main facility at 680 Wilson Avenue; at the Novato Teen Clinic (6090 Redwood Blvd.); in the community; and on Novato Unified School District school campuses.

Please call 892-1643 ext. 228 for more information.
www.novatoyouthcenter.org