

Letter from the President

In our first year as a non-profit corporation, the Hispanic Roundtable (HRT) has been incredibly successful in meeting some of the many challenges that face our Latino community. I would like to thank everyone in the community who has contributed and participated in making the activities of this past year possible. Because we always risk missing someone on a thank you list, I will simply say that as an organization with no paid staff-volunteers are the backbone of our organization and thanks are simply not enough.

I do wish to specifically acknowledge some organizations that were instrumental in our success at the Latino Youth Summit (LYS). These organizations that provided materials or services to ensure that our youth had a substantially successful experience in designing their destinies:

South Puget Sound Community College; WSU Thurston County Extension;
Centralia College; Hispanic Women's Network; Department of Labor & Industries;
Thurston County Public Health and Social Service Department; CIELO;
Washington Association Community & Migrant Health Centers;
CHOICE Regional Health Network; North Thurston Public Schools;
Timberland Regional Library; State of Washington Commission on Hispanic Affairs;
Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprises; City of Lacey Police;
Washington State Patrol; City of Olympia Police; City of Tumwater Police.

As the HRT enters its first year as a recognized non-profit, we will be faced with many exciting challenges and opportunities. In addition, have completed and submitted our application for recognition by the IRS as a 501 (c) 3 charity and we are in the process of organizing several standing committees to ensure that all the activities identified in our mission statement are carried out in a quality manner. For our current members, I want to thank you for your ongoing support and please continue coming to our meetings. For everyone else, please consider becoming a member and check our website www.hispanicroundtable.org for information on how you can help or make a donation to our organization. There will always be a seat for you at our roundtable!

With warmest regards,

Jose L. Diaz, President
Hispanic Roundtable