FACT SHEET

FOUNDED 2014

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Salma Villarreal Siraj

MISSION

ourBRIDGE fosters the education, acculturation, and well-being of refugee and immigrant children and their families.

MODEL

ourBRIDGE welcomes 250+ immigrant and refugee children into its out-of-school programming, offering culturally relevant, experiential learning activities, one-on-one English literacy tutoring, homework help, healthy meals, and free transportation to and from the program.

Our Family Support Team offers personalized, multilingual support to help families navigate complex systems and access essential resources such as food, healthcare, school support, and mental health services. By meeting families where they are and communicating in their preferred language, they help strengthen family stability and children's overall well-being.

GOVERNANCE

ourBRIDGE for Kids is a 501(c)(3) governed by an elevent-member board of directors.

Vince Altamura
EVP Deputy General Counsel, Truist

A.T. Castillo
Retired

Natalie Cowart
Director of People Operations and Culture, Acacia Center for Justice

Lisa Luth - Board Chair Emeritus
Senior Vice President, Luth Research

Patricia Massey Hoke - Secretary
Principal, Thunder Hill Advisors

Amalia Juchnik
Vice President Brand Marketing, Premier Inc.

Gregory E. Marsh
Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

Matthew Roden
AVP Community Engagement, Advocate Health

KaLee Strawbridge
Senior Manager Information Security, Lowes

Satoshi Watanabe - Board Chair
Retired

Nancy Yang - Treasurer
Senior Manager, RSM US LLP

SERVICE AREA

ourBRIDGE provides out-of-school programs at two Charlotte sites. **At our East Charlotte community site,** 150 K–8 children from 20+ countries and 13 languages participate in afterschool and summer programs with certified ESL instructors. Families access wraparound services, adult ESL classes, health fairs, bi-monthly fresh food distributions through The Bulb market, and community events like the International Fall Festival.

At our South Charlotte school-based site at CMS Pinewood Elementary, 100 K–5 students—78% English language learners, 90% Spanish-speaking—receive afterschool and summer support with certified ESL instructors, alongside nearby parent support groups, mental health workshops, and community events.

The Charlotte is Home Center is a comprehensive service hub addressing essential service barriers for Charlotte's foreign-born population. Renovated in August 2024, the center provides walk-in access to low-cost healthcare, and wraparound supports such as food referrals, a diaper bank, a community closet, and more, helping families navigate resources and build stability.