

# Las Cumbres Community Services

- We were able to serve 32 grandparents raising grandchildren and 40 grandchildren.
- Our program supported equitable access to services for grandparents raising grandchildren by addressing barriers to stability, safety and long-term family well-being. Services included individualized case management focused on connecting caregivers with resources, strengthening family stability, and supporting safe caregiving environments. Participants also had access to individual counseling and peer support groups that promoted emotional wellness, social connection, and shared problem-solving among caregivers. In addition, emergency discretionary funds were provided to assist with urgent financial needs when critical supports could not be met through existing community resources, helping families maintain stability during times of crises.
- One grandmother caring for multiple grandchildren experienced a significant family crisis after the unexpected loss of her adult son. Through our program, she participated in individual counseling and peer support groups, where she received emotional support, connection and encouragement from others with shared experiences. Our case management services helped connect the family to temporary financial assistance and community resources to address urgent needs and reduce immediate stress. The family also utilized Emergency Discretionary Funds to assist with essential expenses during the crisis, helping stabilize the household allowing the grandmother to focus on healing and caring for her grandchildren.

# Successes

- Families successfully accessed case management services that increased connection to community resources, financial assistance and family stabilization supports.
- Individual counseling and peer support groups provided caregivers with emotional support, reduced isolation, and strengthened coping skills during periods of grief and stress.
- EDF helped families address urgent needs such as utilities, food, transportation, and other essential expenses during times of crisis.
- Services helped caregivers maintain safe and stable caregiving environments for grandchildren during periods of family transition and hardship.
- Collaboration with local community partners strengthened referral pathways and improved access to supportive services for participating families.

# Challenges

- Transportation barriers and limited access to childcare impacted consistent participation in counseling and peer support groups.
- Families experiencing grief, trauma and caregiver stress often required more intensive case management.
- Limited availability of behavioral health providers in the community created delays in referrals for ongoing mental health support outside of program services.
- Housing instability and rising living costs created ongoing urgent needs that affected family stability and increased demand for emergency assistance services.