

Fact sheet

The basics

Name Comunidad Garces, formerly the Garces Foundation. Effective September 22, 2026.

Founded 2012, by co-founders Chef Jose Garces and Dr. Beatriz Garces

Executive Director Robin Morris

Board Chair David Weisberg

Location 1901 S. 9th Street #205, Philadelphia, PA 19148

Tagline For every immigrant, a chance to rise.

Website comunidadgarces.org

Who we serve

- We welcome all immigrants in our community.
- No insurance required. No questions about background or status.
- Currently serving immigrants from 26 countries and territories who speak 12 different languages.

Programs

- IDIOMA — English instruction, tailored to the restaurant and service industry. Enrollment has doubled since 2020, to more than 700 students a year. In a recent survey, almost half of students reported receiving a raise or promotion after completing our classes.
- GED tutoring in Spanish — Launched 2021; three graduates to date.
- Digital literacy — Added 2025; students take home a Chromebook.
- Case management — Individualized help with employment, education, health care and housing.
- Community Health Days — Free medical and dental care, offered every other month starting in 2026, up from quarterly. Now includes mammograms through Penn Medicine's mobile program, plus colon and prostate cancer screening.
- Sonrisa Dental Program — Free and low-cost dental care.
- Since 2021, approximately 5,000 patients treated across Community Health Days and the Sonrisa Dental Program.

Recent News

- \$120,000 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania grant awarded in 2026 in support of workplace readiness — the first state award in our history.
- \$100,000 grant awarded in 2026 from Penn Medicine to expand Community Health Days and staffing.
- First Community Health Day held outside Philadelphia — Kennett Square, September 19, 2026, with Laurel Dental of West Grove.
- More than 400 donors in 2025 — over 40% increase in two years.
- More than \$4.1 million raised since 2019.
- More than \$1.2 million in donated services and facilities since 2021.
- 124 volunteers so far in 2026: 39 with IDIOMA, 30 clinicians and 9 support volunteers at Health Days, and 46 elsewhere.