Luis and Maria
Luis’ hours at his daytime job were drastically cut back because of the global health crisis. Maria left her night job at a fast food restaurant to be more alert during the day with all six children at home. Our Emergency Response Fund helped them pay for groceries and diapers so they could pay their rent. Our staff provided educational worksheets in Spanish to aid with the children’s ongoing education. We are working with Luis and Maria to apply for additional assistance. Your support means their children will not go hungry.

Jessica and Dunia
Jessica and Dunia approached our Business Opportunity Center in the fall of 2019 to grow their cleaning services small business. At the time, they only had a handful of residential contracts. They took part in our training programs to improve their business development, technology, and administration skills. After pursuing and gaining the necessary certifications, they began bidding for Washington Department of Transportation projects, and in January of this year secured additional residential and commercial contracts. Unfortunately, they were hit hard by the pandemic and they lost many contracts they gained a couple of months into the crisis. El Centro de la Raza helped them apply for relief funds for which they were eligible and they received a grant of $5,000 to help cover business costs and ensure continued operations during these difficult times. Through our Emergency Response Fund, Jessica and Dunia received support in the form of rental assistance and grocery gift cards. Jessica and Dunia have worked hard to overcome adversity and are determined to succeed with their business venture and empower themselves as entrepreneurs.

Eduardo*
Eduardo’s father Jonatan* was in the intensive care unit at Harborview and unresponsive for three months and required hospitalization for an additional two months. Eduardo was frightened that his father would not make it. Jonatan is finally home now, but still unable to work.

About a year ago Jonatan took in a minor named Pedro* who has no family in Seattle and is also from their home country of Guatemala and offered him food and shelter. While Jonatan was in the hospital, Eduardo provided food and guidance to Pedro, who still lives with them.

Both students are engaging in e-learning. Eduardo expects to graduate from high school in June.

*Names have been changed for privacy.