

Project
QUEST



2024
ANNUAL REPORT

LEADERSHIP'S ADDRESS

For more than three decades, Project QUEST has been a pillar of workforce development, inspiring **hope, dignity, and empowerment** in every life we touch. Today, we carry that legacy forward, reaching new heights in service to our community. With the collective strength of our Board, staff, and partners, we remain committed to driving meaningful change, ensuring that all who seek a better future have the opportunity to achieve it.

As we embrace this year's organizational theme "**Reaching New Heights,**" this year marks a period of unprecedented growth and impact. Project QUEST is experiencing record enrollments, serving more participants than ever before, and expanding our reach to meet the evolving needs of our community. These milestones reflect not only the strength of our programs but also the unwavering dedication of our staff, whose passion fuels our mission every day.

With strong organizational leadership and the steadfast guidance of our Board, Project QUEST continues to be a driving force in Ready to Work, ensuring that individuals have access to life-changing education and career opportunities. Supported by our dedicated staff and valued partners, we are building on our success and expanding opportunities for economic mobility, empowering more individuals to achieve lasting career success.

We extend our deepest gratitude to those who continue to champion our mission. Together, we are transforming lives and shaping the workforce of tomorrow.



Francisco Martinez
President and CEO



Dr. Sonia C. Rodriguez
Board Chair

A Year of Validating Impact of Transformation, Proven Results

This year, two groundbreaking studies reinforced the transformative power of Project QUEST. A 30-year economic impact analysis revealed a \$4 billion contribution to the regional economy, highlighting QUEST's role in driving prosperity. Simultaneously, a 14-year randomized control trial—the longest of its kind—confirmed that the QUEST model effectively moves individuals through training into life-changing careers with lasting lifetime impact. These findings validate what we have long known: investing in people changes communities.

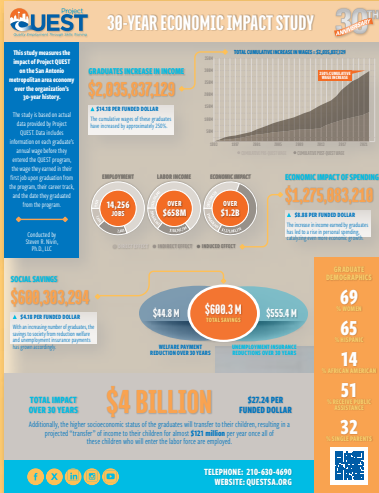
This year, Project QUEST continued to lead the way in workforce development, achieving outstanding results across key performance metrics:

- 2,483 participants served, delivering life-changing training and support.

- 203% wage increase for graduates, elevating earnings from \$15,804 pre-QUEST to \$47,860 post-QUEST.

- A leader in the Ready to Work program, setting the standard with significant outcomes in enrollment, graduation, and job placements.

These milestones reinforce our commitment to empowering individuals, strengthening families, and transforming communities through economic mobility.

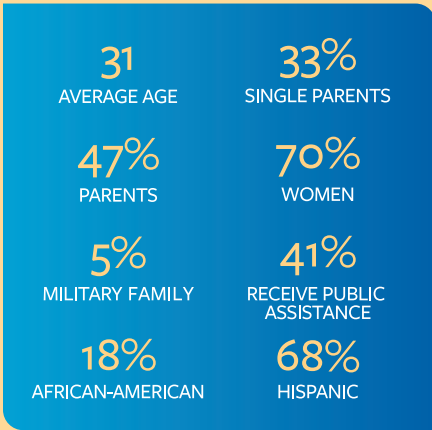


PARTICIPANT

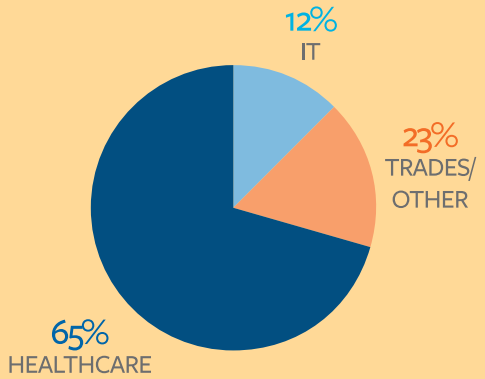
OUTCOMES



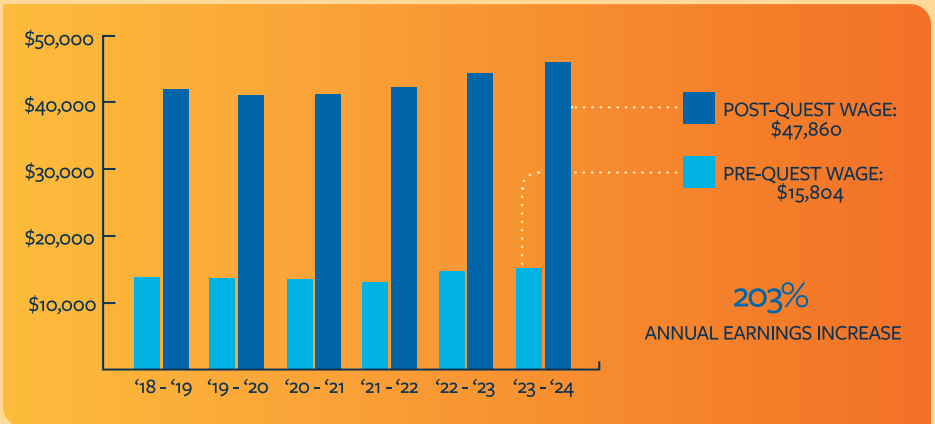
DEMOGRAPHICS



CAREER TRACKS



PARTICIPANT ANNUAL EARNINGS



\$24,742,716 IN PROJECTED WAGES IN FY 2024!



State Government	\$345,966
Local Government	\$5,460,828
Foundation Grants	\$2,507,397
Individual & Corp Gifts	\$376,913

Program Services	\$8,059,550
Administration	\$873,456
Fundraising	\$48,545

**90% OF EXPENSES ARE USED
TO SUPPORT PARTICIPANTS**





MARIBEL

REGISTERED NURSE

In 2007, after earning her GED, a young aspiring nurse arrived at Project QUEST, eager to advance her education. A QUEST advisor guided her through the enrollment process, and with determination, she took the next step in her career.

With QUEST's support, she received assistance with tuition, books, utilities, and transportation, allowing her to focus entirely on her studies. She completed her LVN certification and, after a year of practice, pursued an associate degree at St. Philip's College, graduating 18 months later. While enrolled, she secured a contractor position with the Air Force, which led to roles with the Army, Public Health Service, and the Department of Homeland Security. These experiences broadened her expertise and led her into emergency management, where she became a charge nurse during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing critical frontline care.

Her career continued to grow when she joined a university hospital's transplant unit, first as a contractor and later as part of the transplant surgery team. Now, she is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Texas Health Science Center with plans to become a Family Nurse Practitioner. Inspired by her journey, her daughter is following in her footsteps, continuing the legacy of resilience and opportunity made possible by QUEST.



TASSY

CYBERSECURITY ANALYST

Tassy's story, like many military spouses, is shaped by the demands of Army life. Whenever Uncle Sam called, his family moved at a moment's notice. Like many in his position, Tassy took on the role of "Household 6," a military term for spouses who manage everything at home while their soldier is deployed.

After a three-year family deployment to Korea, Tassy saw an opportunity to finally pursue his passion for technology—a love that began in childhood when he would take apart old TVs, broken toys, and printers to bring them back to life. He earned several IT certifications and secured a role as a military liaison at the very training company where he studied. However, just as his career was taking off, another deployment for his spouse forced him to step back into his full-time role at home.

A decade later, with his children grown, Tassy was ready to reenter the workforce. A chance meeting with Laura Torres from Project QUEST at a job fair changed everything. Laura introduced him to QUEST's support and training opportunities through NPower, setting him on a path toward cybersecurity.

Determined to succeed, Tassy worked diligently to earn multiple CompTIA certifications. His leadership and dedication earned him the role of class speaker at graduation, where he was honored with the leadership award. A firm believer in helping others, he often assisted fellow students, knowing that teaching reinforced his own learning.

Today, Tassy has secured an IT internship at Accenture Federal Services, taking his first steps toward a promising future in cybersecurity. His signature phrase, "Let's Gooooo," embodies his energy, determination, and readiness for the next chapter of his career.

DONORS & FUNDERS

October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024

\$2,000,000 & Up

City of San Antonio

\$500,000 & Up

Ascendium Education
Solutions, Inc.

Daughters of Charity
USAA

\$50,000 & Up

OCI Solar
San Antonio Area Foundation
Valero

\$20,000 & Up

Bank of America
Center Point Energy
Frost Bank
Truist Foundation

\$10,000 & Up

Hixon Properties Incorporated

\$5,000 & Up

Alamo Colleges District
Ms. Debbie Andrew

\$2,000 & Up

H-E-B
Bexar County Economic and
Community Development
Accenture Federal Services
Sisters of the Holy Spirit and
Mary Immaculate
San Antonio College
The Gambrinus Company
King William Association

\$1,000 & Up

Paul and Evelyn Olivier
Kris Kieswetter and Jim Fox
Cynthia and David Zammiello
John K. Jackson
Stephen Bale
Goodwill San Antonio
Sonia Rodriguez
Maranda Larsen
United Way of San Antonio
and Bexar County
Todd A. Thames and
Deborah L. Cardell
Thomas Obrian

\$500 & Up

Matthew Bomersbach
Lily and Covell Lindstrom
Rosemary Elizalde
Francisco and Mayra Martinez
Melba Martinez
Maria H. Tijerina
Jamie Rummel
Jessica Pena
Steve and Alicia Mendoza
Katharine Underwood
Adrienne Skrobarczyk
Fr. Will Wauters and
Anna Guerra Wauters
Stephen Noteboom

\$200 & Up

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Alejandra Lopez
Rena Oden
Hector and Maria Garcia
Kelly Blake

Lelani Mercado
Pizza Properties, Inc.5
Anthony and Mary Rodriguez
Sylvia Vela
Kurt Heyn
Dillon Wilson
Michael and Naomi Mandujano
Maria Salazar
Dwayne Coleman
Brand Panacea Enterprise
Amira Dadzie
Damone Johnson
Danielle Spencer
Jane Shafer
Michael O'Hara

\$100 & Up

Matthew Zapata
Chelby Mueller
Susan Oelsen
Nohemi Acosta
Veronica Reyes
Benevity Unknown
Kaiulani Namauu
Hugo Hernandez
Robin Wettach
Angelica Salas
Abraham's Legend LLC
Denise Rincones-James
Eric Pharr
Carmen Martinez Lewis
Jerry Garcia
Richard McDonald
Jennifer Bredell

Friends of QUEST

Jared and Ruby Siddle
Rosario Espinoza
Kimberly Orosio
Dorothea Wallace
Art and Patricia Higgins
George Santos
Amanda Graha
Margaret Joseph
Laura Torres
Maureen Brown
Julio Fuentes
LaDonna Skrobarczyk
Jessica Ward
Jonathan Garcia
Amy Chavez
Akoko Amovin

Jonathan Session
Bernaldo Sanchez
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Rosa Arzola Hernandez
Angelica Rangel
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Jessica Gomez
Victoria Arriaga
Wade Skrobarczyk
Roxanne Lopez
Randy Garcia
Connie Garcia
Felicia Godley
Yolanda Williams

Isidra Rodriguez
Justin Tohkubbi
Jordan Tohkubbi
Latisha Pean

In-Kind Donors

Canyon Springs Golf Club
Club Car Wash
San Antonio Museum of Art
Chicken N Pickle
In-N-Out Burger
Art by Momo and Pompa
William Chris Vineyards
Jonathan Garcia Band
SeaWorld San Antonio
Carmen H Loza
Taonga Nkhoma



OUR MISSION

To strengthen the economy and transform lives by preparing individuals for in demand, living-wage careers.

OUR VISION

Project QUEST will be San Antonio's leading workforce development initiative; providing life-changing services, education and career skills through collaboration and community partnerships.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024



Dr. Sonia C. Rodriguez
Board Chair
Consultant Collaborative
Initiatives LLC, COPS/Metro
Representative



Dr. Kris Kieswetter
Board Vice Chair
3M Company Global Director,
Applied Medical Science



Matthew Bomersbach
Treasurer
Business Integration
Executive, Business Leader



Rena Oden
Secretary
Supervisory Security Specialist,
Department of Defense, COPS/
Metro Representative



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PT, MD, MHA, FFAFP
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Vice President of
Clinical Affairs,
Health Included, Inc.



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Board Member
Global Senior Marketing
Manager, 3M Corporation



Carolyn King
Board Member
Professional Counselor;
Private Practice



Katharine Underwood
SPHR, SHRM-CP
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Manager Employment, Valero
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Board Member
Assistant City Manager, City of
San Antonio



Steve Mendoza
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Metro Representative



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Department of the Air Force
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Metro Representative



Jarvis Baker
Board Member
Ret. Air Force & Owner/
Consultant, Abraham's Legend



Father Jimmy Drennan
Board Member
Rev. St. Margaret Catholic
Church, COPS/Metro
Representative



In Memory of Our Founder
TOM C. FROST[†]
(1927-2018)



In Memory of Our Founder
Charlie Cheever
(1928-2021)



Sr. Gabriella Lohan, SHSP



Hector Garcia

DIRECTORS EMERITUS



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