

Annual Report 2026

thefigfactor.org



Unleashing the AMAZING in Future Latina Leaders





WHERE WOULD YOU BE TODAY WITHOUT THE HELP OF SOMEONE WHO BELIEVED IN YOU?

As a young girl in Mexico, I dreamed of becoming an entrepreneur. When I came to America, I struggled to learn the language, then to complete my education, then through my own doubts as I persistently tried to build a business. I could have lost hope...but mentors came into my life who filled me with encouragement, and helped me keep my dreams in sight. I persisted in creating a successful, award-winning business. But my heart ached for those young Latinas who had no champion for their future. Who understood their barriers? Who could help them break through and achieve their goals? I knew the challenges they faced. That's why I established the Fig Factor Foundation (F3).

The Foundation empowers and prepares one of the fastest growing populations in the country -young Latinas, ages 15-25-to explore possibilities and achieve personal success. In the context of sisterhood, the four-step program begins with a two-day CORE program where Latinas study eight life-enhancing principles from my book, *The Fig Factor*. Graduates are then paired with successful Latina mentors to help define their goals and develop an action plan. Next, F3 provides growth opportunities and experiences, like field trips to potential workplaces, the opportunity to attend Dale Carnegie training or be “princess for a day” at Medieval Times Castle. Finally, they are encouraged to give back to the community by supporting a cause.

We have already made an incredible difference in the lives of nearly 278 Latinas who have experienced the program since 2014.

They say...



***The Fig Factor Foundation** has opened many doors and opportunities for me. It has given me the strength and the certainty I needed to start shooting for my dreams one step at a time. I thank the Fig Factor for being such a blessing in my life, for helping young Latina leaders surpass society's expectations and make an impact in this world." — Cecilia Garcia*



***Jackie**, you have been able to give so many young Latinas blessings out of the kindness of your heart. You were so strong to empower every single girl in that room and now, the sisterhood we share is unbreakable. I look forward to seeing the Fig Factor Foundation grow and spread the magic that we've all seen start as a small spark because now, we are definitely unstoppable."— Nancy Carillo*

I ask you to think of those who have helped you on your own personal journey and then consider helping the Fig Factor Foundation give Latinas the same kind of mentorship and support. Your small donation can help achieve dreams and positively impact the world.

You can make your donation online at www.thefigfactor.org. We will send you a receipt with our 501(c)3 tax exemption receipt.



THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR HELPING ME MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUNG LATINAS!

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ruiz

Founder and President, The Fig Factor Foundation

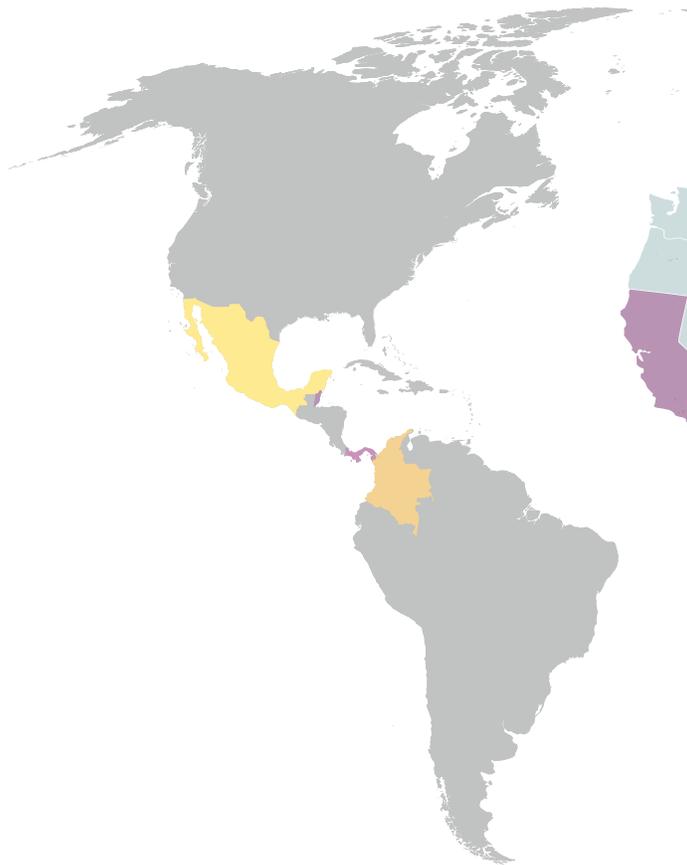
In Numbers

12 years

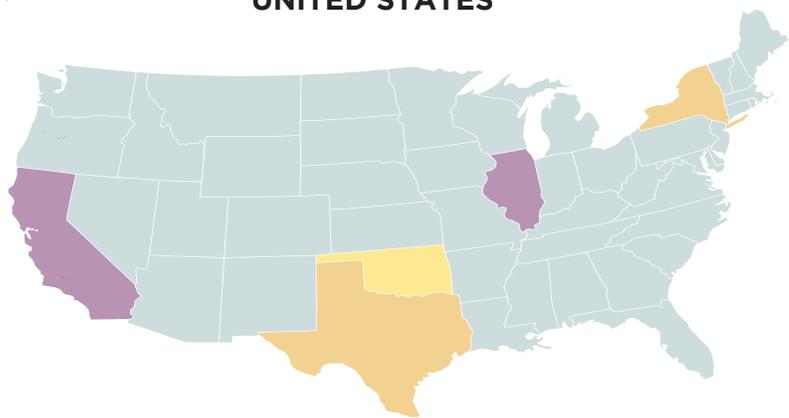
278 graduates

Chicago, Texas, Oklahoma, California, New York,
Mexico, Belize, Panama, Colombia.

LATIN AMERICA



UNITED STATES



the **fig factor**
FOUNDATION

Results

Our impact provides measurable results. This is an example of one of the participant surveys with the before and after metrics and the change in each area.

	*Total points before	**Total points after	BEFORE	AFTER	% CHANGE from day 1 to day 2
Education	43	58	72%	97%	34.88
Self Image	46	54	77%	90%	17.39
Support	39	56	65%	93%	43.59
Social	47	52	78%	87%	10.64
Tools	35	56	58%	93%	60.00
Foundation	51	58	85%	97%	13.73
			Average		30.04

WE HAVE HOSTED MANY EVENTS, FUNDRAISERS, PROVIDED OVER \$25,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



- Jacqueline Ruiz - President
- Daniela Limon - Treasurer
- Maria Herrera Paloma - Secretary
- Leonor Gil - Board Member
- Ximena Atristain Abigurra - Board Member
- Irma Lopez - Board Member
- Julie Schmidt - Board Member
- Clara Lucia Jaramillo-Carrier - Board Member
- Judith Banda - Board Member
- Mariana Alejos - Board Member

**278 graduates
in 12 years**

**CORE 21
IN MEXICO**

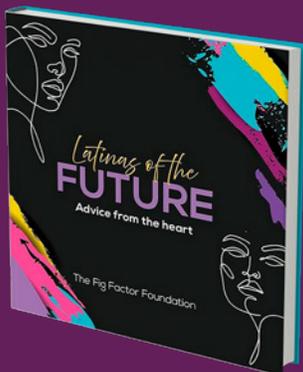
**7 cities and
13 countries
proclaimed
YOUNG
LATINA DAY
on April 11th**

**12TH Year
Anniversary
in
September
2026**

**31
graduates
hosted in
the United
States from
Mexico**

**CORE 22
was held in
Indiana**

**We launched a
book with the
advice from all the
board members in
2022!**



**Young
Latina Day
has been
celebrated
for 9 years**

**CORE 23
in Medellin
Colombia**

**CORE 24
in Puerto
Vallarta,
Mexico**

**We have hosted many
events, fundraisers,
provided over \$25,000
in scholarships over the
last few years**

**CORE 25
in Chicago,
IL due to a
grant from
The Barack
Obama
Foundation**



NYC LAUNCH, OCTOBER 2018

Manhattan School, Google HOLA Latino Network welcome The Fig Factor Foundation To New York (North Aurora, Illinois) Nov. 6, 2018, The Fig Factor Foundation started with an idea to be a strong support system for young Latinas in Illinois who have big dreams and goals. Recognizing the need to help Latinas on the east coast, the foundation launched a New York branch with a \$600 donation from Google's Hola Latino Network's New York Chapter.





THE FIRST YOUTH CONFERENCE BY OUR GRADUATES

Youth Conference: Make Tomorrow Your Present

Speakers: Tatiana Hart, Crystal Monarrez, Cristina Bravo, Ahtziri Roman, Nancy Carrillo, Odalys Ibarra.

OUR IMPACT

MAKE TOMORROW YOUR PRESENT YOUTH CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY FIG FACTOR FOUNDATION GRADUATES

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2019
8:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY 101 S. RIVER ST, AURORA, IL 60506



TATIANA HART
"Get out of your comfort zone"



CRYSTAL MONARREZ
"Reaching beyond your limits by training your mind"



CRISTINA BRAVO
"Becoming more efficient and organized"

PANEL: INSIGHTFUL TIPS TO MAKE TOMORROW YOUR BEST GIFT- YOUR PRESENT



AHTZIRI ROMAN
CORE 1 graduate



NANCY CARRILLO
CORE 1 graduate



ODALYS IBARRA
CORE 3 graduate

Join us at this one-of-a-kind youth conference presented by Fig Factor Foundation graduates where you will learn skills you need to know to shape your future. Listen to empowering stories that will inspire you to live your best tomorrow.



REGISTER TODAY! FREE GIFT FOR ALL ATTENDEES.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to become a powerful catalyst for Latinas ages 10-25 to pursue their dreams by providing educational leadership platforms, mentorship, and powerful experiences through the context of sisterhood.





FACEBOOK CHICAGO EXPERIENCE

Presentation at USHLI- The United States Hispanic Leadership Institute Conference in 2020 with co-author of Today's Inspired Young Latina Book Series Dr. Alexandria Rios Taylor and founder Jacqueline Ruiz.

OUR IMPACT



TESTIMONIALS

The Fig Factor foundation was one of the most significant experiences for our Latina college students at National Louis University. They had the opportunity to learn how to embrace who they are, and to be proud of the skills and abilities they already possess to become a better version of themselves.

For some students, this was the first time they ever felt confident about themselves. This was even the first time they opened-up their hearts to talk about their fears and other personal situations that have shaped their personalities.

I really appreciate programs like the Fig Factor Foundations because it really shows respect and appreciation to the Latina Community. I am looking forward to continuing the partnership with the program to make the difference in the lives of our Latina Students at National Louis University.

Thank you very much.

Lady Gil, National Louis University

FROM PARTICIPANTS:



The inspiration that I got today was that I don't have to give up even when I am afraid of something. It got me thinking that I will get over my fear easily when I went up and did the shy exercise."

I like how we all opened up and how we gave each other hugs and saying 'I believe in you' because someone might need those kind words or might be in a hard situation" - **Carina**



What inspired me was to keep searching for help and I'm grateful I've found this as I've been looking for something like this. Thank you!!!" - **Anna**

What I loved the most was the activities, made me open up to friends and classmates on a deeper level."

Life is a journey, not a destination."



My biggest inspiration was everything. Everything was so beautiful! Thank you!" - **Maria**



Fig Factor has changed my life. I am so grateful and inspired. I share the beautiful magic I have felt everywhere I go and I see the light strike in others' eyes. I am so happy I can barely sleep."

- **Crystal**



I am so grateful to be part of The Fig Factor Foundation. Every time I have attended one of the amazing experiences, it has opened my mind to a new level. I am so grateful for all of these amazing opportunities I am provided with. I can't thank you enough and I want you to know that you are truly empowering young Latinas. Thank you so much!

- **Cristina**



12 YEARS
278 GRADUATES

Chicago, Texas, Oklahoma, California, New York, Mexico, Belize,
Panama, Colombia.

OUR IMPACT



www.thefigfactor.org



CORE 21 WAS HELD IN PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO

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FOUNDATION

CORE 21

PUERTO VALLARTA, MÉXICO

June 19-23, 2024

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in future Latina Leaders*

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CORE 22 WAS HELD IN INDIANA

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CORE 22

COLUMBUS, INDIANA, USA

November 23-26, 2024

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CORE 23 WAS HELD IN MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA



CORE 23 MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA

May 27-30, 2025

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in future Latina Leaders*

T H E F I G F A C T O R . O R G



CORE 24 WAS HELD IN PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO



CORE 24

PUERTO VALLARTA, JALISCO

August 7-11, 2025

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SPECIAL CORE EXPRESS WAS HELD IN BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

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FOUNDATION

CORE 25 EXPRESS

NEW YORK CITY

November 3rd, 2025

Lyons Community School
223 Graham Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11206, 3rd floor

ABOUT THE FACTOR FOUNDATION

The four-step program empowers Latinas to pursue their passion and activate their dreams by providing educational leadership platforms, mentorship and powerful experiences through a context of sisterhood.

T H E F I G F A C T O R . O R G



CORE 25 WILL BE HELD AT ST. FRANCIS DE SALES HIGH SCHOOL, IL APRIL 2026.

Thanks to a grant from The Barack Obama Foundation



CORE 25

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES HIGH SCHOOL, IL

April 2026

Thanks to a grant from The Barack Obama Foundation

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THE FIG FACTOR . ORG



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

“Unity is strength...when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.” - Mattie Stepanek



The Fig Factor Foundation has partnered up with many organizations throughout the years to support our young Latinas and their dreams. Here is a sample list of our strategic partners:



- WGN TV 9
- NBC 5
- Telemundo
- Univision
- IMSA IN2
- Fermilab
- Ravinia
- Chicago Symphony Orchestra
- Elgin High School
- National Louis University
- East Aurora High School
- Upward Bound
- Waubensee Community College Facebook
- Comcast
- Wintrust
- Today's Inspired Latina
- City of Bolingbrook
- City of Berwyn
- City of West Chicago
- City of Chicago
- City of Hanover Park
- City of Barlett
- City of Aurora



Thank you for believing in us!

The Fig Factor Foundation Board of Directors



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Future Latina Leaders*



2026 MARKETING CALENDAR

- JANUARY / 27** CORE 23 Medellin Colombia Mentor Graduation
- FEBRUARY / 7** CORE 24 Mexico Mentor Graduation
- MARCH / 20** Presentation about the foundation to the Wheeling, IL Chamber of Commerce, acceptance of donation
- APRIL / 18** CORE 25 in Chicago- Part 1, St. Francis de Sales High School
- APRIL / 25** CORE 25 in Chicago- Part 2, San Francis School
- MAY / 10** Scholarship awards announcement
- SEPTEMBER** 12th year anniversary
- OCTOBER / 25** CORE 25 Mentor Graduation

*You now can help us
spread the magic to
young Latinas!*



3 Ways to Get Involved:



Fundraise:

Raise funds to help us help more future Latina leaders. Get in touch with us to find out how.



Share:

Share The Fig Factor Foundation on your social media networks.



Volunteer:

Sign up on our website to volunteer for our next event.

You can make a difference today!

Activate
Receive
Grow
Share

WHO WE ARE

We are a non-for profit organization dedicated to giving vision, direction, and structure to young Latinas. Our mission is to become a powerful catalyst for Latinas ages 10-25 to pursue their dreams by providing educational leadership platforms, mentorship, and powerful experiences through the context of sisterhood. Founded in September 2014, we quickly began impacting participants through the CORE program, and by giving back to the local community. Our goal is to continue to spread the wings of the foundation nationwide and globally in the years to come.



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