**East San José**

East San José Prevention Efforts Advance Community Equity (PEACE)

Uniting East San Jose to decrease community violence and trauma.

**ACH IN ACTION: Building Capacity for Equitable Community Impact**

In its first year, PEACE appointed a diverse leadership team and established a strong governance system with bylaws and a clear vision for action. The team soon adopted a Portfolio of Interventions that focuses on three areas: social/political environment (people), physical/built environment (place) and economic/educational environment (equitable opportunity). In year two, six work groups were formed to execute initiatives ranging from gun safety to intimate partner violence prevention.

One workgroup helped advocate for and pass the city of San José anti-displacement strategy, a 10-point plan to help tenants stay in their homes as housing prices skyrocket. This plan, which was developed through diverse stakeholder and community meetings, created a roadmap for the city to strengthen eviction protection, displacement prevention and affordable housing production.

PEACE also launched a Wellness Fund designed to pool resources, including a significant grant from CACHI and Santa Clara County’s AB 109 reentry fund. This fund provides sustainable, reliable and responsive funding for the partnership’s interventions. During the COVID-19 pandemic, PEACE’s resident leaders created an economic relief fund that raised and distributed $604,000 to support 730 East San José families who could not receive traditional government aid due to their immigration status.

**NEXT STEPS: Uplifting Racial Equity and Sustainability**

PEACE Partnership is working diligently to further implement a Racial Equity-Centered Results Based Accountability framework to align efforts and address the root cause of violence more effectively. Workgroups are focused on addressing barriers like poverty, racism and other forms of discrimination, and the conditions they create that make it harder to be healthy, such as lack of access to good jobs, safe environments, quality education and housing, and health care. PEACE is also working on growing its Wellness Fund under the stewardship of the Valley Medical Center Foundation and strengthening its capacity to reduce violence, improve health equity and adapt to new challenges in East San José.

Learn more at [www.esjpeace.org](http://www.esjpeace.org).