



**The Hispanic Roundtable**  
PO Box 6368 Olympia, WA 98507  
[www.HispanicRoundtable.org](http://www.HispanicRoundtable.org)

### **Hispanic Roundtable (HRT) Meeting – January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Jose Diaz – *Centralia Community College*  
Kathy Baros Friedt – *Community Member*  
Carlos Gonzalez – *Farmers Insurance*  
Alicia Luna – *WA State Commission on Hispanic Affairs*  
Steve McRavin – *South Puget Sound Community College*  
Cliff Moore – *WA State University – Thurston County Extension*  
Carmen Murphy – *UniVera Life Sciences*  
Sara Peté – *Olympia Timberland Library*  
Julie Carrasco Pietz – *Sacred Heart Church*  
Zoila E. Roberts – *Sacred Heart Church*  
Olivia Salazar de Breaux – *South Puget Sound Community College*

### **Approval of Minutes**

-Minutes from our November 29, 2007 meeting were approved.

### **President's Report**

-Jose gave a brief history of the Latino Youth Summit (LYS), for the new members present at this HRT meeting.  
--HRT started around 2002.  
--Cynthia Santiago who worked for the Thurston County Health Department got the HRT started and was one of the first leaders.  
--The HRT was formed because it was obvious that Hispanics/Latinos in the community were not getting the services they needed.  
--The HRT decided to focus on education because of the high drop-out rates for Latinos both locally and nationally and because it was necessary to focus in on one thing in order to make the most of limited resources.  
--The 5<sup>th</sup> annual LYS took place at Centralia College last year and had over 450 students.  
--Richard Santana, a.k.a. Señor Chocolate (Homeboy goes to Harvard) was our keynote speaker last year and he was very inspirational to the students. All of the evaluations received were very positive in terms of his speech which started the day.  
--Steve McRavin mentioned the College Success Foundation which is a Gates Foundation program. 16 high schools across WA State are a part of this program including Yelm High School.  
--The LYS covers 5 counties: Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston  
--This year's summit will be at South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC) on October 29<sup>th</sup>.  
---Steve will be the main liason at SPSCC and Olivia will be supporting his efforts. They both have a lot of experience with planning events and with the LYS.  
---Steve mentioned that he has at least 28 student volunteers who are going to school with a tuition waiver who have a certain amount of volunteering they must do and that they will be great volunteers and guides on the day of the summit.  
-The HRT would like to grow, but must do so strategically so as not to overtax our resources.  
-United Way update...

- they are currently starting their 2008 –2010 funding cycle.
- Jose has sent a letter of interest on behalf of the LYS and HRT.
- He has requested \$10,000 for the LYS and \$10,000 for a parent conference.
- We will probably start with a parent conference in one of our counties of service and then move it around so that we can go where the parents are instead of asking them to come to us over county lines.
- Alicia suggested contacting the office of the Ombudsman for monies for this sort of endeavor, as well as Janet Hayakawa who works for OSPI, and who is also the director of The Center for the Improvement of Student Learning (CISL).
- Jose is currently working with TOGETHER on a capacity building grant.
- Ivan has found a place where we can buy greatly discounted software because the HRT is a nonprofit organization.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Sean could not make it to the meeting.  
Carmen will get a report from Sean.  
It is estimated that after we buy the HRT laptop, we will have around \$8000 in the account.

### **Membership Coordinator Update**

Membership dues are due.  
\$25 for individuals  
\$100 for agencies/institutions/businesses  
\$500 lifetime membership  
You can download a membership brochure online at the HRT website.

### **Website**

- Ivan has uploaded some images from the 2007 summit onto the website.
- He will be working with Lilia to add some more pictures.

### **New Members**

- Carlos Gonzalez with Farmer's Insurance is interested in getting involved with the HRT and can help us with financial literacy workshops.
- Zoila and Julia came to visit from Sacred Heart Church in Lacey.
- Sacred Heart has a very diverse parish.
- Because they are a church many recent immigrants are more comfortable going to them then they are with going to a state or government institution.
- Sacred Heart has an international cookbook made from recipes from all over the world collected from church members that is for sale for \$15.00.
- Sacred Heart has masses in many languages including Spanish, Korean, and Tagalong.
- The church provides many services including economic assistance, a free clothing bank, a food bank, help with electricity, rent and insurance bills.
- There are at least 12 different ethnic communities served by the church.
- They provide a homeless shelter for both men and women.
- They provide language classes and help with becoming a citizen.
- They have had celebrations were up to 450 Hispanics/Latinos have come together at once.
- They do early education and preschool classes.

On March 14<sup>th</sup> Eunice Santiago is doing a Familias Latinas program.

## **WSU Extension – Intensive Language Classes proposal**

- The WSU Extension currently has 7 or 8 locations around the state where they offer intensive one-month long (Mon-Fri, 8 to 5) Spanish language courses.
- It costs about \$1000.
- Cliff's office is considering putting this on in Thurston County.
- Cliff wanted to know if we thought there was a need for this program.
- Usually they market these services to law enforcement, healthcare and education professionals.
- It was mentioned that many people would probably want to take this but it was just an issue of being able to take a month off of work and getting the financial support from their place of work.
- It was suggested that Cliff may want to market this program to those in charge of institutions who could grant employees the permission to do something like a month long program.
- They would need about 14 to 16 students to make it viable.

Jose is currently working with Dr. Karen Johnson of TOGETHER on a 5 year plan for the HRT in order to go for a capacity building grant.

Jose is also working with Big Brothers/Big Sisters on a mentoring project.

## **Announcements**

- Alicia Luna mentioned the Ethnic Celebration this Saturday from 10 to 7 at the WA Center, January 26.
- Sara mentioned 4 programs which will happen at the library next week.
- They will occur Monday to Thursday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
- Monday, January 28** – Civil Rights and the Japanese American Community
- Tuesday, January 29** – Bagpipes & Scottish Regalia
- Wednesday, January 30** - Olympia Peace Corps Experiences
- Thursday, January 31** - ESL students from SPSCC share their experiences
- Jose will be ordering a laptop for HRT in the near future.