2015 Highlights

**Legal Immigration Program**
Low-income residents across the state of Utah had access to consultations; legal support for immigrant victims of violence; support for Humanitarian and Temporary Status applicants; Family Reunification assistance; and Citizenship services.

**School Counseling Program**
Salt Lake Valley Catholic Elementary School students received counseling services that focused on Social Emotional Learning, Body Safety, and Violence Prevention.

**Summer Camp**
Park City School District students participated in a six week intensive STEM summer camp.

**School Readiness Program**
3 to 5 year old at-risk minority youth received early education programming.

**Afterschool Program**
Elementary-aged students were able to participate in out-of-school-time academic and enrichment activities while their parents were working.

**Promotora Outreach Program**
Families in the community and in low-income clinics received support from Promotoras - bilingual, bicultural outreach workers - who provided prenatal classes, support groups, information, referrals, and outreach services.

**Counseling**
Victims of Domestic Violence received bilingual counseling.
Holy Cross Ministries is a (c)(3) non-profit organization sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross. We believe that everyone deserves a bright future, a belief that dates back to 1875 when two Sisters of the Holy Cross arrived in the Utah territory and began providing services to low-income families.

The Sisters created Holy Cross Ministries (HCM) in 1994 to continue their strong tradition of compassionate service. Though Holy Cross Ministries is a faith-based organization, it is committed to assisting the entire community; all services are provided without regard to age, gender, faith, religion, race, ethnicity, or ability to pay.

Over 140 years after the Sisters of the Holy Cross arrived in Utah, Holy Cross Ministries continues to provide health, education, and justice services to the underserved in our community.

In 2015, Holy Cross Ministries served over 4,500 individuals and their families:

- 74% made less than $25,000 a year
- 88% were Hispanic or Latino
- 74% did not have health insurance
Community outreach and counseling play central roles in community integration and self-empowerment.

Counseling & Promotora Outreach Program

- **957** individual and group prenatal classes held for low-income, expectant mothers at South Main Clinic and the People’s Health Clinic.
- **89** counseling sessions were provided to 35 victims of domestic violence. Clients in the program attended an average of 5 sessions.
- **922** referrals were made for HCM’s clients to access state agencies and critical services such as: legal support, health access, support groups, and a variety of basic needs.

78% of expectant mothers that were surveyed reported agreeing or strongly agreeing to having changed their lifestyle to achieve a healthy pregnancy.

Of the 435 clients who received a community referral, 80% have already successfully received services.

For victims of domestic violence, a decrease in stress level indicates that the client is empowered and ready to take control of his/her life. Many victims of domestic violence who can achieve this level of decreased stress go on to obtain jobs, raise their children, and actively participate in the community.

Promotoras assisted 373 individuals in obtaining health coverage and accessing health care services. 80% now have a Primary Care Provider and 65% have successfully acquired health coverage!
Early childhood education, school counseling, & out-of-school-time activities help give students the tools they need for social, emotional, & academic development.

Afterschool, School Counseling, School Readiness, & Summer Camp Programs

3 / 4
363
113
192

of the Elementary Schools in Park City collaborated to serve 274 students in the Afterschool Program.

class and small group sessions were provided through the school counseling program at 3 Catholic Elementary Schools.

students were enrolled in the School Readiness Program as they prepared to start Kindergarten.

students were enrolled in a 6 week intensive Summer Camp with academic and enrichment activities.

The Afterschool Program and Summer Camp help to provide a safe place for elementary-aged children while their parents are at work; these enrichment activities help lead to academic gains and act as buffers against negative influences in adolescence.

Master of Social Work (MSW) interns and Licensed Clinical Social Workers provided individual counseling sessions for 21 students experiencing distress. After an average of 4 counseling sessions, these students reported a 33% increase in their social and emotional well-being.

Through quality classroom education for three- to -five- year old students and combined parent involvement, 89% of graduating students in the 2015 School Readiness Program were ready for Kindergarten.

Students reported the following gains after the 2015 Summer Camp:

- Physical Play Attitudes & Healthy Habits: 10%
- Interpersonal Competence: 8%
- Attitudes toward Learning: 6%
- Self Esteem & Identity: 11%

44% of students in the Afterschool Program reported an increased self esteem.

90% of parents actively participated in the School Readiness Program.
Affordable legal immigration services create opportunities for families to change their legal status and participate more fully in their community.

**Legal Immigration Programs**

- **2,075** forms were submitted by immigration attorneys and accredited immigration representatives to help clients change their legal status.
- **1,796** People had access to legal immigration services at HCM, which primarily included Immigration Legal Support for Immigrant Victims of Violence.

**Breakdown of Immigration forms that were filed in 2015:**

- **Immigrant Victims of Crime**: 65%
- **Family Reunification**: 31%
- **Naturalization and Citizenship**: 1%
- **Humanitarian and Temporary Status**: 3%

**Statistics:**

- 341 people gained a work permit and 92 people were approved for a U-Visa, which is designated for victims of crimes (and their immediate family members) who have suffered abuse and are willing to assist law enforcement and government officials in the investigation or prosecution of the criminal activity. Individuals who receive a U-visa can apply for permanent residency in 3 years.
- 188 people gained permanent residency, 145 of which were victims of crime. This creates numerous opportunities for immigrant families. Victims of crime who obtain a legal status are more likely to achieve self-sufficiency, care for their children better, and become active participants in the community.
- 10 individuals became citizens with the help of HCM’s legal services.