

2020 IN REVIEW

More than a year since the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic, the East Harlem community continues to feel the ongoing impacts from the crisis. More than ever, the children and families of East Harlem have relied on LSA to be a reliable source of support.

Since March 2020, LSA has been on the frontlines ensuring that no child or family goes without the care that they need. Between March 2020 and March 2021, here's what LSA has done and continues to do to support East Harlem.

LSA's essential staff and volunteers have provided:

- More than 2,000 families with food every month
- 962,100 meals at a cost of \$20,000 to \$25,000 per month
- ✓ Over **399,892 pounds** of food
- 767 therapy sessions provided through our Mental Health Services program
- 694 nursing home visits through our Certified Home Health Agency
- **388 visits** to give care to new moms and assess their babies
- Over 300 virtual socialization opportunities provided through the Parent and Child Development program
- ✓ 125 home visits by Environmental Health Services to young children and adults with asthma
- ✓ Over \$80,000 in cash assistance through bank cards to clients in need through sponsored programs*
- ✓ 94 volunteers matched with opportunities to support LSA and East Harlem families

Data collected from March 2020 to March 2021 // *From March to December 2020. Bank cards offered in \$500 increments.

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

During the height of the pandemic, Gertrudis, a 42-year old mother with three children became extremely sick. Already a client in the Advocacy and Mental Health programs, LSA staff encouraged Gertrudis to go to the hospital. Once going to the emergency room at Bellevue Hospital where she was diagnosed with COVID-19. Just five days later, she was discharged with only a few masks and instructions to remain isolated from her children - ages 2, 7, and 15 - and her partner who all lived together in a small studio apartment. Gertrudis lost her job selling fruits on the street and her partner lost his job in a restaurant.

LSA stepped in to provide extra masks, an air mattress, and an air cleaner to try to create a better environment for isolation, along with continuous emotional support from our mental health program and support from, food pantry, diapers for her children, and even a \$500 bank card sponsored through an LSA program.



"I used some of the money to pay the light bill, rent, and other essential needs," said Gertrudis. "Thanks to this money I was able to pay my cell phone and was able to communicate with schools and attended some LSA's support groups."

After fully recovering from COVID-19, Gertudis was so full of gratitude that she now volunteers in food pantry giving back to fellow members of the East Harlem Community.

