

### ANNUAL REPORT 2022 WWW.ISKALI.ORG

## OUR MISSION

Iskali EMPOWERS and EQUIPS young Latinos with high-quality faith formation that enables them to become TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERS.

#### OUR VALUES

BELIEF. We believe in young people and in the power of faith and community to help them reach their full potential.

**EMPOWERMENT**. Through formation, education, and experiences we are equipping young people as transformative leaders.

**WELCOME**. Young Latinos have a relevant place and role in the Church in the United States and deserve to be included and invested in.

**CELEBRATE CULTURE.** We recognize, value, respect and celebrate the unique culture that Latinos hold and offer.



#### OUR VISION

Iskali bridges the gap in ministries and resources for young Latino adults in the United States, forming the next generation of transformative leaders for the Church and society. We provide resources to guide them in a journey to live their faith, engage in the Church, to promote their educational and professional development, and help them reach human flourishing in their lives.

## FROM ISKALI'S FOUNDER

Dear Friends,

As we start this new year, I hope your life is filled with peace and blessings. At Iskali we are beginning 2023 with gratitude for what God has done through your generosity. We are so grateful for your support which has allowed Iskali to grow abundantly throughout 2022. Iskali has continued to provide high-quality faith and formation opportunities, sports, and a scholarship and mentorship program. None of this would be possible without the support and generosity of each of you who have given of your time, talent, and treasure.

This support and generosity have allowed Iskali to support young adults in their journey of faith and in their seeking of human flourishing by offering a deep spiritual retreat. Iskali achieves this by running a retreat program that helps young adults connect to their faith and by providing them with a space to meet with an intentional community weekly where they can talk about issues that are affecting their daily life. We were able to impact young adults in Chicago, Indianapolis and Milwaukee this year. This was also the first year of Iskali running and operating Casa Iskali, a faith nurturing center where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven, and encouraged. Additionally, this year we had the opportunity to offer scholarships to the students with the most need and pair them with a mentor who guides them in their professional development. Finally, in our effort to reach young adults who want to live a healthier life, we offered a low-cost sports program and health initiative to give young adults the opportunity to stay active. Overall, because of your support and generosity we were able to impact over 4,500 young people in 2022, we hope to continue to count with your support and prayers.

Lastly, as this new year has begun, we would greatly appreciate your continuing to share your talents, and treasure with all of the young adults that are seeking help through Iskali. Thank you for investing in the future.

Sincerely, launte Sul

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Timothy Matovina, Board Co-Chair Beth Knobbe, Board Co-Chair Mike Mesterharm, Treasurer Norma Álvarez Anthony Suárez-Abraham Natali Barrios Jack Crowe Dolores Muñoz Rick Moreno Vicente Del Real Zuly Gómez Carolina Nevárez Bishop John R. Manz, Episcopal Moderator

#### **SPOTLIGHT**

PARTNERSHIP WITH MCGRATH INSTITUTE FOR CHURCH LIFE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME.

THIS PARTNERSHIP SEEKS TO EQUIP CONGREGATIONS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE HISPANIC CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS IN PARISHES AROUND THE MIDWEST.

# HOW WE EMPOWER AND EQUIP YOUNG LATINOS



#### EVANGELIZATION

Over 300 young Latinos participated in an Iskali retreat this year. Several Iskali retreats were offered in Chicago at Iskali's retreat center, Casa Iskali and one in Indianapolis.



#### MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

21 young Latinos have been matched with a Latino mentor who provide support and guidance as they navigate college and establish their professional careers.



#### COMMUNITIES

14 communities of discipleship were formed this year across Chicagoland, Indianapolis and Milwaukee. Young Latinos find authentic friendship, authentic acceptance and the Joy of the Gospels in these communities.



#### FAITH FORMATION

Iskali offers weekly faith-formation classes for young adults to learn more about their faith and dive deep into different topics of Catholic theology. Currently 72 young adults leaders are taking this classes.



#### SPORTS INITIATIVE

Iskali provides sports leagues and health initiatives to strengthen the physical and mental health of our young people. This year Iskali offered basketball and volleyball leagues as well as a running club.



#### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

32 first generation students received scholarships from Iskali in 2022. This fund exists to change the odds for first generation students and encourage them as they continue their academic journey.



#### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

This year young Latinos served 10,126 volunteer hours through Iskali. The Junior Board, composed of young professionals, played a key role engaging young leaders to give back to the community.

## CASA ISKALI

CASA ISKALI STRIVES TO BE A "SPACE WHERE EVERYONE CAN FEEL WELCOMED, LOVED, FORGIVEN, AND ENCOURAGED" (EVANGELLI GAUDIUM, 114).

CASA ISKALI IS A SPACE FOR RETREATS, SPIRITUAL RENEWAL, FORMATION AND COMMUNITY.

#### IMPACT THIS YEAR

In 2022, Casa Iskali hosted:

- 56 events and retreats
- 3.923 guests
- 34 retreats were for youth from local parishes and schools
- 12 Iskali retreats and events
- 10 retreats and meetings for other adult groups

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE HOME DEPOT

This past Spring more than 100 volunteers from Team Depot, Home Depot's associate volunteer force, worked to fix up Casa Iskali's eight-acre property. Volunteers from the Home Depot helped revamp the grounds by painting, power washing, mulching, planting trees and flowers, and other general landscaping. Additionally, the Home Depot Foundation donated supplies and materials.



#### 2022 FINANCIALS OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THE INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, BUSINESSES AND FOUNDATIONS WHO MADE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORTING OUR MISSION THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

















