# **Success Story**





Latin American Montessori Bilingual (LAMB) is a public charter school (PCS) in Northwest, Washington, DC that creates a self-directed learning environment in which children build a foundation of knowledge essential for a lifetime of learning, with the goal of a biliteracy in English and Spanish. The leadership at LAMB PCS was committed to supporting the use of sustainable transportation during the planning of their relocation.

### **GETTING STARTED WITH SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION**

When planning to relocate the LAMB PCS office location, it became apparent that their current approach to transportation was not as effective or sustainable as it could be. In response, school leaders appointed Cindy Guerrero-Munguia as the school's transportation coordinator. As a six-year employee whose work had varied from being in the classroom to school operations, Cindy already had a clear idea of the background of the school and the needs of its students, faculty, and staff.

LAMB PCS started working with goDCgo in 2020 to create a sustainable transportation plan and build a robust transportation program. As part of the plan, Cindy has promoted alternative methods of transportation such as biking, transit, and carshare to staff. She has promoted schoolwide sustainable transportation holidays such as Bike to Work Day and encouraged commuter benefit sign ups including Capital Bikeshare. For student travel, she works to get students and families involved in the school's sustainability goals and promotes the Kids Ride Free program. Although her sustainable transportation efforts decreased during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, LAMB PCS is now back to in-person learning and plans to host pre-tax commuter benefit sign-up events for their faculty and staff in 2022.

I cannot stress enough how important sustainable transportation is – especially here in the District. However, resources are nothing without accessibility and that's where I come in. By promoting sustainability, not only am I helping to keep our environment to be as clean as possible in such a busy city, but I'm also encouraging families and staff members to be more active.

- Cindy Guerrero-Munguia, LAMB PCS School Transportation Coordinator





**SCHOOL TYPE**Public Charter



NUMBER OF SCHOOL STAFF



**NUMBER OF STUDENTS** 546







## Keys to a Successful Sustainable Transportation Plan

### MAKING ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS A REALITY

Through commute surveys and talking one-on-one with teachers and staff, Cindy discovered that a handful of staff drove electric cars. To accommodate these teachers and staff while incentivizing electric cars at LAMB PCS, Cindy pitched the idea of installing electric car charging stations. Although it was a great idea and would help LAMB PCS continue sustainability efforts, there was unfortunately no room in the budget for this installation. However, by bringing up the amenity as an option, Cindy kept electric car charging stations top-of-mind among school administrators. This led to a discovery that installing electric car charging stations was one of the ways they could earn LEED points. As a result, the school was able to reallocate some of their budget to this project.

LAMB PCS is in the process of promoting this new amenity to its teachers and staff in the hopes that those who commute by regular gas fueled cars will take this amenity into consideration when it is time to purchase a new car, hopefully an electric one.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

LAMB PCS is committed to supporting sustainable transportation and continuing to grow their commuter benefits program. With goDCgo's help and Cindy Guerrero-Munguia as the on-site transportation champion, LAMB PCS continues to look for ways to enhance their sustainability initiatives, keeping the best interest of their students and staff in mind.

I could not have done this without goDCgo. I have had several check-ins where [they] provided me with resources about sustainability here in the District and how it relates to our families.

- Cindy Guerrero-Munguia, LAMB PCS School Transportation Coordinator

- EMPLOYEE PERSPECTIVE
  Listening to employees' needs and interests' is imperative to creating a successful transportation plan. Distributing commute surveys and talking to employees one-on-one is a great way to achieve this.
- CREATE A BASELINE
  Conducting an employee
  commute survey prior to
  implementing your sustainable
  transportation plan will provide
  you with baseline data to help
  measure the success of your
  efforts.
- START SMALL
  Implementing strategies that are low cost and high impact can help to gain leadership buy-in.
- work with godcgo
  godcgo's School Services team
  can help you identify your goals
  and recommend an effective
  transportation program for your
  school site.

goDCgo.com/school