

Hispanic Roundtable Meeting

January 28, 2010

Jose Diaz – HRT President
Kathy Baros Friedt – HRT Board
Veronica Bronkema – Labor & Industries, HRT Vice President
Jenaro Casteñeda - Retired
Paul Gallegos – The Evergreen State College
Delfina Gayle – Labor & Industries
Rechele Health – State Farm Insurance
Theresa Kimball – College Success Foundation
Debbie Kovacs – North Thurston Public Schools
Richard Lasso – College Success Foundation
Shawn Lewis – North Thurston Public Schools, HRT Treasurer
Denise Lynch – Summit Language School
Carmen Murphy – HRT Membership
Sara Peté – Olympia Timberland Library, HRT Secretary
Josefina Pilon – Saint Martin's University
Kathy Raettig – TOGETHER!
Ivan Rodriguez – CHOICE, HRT Webmaster
John Suessman – Lacey Police Department
Yolanda Valencia – Labor & Industries
Emilio Vela – DSHS, HRT Board
Eileen Yoshina – South Puget Sound Community College

Minutes from the November HRT meeting were approved.

President's Report

- Latino Youth Summit 2010 Planning
- The Evergreen State College will host this year's event on Tuesday, November 23rd
- We need a theme so we can kick start the fundraising.
- Themes for the 2010 Latino Youth Summit
- The following themes were suggested and voted on with the first one listed below receiving the greatest number of votes.

My actions, my community, my future – Mis acciones, mi comunidad, mi futuro
(got 11 votes, the majority)

Be the Change

I Can Change/Create My Future

One Step Leads to Many More

Every Journey Starts with One Step

Break the Chain

Don't Settle, Take Responsibility/Move Forward

We are the Leaders We've Been Waiting For

We Make the Road by Walking – Se hace camino al andar – Alberto Cortez

Be All You Can Be

- It was suggested that next year we have the students submit ideas in a contest.
- Pedro de Valdivia will be commissioned to work on the HRT artwork again this year.
- Netbook distribution
- Shawn will help us verify the students who won the two netbooks from Intel Corp.
- An article about this was written for the HRT newsletter.

Capacity Building

- We'd like to have a full-time paid position for an HRT director.
- We need to come up with a job description and try to work on getting the funds to pay for the position and this year's summit.
- A fundraising committee will be co-chaired by Jose and Paul and will include all interested.

Guest Speakers

Brian Wharton and Debra Kovaks from North Thurston Public Schools (NTPS)

- Brian and Debra came to talk about the state of the school district and to ask for help.
- The 5 major goals of the year for NTPS include engaging the community.
- NTPS has 1700 employees and almost 14,000 students.
- There are 850 teachers and 1850 classified employees.
- Goal: NTPS wants their school district workforce to better reflect the diversity of the community.
- They are searching for more people who might be interested in applying.
- It is a poor economy but the NTSD is still hiring, mostly year round.
- Brian and Debra talked about different services that can be provided to help applicants with the process.
- Debbie went over available positions.
- A lot of the jobs have support for education for staff members wanting to move, for example, from a paraeducator to a teacher.
- NTPS offers employees lots of ongoing training.
- There are also some incentives, such as paying for training.
- A discussion about compensation for those with language skills and the cost effectiveness of this occurred.
- It was pointed out that it's not just a language issue but also a cultural issue.
- North Thurston is the only school district in the county with its own HR department.
- Online application that can be done from home but applicants can also use the HR office. The HR department will also come out to groups and organizations.
- They are also on a constant search for student teachers.
- There are 12 people in the NTPS HR department, they can do resume training and coaching.
- Brian and Debra are interested in giving talks about employment opportunities.
- It was suggested that NTPS search for language skills as well as a demonstrated familiarity with whatever cultures they are hoping to include on staff.
- NTPS is currently building cultural competency teams at various job sites.
- Eileen suggested NTPS get connected with the career center at SPSCC if they weren't already.

Motivational Speaker suggestions for LYS 2010

- Additional suggestions are welcome but Jose would like to invite Consuelo and the young man she works with.
- Paul suggested we call Antonio Sanchez at KCTS to see if he has any ideas since he is very well connected.
- Jose asked everyone that they consider the fee a speaker will ask for while they are brainstorming ideas.
- There is a group of high school age artists from the Bronx, Latino and Black students, with artwork in museums all over the world. The group is called KOS, Kids of Survival and Paul suggested they may be a good group to invite.
- Jose wants to get a group together to look at our by-laws and make sure that everything is up to date and current.

Treasurer's report was handed out.

A vote was held and the treasurer's report was approved.

Theresa Kimball is now working with the College Success Foundation

- She announced the WA College Access Program
- Bringing together organizations that are working with students to get them into college and to be successful in college.
- The meeting will be held at the University of Washington HUB on March 9th in Seattle
- Our 5 counties are one region that will be discussed.
- There is going to be some grant funding to help build capacity or to hire.
- Emilio will be going to represent the HRT and LYS.
- It will be held from 8:00-4:00
- www.collegeaccess.org
- Registration code: KH2GO
- Registration opens February 1
- No Charge

Emilio will do a more thorough presentation at the next meeting about the Mentoring Program.

- How we can use IT and the website to implement the mentoring program
- Be the One mentoring event tonight at 4:00
- Emilio will be working with Jose who replaced Kristi Strup at Thurston County
- He has a meeting on Feb. 18th with Home Depot

Eileen Yoshina is re-starting a mentoring program at SPSCC

- Emilio and Olivia are helping to explain one-on-one to students how a mentor can help them.
- Connecting students with on-campus mentors

Emilio and Shawn and Paul and Jose will go over our by-laws the week before our next meeting. They are currently 5 years old and need to be revisited.

John Suessman talked about a grant application he found.

- The grant will go to projects that aim for diversity inclusion and integration as well as gang prevention and youth safety.

- Lacey Police Department and HRT could partner in the hopes of receiving this \$15,000 grant.

Hispanic Women's Network collaboration

- HWN received 501(C)(3) status a few years ago.

- Jo is the Treasurer and they have about \$10-15,000.

- They award 2 scholarships.\$1000 scholarships for students in high school.

- 3 scholarships for students at community or 4-year colleges

- They don't have the staff and support to continue meeting and existing.

- They need a newsletter, website and monthly meetings and they can't do that right now.

- So the money needs to be given away

- They'd like to partner with HRT so they can distribute the funds.

- We'll talk about this in more detail at the next meeting.

- Kathy volunteered to talk with Jo before the next meeting so they can bring a plan to the next meeting.