



Impacting Generations

HOUSING
EDUCATION
COMMUNITY



 **Saranam**
2015 ANNUAL REPORT

It is becoming more apparent that Saranam's unique, two-generational program is working to end homelessness, and also the sometimes life-long poverty in our families. With the addition of targeted children's programming, not only are our parents in academic, vocational and life skills classes, but their children are in life skills classes learning similar things. Both parents and children now have the opportunity to practice what they learned together. Adult students this year made the most progress in their first academic semester than any other class in the last twelve years! That means that entering college classes, most of our students enrolled directly in credit classes in the field of their choice.



Saranam is doing something different. Our longitudinal outcomes are showing families who leave successfully from Saranam remain housed, stable and even are continuing their journey with higher education and employment opportunities. Our families are no longer subsidized once they reach their goals. When a dad who finished his marketing degree while at Saranam returns to our office saying his biggest stressors right now are his teenage girls, and when a survivor of domestic violence with little education graduates with a bachelor's degree in Middle Eastern and Latin American Affairs, and a minor in Arabic, says her biggest trouble now is remodeling her kitchen, we know we have produced families who are utterly typical. When lives move from trauma and crisis to normal, we have accomplished a great deal. This is the purpose of Saranam.

Because we are doing something innovative and unique when compared to other organizations across the country, we are working to expand our program. In 2015 a group of community leaders came together to do a feasibility study and determined that the only *not* recommended option was to maintain the size and number of families. This group proposed to create three teams to work throughout 2016 to develop a clear business plan for expanding to serve families with 50 housing units. I look forward to the exciting work of these teams, (Facility Expansion, Capacity Building and Funding Strategies) and the presentation of the plan to the Board in upcoming months.

To the many, many individuals, companies, organizations and faith communities who engage with Saranam, please know that your time, energy, contributions and support of Saranam is ending poverty in homeless families. That is something to be proud of.

Sincerely,
Tracy Sharp
Executive Director

VISION

*To transform the lives
of homeless families.*

MISSION

*To empower families to
end their homelessness and
poverty through housing,
education and supportive
communities.*

GENERATIONAL POVERTY TO SUCCESSFUL FAMILY

My name is Chris and I'd like to share a little bit about my life with you. I am the father of three, with my lovely wife Brianna.

I was born the eldest of four in Colorado. My first few years, we lived pretty well until my dad was laid off or quit working — my parents started drinking more, staying out all night. By the time I was six or seven, they left me to care for the younger three children. My sisters and I had to grow up faster than we should have — at eight I felt like a teenager — I had to cook, babysit, and grocery shop. I remember elementary school off and on, but we moved seven or eight times.



I now believe my mom was on drugs, so our rent money disappeared pretty fast. That's when we started the homeless journey. My mom worked at McDonalds. My parents argued all the time. I remember walking in the house and mom had a black eye. To this day I'm the peace keeper of my family. When we got evicted, and there was no room at the Salvation Army, my family would sleep behind bleachers at a football field. My parents got back together but never slowed down on their drinking. They would say they'd be back later, and my job was to keep everyone safe and hidden. One night it started raining. We had a blanket, a puppy, and each other. I gathered everyone to cuddle together to keep warm. At the time I was 10 and my baby brother was 5. I wouldn't sleep until they got back after the bar closed.

I still went to school but had big mud stains on my clothes. In school, I couldn't pay attention, couldn't focus on work, had to stay in from recess frequently. I just thought about what I had to go home to. One day in fourth grade we were doing a project where I drew a picture which was pretty morbid — something to do with a broken beer bottle. The teacher asked where the picture came from, and I said I sleep next to these things. My parents drink out of them. My teacher contacted my mom. The next thing I knew, we were moving again. We moved around a lot at this time.



Things just got worse. Dad was thrown in jail. Mom cheated again and probably was selling herself because she would buy us toys and still supported her drinking with no job. Billy, who we were living with, pulled a knife on my dad when he tried to visit after getting out of jail. Billy and his wife both did heroin — he eventually died of overdose. They kicked us out.

Mom and dad got back together, and we went to another place where we got a tent and lived on the river bank under a bridge. We learned how to fish, build a fire, and chop down trees. To us we weren't homeless — we were camping. I was still in school, but my teacher asked how we were doing, and when I said we were great — we have a fire and get to sleep by the river — she called Child Protective Services who took us away and put us in a foster home. My brother would cry for my mom for hours, and it would make the rest of us cry. I would hold my brother until he cried himself to sleep.

Eventually, and I don't know how, my mom got us back even though we still lived in tents.

It wasn't long after that we moved again and my life took a turn for the worse. I was 11 or 12 years old then. I started doing really bad in school. I was disobedient to the teachers, in and out of the offices. In-school suspension was my primary class. When I would leave school, I would drink and smoke marijuana, and there was a lot of gang activity in my old neighborhood. I got into fights. At the time my dad stayed at home and drank. Mom worked at the 7-11 and also was an alcoholic. I, myself, was an alcoholic. My parents really didn't care if I drank or smoked marijuana. When they tried to wake me up for school I would pretend to still be sleeping until they got frustrated enough to just quit. I was starting sixth grade.



GENERATIONAL POVERTY TO SUCCESSFUL FAMILY

One usual Friday night I was out drinking with friends, walking around the neighborhood, when we decided to take the party back to my house. While we were there, the cops knocked on the door, and put me and a friend in handcuffs. I was so scared, I didn't know what we did. They took us to the holding cells and continued to interrogate us for something we did not do. We ended up getting sent to the juvenile detention center. We were held there for three days before they went over the tape and saw it was a Caucasian male who actually did the crime. Soon after my being released, my family decided it was time to leave again, and we made our trip to Albuquerque where we, again, found ourselves homeless.

I spent the better part of my teen years in a local homeless shelter. I dropped out of school. My mother was going to home school me, but she didn't have time to do that. So my schooling was just brushed under the bed and never brought up again, which now I know is the biggest mistake of my life.

Living at the shelter was very hard. It was an awful place. We were on mats in this gymnasium, sleeping in the same room with hundreds of people — babies crying, couples arguing, men fighting, users using. I saw things I never should have seen. Then my mother's big job came. She was actually hired as the residential services manager, having climbed her way through the program, being sober. I was very proud of my mother. We were actually doing good. We had our own trailer on property. I made some really good friends. I learned a lot of survival lessons.

I met Brianna at the shelter when we were very young. I was 14 and she was 13. I was into sports and thought I was doing good but still had no education. I spent my days sleeping in, waking up, working out, playing sports and hanging out with friends.

Brianna, me and my entire family moved in and out of the shelter and lived with other people for several years. When Brianna called to say we were having a baby boy I was so excited, I just couldn't contain it. Brianna came back to live with me and then CJ was born in 2010. I was 19. Being a dad was hard. We lived, again, in and out of shelters, parking lots and moved around a lot. After finding our way back to Albuquerque again, we went back to the shelter and joined the program where you get a room and \$25 a week. I washed 500-1000 dishes a day. After two months we heard about Saranam.

At first my reaction was "what's the catch?" This is too good to be true. I just couldn't believe that a place like this existed in the world. We applied and had to submit to drug tests. I was still skeptical, but Saranam slowly made me a believer. Our hopes were high. We were biting our fingernails for three days, and when I found out we got in, I had not been this happy since I found out CJ was a boy. I tried to remain professional during the call, but when I hung up I was laughing, crying, and giving people hugs.

We then moved into the apartment that Saranam had put together so perfectly. The kids came to our new home on the bus from CLNKids, their daycare. When we met the bus, we told CJ to open the door to the apartment. After he did I said, "Do you want to live here?" and he said, "Yes!"

First at Saranam, everyone was very quiet and now we love everyone in our class. We had great instructors from CNM. Brianna and I both did very well in our classes. Everyone in class had an important role, but we all had the same goal, to do better in life and make the best possible life for our children. I am extremely grateful for everything this program did for my family — helping with our education, having a home and giving stability to our family was a blessing.

Brianna and I both passed the GED in four months! I never thought I would be doing that! Brianna wants to go into nursing to work with newborns. I eventually want to be a game programmer.

I would also like to say to you all, thank you for being here and supporting families like us. Without you, we wouldn't be here — we'd still be in the shelter! Thanks again! You are great! One of the last things I want you to know about me is that my story will have a happy ending, because even though the way my mom raised me was hard, I appreciate all of it. She raised me like a roach, ain't nothing going to kill me!

Thank you for hearing my tale. Have a great evening everyone. BAM!

While at Saranam, Chris and Brianna went on to take a year and a half of college level courses before finding full time employment — their very first jobs! They moved out into a town home with their own yard, signing a year-long lease, because, "That's what stable people do." They have both received promotions in their jobs and have been living stably for over a year since leaving Saranam.

THE BIRTH OF A S.T.A.R.

BY DEBRA MAESE



As vibrant as our Saranam universe was, all who looked up at its wondrous beauty saw a space that needed to be filled. There was a hole in our universe. What better way to fill that dark hole than by bringing forth another wondrous star made brilliant by the smiles of our children? With the help of many volunteers who opened their hearts and hands, in September 2015 the Saranam Children's S.T.A.R. (Support, Tutoring And Resources) Center opened. Our open house brought many into our S.T.A.R. Center for the first time to hear about plans to create a parallel learning environment where parents and children come together every Monday to learn and practice Life Skills. Through role play, demonstrations and physical activity, families take new knowledge home and practice the skills necessary to enhance their lives and set a new standard of effectiveness to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty for themselves and future generations.



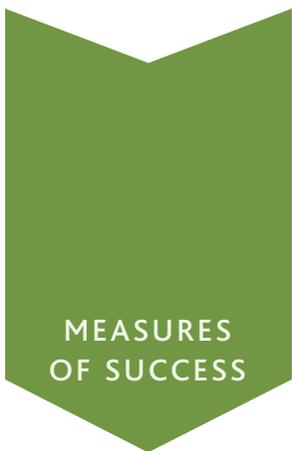
Like any newborn star, it shined with a little twinkle. Once the Albuquerque community heard about our S.T.A.R., over 80 volunteers raised their hands to help. We value and honor community engagement and believe that volunteer involvement has a positive impact on a child's future. Working in partnership with our community, the S.T.A.R. Center provides after school activities that meet our Saranam families' specific needs. Our services have a strong focus on effective academic enrichment. Retired elementary and high school educators come willingly every Tuesday and Wednesday to provide homework help, lead reading circles, engage in conversations, play learning games and identify and provide specialized attention to children with special needs. Organizations such as Pearly Whites (dentistry), Brown Mackie College (nursing students provided a rotation), UNM Physical Therapy (students did a nutrition training), and exercise instructors provide excellent opportunities for our children. Thanks to the generosity of Blue Cross Blue Shield, our children play together and bond for a portion of Monday classes on our KaBoom playground.



Other individuals and organizations provide enrichment activities. The Albuquerque Play Conservatory, private theatre and singing instructor Elizabeth Goldfarb, and our wonderful Albuquerque Academy volunteer students (science projects and arts and crafts) make our S.T.A.R. even brighter offering other alternative learning activities that challenge our children and families and make learning fun. Our S.T.A.R Center's depth and dimension is enhanced through our onsite individual and family counseling services provided by Chrysalis Counseling Services and Native American Professional Parent Resources (NAPPR). All volunteers who are 18 years or older are required to submit information for a background check and attend Saranam Safe Sanctuaries training.

At the S.T.A.R. Center, in a safe and engaging environment, children learn how to interact with, perceive, influence and relate to others to enhance lives, and promote academic and life success. Our children are thriving!

SARANAM 2015 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Has the family moved into STABLE HOUSING?

Has the family significantly improved their level of EDUCATION?

Is the family EMPLOYED?

Has the family significantly improved their ABILITY TO MANAGE LIFE?

Have the parents improved their PARENTING and/or are children progressing appropriately, receiving needed support services and engaging in typical age-appropriate activities?

Has the family ADDRESSED THEIR MAJOR BARRIER to stability?



Since its inception in 2004, Saranam has opened its doors to 92 of Albuquerque's homeless families, including 109 adults and 186 children.

75% of the families have left our program successfully.

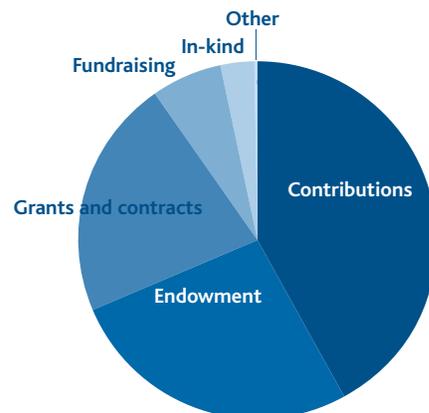
Saranam defines success by a family making significant progress in three or more of our measures of success.

SARANAM REVENUES

Contributions \$253,744
 Endowment \$161,205*
 Grants and contracts \$130,272
 Fundraising events \$37,282
 In-kind \$19,608
 Other \$299

TOTAL \$602,410

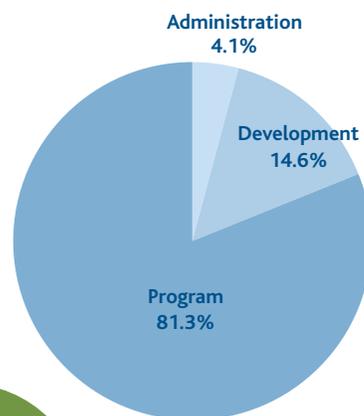
*Because the Frances Thaxton Ash Endowment covers expenses beyond the cost of fundraising and administration, 100% of every contribution goes directly to program!



SARANAM EXPENSES

Program \$506,502
includes housing, education and other expenses
 Administration \$25,570
 Development \$90,706

TOTAL \$622,778



\$20,760
 Average cost per family

\$6,700
 Average cost per person

HOUSING COSTS \$338,402 | 51% of total expense

Covers all physical provisions including:

- Rent
- Apartment and hygiene supply
- Stocked kitchen/pantry
- Cash stipend
- Transportation
- Background checks
- Drug tests
- Telephones and utilities

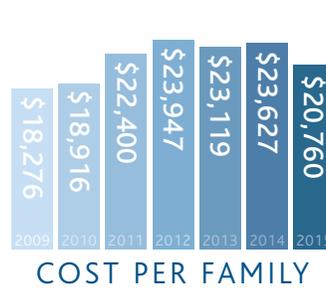
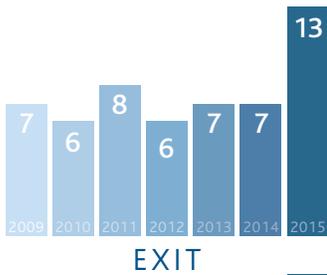
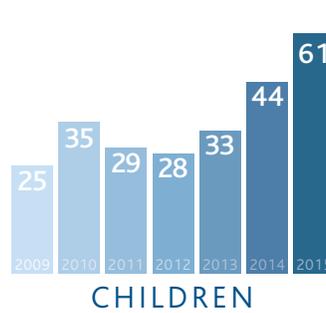
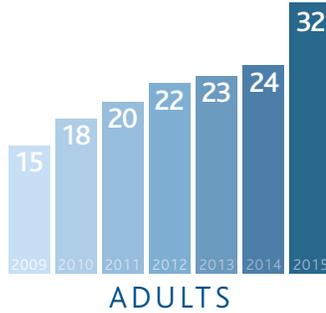
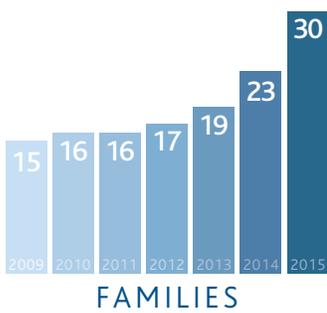
EDUCATION COSTS \$147,961 | 23.7% of total expense

Covers costs of being in school and other training including:

- Contract for instructors with Central NM Community College
- Workforce Training Center
- Training fees and supplies
- Scholarships
- Computers
- Child care
- STAR children's programming

Additional program expenses not categorized include development of children's programming, opera enrichment, classroom, office, and operating supplies.

FOLLOW-UP DATA



Saranam Provides the Opportunity for Long-Term Family Stability

In June we held our first annual Saranam Reunion. Families past and present were invited to gather, celebrate, and enjoy an afternoon of sharing stories and catching up with each other. For the reunion, Saranam developed a follow-up tool to collect data on families post-exit. This tool will help us track the families' progress over time.

Amazingly, Saranam has had contact with 62% of families who exited one year or more ago. Of those families 100% who left successfully remained housed and stable after a year, and 60% of those who left Saranam with significant progress in less than three measures of success were housed and stable after one year of exit.

Michelle recently graduated with a BLA in Middle Eastern and Latin American Affairs, and a minor in Arabic. Since leaving Saranam she worked, continued her studies, is planning her church wedding to marry a wonderful man who is working on his PhD in nursing and moved into a new home. She recently told us her biggest stress right now is remodeling her kitchen and that she is loving building her own garden — with a water hose!

SARANAM PROGRAM SERVICES



HOUSING

Each family is provided a furnished apartment, a home that offers stability. All families are located in the same apartment complex, encouraging the formation of community. We have been operating at maximum capacity of 20 families in 20 apartments since 2014.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILLS

In the first phase of the program, adults participate in adult basic education and life skills training courses provided by qualified instructors and community content experts. Classes are taught on the Saranam campus. Topics include GED, Adult Basic Education, college success, computer skills, parenting, financial management, nutrition, health and hygiene, communication, domestic violence education, drug and alcohol education, and vocational skills training.

S.T.A.R. | CHILDREN'S SUPPORT, TUTORING AND RESOURCES

In our two-generational approach, Saranam's children's programming provides access to therapeutic services on-site and developmentally appropriate life skills classes that mirror some of the adult life skills classes, which gives the family a chance to practice their newly learned skills together. Children may receive group or one-to-one tutoring and participate in reading circles for those in pre-school or who do not have homework. Enrichment activities such as science, arts, music, theater, and yoga are offered each week.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

After basic education is completed, adults pursue education from a community college or university. Obtaining a degree or certificate in a trade allows for more employment opportunities and increases earning potential. Saranam provides some scholarship money as well as assistance in attaining other funding for vocational training.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Through intensive case management, families work to resolve barriers to self-sufficiency in the form of negative behaviors or destructive attitudes. Families develop individualized transition plans with set goals and work with the case manager to assess their progress. These goals may revolve around career, academics, finances, or personal issues.

TRANSPORTATION

Monthly bus passes or a gas stipend is provided to each family during their stay at Saranam.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Saranam ensures that relationship and community building are integral parts of our program. We use a peer group model whereby families enter and move through the program as a cohort, live in the same apartment complex, and immediately create an established community, which helps them gain important social skills such as conflict resolution, mutual reliance, negotiation, and trust.

CHILD CARE

Saranam covers child care expenses as needed, including before- and after-school care. Child care plays an important role in the stability of the children and the success of the adults who are in school and in the workforce.

HOUSING



Saranam provides safe, stable, and fully furnished transitional housing for up to two years in an intentional community. It gives families the capability to concentrate on breaking down the barriers to more secure futures.

More than half of the nearly 600 volunteers at Saranam work in the summer to prepare apartments for incoming families. Furniture, accessories, and household items are collected year-round and stored in a warehouse. Last July, members from the La Cueva High School Football team moved the furniture into 13 apartments.

Volunteer decorators select furnishings from the warehouse such as linens, pictures, and dishes. The decorators spend several weeks setting up the bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and living room. They add personal touches that transform the apartments into homes. Many people provide baskets of toiletries, paper goods, first aid kits and cleaning supplies for each apartment. The day before the new families move in, another group of volunteers goes shopping to stock the refrigerator and pantry. On move-in day the new families are often overwhelmed to see their new home.

Throughout the year Saranam provides basic living supplies to include household supplies, toiletries and diapers. Providing basic living needs frees families to focus their efforts on education, vocational development and career goals while acquiring life skills for independent living.

DEMOGRAPHICS

for those served in calendar year 2015

Families 30

61 children, 32 adults
46 different referral sources
13 new families

Ethnicity Served	ALL	ADULTS	CHILDREN
<i>As self-identified on application</i>			
Caucasian	13	6	7
African American	13	4	9
Hispanic:	31	11	20
Native American	17	6	11
Multi-racial	15	3	12
Other 2	1	1	
Not Identified	2	1	1
Total	93	61	

Gender Served	ADULTS	CHILDREN
Female:	27	34
Male:	5	27

Children's Ages		Adult's Ages	
Under 2	13	Ages 18-24	7
Ages 2-5	20	Ages 25-29	7
Ages 6-12	16	Ages 30-39	14
Ages 13-17	0	Ages 40-49	2
Age 18+	2	Ages 50+	2

Education

Enrolled in Life Skills: 30
Enrolled in Adult Basic Education: 19
Enrolled in Vocational Training: 14

Highest Level of Education at Entrance

6th: 1	10th: 1	Some college: 10
7th: 1	11th: 2	Certificate: 1
8th: 2	Diploma: 3	Associate degree: 4
9th: 1	GED: 5	

Reasons Families Became Homeless

As identified by the families at intake

- 57% Domestic violence
- 53% Relationship/family problems
- 43% Unable to find employment
- 43% Unable to pay rent
- 23% Asked to leave housing
- 10% Substance abuse
- 10% Discharged from jail/prison

In the past cohort, relationship/family problems was the number one reason adults believed contributed to their homelessness, indicating that a lack and loss of community support is a critical factor in their homelessness.

Although only 57% of adults cited domestic violence as a primary reason they became homeless, 91% of these adults have experienced domestic violence during their adulthood.

Although only 10% of adults cited Alcohol/Drug Abuse as a primary reason they became homeless, 38% of these adults experienced addiction during their adulthood.

Combined, these 34 adults experienced homelessness a total of 102 times, which primarily reflects the number of times they have been homeless as an adult!

- SIX STEPS TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY**
- 1 Intake/Orientation
 - 2 Educational/Personal Development
 - 3 Vocational Development
 - 4 Job Placement/Employee Support
 - 5 Independent Living
 - 6 Independence

EDUCATION



Saranam emphasizes academic and vocational education as a means to improve employment opportunities, and life skills education to provide families with the tools to remain self-sufficient and healthy.

Research shows that income goes up as educational attainment increases. Annual income nearly doubles for someone with some college over someone who doesn't

have a high school diploma/GED. By emphasizing the value of education and providing students opportunities to choose their vocational path, we provide access to improved employment opportunities, stabilization of housing and a means for parents to get out of poverty.

Saranam provides a full semester of on-site academic classes to prepare students for success in the college and vocational courses they will take during the remainder of their time at Saranam. Adults are prohibited from working so that they can be full-time students, focusing on furthering their education.

Saranam also provides a year of life skills courses that teach how values, choices and behaviors affect not only the individual but also families, employers, and the community. These life skills are crucial for success and provide the skills needed to sustain stability.



This year's entering class made more academic progress in one fall on-site semester than any class at Saranam. Results are based on 10 adults.

2 people tested out of 1 CNM math class

3 people tested out of 2 CNM math classes

1 person tested out of 3 CNM math classes

5 people tested out of 1 CNM English class

3 people tested out of 1 CNM reading class

1 person tested out of 2 CNM reading classes

19 Adults Received Adult Basic Education

Adult Basic Education (ABE) includes a broad assessment of current academic skills, GED preparation classes, and individualized academic instruction for those students possessing a GED or high school diploma. Classes are taught on the Saranam campus by CNM Workforce Training Center instructors four half days during the fall semester. These classes are required for all Saranam adults during their first semester in our program unless they are already currently enrolled in college level, academic courses at an accredited institution.

This year two students exempted from ABE. One is a full-time student at CNM and has earned both the Bridge and Lottery scholarships. The other student is a full-time nursing student at CNM and is expected to graduate in August, 2016. Of the families accepted into Saranam in 2015, only three incoming adults did not have either their high school diploma or GED.

14 Adults Received Vocational Training

After completing the first full semester of on-site classes at Saranam (life skills and ABE), students are required to enroll in an off-site vocational training program or academic program at a school of the student's choice.

In December we celebrated two college graduations at Saranam. One of our students graduated from CNM with two associate's degrees — in sociology and liberal arts. While this is a major accomplishment, his sights are set on a higher degree, and he is currently enrolled in UNM pursuing a bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in psychology.

Our second student completed a bachelor's degree in social work from NM Highlands University, a long-standing personal goal. She began her education shortly after leaving a violent marriage. She managed to continue her education even while she and her young son were homeless. At Saranam she was able to complete both coursework and clinical hours and graduate successfully! She is currently considering returning to school to pursue a master's degree in social work.

Additionally, another student passed her GED! Congratulations to these students whose hard work shows!

30 Adults Received Life Skills

Life skills classes include parenting, nutrition, financial management, domestic violence awareness, safety, health and sex education, drug and alcohol prevention, home maintenance, values and communication and vocational skills. Classes are taught in the Saranam classroom by Central New Mexico Community College Workforce Training Center instructors and community experts. Saranam adults attend life skills classes half days for fall and spring semesters and one morning per week during the summer semester. These courses are required for all Saranam adults during their first year in the program.

Cindy entered Saranam overwhelmed with being a mother of a three year old and newborn. In her parenting classes, she learned ways to be a better parent so she can enjoy her children, and even decided she wants to go into the career field of child care. She says, "I don't know what I would have done without Love and Logic. I am a completely different parent and I love it!"

THANK YOU TO THE INSTRUCTORS

who help our students learn
about numerous topics.

Albuquerque Police Department
Safe zone
Crime Free Multi-Housing Complex

Alice Hughes
Child safety

Cindy Arndell, MD
Health and wellness

Ed Nunez
Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center

Hap Escue & Mike McGinnis
Emergency preparedness

Jeff Beg and Patrick Scott
APS Title I Homeless Project –
How to access resources

Josh Martinez
Healthy heart

Kelly Begaye
SAFE House – domestic violence

Kiersey-Strong Inventory
Personality and vocation

Liza Bley
Planned Parenthood
Sexual health

Michel Disco
UNM Pharmacy students, vaccinations

Mike Cosgrove
True North Financial Ministries
Financial management

Road Runner Food Bank
Saranam students volunteer

Ruth Tribou
Tax information

Sharon Himmelstein, CNM Nutrition
Basic nutrition

UNM Low Ropes Course

Up With People
Community building

EDUCATION



Children's Education at the S.T.A.R. Center

Working in partnership with our community, the Children's S.T.A.R. (Support, Tutoring And Resources) Center provides after school and some Saturday activities that meet Saranam families' specific needs. Our services have a strong focus on effective academic enrichment, physical fitness, nutritional and life skills activities that challenge our children and families and make learning fun. In a safe and engaging environment, children learn how to interact with, perceive, influence and relate to others to enhance our lives.



During the Monday Adult Life Skills class, the parents learn such skills as non-violent communication, nutrition, stress management, exercise, conflict management and emotional intelligence. Later that same afternoon the children learn the same concepts at the S.T.A.R. Center, giving the family a chance to practice the skills they have learned throughout the week together. This is one example of how Saranam's two-generational approach is working to end the cycle of homelessness and poverty.

Community content experts facilitate some of the classes for the S.T.A.R. Center. Thank you to the following for teaching our kids!

Pearly Whites Dentistry – a good oral hygiene

Brown Mackie nursing students

UNM School of Medicine

Albuquerque Play Conservatory, Elizabeth Goldfarb

UNM physical therapy students

Albuquerque Academy student volunteers



Technology in the Classroom and Homes

In a short time, technology has changed so much in the Saranam classroom. In the past five years we have gone from bulky desktops to laptops and from learning typing to making PowerPoint slide shows and doing internet research. Technology and the internet is changing the way education is done, from grade school homework through college. Saranam is working to keep up with the ever-increasing tech demands that are such an important part of learning!

COMMUNITY

Saranam Values Community

At Saranam we believe the underlying causes of homelessness go beyond the often cited causes: domestic violence, lack of affordable housing, unemployment, poor economy, mental illness, substance abuse and lack of public assistance. While these are all important factors, the lack and loss of community and support systems is an underlying cause of homelessness. Saranam strives to make sure that relationship building is an integral part of every aspect of the Saranam program. Saranam brings an entire class of families into the program at once and, beginning with orientation, creates a peer group cohort that moves through the two year program together. These families live in the same apartment complex and are neighbors, classmates and friends.

Saranam's intentional community is a unique aspect for serving families who are experiencing homelessness. This is a critical piece of what makes families in our program successful. Families experience new opportunities together in the arts, environment, and healthy physical activities. We could not provide families in our program opportunities for connections to the greater community without the generous support of our local community. Our volunteers exemplify the value of community everyday through their generous support by giving of their time, talent and energy.

Thank you to all of our generous donors and volunteers!

Up With People Gives Back to Saranam!

Up With People (UWP) is a global education and arts organization whose goal is to bridge cultural barriers and create global understanding through service and a musical production. Students from all parts of the world travel abroad with UWP for one or two semesters. Each international tour embarks with nearly 100 participants ages 17 – 29 from more than 15 countries.

In February UWP came to Albuquerque to do a show in support of Saranam. They brought 107 cast members representing 20 countries, spending three days, 1,214 hours, doing community service at seven local organizations throughout the city. Proceeds from the show supported Saranam. What an exciting week!

As a result of experiencing UWP and the show, one of the Saranam teens applied and was accepted to be a member of an upcoming UWP cast.



UNDUPLICATED
VOLUNTEERS

597

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

3,607





The Santa Fe Opera Joins Saranam

With support from The Santa Fe Opera's ALTO program, Saranam students wrote and performed in a video opera using the Hero's Journey structure as a guide. Though they did not initially know it, participants soon recognized that they are experiencing the elements of the Hero's Journey in their own lives — separation, trial and transformation.

On-Site Therapeutic Services

Saranam partners with several outside entities to provide on-site therapeutic services. This year, Chrysalis Counseling has provided family and child therapy to residents at Saranam. NAPPR has used the space to provide developmental screenings as well as some follow-up services.

First Annual Saranam Reunion

Saranam held our First Annual Reunion in the Park this year! What great fun it was to reconnect with past families from our program.

COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

Abundant Grace Free Store

Albuquerque Academy

Amity Foundation

Brown Mackie College,
Nursing student rotation

Central United Methodist Church

Central's Thrift Shop

Chrysalis Counseling Services

CLN Kids

CNM Workforce Training Center

Enlace Comunitario

Frances Thaxton Ash Homes, LLC

Girl Scouts of NM Trails

Jewish Community Center

Locker 505

Native American Professional
Parent Resources (NAPPR)

Other Brother Thrift Shop
(New Path Ministries)

Play Conservatory

Sante Fe Opera, ALTO

True North Financial Ministries

UNM School of Medicine



Thanks to Our Volunteers

Some of the ways volunteers engaged in Saranam this year are:

Computer maintenance

Donation pick-up

Decorating apartments

Shopping for groceries

Moving furniture into apartments

Setting up furniture

Holiday parties and goody bags

Hosting community activities and events

Serving on Saranam board

Serving on Saranam committees

Hospitality and office work

Clothing drives

Warehouse sorting and cleaning

S.T.A.R. Center tutors

S.T.A.R. Center enrichment activities

Event planning and production

THANK YOU

Churches, businesses and organizations gave their time, talent and donations to support the Saranam community. Thank you to the following groups who supported Saranam with volunteers, donations, or financial support in 2015.

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

ABQ Involved
Albuquerque Police Department
Amy Romero & Linda Weil Decorating Team
Ansel Interiors Decorating Team
APS Title 1 Homelessness Project
Asbury United Methodist Church
Beverly Oppedahl Family Decorating Team
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico
Central UMC Ladies Decorating Team
Central United Methodist Church
Citi Decorating Team
Covenant United Methodist Church
Del Norte Rotary
Girl Scout Decorating Team from the Eisenhower Service Unit
Help-Portrait
Keep Albuquerque Warm
La Cueva High School Football Team
Littleton UMC in Colorado Youth Group
Mary Burt Decorating Team
New Path Ministries
Sharon Wood Decorating Team
Sonya Priestly Decorating Team
St. Chad's Episcopal Church
State Bar of NM Committee on Women and the Legal Profession
Up With People
WIN (What's Important Now)
Women of Vision ABQ

FUNDERS

Abbott Designs
Albuquerque Academy Community Builders
Albuquerque Community Foundation, Gorvetzian Croker Family Fund
Albuquerque Community Foundation, Sean Hopkins Fund
Albuquerque JSEC
Amazon Smile Foundation
Ansel's Interiors
AOH Foundation, Ms. Linda Weil
Asbury Sunday School Class, Central UMC
Asbury UMC, UM Women
Association of Fundraising Professionals
Bair Medical Spa

Bank of the West
Bridal Elegance
Central United Methodist Church
Citi
Class of Promise Sunday School, Central UMC
Coffeemongers Inc.
Commercial Association of Realtors NM
First Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Women
Frances Thaxton Ash Endowment
Harmony Sunday School Class, Central UMC
Legacy Foundation
Littleton UMC, Colorado
Madrid Accounting and Consulting, LLC
Midland Area Community Foundation,
William and Rosella Bauman Family Fund
National Christian Foundation, Jeffrey and Alice Meyers
National Christian Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Finley Corkern
Netlogx, LLC
NM Conference UMC, UM Women
Partnership Sunday School, Central UMC
PNM Foundation Employee Match
Providence Sunday School Class, Central UMC
Santa Fe Jazz Foundation
Silk Road Connection
T&C Management Company
UNM Physician Assistant Program
Up with People
Wild Rose
Pure Radiance Advanced Skin Care

GRANTS

Clothes Helping Kids
Combined Federal Campaign
Hancock Family Foundation
Lockheed Martin
Rotary Del Norte
Sandia Foundation – Hugh and Helen Woodward Grant
Texas Methodist Foundation
United Way
US Bank
Wells Fargo
William & Florence Thaxton Endowment Fund

THANK YOU

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Albuquerque Job Services Employer
Connection (JSEC)
Bair Medical Spa
Betty Scott
Bettye Kopke
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico
Bridal Elegance
Canyon Club
Carol & Rob Lasater
Covenant UMC
D'Ambrosio Designs
Dawn Reed
Day Financial
Dions
Diva Deluxe
Friendly Lunch Bunch
Gertrude Zachary
Helen Mumford
Help Portrait
Hinkle Family Fun Center
Jeanne Jurgensen
Jennifer F. Pontzer, LLC
Larry & Mimi Smith
Leibers Luggage
Locker 505
Los Poblanos Inn & Organic Farm
Mary Ellen Coon
Melissa Portillo
Nancy Wood
Patsy Maese Olivas
Pearly Whites Dental
Ron & Elaine Solimon
Santa Fe Opera, ALTO
Silk Road Connection
St. Chad's Episcopal Church
Sue & Dave Campbell
Teresa & Angela Olivas
True North Financial Ministries
UNM Anderson School of Management
Wayne Frye & Debra Maese
Wild Rose
Women of Vison

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS

Anonymous
Chris Abbott
Rodney Adams
Marjorie Adolphe
Elizabeth Allbright
Rex & Barbara Allender
Kathy Kimler Altobelli
Cathy Anderson
Lonn & Karen Andrews
Ansel Roney
Cyndy Appelman
James & Dr. Cynthia Arndell
John & Kathleen Avila
Sam & Sharon Baca
Megan Baron
Janet Basler
Charles & Susan Bateson
Janet Becker
Jan Bennett
Helen Benoit
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Carl & Janice Bonilla
Terry & Berdel Boulanger
Julia Bowdich
Dawn & Brian Branch
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Chris & Patricia Briggs
Linda Browning
Marie Brown-Wagner
Linda Buffett
Lindsay Burkhard
Mary Burt
Jane Calhoun
Dave & Sue Campbell
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Mike & Cyndi Carter
Katherine Chavez
Victor & Pamela Chavez
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Ruth Cook
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Doc & Jane Corkern
Evelyn Crawford
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Andrew & Sari Dahl
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Michael & Linley Daly
Tina Daly
Jack D'Ambrosio & Sandra
Pemberton

Sam & Kristine Dangremond
Steve and Jan Davis
David Davis & Judy Zanotti
Devon Day
Kathy Day
Patrick Dee
Drs. Ann Dehart & Robert Milne
Dale & Diane Dekker
Jean Ann DeLayo
Linda Dillenback
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David & Anne Downing
Toni Drake
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Kathleen Duncan
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Nina Forrest
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Carol Glover
Bill Golden
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Lorraine Gordon
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Drs. Joseph Gorvetzian &
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Brian & Sandy Henry
Anne Hickman
Corbin & Paula Hildebrandt
Carole Hinton
Leslie Hoffman
Shannon Holmes
Janice Honeycutt
Rev. Paul & LaDonna Hopkins
Tonya Huelskamp
Arthur Hull II
Deborah Humbles
Charlotte Hunt
Marcia Hunt
Sally Hunter
Michael & Monica Hussey
Seth Ingersoll
Danny Jarrett
Karl & Hilary Jarvis
George Johnson
Merrill & Fran Jones
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Sandy Schargel
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Chris Schneller
Eric Sedillo Jeffries
Rev. Scott & Tracy Sharp
Ray Shoemaker
Anita Smith
Larry & Mimi Smith
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Helen Wertheim
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Paula & Dave Williams
Sherri Williams
Karen Wilson
Mark Wilson
Alan Wilson & Sue Rzendzian
Bill & Jenilee Woodward
Diana Zavitz
Joy Zeiner

GIFTS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF

Joshua Bonilla by Mr. & Mrs. Carl Bonilla
Esther Gammil by
Ms. Cyndy Appelman
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Othick
Rose Hartranft by
Ms. Ruth Cook
Ms. Joan Emerson
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Emerson
Partnership Sunday School Class
Sean Hopkins by
Mr. & Mrs. Lonn Andrews
Ms. Judy Zanotti
Mr. & Mrs. David Davis
Ms. Lynn Trojahn
William Gupton (AFP Awardee)
Scott & Tracy Sharp
Clarabelle Murray by NETLOGX LLC
David Paxton by Ms. Lorraine Gordon
Oscar and Jeffie Whitworth by Ms. Lois Lorentzen

GIFTS GIVEN IN HONOR OF

Lois Harwick by Ms. Diana Zavitz
Paul and LaDonna Hopkins by Ms. Mary Reeves
Susie and Jeff Livingstone by Ms. Jeanne Jurgensen
Peggy Middlebrook by Mr. & Mrs. David Davis
Janie Rowe by
Abbott Designs
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bateson
Dr. & Mrs. Roger Cronk
Christopher and Meaghan Hall (in honor of Rowe Family)
Sue Rzendzian by Albuquerque Academy Community Builders
Tracy Sharp by Ms. Virginia Kingsolver
Larry and Mimi Smith by Harmony Sunday School Class
Paul J. Smith by Mr. George Johnson
Elaine Solimon by Mr. & Mrs. Pat Orell
Up With People by Lynn Trojahn
Jeffrey and Vivian Micono by Stephen and Kathleen Altobelli

GIFTS MADE TO THE SEAN HOPKINS MEMORIAL ACTIVITY FUND

Anonymous
Clint Wells
Dave & Judy Cantwell in memory of Peggy Middlebrook
Diane & Gregory Ogawa
Elizabeth Wertheim
Helen Wertheim
Jeff Sterba
John Grassham
Judy Zanotti in memory of Peggy Middlebrook
Lonn & Karen Andrews
Lynn Trojahn
Rachel Trojahn
Richard & Cheryl Montoya
Sam & Sharon Baca
Scott & Tracy Sharp
Shirley & Ron Wells

SARANAM SCALABILITY

Saranam invited a group of leaders from the Albuquerque community to come together as a project advisory committee representing various community sectors. This team worked throughout the year on researching the need and feasibility of expansion for Saranam.



Saranam is poised to scale our program model to serve additional homeless families in our community. Scalability is a challenge for many small- to mid-size programs. Our unique, sustainable model for systemic change is highly replicable and adaptable to other communities and appeals to multiple community sectors including faith-based groups, government agencies, and private secular organizations. We believe our model can positively impact the way our state and nation approach homelessness and change the lives of many families experiencing homelessness for the better. Saranam can increase the number of homeless families we serve, thereby moving into a place of greater community reach and visibility. This team recommended, and the Saranam Board of Directors approved, the process of strategically planning how to double Saranam's capacity.

TEAM MEMBERS INCLUDED:

Linley B. Daly *President/CEO Daly Consulting, LLC, President AFP-New Mexico*

Andy Dobrot *Sandia Labs*

Diane Harrison-Ogawa *PNM Resources*

LaDonna Hopkins *H&H Consulting*

Donna Pedace *Del Norte Rotary*

Will Raskob *President/CEO Berger-Briggs Insurance, 40 years experience in philanthropy*

Janie Rowe JD *Coldwell Banker Legacy*

Sue Rzendzian *Saranam*

Tracy Sharp *Saranam*

Jim Wible *CCIM, NAI Maestas & Ward, former Intel Corp. executive*

Sheri Wible *Small business owner, former Intel Corp. executive*

Nancy Wood *Consultant, former Saranam Board Member*

Peter Villella *Dakota Foundation*



If you would like information about how you can include Saranam in your estate plan, please contact Sue Rzendzian, Director of Development, at (505)299-6154 x 104.

LEGACY GIVING TO SUPPORT SARANAM

Saranam is fortunate to have engaged board members volunteering their time to support the work we do in crafting a bright future for the families we serve each day. Elaine Solimon is one of our board members, and when we met recently she let me know she and her husband Ron have included Saranam in their estate plan.

“We have an extended family member who has experienced addiction and homelessness and know first-hand how hard it is for someone struggling with poverty and isolation. We can only imagine how this is compounded for parents and their children.” Elaine went on to say, “Saranam is an amazing beacon of hope and the security, support and opportunities provided to families through our unique two-year program is inspiring. Ron and I are thrilled to provide a legacy gift that will be there for future generations of families served by Saranam to transform their lives and provide security for their children.”



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BOARD MEMBERS



JANIE ROWE, 2012-2015 Chair of the Board of Saranam, received the Justice Pamela B. Minzner Outstanding Advocacy for Women Award by the State Bar of New Mexico's Committee on Women and the Legal Profession.



ELAINE SOLIMON, 2015 Treasurer of the Board of Saranam, received the PNM Award for Individual Excellence in Ethical Business Practice, in Honor of John Ackerman at the Samaritan Counseling Center's New Mexico Ethics in Business Awards.

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 2016 Sissy Othick *Retired, APS*
- 2016 Elaine Solimon *ARCA*
- 2016 Rachel Trojahn *Sandia National Labs*
- 2016 Sharen L. Ramirez *Sr. Vice President, Wells Fargo*
- 2017 Brad Gibbs *Property manager*
- 2017 Linda Weil *Community member*
- 2017 Sonya Priestly *Gardenswartz Group*
- 2017 Tom Frock *Blue Cross & Blue Shield NM*
- 2017 Pat Renken *Retired, APS*
- 2018 Mary Ellen Coon *CHAIR, Retired, Counselor, Austin Family House*
- 2018 Rob Lasater *Retired, Rodey Law Firm*
- 2018 Karl Jarvis *Bank of the West*
- 2018 Diana Weber *Presbyterian Healthcare Services, Surgeon*
- Scott Sharp *Senior Pastor, CUMC*
- Kelly Brooks *Associate Pastor, CUMC*

STAFF

- Tracy Sharp *Executive Director*
- Sue Rzendzian *Director of Development*
- Jennifer Mullen *Case Manager*
- Debra Maese *Director of Education*
- Sue Campbell *Volunteer & Community Outreach Coordinator*
- Julie Green *Bookkeeper*

Saranam is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

You can help us end homelessness in Albuquerque!

Visit our website to sign up for our newsletter
and learn ways to become involved at Saranam.
Saranamabq.org



1100 Eubank Blvd NE, Ste A
Albuquerque, NM 87112
saranamabq.org

T 505.299.6154
F 505.275.5699
info@saranamabq.org