



THE OIC HERALD

QTR 3, 2024 | ISSUE 9



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OIC OF WASHINGTON

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The Mission is to help in the elimination of unemployment, poverty, illiteracy, and racism so all people can live with greater human dignity.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Dear OIC Family,

As the warm summer weather is upon us, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our journey so far and share some exciting updates and goals for the coming months.

Reflecting on Our Achievements

This year has been nothing short of remarkable. Here are a few highlights:

Project Success: Our recent project, OIC Excel Youth Center Phase 1 - Gym retrofit, has been a resounding success, including, but not limited to, the asphalt parking lot, concession stand – kitchen conversion and dry storage pantry, external paint refresh, among several significant cosmetic updates. Throughout the duration of the summer, we will install a new HVAC system, new basketball hoops, permanent bleachers, and more.

Innovation and Growth: We've launched our OIC Internship Program, which has already started making waves! The OIC Internship Program provides near or recent postsecondary education graduates to gain meaningful work experience in their field of study in our agency! To date, we have offered seven paid internships in the following fields:

- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Marketing and Communications
- Counseling and Case Management

This is in addition to our traditional Work Experience program, where we supported over 120 adults and youth to engage in employment training programs at partner business sites. We have paid over \$175,000 in stipends. To date, 641 students have received over \$990,000 in tuition and support, and 24 participants have engaged in On-the-Job Training. Job placement and retention rates exceeded our annual goals over this period.

Our refreshed Small Business support programs have flourished over this performance year. We have worked with over twenty partners, including state agencies, workforce development councils, and public and private sector partners, to offer support to 77 businesses, of which 49 (64%) were Black Indigenous and other People of Color (BIPOC).

We have successfully implemented our new educational and training technologies at three of four sites. Our Augmented Reality Laptops and Oculus (headsets) have supported numerous students with career exploration and educational enrichment.

Our secondary education and tutoring support continue to thrive. Over 50 students achieved their GED, and over 200 participants earned an Industry Recognized Credential.

None of the academic and career training success is possible without our support services and extensive outreach and recruitment efforts. We have continued to help individuals and families secure and maintain healthy homes, nutritional resources, and positive relationships.

We have supported nearly 200 households with Weatherization services and over 5,000 households with Energy and Utility Services, provided foreclosure assistance to 2,650 households, provided intensive family development training to 25 families, distributed nearly 100 resource packs and referrals to unhoused community members, and provided nutritional support to over 340,000 individuals through direct and subcontracted food distribution.

Team Expansion: This work is not done alone or in silos. We've welcomed 28 new members to our family, each bringing unique talents and perspectives.

Looking Ahead: As we move forward, we will focus on continuing this momentum. Here are some key areas we'll be concentrating on:

- Customer Experience: Enhancing our customer service and ensuring we exceed expectations through responses from our Community Needs Assessment.
- Employee Development: Invest in training and development programs to help you grow and excel in your roles.
- Celebrating Our Culture: We are comprised of many different cultures that make up our agency. We want to continue to celebrate our diversity through fellowship, education, and gaining understanding.

This summer is also a time to celebrate our company culture and affiliations:

- 60th Anniversary of Community Action – National Community Action Partnership – We will celebrate 60 years of Community Action at the 2024 Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington, from August 26 to August 30.
- OIC of America Visit – OIC of America - national affiliation - OIC of America is planning a visit to Yakima! More information to come!
- Community Outreach: Participate in our summer volunteer program to give back to our community, including the School is Out, Summer is Here event on July 18 and National Night Out in the first week of August.
- OIC Graduation: OIC will celebrate our graduation class of 2024 in August! More information will be shared soon.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your unwavering commitment and hard work. It's your passion and dedication that drive our success. Let's continue to support each other and strive for excellence as we enjoy the summer months.

Warm regards,

Anthony Peterson, CEO

AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

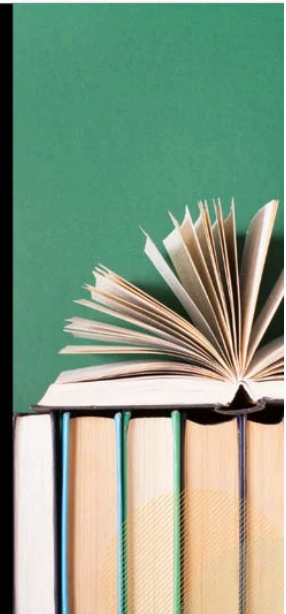
- The 100 Jobs for 100 Kids: Youth Job Fair was hosted on May 13th, and it was a massive success, with over 115 youths in attendance! They participated in mock interviews, received job interview tips, built resumes, had professional photos taken, and met with potential employers. Thank you to our sponsors, employers, and volunteers - your support made it all possible!
- In collaboration with The Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, we hosted the **Indian Child Welfare Act (I.C.W.A.) Listening Session** on Tuesday, May 14th. This event provided a platform to address and discuss child welfare issues in Indian Country since the Haaland v. Brackeen decision. For more information about the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, please visit www.dismantleddiscovery.org. To learn more about I.C.W.A., please visit www.nicwa.org.
- We participated in the Treaty Day Parade at Toppenish on June 7th. It was a great experience to be part of the festivities and celebrate this important day with the community.
- OIC of Washington is excited to release the **2024 Community Needs Assessment Survey**. This survey is a crucial tool for understanding the evolving needs and priorities of the communities we serve. Your input is invaluable! The information gathered from this survey will guide OIC's efforts and initiatives in the coming years, directly impacting the communities we serve. We are committed to serving our community better, and your feedback is essential in helping us achieve this goal. We encourage you to complete the survey. If you need help coordinating this, please get in touch with Sy Ruiz, Public Relations & Development Director, at s.r@oicofwa.org. Please take a few moments to complete the survey. Here's how you can complete this year's survey:
 - *Follow the Link:* Click on the following <https://tinyurl.com/OICCNA2024> to access the survey.
 - *Complete by Deadline:* Please complete the survey by August 2nd, 2024.
 - *Confidentiality:* Your responses will be confidential and will only be used to improve our services.

ALUMNI STORY ISIDRO OLVERA ZÚÑIGA

Isidro Olvera Zúñiga arrived in the United States at the age of 17, where he began working as a migrant agricultural laborer. His work took him to Washington during the Summer months and to Florida during the Winter.

In Mexico, Isidro's education was cut short after completing only two years of high school due to financial constraints and the distance of the school from his home. However, at the age of 35, Isidro learned about OIC's GED Program through a radio commercial. This opportunity motivated him to enroll in the program and pursue his GED diploma, showcasing his resilience and commitment to furthering his education and improving his prospects for the future.

Isidro's story serves as an inspiration to others, highlighting the importance of seizing education opportunities and never giving up on one's dreams.



Thank you to Merivet Lombera, El Sol de Yakima. Check out the full story by click [here](#).

MEET OUR NEW AMAZING TEAM MEMBERS!



**CARMEN IBARRA
GONZALEZ**
Accounting Clerk



TERRY COX
Outreach &
Recruitment Counselor



GABRIEL MENDOZA
Maintenance Tech 2



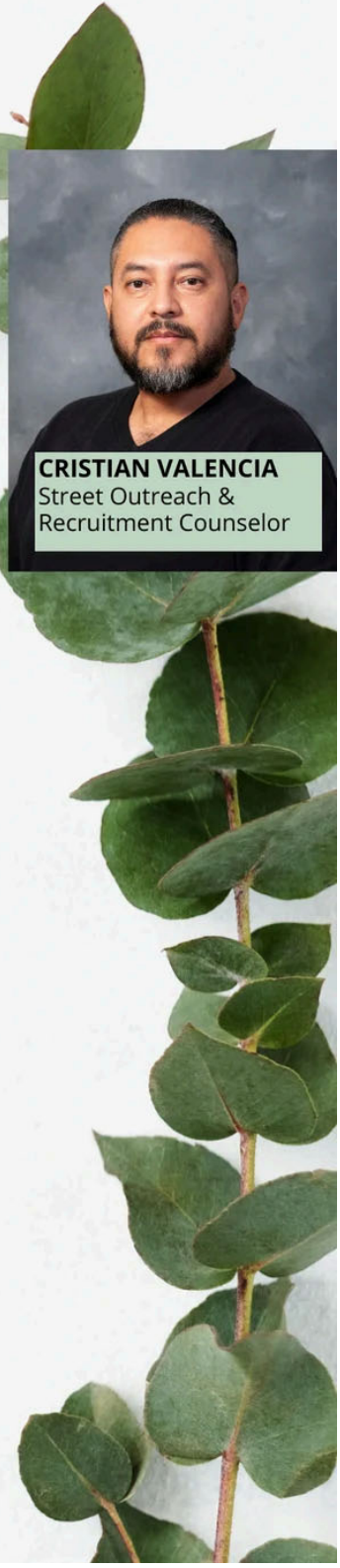
CRISTIAN VALENCIA
Street Outreach &
Recruitment Counselor



MIGUEL AYALA
Marketing &
Communications Intern



THATCHER WEEDON
Marketing &
Communications Intern



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

JULY WORK ANNIVERSARIES



ABBY SANCHEZ
2 Years



CASSANDRA OCHOA
22 Years



CELIA FLORES
1 Year



DAMIEN RODRIGUEZ
1 Year



DARRYLYNN REID-ALCAZAR
2 Years



JOSE SOTO
1 Year

AUGUST WORK ANNIVERSARIES



ISRAEL DELAMORA
19 Years



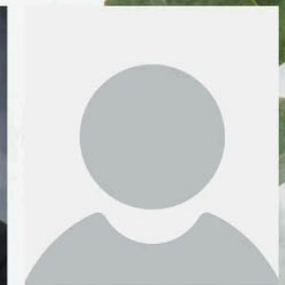
LISA ROSALES
7 Years



DAVID RIVERA
2 Years



JOCELINE URIBE-HERNANDEZ
2 Years



NATALIA CIPRIANO
2 Years



ANA MENDOZA
1 Year

SEPTEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES



**EDITH GODINEZ-L
EANO**
1 Year



FRANK NAVARRO
6 Years



ISIDRA SANCHEZ
12 Years



LETI TORRES
1 Year



**LORENA LOPEZ-
ROMERO**
3 Years



**YADIRA VELAZQUEZ-
ORTIZ**
7 Years



**YADIRA NAVARRO-
LOPEZ**
5 Years



YANELLI BENITEZ
3 Years



WE'RE HIRING

We are hiring for various positions. We are looking for people with lived and industry experience to provide high-quality and real economic development and career training programs.



To see the full list of open positions or to apply visit us at www.oicofwa.org/careers/



SCAN ME



OIC EVENTS

JULY

National Culinary Arts Month

4th: Independence Day

15th: Social Media Giving Day

25th: National Intern Day

Events:

4th: All OIC Offices Closed

18th: School is Out, Summer is Here

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4*	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST

National Wellness Month

Black Business Month

2nd: National Night Out Day

17th: National Nonprofit Day

Events:

1st: National Night Out Kickoff

TBD: OIC Graduation

SEPTEMBER

Hispanic Heritage Month

(starting on Sept. 15th)

2nd: Labor Day

Events:

2nd: All OIC Offices Closed

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2*	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Follow us on Social Media to get the latest update of upcoming events.



2024 COMMUNITY SURVEY

As a designated Community Action Agency for Upper Yakima, Grant, and Adams counties, OIC of Washington conducts a community needs assessment (CNA) every three years to identify the community's strengths, challenges, and available resources to address its needs effectively. Please complete this year's survey below by scanning the QR code:

Survey Link: <https://tinyurl.com/OICCNA2024>

For More Information :

✉ s.r@oicofwa.org

☎ 509-457-2926

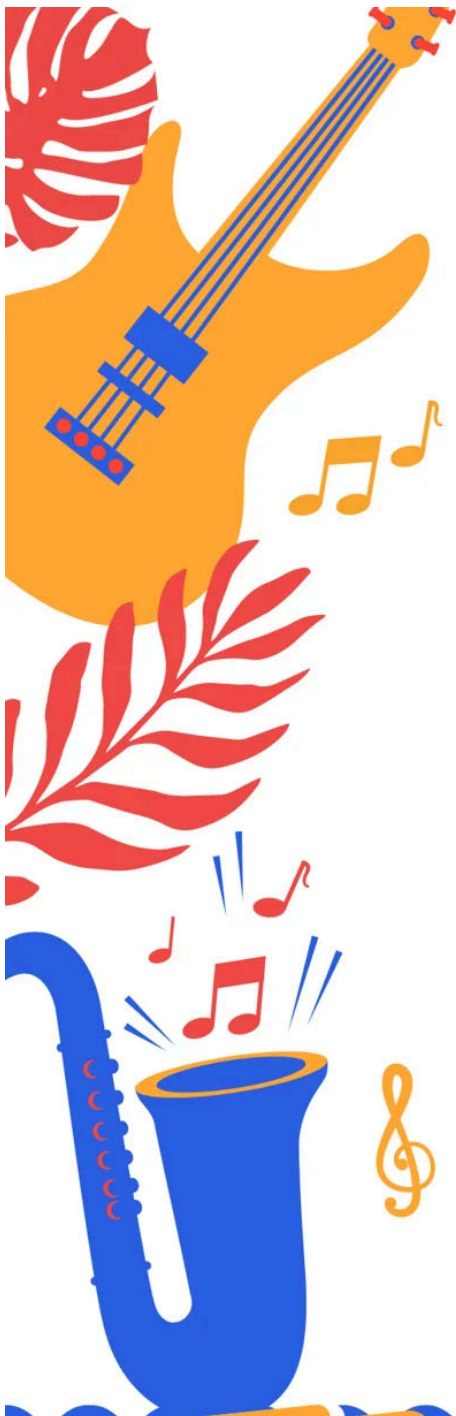
🌐 <https://oicofwa.org>

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TO COMPLETE THE
SERVEY



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TAKE THE SURVEY



SCHOOL IS OUT SUMMER IS HERE

♪ Music ♪ Food
♪ Community Resources

WE INVITE YOU TO BE A PART OF OUR SUMMER CELEBRATION! IT'S NOT ONLY A CHANCE TO ENJOY YOURSELF, BUT ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE AND CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY. COME AND BE A PART OF THE FUN!

Free event for all ages!



July, 18th @ 5:30PM
at OIC-Henry Beauchamp Community Center
1211 S. 7th St, Yakima, WA 98901





ICWA Listening Session on May 14th



OIC Banner going up at Tekuani Boxing Club as one of the sponsors.



Prep My Business Workshop on June 13th.



100 Jobs for 100 Kids on May 13th.



Healthy Youth, Healthy Family event on April 19th at HBCC.



AME performs at Juneteenth Celebration in Yakima. Picture - Evan Abell/Yakima Herlad-Republic



Family Engagement-
Painting with Seniors.



100 Jobs for 100 Kids on May 13th.



OIC Youth Participants trying the
Oculus Virtual Reality.



OIC CPR/First Aid Training at OIC Logistics,
Warehouse, & Food Distribution Training Center.



OIC presenting check to Tekuani Boxing
Club for an exciting partnership!



OIC of Washington, 815 Fruitvale Blvd, Yakima, Washington 98902, 509-248-6751

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