Improving immigrant lives through English education and uniting communities across cultures.
The last year has been turbulent and unexpected. Intercambio’s vision - communities where all people communicate, connect, and succeed - is more essential than ever.

After the election we saw a 200% increase in volunteers wanting to connect through Intercambio programs. We now have more one-on-one classes than ever, and enrollment in our group classes this fall is record high. We have added teaching assistants to increase individualized support in our group classes. Our new Conversation Team activities enable students and volunteers to meet and speak English, increasing the confidence of all involved. Our English curriculum is being redeveloped and updated to become the most relevant and connection-inspiring English curriculum available.

Intercambio is shining light onto our blind spots and societal systems that impact our adult students, volunteers, and staff that can no longer be ignored. We are deeply committed to continuous growth that aligns with the values of connecting people, regardless of our differences to bring people together and forward.

Our students continue to improve their English, opening doors to new economic opportunities, deepening their involvement in their children’s education, and enriching their lives and perspectives. Volunteers benefit equally by learning from their student’s vast experience and rich cultures. Beyond economics and education, there is real friendship and trust between people that would otherwise not know one another. There is no more important need in our society and communities today.

There is much to do and we appreciate your collaboration and continued support!

In Gratitude,

Carmela Weber
Board Chair 2017-2018
By connecting immigrants with volunteers who teach English, meaningful relationships form. Our volunteers and students learn from each other. Success is the result when people communicate and connect.

Intercambio students get better paying jobs, support their kids’ education, become more involved in the community, and build better lives for their families. In 2016, we interviewed 352 current and former students, focusing on Latino students, and we are excited to share those results throughout this report.

We believe that in today’s world we need to create personal connections across language and other cultural barriers.

What started as an English teaching volunteering opportunity has soon turned out to be more of a family experience. I feel I learn much more than I teach this family.

We believe!
Now I feel more comfortable when speaking and even going to certain places I wouldn’t consider going before, like the amusement park!

Tulia’s Story

When Tulia first came to this country in 2014, she started working different positions at the Casey Middle School kitchen. Three years later, because of her dedication and improving her English skills through our classes, Tulia was promoted and is now in charge of attendance, the front desk and school calendar at the school. She even volunteered last year at Whittier Elementary School as a translator for other parents.

“The Intercambio classes have helped me a lot in many different ways. For example, I don’t need an interpreter anymore when visiting the doctor, or when talking to my children’s teacher.”

Tulia’s “aha! moment” was:

“Before taking classes I would get really nervous when the phone was ringing.

Now I don’t mind answering the phone at all!”

Now, Tulia continues taking classes twice a week with her teacher Cherry, who she now considers as part of her own family. In the upcoming months, Tulia is interested in contributing even more.

“Speaking English is a great advantage. It makes me feel good when I can help others that are in the same situation as I was before coming to Intercambio.”

Communicate

In Boulder County 50,000 residents speak a language different than English at home.

Our students come from 67 countries.
Before enrolling with Intercambio, only 32% of students felt comfortable using English outside of class. After taking classes with Intercambio, 90% of students felt comfortable.

**IMPROVED ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Intercambio Parents 91%

Boulder County 78%

Colorado 69%

National Average 76%

The children of Intercambio’s Latino participants graduated at a much higher rate than their peers. The numbers represent 4-year graduation rates for Latino students in Boulder County, Colorado and nationally. Intercambio’s survey did not specify the period in which high school was completed.

*Boulder County Latino Graduation rates based on an average of BVSD and SVVSD.

INCREASED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES FOR PARTICIPANTS’ CHILDREN

Intercambio parents reported high involvement in their children’s schools. A strong indicator of school success is parent involvement in the child’s education.

INCREASED COMMUNITY CONNECTION

With limited English and few connections, immigrants are often stuck in low-paying jobs, unable to support their children’s education, and isolated from the community. By connecting immigrants with volunteers who teach English and life skills—such as finances, laws, health, and housing—Intercambio’s participants improve their language proficiency, become part of their community, and build better lives for themselves and their families.

WHY INVEST $2,000 IN AN INTERCAMBIO STUDENT?

THE RESULTS ARE IN

From our interviews of 352 current and past participants in 2016

32% 90%

Before After

Earned More Money

99.7% of respondents felt Intercambio was a factor in improving their financial situation.

**The median income for Intercambio participants is $25,000 for a family of four.**

50% of respondents reported a pay increase. Of those who shared the amount, the average increase was $3 more per hour. This equates to an annual increase of $6,000 per family.

$2,200 – Cost of 2 years of classes

- Student pays $200

Your investment of $2,000

- Student recruitment and ongoing support
- Ongoing support
- Student progress evaluation
- Volunteer recruitment and ongoing training
- Teaching materials and resources
- Classroom space rental
- Connecting students to the local community

Pilar’s Story

“With Intercambio I have learned not just English, but how to live here in this country. The school system is very different, and at first, it was intimidating. Now I have the confidence to speak not just for myself and family, but for other Latino parents that are also struggling with the language.”

Pilar is a proud mother of four children, and her oldest one just earned a full scholarship for CU Denver. “We have come a long way as a family. Before I could not even understand what my kids were talking among themselves. Now I understand and can be part of the conversation too! It is amazing.”

“Now that I have learned English with Intercambio, I feel free to express myself and to speak up for my children and the rest of the Latino parents,” says Pilar.

Before starting classes with Intercambio in 2010, Pilar reported she felt she had little involvement in her kids’ education, due to the lack of English. Now Pilar is a proud member of the Latino Parents Coalition at her kids’ school, Peak to Peak.

Pilar’s next goal is to complete her GED so eventually she can apply for a better job. In the meantime, Pilar helps her husband in the family business, and encourages him to continue with his English classes so he can also improve his English skills.

85% of our students have children at home.

**INCREASED COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

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85% of our students have children at home.
Intercambio’s National Program connects with over 500 programs that share our mission and employ our model to unite communities through English education. The success of the Boulder County program model is embraced by other organizations nationally.

National partners include literacy coalitions, adult education centers, libraries, school districts, churches, community colleges and other nonprofits working with immigrants and refugees such as Catholic Charities, International Rescue Committee, and YMCAs. These organizations, both large and small, work with Intercambio so they do not have to reinvent the wheel. They enjoy affordable and practical teaching resources as well as ongoing support such as program management and volunteer teaching training.

Leveraging the success of our local volunteer training, the National Program provides partners three hours of trainings throughout the year to help their teachers better use Intercambio materials and focus on best practices. Any nonprofit using our Interactive English curriculum, Pronunciation Fun, and/or The Immigrant Guide can request a training.

The National Program shares everything the Boulder County program develops: student and teacher recruitment and retention ideas, student intake forms, new student orientation, and how to measure student success. This enables Intercambio’s mission and vision to spread across the country without setting up individual offices.

“Thanks to Intercambio, I have been able to grow the Parent ESL Program from one school, from one class at one site that I taught, to now four sites offered this year for families in our school district.”

—Rachel, North Clackamas School District

Connecting people across the country!
We believe that helping strangers to feel like neighbors transforms communities.

93% of students who stayed with us for a year or more see Boulder County as a welcoming place.

When Gilberto first came to this country, he would speak English only when it was strictly necessary. However, after several years in the country, and after being part of Intercambio classes, Gilberto understands the importance of communicating. “Before I would say, why even bother trying? They won’t understand me anyway. Intercambio has helped me not just in learning English, but in giving me the confidence I need to try.”

But now, Gilberto thinks differently. “Now I try to practice as much as possible. I watch TV in English and listen to the radio. At work the majority don’t speak Spanish, so I really have to try communicating.”

Most recently, Gilberto received a raise. “Now I want to complete my GED and hopefully, to have my own business very soon.”

My coworkers and my supervisor have seen how my English has improved, and gave me a raise!
Eva’s Story

“We are very proud of you, mom!” Those are the words that resonate in Eva’s mind every day, and that inspire her to continue improving her English.

Eva’s two kids are the first generation in her family to graduate high school and continue college studies. Ervin is pursuing a Bachelor in Computer Systems at Metro State, and Gabriela is a senior at Peak-to-Peak School, hoping to study Biology or Cardiology in college.

One of Eva’s biggest satisfactions is to be able to communicate with her own children. Since they grew up in this country, they prefer to speak in English. That motivated Eva to improve her English with Intercambio. After completing several levels, she is able to communicate with their teachers without an interpreter. “I can even help my husband in our small business. I communicate with customers and I can even pay the bills over the phone!”

“It feels good to know my kids are doing well, and that I can communicate with them. My goal is to continue improving and prepare to see them graduate from college.”

When you learn English many opportunities happen, and I am a living proof of it.

INCREASED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES FOR PARTICIPANTS’ CHILDREN

The children of Intercambio’s Latino parents graduated at a much higher rate than their peers. The numbers represent 4-year graduation rates for Latino students.

SUCCEED

COMMUNICATE • CONNECT • SUCCEED

Although Intercambio serves adults from around the world, this survey focused on Latino participants. All participants were native Spanish speakers with interviews conducted in Spanish. Participants completed approximately 2 years of instruction. 63% were female and most had children. Measures were both qualitative and quantitative, based on self-report.

EARNED MORE MONEY

99.7% of respondents felt Intercambio was a factor in improving their financial situation. **The median income for Intercambio participants is $25,000 for a family of four.** 50% of respondents reported a pay increase. Of those who shared the amount, the average increase was $3 more per hour. This equates to an annual increase of $6,000 per family.

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WHY INVEST $2,200 – COST OF 2 YEARS OF CLASSES

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When you learn English many opportunities happen, and I am a living proof of it.

Eva with her children, Gabriela and Ervin.
This year's accomplishments were only possible because of the generosity of our donors. Thank you!
Ask WP Girl  Bella Frida  Bernard Group  Big Red F  Boulder Community Health  Bright Films and Video  Center Copy  Community United Church of Christ  Corden Pharma  Daily Camera  Eco Products  Eye Care Center of Northern Colorado  First Bank  Handyman Hub  Hase's Beverage World  Kingsbury CPAs  Koenig, Oelsner, Taylor, Schoenfeld & Gaddis PC  La Momo Maes  Left Hand Brewing  Lucky's Market  Meyers Aesthetic Center  Mountain Sun Pub and Brewery  Murad & Murad, P.C.  Newmark Merrill Mountain States  Oreg Foundation  Residence Inn Marriott  Sam's Club  Sancho's Authentic Mexican Restaurant  Spanish Institute  Suerte Tequila  The Ritz  Unionville Colorado  Vertiba  Visit Longmont  Viva Cuba  Webroot Software  What We Love. The Winery.

Foundations


Local Government

Boulder County Human Services  City and County of Broomfield  City of Boulderc  Human Services Fund  City of Lafayette  City of Longmont  City of Louisville

Individual Donors

2017 Annual Financials
For the year ending June 30th, 2017.

Revenue

- Individual and Business 44% $735,798
- Program Revenue 18% $297,240
- Foundation 22% $370,289
- Local Government 6% $108,949
- In Kind 5% $90,459
- Special Event 4% $75,436
- Investments 1% $12,507

Total Revenues $1,690,676 *

Expenses

- Program Services 88% $1,046,863
- Fundraising 9% $106,680
- Management and General 4% $41,949

Total Expenses $1,195,492

*Our annual year-end position appears larger than usual due to several donor pledges which were recorded in 2016-17 but will be received in future years. As a result, $183,505 of our 2016-17 surplus will carry-forward to 2017-18, and an additional $200,000 will be amortized over the next two years for curriculum development, leaving an approximately $36,512 net income for the year. For our audited financials and IRS Form 990, please visit Intercambio.org.
Intercambio will tirelessly continue the crucial work of connecting people across cultures. But there is much more to do. Your support is vital to keeping this movement alive.

For more information about volunteering or donating, visit Intercambio.org