



Kate's Casa 2025 Impact Newsletter

A Year of Advocacy, Education, and Community

As we reflect on 2025, we are deeply grateful for what was accomplished through Kate's Casa. Every program, act of advocacy, and moment of care this year was made possible through volunteer leadership, community partnerships, faith, and the generosity of supporters who believe in standing with immigrant families who come here seeking safety and opportunity.

Education & Empowerment

In 2025, Kate's Casa led **Spring and Fall Adult ESL programs**, serving **more than 75 adult learners each session**, along with their children. These programs provided essential language skills, confidence, and connection for parents navigating work, school systems, and daily life in a new country.

We also invested **\$5,000 in bilingual books** for babies, children, teens, and young adult readers — helping families build home libraries and foster literacy in multiple languages.

We also continued our **weekly Conversations at the Casa** gatherings — a cornerstone of our work — offering a trusted space for relationship-building, resource/donation sharing, and mutual support.

Direct Support to Families

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, donations were dropped off **nearly every day** throughout the year. These donations allowed us to keep our shelves stocked for our Conversations at the Casa program with:

- Clothing, shoes, coats
- Household goods, decor, and kitchen equipment
- Baby equipment, toys, diapers, and feminine hygiene products

Through these efforts, we distributed:

- **Hundreds of boxes of diapers and hygiene supplies**
- Essential household items and clothing for newly housed families
- **20 beds this year**, bringing our total to **175 beds provided** to date

During the holidays, we provided **Christmas gifts for 280 local children**, ensuring joy and dignity for families during the season.

Youth, Teens & Young Adult Advocacy

In 2025, Kate's Casa proudly supported **five high school graduates** by advocating for them, arranging college tours and meetings, and assisting with applications and enrollment.

In addition, **\$12,000 in direct financial support** was provided to **high school English Language Learner graduates** to help towards costs related to **college expenses, vehicles, and employment needs**, removing barriers during this critical transition into adulthood.

We also assisted teens and young adults with:

- Driving permit and license applications
- Apartment rentals and housing stability
- Job searches and 1099 employment setup
- Starting small businesses
- Purchasing vehicles and securing car insurance

A meaningful milestone this year was our **first car donation**, helping a high school graduate commute reliably to work while saving for college.

Supporting an Unhoused Teen

One of the most impactful efforts of the year involved supporting an **unhoused teen** through stable housing and wraparound care. This included help securing **full-time employment**, obtaining a **car**, launching a **small business**, and accessing insurance, food, clothing, and daily necessities — supporting a transition from crisis to stability and independence.

Youth Enrichment & Belonging

Kate's Casa helped **register more than 100 children** for **spring and fall recreational soccer**, ensuring access to physical activity, teamwork, confidence-building, and a sense of belonging within the community.

Immigration & Legal Advocacy

We continued to stand with families navigating complex and stressful situations, including:

- Immigration court proceedings
- ICE detention

- Legal declarations and documentation
- Financial assistance for immigration attorneys
- Emergency rent, food, transportation, and work support
- Connections to trustworthy and ethical immigration lawyers

These efforts helped families remain housed, employed, and together while pursuing lawful immigration relief.

Health Advocacy

We continue to support a young adult managing **Stage 3 kidney disease**, helping him locate a nephrologist, help schedule regular appointments, provide transportation and attend appointments, provide financial support, and access necessary medications — ensuring continuity of care during a critical time.

We also helped a **teen find a trusted counselor** and provided financial support for **weekly counseling sessions over six months**, giving her consistent mental health care, stability, and support during a critical period of her life.

Financial Advocacy & Microloans

Kate's Casa helped families resolve **Keystone Occupation Tax errors**, securing **\$4,460 in refunds** for those who had been incorrectly billed.

We also invested **\$5,000 into a microloan program**, providing flexible, dignified support for individuals in need of:

- Business equipment
- Emergency car repairs
- Employment-related expenses
- Short-term financial stabilization

Financial Support & Stewardship

In total, **\$107,866.92** was used in direct immigrant support in 2025. We began the year with a balance of nearly **\$48,000**, originally hoped to be saved toward a future property purchase. Due to the high level of need this year, those funds were instead used to meet urgent requests — helping families stay housed, fed, employed, and safe.

Leadership Development & Capacity Building

In 2025, **Kate's Casa Founder and Executive Director, Kate Camarda**, was selected to participate in the **Phoenixville Community Health Foundation's Emerging Leaders program**, a monthly continuing education opportunity focused on strengthening nonprofit leadership, sustainability, and community impact.

Kate also spent the year working with **Rachel Rutter of Project Libertad**, deepening her knowledge of immigration law and advocacy. This ongoing mentorship and training is part of a long-term goal for Kate to become a **DOJ-accredited representative**, allowing Kate's Casa to one day directly represent immigrants in immigration court and further expand the support available to families navigating complex legal systems.

With Deep Gratitude

This work would not be possible without the **many people who showed up again and again**. We extend our heartfelt thanks to:

- Our **continuous individual supporters and donors**, our **Board of Directors**, our **volunteers**, and above all, **God**, for guidance, strength, and provision

We are also deeply grateful to our community partners, including:

PACS, En Familia, Project Libertad, Mitzvah Foundation, Orion Communities, Phoenixville Free Clinic Behavioral Health Program, JRNY Church, Phoenixville Area Soccer Club, Globus Medical, Woman's Way, the Chester County Bar Association, Beth Flor Copy on a Mission, Centennial Lutheran Church, HeartWorks at Wellsprings Congregation, LINK Logistics, Caliber Service Management, DE Valley Paving, Damon & Jill Faunce, Phoenixville Area School District, Do A Deed (D.A.D), Bella Napoli, Kimberton Nails, Bethel Baptist Church, Paoli Hospital NICU, Styer Real Estate, Pine Street Carpenters, Latino Culture Club at Conestoga HS, Better Days Ahead, St. Matthew's Preschool, and many others who partnered with us throughout the year.

Join Us: Bag BINGO Fundraiser

We invite you to join us for our **Bag BINGO fundraiser on March 28** — a fun night of community, connection, and support for the families we serve. Events like this help keep our work grassroots and responsive to real needs.

If you feel led to support Kate's Casa but can't attend, donations can be made anytime through **Givebutter**. Every contribution, big or small, helps us continue showing up for those who need it most. <https://givebutter.com/nnWF8L>

Looking Ahead

While the needs remain great, the **compassion, generosity, and resilience** of this community continue to grow. Every class taught, donated goods, beds/furniture donated & delivered, advocacy letter written, ride given, bill paid, and child/teen/adult supported **reflects dignity, hope, and shared humanity**.

Thank you for being part of Kate's Casa. Together, through compassion and action, we are neighbors supporting neighbors, creating safety, opportunity, and belonging — and opening doors for those who work tirelessly to move forward.