



Welcome

to the
**10th Annual
Forum on the
Latino Community**

*Celebrating 10 Years of bringing
our communities together:
Latinos Thrive
when Partnerships Work*

September 11, 2024

Welcome



Welcome to our 10th Annual Forum on the Latino Community, where we celebrate our partnerships with community, agencies and organizations that serve and support our growing Latino population. We are honored to be in collaboration with so many of you who help us to improve services to our community.

Together we have created better access to culturally appropriate healthcare, formed partnerships to increase bilingual/bicultural staff among our educational institutions, and established leadership pathways for our youth and adults. Thank you! Yet our work continues...it requires a commitment to removing systemic barriers and implementing policies to institutionalize the changes that have advanced inclusion and equity. We ask for your continued commitment, courage and partnership to get us there.

Elisa Herrera

Founding Executive Director

Our Board of Directors

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Reyes Ortega, Ph.D. / Professor Emeritus, Sierra College

Sandra Reyes, Sr. Advocate / Placer County District Attorney's Office

Syrina Vásquez, Epidemiologist / Placer County Public Health

Event Program

BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Loren Nakai / Sierra Native Alliance

WELCOMING REMARKS & STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Elisa Herrera, Executive Director & Celina Salas, Deputy Director

BOARD INTRODUCTIONS

Ernesto Pineda, LLC Board President

A BRIEF HISTORY

Dr. Reyes Ortega, Ph.D.

PRESENTATIONS

Hermán Barahona, LLC Board Member & Moderator

PANEL 1: Intentional Partnerships that Improve Outcomes

Carol L. Shaneen, RN, MSN, ACM / Sutter Health

Dr. LaToya Jackson / Sierra Joint Community College District

Judge Colleen Nichols / Placer County Superior Court (ret'd)

10:00 – 10:30 BREAK / RAFFLE / SILENT AUCTION / NETWORKING

PANEL 2 : Courageous Strategies to Transform Systems

Dr. Rob Oldham, Director / Placer County Health & Human Services

Jennifer Hicks, Assoc. Supt. of Ed Svcs / Placer County Office of Education

Chet Hewitt, CEO / Sierra Health Foundation

PANELIST GIFTS

QUETZAL AWARDS PRESENTATION

LLC Board Members

CLOSING REMARKS & ANNIVERSARY CAKE

Hermán Barahona, LLC Board Member & Moderator

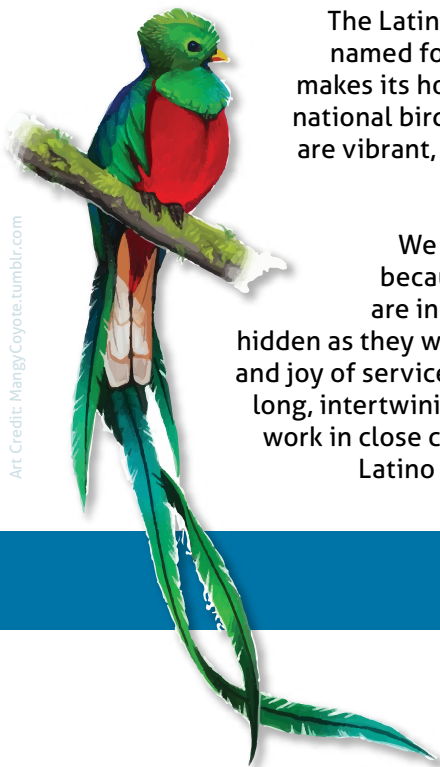
RAFFLE / SILENT AUCTION / NETWORKING

The Quetzal Awards

The Latino Leadership Council's Quetzal Awards are named for the elusive and beautiful Quetzal, which makes its home in Mexico and Central America and is the national bird of Guatemala. Although the Quetzal's colors are vibrant, the Quetzal is often camouflaged among the vegetation of its habitat.

We chose the Quetzal as our award namesake because like the bird, our Quetzal award winners are individuals and organizations that are often hidden as they work in the Latino communities, yet their love and joy of service to others shines brightly. Like the Quetzal's long, intertwining tail feathers, our Quetzal Award winners work in close collaboration with others to ensure that the Latino community is appropriately served.

Art Credit: MangyCoyote.tumblr.com



Past Honorees

Health Care Award Recipients

- 2023 – María Ramirez
- 2022 – Gladys Puente
- 2019 – Prep Médico
- 2018 – Gilberto Riojas
- 2017 – Gina Martínez-Díaz
- 2016 - Ana Liz Servín-Bancroft
- 2015 – Melody Quenzer, D.O.
- 2014 – Chapa De Indian Health

Education Award Recipients

- 2023 – Dr. Melissa Moreno, Ph.D. & Christine Mabery
- 2022 – Michelle Hill
- 2019 – Marcelina Zamora
- 2018 – Sandra Guzmán
- 2017 – Elizabeth Balmin
- 2016 – Antonieta Márquez
- 2015 – María Córdova
- 2014 – Rock Creek Elementary School

Youth Development Award Recipients

- 2023 – Mayra Plascencia
- 2022 – Pablo Bermudez
- 2019 – Placer Sheriff's Activities League (PSAL)
- 2018 – Sac PD Officer Lilia Vásquez
- 2017 – Indira Infante
- 2016 – Dan Beltrán
- 2015 – Placer County Children's System of Care
- 2014 – Youth Empowerment and Goals Association (YEAGA)

Quetzal Award Honorees

Health Care Award Honoree

Laura Logan, LCSW / Placer County Adult System of Care

Laura Logan is a bilingual Client Services Practitioner at Placer County's Adult System of Care, and is no stranger to "giving her all," having been in various volunteer roles since the age of 13. She brings a thorough understanding of the Latino culture, is compassionate and immensely resourceful. Time and time again, she demonstrates an ability to support the most challenging situations; a recent case involving a parolee who needed immediate medical services, was monolingual Spanish-speaking, illiterate, had an advanced case of prostate cancer and was experiencing a mental crisis did not faze her. Thanks to Laura's commitment and her extensive relationships and ability to influence, she found him shelter and extended medical care. That is but one of hundreds of examples of her diligence. Laura makes a difference in the community because she treats everyone with respect and dignity, even when those clients are under the influence and belligerent. She has great skills at diffusing situations because she focuses on the good within her clients. As tough as it can be to manage some cases, she is always optimistic, professional and compassionate as she supports clients and secures support from other partner agencies. She is cordial, generous, and a great leader and communicator who helps the team understand the goals, plans, roles, expectations and solutions. Above all, she is a true humanitarian. She has a BS in Human Resource Management, and an MSW from Brandman University.

Education Award Honoree

Elvira Covarrubias-Martínez, Interim Supervisor, RISING Scholars Program / Sierra College

Elvira Covarrubias-Martínez does incredible work to teach the Latino Community about educational opportunities and is a fierce advocate for equity. As a bilingual/bicultural community member working in higher education, she actively engages families and their students in understanding the many pathways to success and generates interest and enthusiasm for the college experience. She goes above and beyond to meet with families one to one to discuss their needs, connects them to bilingual resources and staff to help them enroll, and checks in with students and families to ensure they remain connected. She partners with the LLC to increase the percentage of Latinos/as enrolled in Sierra College, coordinating Sierra College staff to participate in numerous Spanish-language college tours for families. She is articulate, knowledgeable, passionate, kind and resourceful, and we are honored to present this award to her in recognition of her tireless work with the Latino populations. Elvira has a B.A. in Human Development & Spanish and a Master's in higher education with an emphasis in restorative justice and trauma informed care.

Youth Development Award Honoree

Alma Elizabeth López, Interim Director, Latino Center of Art and Culture

Alma López is on a personal mission to help transform her Latino community through belonging and strong cultural pride, which is evident in her extensive biography. Her career trajectory showcases her unwavering dedication to improving the health and education outcomes of youth and communities of color through art, culture, and community organizing. Today, she is a Youth Justice and Youth Leadership Development Consultant and currently serves as the Board Chair and Interim Director at the Latino Center of Art and Culture. She previously served as the Executive Director of Brown Issues, a statewide youth-centered leadership organization that cultivates the next generation of Brown Leaders. She brings more than 14 years of social justice-based leadership experience in community and youth organizing, campaign management, program development, media relations, event planning, group facilitation, and workshop presentation. She has more than a decade of experience in the nonprofit sector, and has held executive-level positions, managing strategic organizational functions and demonstrating her commitment to community empowerment. Alma is an alumna of the Women's Foundation California, Solis Policy Institute State Program, and New Leaders Council, Sacramento. She has previously served as a Parent Advisor at Luther Burbank High School, a Community Organizer for Sacramento Area Congregations Together, and a Policy Analyst with the Council of State Governments - West (CSG-West). A first-generation college student, she received her BS degree in Biological Sciences with a minor in Chicano Studies from California State University, Sacramento.

Panelists

PANEL 1: Intentional Partnerships that Improve Outcomes



Carol L. Shaneen, RN, MSN, ACM
Director, Care Management & Palliative Care
Sutter Health



Dr. LaToya Jackson
Director of Diversity, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Title IX
Sierra Joint Community College District



Colleen Nichols
Judge (red'd)
Placer County Superior Court

PANEL 2: Courageous Strategies to Transform Systems

Dr. Rob Oldham
Director & Health Officer
Placer County Health & Human Services



Jennifer Hicks, MS
Associate Superintendent of Educational Services
Placer County Office of Education



Chet Hewitt
Chief Executive Officer
Sierra Health Foundation



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Latino Leadership Council

2945 Bell Road #274
Auburn, CA 95603

(530) 320-5353

info@latinoleadershipcouncil.org

Learn more at

www.LatinoLeadershipCouncil.org

Refer families online at

www.LatinoLeadershipCouncil.org/referral

