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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FOUNDATION OF LITTLE VILLAGE RELEASES 2025 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTING SUPPORT FOR ENTREPRENEURS AND GROWING ECONOMIC IMPACT

Annual report demonstrates how culturally relevant business support is strengthening entrepreneurs, creating jobs and building community wealth in Little Village and beyond.

CHICAGO, IL – July 21, 2026 – The Foundation of Little Village today released its 2025 Annual Report, highlighting another year of expanding opportunities for entrepreneurs and reaffirming its commitment to building a stronger, more prosperous Little Village through entrepreneurship, cultural preservation and corridor revitalization. The report demonstrates how the Foundation's work continues to advance its vision of being the catalyst for economic equality, prosperity and advancement of Little Village.

In 2025 alone, the Foundation served **331 entrepreneurs**, provided **758 one-on-one business counseling sessions**, helped launch **157 new businesses**, distributed **\$94,400 in micro-grants and loans** and connected entrepreneurs to critical capital and specialized resources. Since launching its entrepreneurial programming in 2018, the Foundation has served more than **2,100 entrepreneurs** and helped distribute nearly **\$900,000** in grants and loans to local small businesses.

"This annual report tells the story of entrepreneurs who are transforming their lives, strengthening our commercial corridors, and building lasting community wealth," said Kim Close, Executive Director. "At the Foundation of Little Village, we believe entrepreneurship is one of the most powerful tools for economic mobility. As we prepare to open Xquina Incubator & Café, we are creating an ecosystem where Latino entrepreneurs can access the capital, knowledge, partnerships, and support they need to build businesses that will strengthen Little Village for generations to come."

The full 2025 Annual Report is available [here](#).

The report also highlights several milestones that demonstrate the Foundation's expanding impact, including:

- The launch of Chicago's first Spanish-language business pitch competition, helping entrepreneurs refine their business models while competing for startup capital.

- Expansion of the Foundation's holistic Community Wealth Building model through business coaching, financial literacy, ecosystem referrals, workshops and in-house micro-lending.
- Continued progress on the Xquina Incubator & Café, a transformative community investment that will become Little Village's premier entrepreneurial hub for business incubation, shared commercial kitchen space and collaborative economic development.

The Foundation's 2025 Annual Report also outlines the organization's next chapter, including a new three-year strategic plan focused on expanding services, deepening partnerships and increasing access to opportunity throughout Little Village and beyond.

About the Foundation of Little Village

The Foundation of Little Village believes that thriving entrepreneurs build thriving communities. Since 2018, the organization has worked alongside aspiring and established business owners by providing culturally relevant, bilingual education, one-on-one business support, and access to capital that helps turn ideas into lasting businesses. To date, the Foundation has served more than 2,100 entrepreneurs and helped distribute nearly \$900,000 in grants and loans to more than 300 local small businesses. Learn more about the Foundation of Little Village at flvchicago.org.