



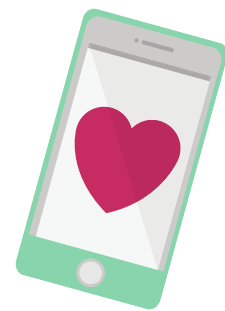
todos juntos Going Places

Building Community During Covid-19

Each week, since late March, the Todos Juntos team has been reaching out to each family by phone to assess their needs, to share updates, or to simply be a friendly voice reaching out to say "I'm here...how can I support you?". During these calls we have heard stories of job losses, illness, disconnect both socially and technologically, financial hardship, and hope - always hope. We have also continued to maintain contact through our daily online classes and activities, including English classes, live early childhood readings and activities, and a weekly music class.

And thanks to *you*, families can pay rent, buy food, cover their most basic needs, learn with their children at home, and work more safely. With your help, we have provided just over \$100,000 in financial assistance to Todos Juntos families. Through City funding, and in partnership with Family Independence Initiative, we have provided twenty five families \$2,000 each in financial assistance. And through gifts made to TJ, we have provided fifty \$500 electronic fund transfers and gift cards, as well as one hundred \$250 gift cards. We could not have done this without all of you and without our friends at the **Siete Family Foundation**, the **Buena Vista Foundation**, **Tapestry Foundation**, the **Hispanic Impact Fund**. We are also grateful to the many community members who have donated reusable face masks for Todos Juntos Families, and to El Bueno Samaritano for providing our families food assistance through our new partnership.

Every week we have met with another round of current and former Todos Juntos families as they pick up their masks and financial assistance. During these meetings, we are often met with immense gratitude, as well as questions, concerns, and stories of what life has been like for their families during this pandemic. The financial assistance, food, and emotional support we continue to offer provides families with reassurance that there are people and organizations still here with them. Thank you for being a part of these efforts and for supporting Todos Juntos as we continue this important work.



Happening Now!



For the month of **June**, we've teamed up with **GoodPop** to help fundraise donations for our Emergency Covid Relief Fund. With donations made to the fund, we will continue to provide families with financial relief. GoodPop will donate \$1 to TJ's fund for every case of GoodPops sold in Austin and for every Good Deed Pledge made on their website for the month of June!

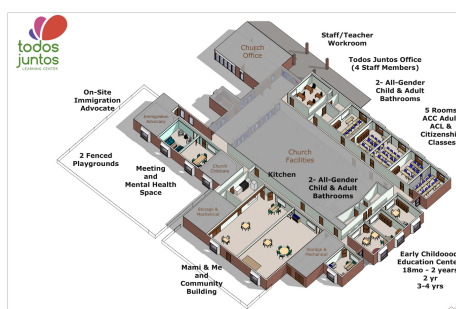
Here are a few ways you can help:

- **Purchase GoodPop at any of these retailers** - Whole Foods, HEB, Central Market, Wheatsville, Royal Blue Grocery, Sprouts, and Natural Grocers
- **Pledge to do good at goodpops.com/pledge**

It's Official - We moved this month!

After years of searching, and a very unpredictable Spring Semester, we are settling into our new home in South Austin. We are very thankful for our new partnership with St. John/San Juan Lutheran Church. Thanks to the generous support of our community, we are moving ahead with creating a learning space that will provide all of our students with a safe and updated environment. We have also created a committee to help identify the best service delivery model for Fall 2020. The committee will help research best practices, CDC and TEA information, and draft ideas for models to share with our stakeholders for feedback. The committee will include members of TJ's leadership team,

program staff, education experts, and Todos Juntos parents.



Thank you for helping us get to this milestone! We look forward to sharing results of this effort later this summer.

Teachers Are the Backbone of Communities

"They may forget what you said but they will never forget how you made them feel."
— Carl W. Buehner

Teachers are at the heart of Todos Juntos' mission and work. We cannot thank our teachers enough for all of their hard work throughout this pandemic. They truly are the backbone of our community and it is only with them that we have been successful at maintaining our level of work with the families we serve through this pandemic.

They do not only work to provide education services to families - they serve as an important connection, one that helps elevate the voices of our familias.

We could not let Teacher Appreciation Week go without saying *Gracias!* so we enlisted the help of some local friends who jumped at the opportunity to show them some love. Please join us in saying muchisimas gracias for the special gifts donated by **Kendra Scott**, **Eli Halpin**, **Goodpops**, **Tiff's Treats**, and **Buenos Aires Cafe**. It takes a village!



KENDRA SCOTT



MEET TJ VOLUNTEER, JEANNETTE WILLIAMS

How did you first get involved with TodosJuntos?

I met Christina at a board meeting for another non-profit, Armstrong Community Music School. After getting to know her and hearing about Todos Juntos, I was immediately interested. I attended a Cafe Con Todos Juntos shortly after and was blown away by what I saw and heard while at this little school. I signed up to volunteer as a one-on-one reader with the kids that day.

Why do you think interest in dual-generation is growing?

I have always been a firm believer in the benefits of a collaborative effort between home and school for student success. When there is a language barrier, this relationship is only more strained. By teaching Moms English and cultural immersion activities, while at the same time, their children are learning a myriad of things about being a student themselves, the impact is impressive. The children see that their parent is in school, so it is a "normal" thing to be doing, their parent is close by, so learning to separate is eased, the children are also learning to trust other adults and with both parent and child being able to speak English this forms the bridge that is needed for the home and school connection.

What do you wish others knew about Todos Juntos?

I wish that the broader community knew the true depth of commitment Todos Juntos has for its families. This program is a guiding hand to enable its families to become active members in their communities with the confidence and tools they need for success.

What do you do when you aren't volunteering?

The majority of my volunteer time is spent with school age children and volunteering at People's Community Clinic as an Orthopedic nurse (which is my background) with my husband who is a Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon. When I'm not doing that I have regular yoga practice. I am learning to do hand-building in ceramics, love to work in the garden and occasionally volunteer with Drive-a-Senior. I take Spanish and piano classes and I am on the Missions committee at our church focusing on community outreach. But family is my most valued treasure.

Humanos de Todos Juntos

At Todos Juntos we believe that the best way to know what families need is by simply asking them and then supporting them in the process of getting to their intended goals. We want to highlight and share the experiences of our families during this pandemic in their own voices.

Upon receiving these stories, one of our teachers shared: *"It touched my heart to read these stories. We know we're helping, but we do not always realize how deep that help goes. Their stories motivate me to keep going."*

Please follow us social media over the next few weeks to learn what life through COVID-19 has been like for our immigrant and refugee families. We hope you enjoy reading and learning directly from Todos Juntos families in our version of **Humans of Todos Juntos**.



@TodosJuntosLearningCenter



@todosjuntoslc

