


1990



La Maestra Amnesty Center's more than 12,000 students voice the need for culturally appropriate health services. In response to students need, La Maestra develops the Medically Trained Cultural Liaison Model- core to all current services- and leases its first Fairmount Avenue residential unit, which is transformed into a clinic to offer health services.


1993



Agricultural workers in the Central Valley voice a need for health services on-site so La Maestra forms a mobile services unit and drives to meet their patients two times per week to migrant fields offering both health care and amnesty services.


1994



Expands the clinic into second parcel, renovating 2 additional buildings for women's services. Creates a total of 4 clinic buildings. Remodels 4175 Fairmount Avenue from a duplex into a separate women's services unit. Adds Breast and Cervical Cancer screening capability and is the first pilot clinic in San Diego for the Centers for Disease Control.


1995



Primary Care and Women's services flourish and more specialty care is brought into the community to meet the growing need- these include Internal Medicine and Oncologist visits every other week to see insured and uninsured breast cancer patients.


1996



Opens general primary care satellite clinic in impoverished and officially designated Medically Underserved Area (MUA) of downtown San Diego. More than 1200 patients are served in the first year where no care would have been provided.


1997



Receives California State designated Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) 'look alike' status enabling needed access to partial reimbursements for services for some patients. This was the best available option provided to clinics when no FQHC certification was available at the Federal level (during a 20 year gap). The formidable application and approval process illustrated La Maestra's staying power and paved the way to achieving FQHC status. This milestone dramatically increased the clinics ability to serve more patients.



1998



Expanded hours increasing access to care and allowing the clinic to stay open until 8pm on weekdays and be open on Saturdays better meeting the needs of the 'working poor'.

Economic Development unit is formed to train and place community residents in jobs. A total of 345 new jobs are created in the first year alone. Many of these motivated, new employees are able to move from receiving welfare into the workforce. Strong and on-going alliances are formed with local employers.



1999



Becomes a Public Housing / Special Populations grantee through Federal Section 330(i) HRSA grant funding increasing care to low income housing residents and subsidizing still more patient care, assuring sustainability of services.



2000



La Maestra opens its first Dental Clinic on the main site in City Heights through a grant from Delta Dental. As concerns about oral health in America became a priority in primary care at the Federal level, more funding downstream becomes available.



2003




Children in City Heights, are still suffering disproportionately high rates of oral health problems and need extensive dental treatment. In response, La Maestra opens its second Dental Clinic in collaboration with Children's Hospital Residency Program on University Avenue providing specialty periodontal services.



2004



Many patients, although receiving health care still do not have enough money for food for their families so La Maestra becomes a Food Bank distributor and opens a Food pantry to offer supplemental, free, healthy staples to families in need once a week.




2004

Zara Marsellian, CEO is congratulated by Leonard Villereal for receiving the Channel 10 Overall Leadership Award.




2004

Hospital closure in East County leads to a reduction in available health care services. In response, La Maestra opens a satellite in El Cajon to help meet the needs.




2005

La Maestra opens another medical clinic satellite in the South Bay; National City focusing on a Centering Pregnancy Model and providing culturally appropriate Mid-wife services in the Community.




2005

To expand the network of resources for the new building, La Maestra becomes a member of the US Green Building Council the nation's foremost coalition of leaders from across the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, sustainable and healthy places to live and work.

La Maestra purchases the land and, in order to generate outside capital for the new building project begins the silent phase of the capital campaign.

