



2020 - 2021

ANNUAL REPORT

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suazocenter.org



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello friends and supporters,

Our last year was another year of new challenges and great successes. The continued challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and its subsequent devastating impact on minority-owned small businesses were devastating for our economic ecosystem. As a result, we were able to assist our clients in successfully obtaining nearly **\$1,900,000** in Paycheck Protection Program loans.

The challenge of not being able to hold mentoring sessions and classes in our Center lead to the continued opportunity to reach a broader audience online. We were very successful in our online platform called "up-to-date with Suazo" through which we discussed many topics relevant to the pandemic and options for affected small businesses to not only survive, but to thrive.

Some of our greatest successes were related to our partnerships and spheres of influence. In the past 12 months, we built new partnerships with multiple regional municipalities and strengthened existing relationships with our current partners. We are very excited to announce a new partnership with **Ogden City** and **Weber State University**, which allowed us to open a much needed second location in Ogden City. If it was not for the relationships we have with our partners and our friends, like you, then none of this would be possible. Our clients, our community, and our team would not be able to celebrate these successes **without you**. We look forward to a bright 2022 with a lot more exciting things to come.

SILVIA CASTRO,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





OUR MISSION

Suazo Business Center is a business resource committed to the development and empowerment of the Latino/Hispanic and other underserved communities. We provide assistance to help existing and potential minority entrepreneurs succeed and build wealth.

OUR HISTORY

Suazo Business Center was founded in the fall of 2002 in memory of Pete Suazo, Utah's first Latino state senator and fierce advocate for the state's Latino/Hispanic population. In 1997, Pete helped Gladys Gonzalez write a business plan and obtain a loan for her first business in the United States, the newspaper, "Mundo Hispano". The help she received inspired Gladys to pass on that commitment and service to the greater community.

After Senator Suazo's death, in 2001, Gladys gathered support from the Salt Lake and Utah communities to create a center to honor Pete Suazo's name. With the support of Senator Bob Bennett, the Pete Suazo Business Center was created. We opened our doors in 2003, and for nearly 20 years, we have continued Pete Suazo's legacy by helping thousands of minority and underserved entrepreneurs become successful business owners in their communities.



CLIENT IMPACT



SUAZO BUSINESS CENTER | 03

164

NEW BUSINESSES
CREATED

351

BUSINESS SERVICED

\$32.8M

REVENUE EARNED

\$1,888,926

PPP LOANS ASSISTANCE

205

NEW JOBS CREATED

521

TOTAL STUDENTS

1936

ADVISING SESSIONS

CLIENT IMPACT

SUAZO BUSINESS CENTER | 04

2218

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

45.7%

MALE

54.3%

FEMALE

15

TOTAL CLASSES



DIGITAL IMPACT

3,704

TOTAL VIEWS

**ELLA
WORKSHOPS**

9

TOTAL WORKSHOPS

4,402

TOTAL VIEWS

**ONLINE
WORKSHOPS**

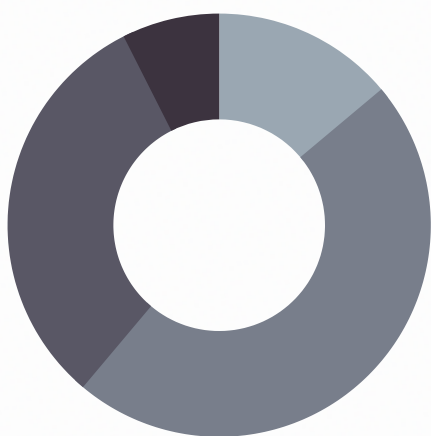
21

TOTAL WORKSHOPS

CLIENT IMPACT

SUAZO BUSINESS CENTER | 05

CLIENTS BY AGE GROUP



AGE 18-29	12.9%	▲
AGE 30-44	46.6%	▲
AGE 45-59	33.4%	▲
AGE 60+	5.9%	▲

LOW-TO-MODERATE
INCOME



92%

MINORITIES SERVED



>95%



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SUAZO BUSINESS CENTER | 06

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Mrs. Gladys M. Gonzalez
Emeritus;
Founder of the Suazo Business Center

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