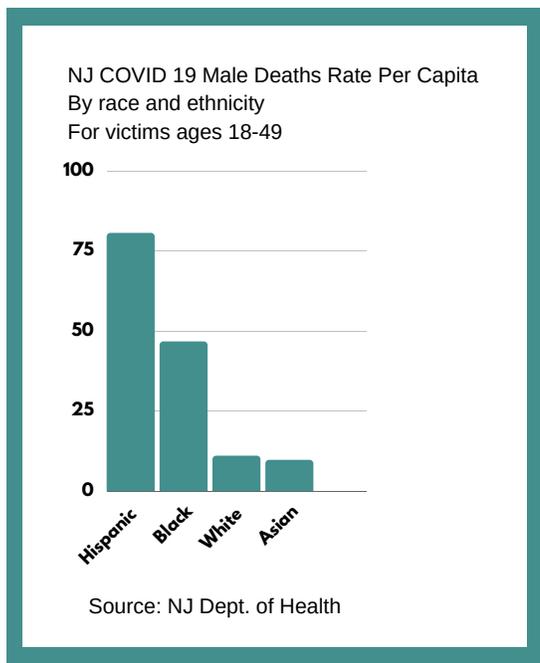


COVID-19 in Paterson Oasis Donors Ease the Trauma and Loss



Women wait to receive hot meals and food bags. Many have lost family members to the pandemic.

In New Jersey, COVID-19 is striking young Latinos hard: Latinos, and particularly Latino men, are disproportionately dying from COVID-19.



Paterson is one of the most densely populated cities in the state and the majority of city residents have family roots in Latin America. Suffering is widespread in this city. Oasis social workers are aware of the heart-

wrenching impact of the pandemic on the women and children who come seeking help: "So many of our clients have lost family members this year," says Jennie Vega, MSW. "Many of the older women have lost adult children. Several children in our After-School Academy have lost a parent."

Your gifts help these families cope with the loss.

Alma, who has been coming to Oasis since last May, lost her partner last April. He became sick suddenly, was rushed to the hospital, and died that very day. Alma had no chance to say goodbye. He was the family breadwinner, and she was left with a baby, in poverty, with no support.

Alma is now working through her grief (Jennie helped her find a grief counselor). She has food for herself and diapers for the baby. She is working to move back into the workforce. All this because of the programs you fund.

"I know Alma will get through this," says Jennie. "We're helping her move forward so she can take care of the baby."

Your gifts are what make it possible for Alma to heal. Your donation matters greatly to women like Alma and children like her baby. On their behalf, we thank you.

From the Director

Dear Friend,

It's been a full year of "pandemic life" and I so miss seeing you—volunteers, supporters, friends—here at Oasis.



For the second year now, we've been forced to cancel our Annual Gala of Hope, an event that raises close to one-third of our annual revenue.

You've helped us overcome this shortfall and provide impoverished women and children with the help they so desperately need.

The need now is greater than ever and we need you, now more than ever.

I hope you can see the impact of your giving on individual lives: Alma. Michelle. Alexandra. John. Ghada. And hundreds more whose stories are not told here.

Lives changed, because of you.

Even as this pandemic continues to devastate Paterson, our building expansion is progressing. We plan to relaunch in September with expanded programs to serve 2,500 more women and children in need.

I am so grateful for your support. It makes all these things possible.

In gratitude,

Jennifer Brady

Executive Director

Teens Get Ahead With Your Backing!

Teenagers need their peers to develop a sense of self and become functioning adults. Paterson schools have been shut since last March, and teens here are isolated and housebound, their emotional and social development disrupted.

But today, low-income teenage boys and girls are emotionally healthier and better equipped for their future because you support the Oasis Teen program on-site, every Saturday.

I love to dance but I'm shy. I danced for the girls in the program one Saturday and they liked it. That gave me the confidence to apply to Rosa Parks [School of Performing Arts]. Michelle, age 14



Miss Judy (Oasis volunteer art teacher) worked with me for three months to develop my portfolio. I'm submitting it to the PCTI Arts School. Alexandra, age 14

I used to play soccer, but haven't done sports in a year. This skating trip was the most fun I've had since this pandemic started. John, age 15



We're Growing!

We'll relaunch in September, serving even more women and children in need. Learn how you can help: oasisnj.org/capital-campaign



Join Us! Robert L. Pash Memorial Golf Classic

Thursday, June 10
Upper Montclair Country Club

oasisnj.org/golf

The Gift of Citizenship

Changing the Life of a Family



Oasis student, Ghada, and daughter, Hadia.

Ghada is a 25-year-old immigrant mother. She fled civil war in Syria seven years ago with her husband and infant son and now has three children.

Ghada spoke no English when she arrived. For five years, she lived in isolation, struggling with despair. "I stayed home, alone. I had no friends. I was afraid to go out because I couldn't speak and I couldn't understand anyone."

From the moment Ghada arrived in the US, she dreamt of becoming an American citizen. Unable to afford classes and with no social support, she had no way to achieve her goal.

One day, another immigrant told Ghada about the free English and citizenship classes and childcare at Oasis. That very week, Ghada enrolled in ESL 1 and the citizenship course. Her baby was placed in the Nurturing Center. (Oasis provides free childcare for students' infants and toddlers.)

After two years of intensive study at Oasis, Ghada is now a US citizen. She speaks and understands English.

"Oasis has changed my whole life—a lot," she says. "I'm so different now—I'm no longer frightened. I understand when people speak to me. I can help my children with their homework, and I can read with them—books in English!"

Ghada is ready to take on her next goal: To work with her husband in his business, so the family can gain financial security.

"From the moment I arrived in America," Ghada says, "I loved Americans. I said to myself, 'These are my people.'"

Ghada is joyful and eager to make a good life for herself and her children.

Thank you for giving her the gift of citizenship.

Oasis ESL and Citizenship Remote Learning Works

Immigrant and refugee mothers often arrive in the US with no language skills or support network. Childcare responsibilities and poverty often leave them isolated at home. Loneliness and social exclusion can lead to depression—often experienced secondhand by their children.

Throughout this pandemic year, you've supported daily ESL and Citizenship classes attended by more than 70 women.



Since July 2020, 16 women became US citizens through the citizenship course your gifts fund.

These courses help women and their children become successful contributors to the community and the nation, as they did for Ghada. Thank you.

Since we last spoke...



expansion

new Oasis
Family
Navigator
Nicole
Moncayo



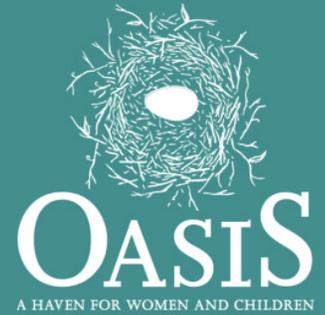
Vanessa Garcia:
Oasis Citizen!



30-hour
Salesforce
training
course



guided art event



59 Mill Street
Paterson NJ 07501
(973) 881-8307
oasisnj.org

The mission of Oasis is to change the lives of women and children by breaking the cycle of poverty through compassionate programs designed to feed, clothe, educate, and empower women and children in need.

Your Gift Before April 30 is Doubled

We are facing a funding shortfall in our capital campaign and expansion project. With increasing numbers of women and children seeking help, we need to complete the project to relaunch expanded programs this school year.

Your gift before April 30 will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$100,000.

We welcome multi-year pledges. For information, please contact Laetitia Cairoli at laetitiacairoli@oasisnj.org or (973) 881-8307 ext. 105.

My gift of _____ is enclosed.

Give online at oasisnj.org/capital-campaign