



The Garces Foundation is committed to empowering Philadelphia's immigrant population to fulfill their potential as citizens and enjoy their highest possible quality of life.

Considerable health and resource disparities persist between white populations and Latino immigrants, especially those with limited English proficiency. Philadelphia's Spanish-speaking immigrants face significant linguistic and cultural barriers to obtaining health insurance, accessing necessary care, and gaining meaningful employment.

The Garces Foundation is committed to helping these community members obtain healthcare, access educational services, improve their daily lives, and reach their full potential as contributing members in our community.

We are only able to provide these programs because of our generous donors and volunteers and are grateful to all those who share our commitment.



OUR HISTORY

In 2010, a young man named Felipe came to Dr. Garces' dental office, thin, tired, and dying of thyroid cancer. Even though Dr. Garces stayed by his side through surgeries, chemotherapy, and radiation treatment, a disease that could have been easily treated with a thyroid removal procedure had gone unseen for too long because of limited access to proper medical care. The Garces Foundation was founded in memory of Felipe with the purpose of ensuring that the immigrant community in South Philadelphia has knowledge about, and access to, the resources they need to live healthy, productive lives.

The Garces Foundation is proud of what it has accomplished since its founding in 2012. We are humbled by our being recognized in 2021 as the winner of the Champions in Action Award by Citizens Bank and, in addition, being named one of four finalists for the Wawa Foundation Hero Award. We are proud of our Platinum Transparency rating from GuideStar and our Encompass rating of 91 from Charity Navigator.



For more information or to make a donation, visit:
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**SERVING OUR
IMMIGRANT
NEIGHBORS**





“English for the Restaurant and Everyday Living” provides 12 weeks of **ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION**, tailored to the restaurant industry and daily communication. Language and cultural skills are keys that enable people to unlock their potential and advance in their careers

VOXY ENGLISH is a mobile learning platform ideal for our busy, career-driven students as they learn English in our classes. Students learn English during class and use Voxy during their free time. With this platform, our students have access to the restaurant specific content they need to move up in the workplace, such as English for Food and Beverage, English for Food Safety, and English for Hospitality.

WORKFORCE TRAINING WORKSHOPS help students learn and build on existing professional skills such as knife cuts, butchering, measurement, food preparation, and front-of-house service. In addition, the Foundation offers workshops that prepare students to ask for a raise or a promotion in their workplace.



THE SONRISA DENTAL PROGRAM provides dental care to immigrants in need at low or no cost. The Foundation and clinic represent a trusted place where those with serious dental issues feel that they can come for care. It is the first and last line of defense for many people, a small but important safety valve, keeping many patients away from emergency room situations.

COMMUNITY HEALTH DAYS provide free comprehensive dental care, as well as cholesterol and glucose screenings, physical exams, breast cancer education, and HIV screenings for (often uninsured) immigrants.

“**We don’t have work but we still need to pay rent and utilities. Receiving this kind of support and knowing that the Garces Foundation is here each week, and worried about us, makes a difference.**”

Olivia Ponce, Food Pantry Coordinator, the Garces Foundation



THE GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (GED) TEST PREPARATION PROGRAM provides free tutoring to students working toward passing the Spanish-language GED exam. Our students’ ambitions only increase as they complete our educational programming and we stand with them as they prepare to take college-level classes, educating themselves for achievement, following their career goals.

THE GARCES FOUNDATION FOOD INSECURITY PROGRAM extends the prior Pantry Program, delivering a box of healthy, culturally appropriate food to families in need.

“**You are giving hope and confidence to people who are working hard to create a new and better life for their families.**”

Robin Morris, Executive Director, the Garces Foundation

“**In the end, by helping the immigrants that work so hard all over our city, we are making Philadelphia a more vital and dynamic place.**”

Jose Garces, the Garces Foundation co-founder

