

APRIL 2020 - JUNE 2021

CSLAP COMMUNITY AID REPORT

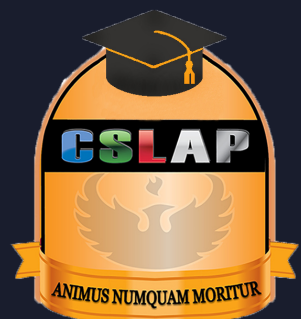
COVID-19 Response

PREPARED BY:

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Oscar Gonzalez
Leonel Tijerina

APPROVED BY:

CSLAP Board of Directors
June 2021



ABOUT CSLAP COMMUNITY AID

Mission

CSLAP expands educational opportunities by **increasing college enrollment and completion rates**, empowering young adults to **become mentors & role models** in their community, and transforming tales of struggle into **stories of resilience** that demonstrate the cultural richness of our community.

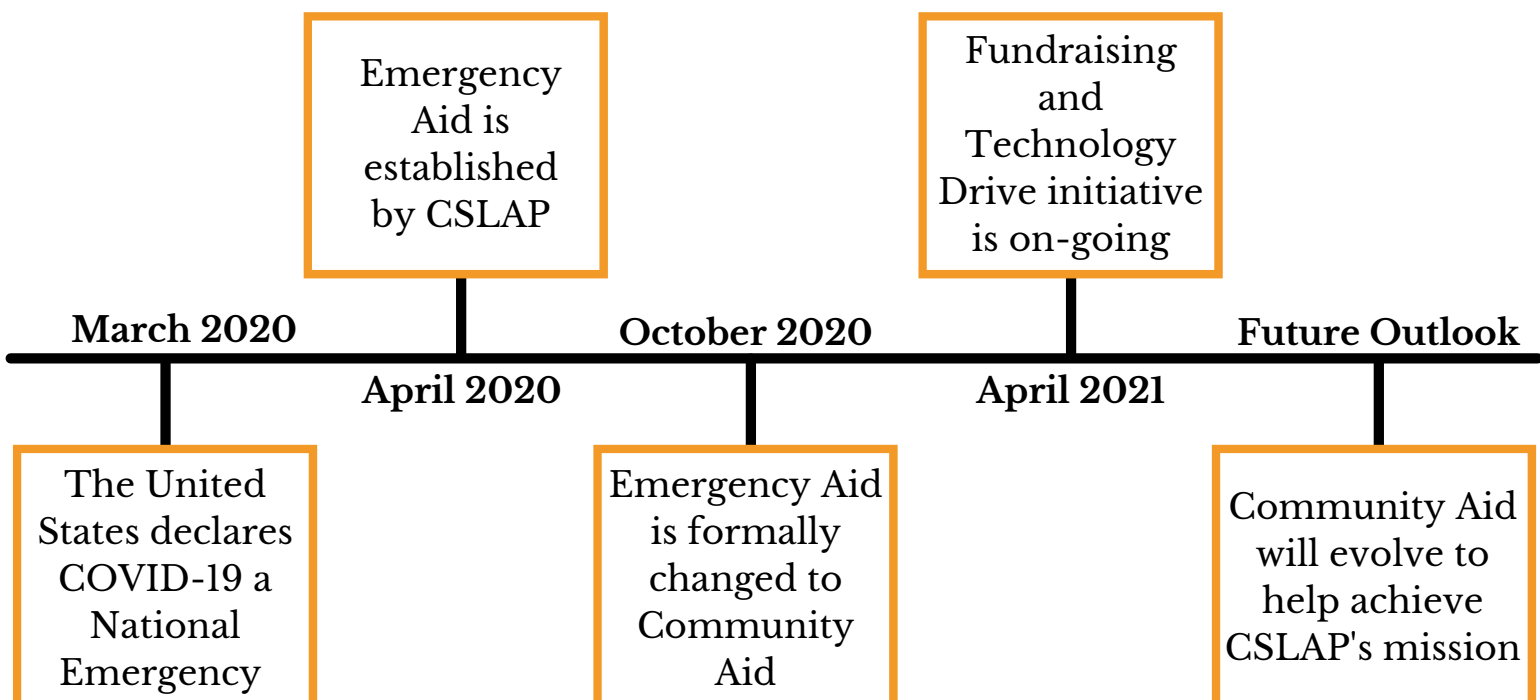
CSLAP Community Aid transforms **direct financial relief into a community-building tool** to uplift Hidalgo County students going to and through college.

History

CSLAP Community Aid, formerly known as Emergency Aid, was established in response to the **COVID-19 pandemic**.

CSLAP Community Aid fundraised **over \$12,000** to help Hidalgo County students with technology & Wi-Fi, rent/housing, food, and other emergency expenses.

In the process, Community Aid enhanced CSLAP's mission by **granting young adults a platform to give back to their community through near-peer mentorship**.



DISBURSEMENTS



FOOD

When Hidalgo County families and college students did not qualify for CARES Act and other stimulus funding, we ensured no one went hungry.

8 disbursements of \$1,330.00



RENT OR HOUSING

When Hidalgo County families and college students risked eviction and unsafe living conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we provided security.

34 disbursements of \$5,900.00



TECHNOLOGY AND WI-FI

When Hidalgo County families and college students lacked access to a laptop or WI-FI to complete their professional and educational duties, we delivered.

31 disbursements of \$3,386.11

8 in-kind laptop donations (\$875.88)



OTHER

When Hidalgo County families and college students needed to renew their DACA applications and pay for forced transportation to/from college, we helped when no other program could.

4 disbursements of \$720.00



DONOR DATA

Donor Testimony

CSLAP prepares students to apply for college and supports them throughout college. They help students directly and effectively, and Community Aid is modeled after this approach.

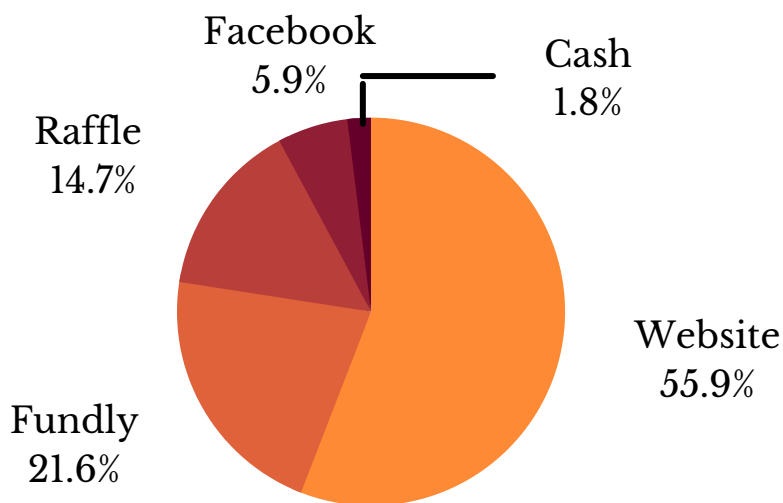
I donated to Community Aid because I know CSLAP has the expertise and programmatic skills to address the pressing needs of students attending high school and college. I knew CSLAP would use every dollar effectively.

AURELIO MONTEMAYOR

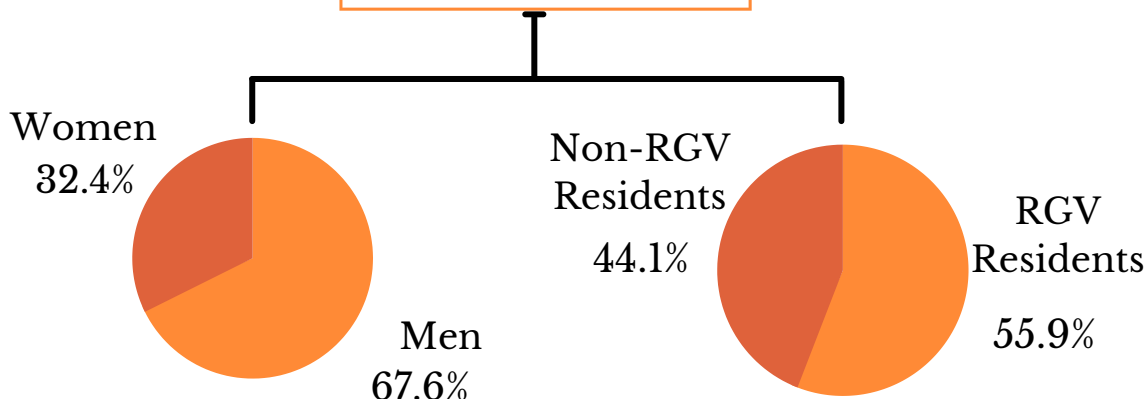


Donation Sources

102 Donations

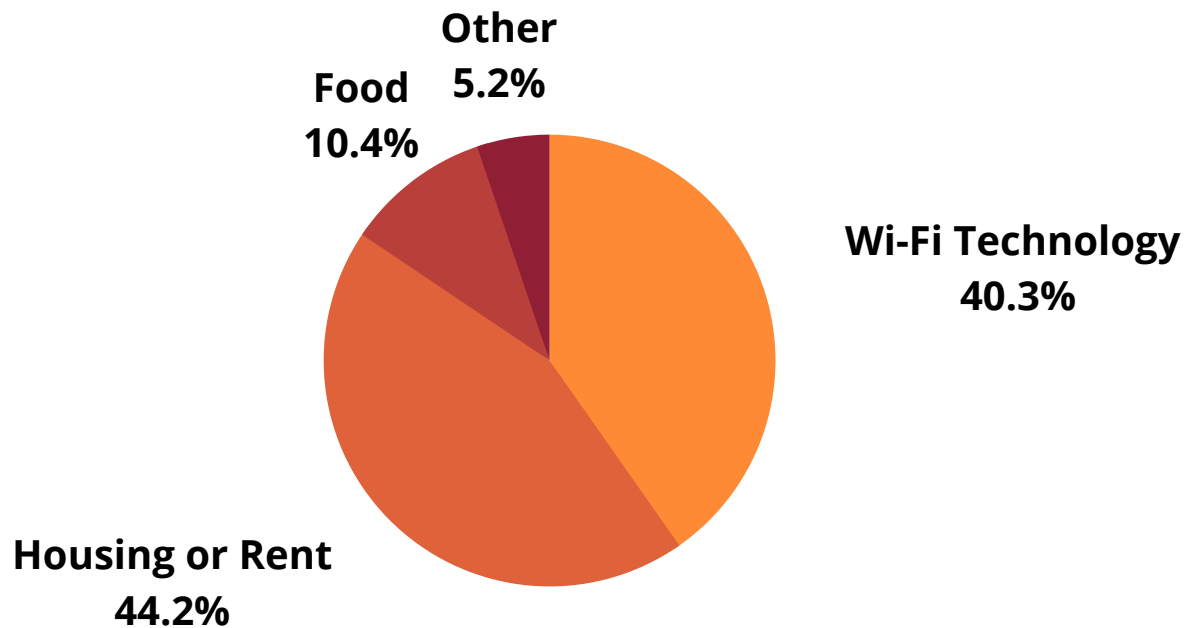


34 Unique Donors

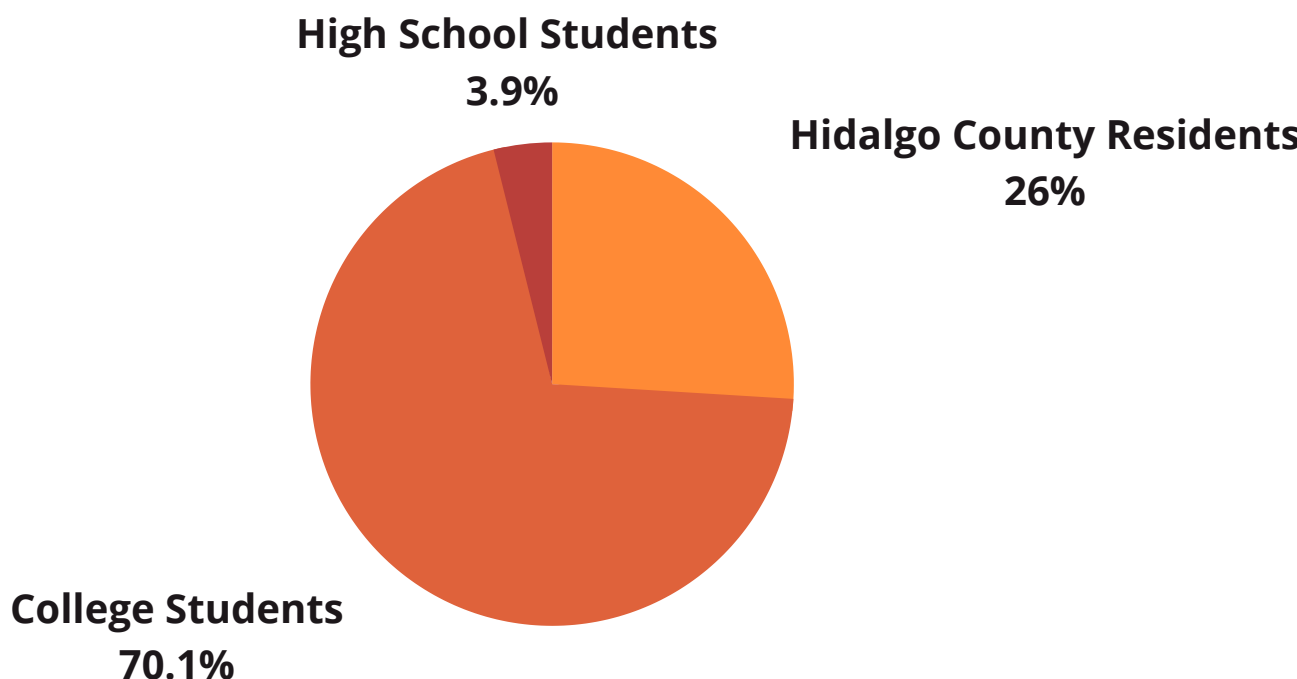


DISBURSEMENT AID DATA

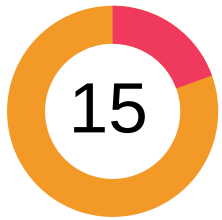
Community Aid made 77 disbursements amounting to over \$11,000 dollars to a variety of causes



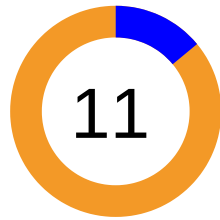
Most of our aid was disbursed to college students from Hidalgo County as well as local high school students and residents



DISBURSEMENT AID BY SCHOOL



Texas A&M University



St. Edward's University



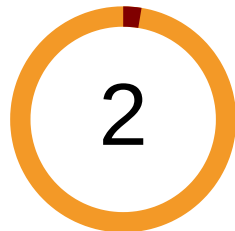
University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley



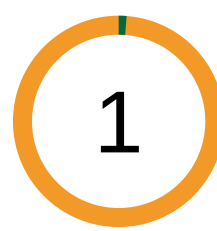
University of Texas - Austin



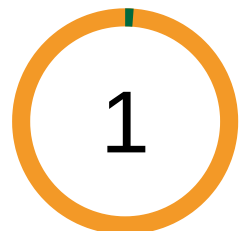
South Texas College



Texas State University



Dartmouth College



Baylor University



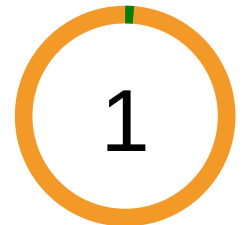
Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi



University of Pennsylvania



Rice University



Michigan State University



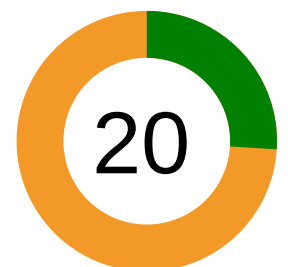
Vanguard Rembrandt Secondary



McAllen High School



Weslaco High School



Hidalgo County Residents (No School)

COMMUNITY AID AREAS OF NEED

Our Community Aid Program addressed four main areas: technology and WI-FI, housing and rent, food scarcity, and other emergency expenses.

27.6%

Technology and Wi-fi- Helped applicants access technology and internet throughout the pandemic when bridging the digital divide was paramount.

48.1%

Housing and Rent- Helped applicants cover their rent and mortgage expenses to keep a roof over their heads.

10.9%

Food Assistance- Helped applicants cover emergency food expenses when they struggled with hunger and scarcity.

7.5%

In-Kind Donations - Helped students beginning summer 2021 without technology by donating 8 laptops through CSLAP's Technology Drive.

5.9%

Other- Helped applicants with travel expenses to college, aid to complete applications for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and funds to cover a test expense.

TECHNOLOGY DRIVE

Our Technology Drive solicited monetary and in-kind donations to support students in *colonia* neighborhoods without laptops.



We distributed 8 devices to the Las Milpas community through ARISE Adelante.



COMMUNITY AID BUDGET SUMMARY APRIL 1, 2020 - MAY 31, 2021

Donations

CSLAP Website	\$6,767.14
Fundly Fundraiser Website	\$2,638.00
Budweiser Legacy Award	\$500.00
Facebook Giving Tuesday	\$600.00
Nintendo Switch Lite Raffle	\$335.00
Cash Donations	\$600.00
Processing Fees	\$(479.31)
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Total Direct Donations	\$10,960.83
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Technology Drive Campaign	\$1,310.00
Processing Fees	\$(58.84)
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Total	\$12,211.99
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Disbursements

Technology and Wi-Fi	\$3,386.11
Laptops for Technology Drive	\$875.88
Rent or Housing	\$5,900.00
Food Assistance	\$1,330.00
DACA Application	\$325.00
College Supplies	\$200.00
Transportation Expenses	\$195.00
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Total Disbursements	\$12,211.99
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COMMUNITY IMPACT

Who We Helped and Why It Matters

CSLAP's Community Aid Program filled in the gaps left by local, state, and federal programs that otherwise left our applicants ineligible to apply for relief.

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the necessity to create programs that can deliver targeted financial relief quickly.

On the right, a small sample of the people we impacted.

- A PSJA ISD teacher who needed a laptop immediately to begin the academic year.
- A college student facing homelessness during campus shutdowns.
- A migrant student deemed ineligible by other college and state programs struggling to purchase food.
- An unemployed father needing an internet plan for his daughters to attend high school and college.

CSLAP Student Testimony

CSLAP Aid

EDUARDO
URIA
TAMU '22



"My plan for this summer was to obtain an internship in order to gain experience and save money in order to pay for the summer months of my housing in addition to saving money for the school year. This pandemic came out of nowhere and plans for internships were scrapped by many companies. While out of sheer preparedness I had saved enough to pay for two months. I was in dire need of finding how to pay for the last month. I noticed that CSLAP was giving emergency aid for students affected by the pandemic. I was given the aid and immediately had a weight off my shoulders. Which in turn allowed me to focus on my summer studies."

ORGANIZATION IMPACT

Nonprofit Growth Through Community Aid

Expanded mentor network

Our college applicants often expressed a strong desire to mentor our students.

Expanded partner network

Our outreach efforts resulted in newfound relationships with programs like St. Edward's University CAMP.

Expanded programming

Our work sparked innovative partnerships that enabled applicants to intern at partner businesses.

These three indirect outcomes of our Community Aid Program have **expanded our nonprofit operations.**

As a direct result of our efforts to uplift our community, **CSLAP grew to impact more high school and college students**, furthering our mission of increasing college enrollment and graduation rates throughout Hidalgo County.

CSLAP Mentor Highlight



CALISTA
LOPEZ
UPENN '22

CSLAP + Internship

"Last year, my mom was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer and I returned home from Penn to care for her through her treatment...but everything changed when COVID-19 hit the RGV. My family was in need of financial assistance, and I needed an income source that wouldn't put my immuno-compromised mom at risk for infection. After applying and receiving aid from the CSLAP COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund, Thomas reconnected with me and worked with me to find a safe source of income for the summer. Thomas introduced me to his Princeton network, which led to my connecting with Manolo's Best, a company looking for someone with my interests and skill set, and the rest is history!"

INSIGHTS

Community Aid filled in the gaps of existing local, college, state, and federal programs disbursing emergency financial relief. Our students and families often did not qualify for CARES Act funding or related programs because of immigration or dependent status.

Community Aid was more than disbursements. It built community among Hidalgo County natives and enhanced CSLAP's core mission of engaging young people to give back to their community.

Community Aid expanded CSLAP's operations by providing applicants a platform to volunteer, opening internship opportunities for applicants, and sharing college access resources with applicants.

Community Aid provided a sustainable model of aid distribution that balances need and accessibility. Over 50% of applicants submitted a FAFSA or TASFA student aid report to demonstrate financial need along with a bill.

Thomas Ray Garcia

Thomas graduated from PSJA North High School in May 2012 and majored in English at Princeton University. He is the founder and Executive Director of CSLAP.

Thomas is a writer, scholar, educator, and entrepreneur. He is currently an English PhD candidate at UCLA.



Leonel Tijerina

Leonel Tijerina graduated from PSJA North High School in May 2012 and obtained a B.S. in Accounting from the University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley in December 2016. He is the Treasurer of CSLAP.

Leonel lead Emergency Aid, later reframed as Community Aid, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.



Oscar Gonzalez

Oscar graduated from PSJA North High School in May 2016 and obtained a B.S. in chemistry from Texas A&M University in May 2020. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley.

Oscar's mentors have had a huge impact on him so he has paid it forward by mentoring other students and giving back to the RGV.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the CSLAP Community Aid Committee for fundraising and reviewing applications for the Community Aid Program.

Thank you to our donors who made this targeted financial relief program possible.

WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF
OUR ORGANIZATION

www.cslapofficial.com