

Timeline

1980s



During the 1990s, PUENTE moved to its current location on Boyle Avenue. The organization initially provided services in ten double-wide trailers on the vacant lot. In 1995, PUENTE opened the Richard J. Riordan building, a new 40,000 square foot facility that remains a testament to the dignity of education.

2002



In 2015, PUENTE sold its South Los Angeles campus in order to expand programs and facilities in Boyle Heights. The organization operated programs at that facility from 1999-2017.

2018



PUENTE Learning Center continues to serve students and families by building bridges to education and opportunity. PUENTE's services reach over 2,000 constituents each year in four core program areas: children, youth, adults, and community. PUENTE maintains its distinct, multi-generational approach that incorporates educational and wrap-around services for Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles, and beyond.

Sister Jennie Lechtenberg founded PUENTE Learning Center in 1985 to serve low-income children, operating out of a storefront location in Boyle Heights. From the beginning, PUENTE offered classes for parents as well as their children, educating each student within the context of her or his family and community. PUENTE also led the way by incorporating technology into education, an emphasis that continues today.

1990s



In 2002, PUENTE opened the first charter school in Boyle Heights, serving kindergarten students. Our school has succeeded in part due to the trust that PUENTE built in the community we serve.

2015



2018 saw PUENTE Charter School receive approval to grow from kindergarten-only to become a full elementary school. The school is expanding by one grade each year until 2022-23, when we will serve over 300 students in grades TK-5.

Today

