

THE O I C HERALD

OCT - DEC 2023 | Issue 5



Photo from: Harvest Festival Tri-cities

OIC OF WASHINGTON

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OVERVIEW

- A Message from our CEO
- Agency Highlights
- Alumni Story
- Meet our Amazing New Team Members
- Employee Recognition
- We're Hiring
- Upcoming Events
- Community Engagement

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



OIC Family and Friends,

I am so excited to enter the holiday season. I hope you had a great summer! Despite all that is happening in the world, we have so much to be thankful for as communities, partners, and agency.

As humans, we have and continue to: find common ground for opposing viewpoints, find ways to address health issues, identify solutions to unforeseen challenges, and embrace extreme and swift changes. All of which can cause an enormous amount of stress and angst.

However, we continue to band together to ensure that these circumstances do not permanently impede our ability and desire to love and appreciate each other.

Furthermore, as an agency, I am pleased to communicate, that we've undergone the hardest part of our realignment as an agency. I will highlight some of the transitions and messaging.

Who We Are: OIC is an Economic Development and Career Training Agency. As one of the 30 federally designated Community Action Agencies in Washington State, we strive to increase access to education, career, and asset-building opportunities. By adopting the OIC of America Sullivan Training Network principles, we prioritize our funding and efforts on services, programs, and outcome measures that build generational wealth and reduces poverty. Our mission, vision, and values remain the same.

Who We Support: We strive to support ALL people needing assistance through our Counseling Staffing model. We conduct initial assessments to pinpoint barriers and develop Individual Success Plans to guide individuals and families through Crisis to Thriving. We apply the funding program that fits the participant's profile and needs.

Where We Support: Our commitment to our communities includes providing quality and dignifying services and care. This includes our facilities and infrastructure. We have made substantial upgrades to our facilities such as relocating our Moses Lake Office to a secure and safe campus collocated with partners.

We have upgraded several of our Yakima facilities to make them more welcoming, safe, and healthy spaces. Notable upgrades include the Supportive Services Building, the conversion of the Construction Training Facility, bathroom, upstairs updates, and parking lot asphaltting at the Excel Youth Center and the Kitchen upgrades at the Henry Beauchamp Community Center. Additionally, we've upgraded our technology systems both educational systems and support software systems to increase access to secondary and career training education and efficient tracking and reporting. These tools will be deployed across our service areas in rural Central Washington.

When We Support: We are now open Monday through Friday between noon and 1:00pm and in some offices, from 7:00am to 6:00pm. Our goal is to ensure equitable access to our resources. We open on weekends for specific events and activities based on need and effectiveness.

These adjustments do not happen without conflict, confusion, or misunderstanding and because of that our administration team has assessed, reviewed, and heard concerns. And I am proud to report out that we are responding back favorably to ensure staff and our participants alike have greater access to our services in each one of our service territories. We will continue to adapt and adjust to meet the needs of our community while ensuring there are open lines of communication to hear and consider staff feedback.

We are entrusted with federal state and local resources and have made a commitment as an agency to work within our individual grant programmatic silos and move toward a whole person/family approach. We will help break the cycle of year-after-year service use. Our goal is to work with internal and external partners to transition individuals from extreme poverty and crisis to stability, to thriving, and ultimately to becoming alumni ambassadors.

I'm hopeful, by the second quarter of 2024, most of our systemic transitions will be completed, and we can focus all our efforts on providing high-level and effective programs in dignifying spaces to our community. In the meantime, please stop in and see us! We have something for everyone!

Thanks,

Anthony Peterson
Chief Executive Officer



AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

- We hosted the **School is Out, Summer is Here** event on July 13th where the community came together to have fun, engage with one another, and learn about what OIC does.
- On July 26th, OIC and 509 BIPOC-Owned Business jointly organized **BIPOC Licensing Day**. This event provided an opportunity for individuals contemplating the initiation of a business, newly established enterprises, and existing business owners seeking licensing or assistance. Business representatives provided free business counseling and assistance.
- We celebrated the **ribbon-cutting ceremony** to mark the reopening of our new office space collocated at the WorkSource Central Basin Building in Moses Lake. Furthermore, we are excited to inform you that our Support Services, currently based at the Hathaway Building off of Hathaway Street in Yakima, will soon be relocating to the former Veteran's Clinic off of Fruitvale Boulevard in Yakima. We anticipate making an official announcement regarding this move in the near future.
- On the 31st of July, we inaugurated our **38th Annual National Night Out** event with the purpose of saying goodbye to crime and drugs in our community. The event featured a range of enjoyable activities for all attendees.
- A total of 66 individuals successfully completed their studies and were honored during the graduation ceremony on July 29th. Among these graduates, thirteen have chosen to further their education at Yakima Valley College. Additionally, Ms. Verlynn Best was awarded the 2023 Alumni Award.
- 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, September 12th. This event provided a platform for a diverse range of voices and perspectives to be heard, resulting in an enlightening and inspiring dialogue. For more information about the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, please visit www.dismantleddiscovery.org. To learn more about ICWA, please visit www.nicwa.org.
- We are pleased to announce our commitment of **\$500,000** to the **Aquatic Center at Martin Luther King Jr. Park**. This generous contribution aims to support various activities that will engage the youth and promote an active lifestyle for seniors. Additionally, the center will serve as a secure environment for swim lessons and water safety classes. To learn more about the project or to make a donation please go to www.splashyakima.org.

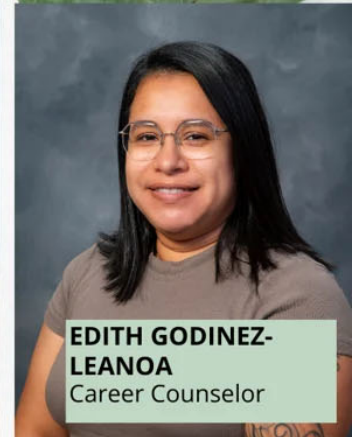
ALUMNI STORY CHRISTINE

Obtaining a Driver's License is considered an integral part of the traditional youth experience, so much so that it is often taken for granted. Social media platforms are replete with images of 15-year-olds receiving their permits and embarking on Drivers' Education every month. This milestone is celebrated with great enthusiasm as it marks a significant rite of passage in American culture. This moment is bittersweet, as it is associated with the youth's aging, increased independence, and eventual departure from the family home. While this is a highly anticipated part of adolescence, it is so commonplace that we often forget that not everyone has the same experience.

Christine, a 23-year-old mother of four, radiated with joy when she passed her driving test on her third attempt. She appeared more thrilled than when she passed her first GED subject test. She revealed that she is only the second person in her family's history to obtain a driver's license. This was no ordinary driver's license; it was the first time she felt like a part of "us." This license was one of the first steps in breaking the cycle of generational poverty and marginalization. It meant that she could transport her children without the guilt or fear that comes with driving illegally. It may have been the first time she experienced the feelings of pride, satisfaction, and relief that come from perseverance. Success is a powerful motivator.



MEET OUR NEW AMAZING TEAM MEMBERS!



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

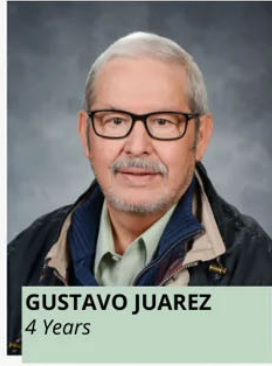
OCTOBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES



WHITNEY WIUFF
13 Years



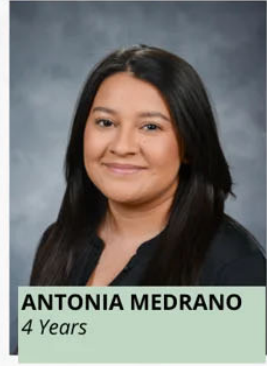
MAYRA LICEA
8 Years



GUSTAVO JUAREZ
4 Years



DORA CUEVAS
4 Years



ANTONIA MEDRANO
4 Years



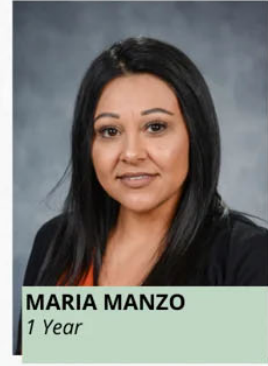
ERNESTINA ORTIZ
3 Years



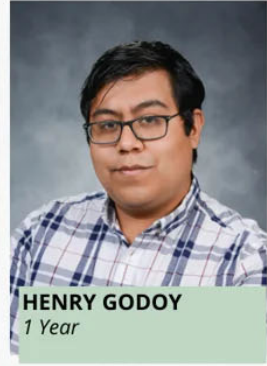
MARIBEL RIOS-DEASIS
2 Years



MITCH WEARY
2 Years



MARIA MANZO
1 Year



HENRY GODOY
1 Year



JOSELYN HERNANDEZ
1 Year



EILEEN CHAVEZ
1 Year



ANGELA VASQUEZ
1 Year



RAFAEL MORENO
1 Year

NOVEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES



KATRINA SCOFIELD
6 Years



IRVIN LUGO
3 Years



JASMIN ESPINO
2 Years



MARIA MUNOZ
2 Years



LAURA GOMEZ
1 Year



LUPE RODRIGUEZ
1 Year



LUISA PEREZ
1 Year



DILLION DE LA TORRE
1 Year



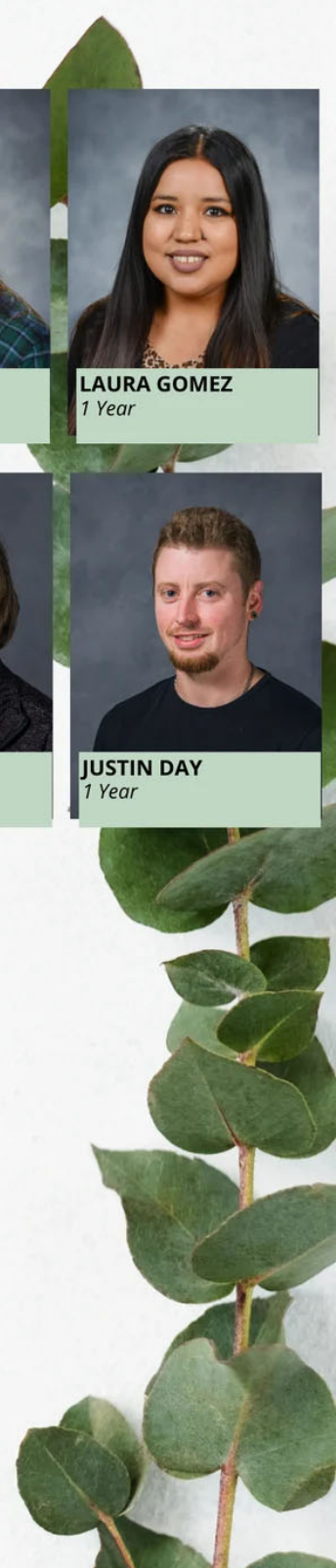
ANA MARTINEZ
1 Year



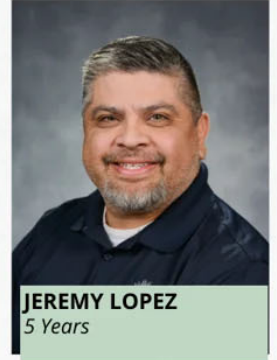
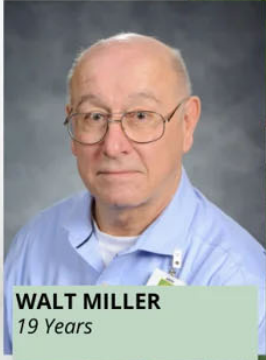
JUSTIN DAY
1 Year



JESSICA FASANO
1 Year



DECEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES



OIC EVENTS

OCTOBER

Hispanic Heritage Month (ends on the 15th)

Global Diversity Awareness Month

National Women's Small Business Month

National Learning & Development Month

9th: Native American Day

31st: Halloween Day

Events:

24th Every Vote Counts

24th Business Ignite Virtual Workshop

26th Harvest Carnival @ OIC HBCC

30th Trunk or Treat @ OIC Excel Youth Center

OCTOBER

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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

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| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

NOVEMBER

National Native American Heritage Month

National Gratitude Month

5th: Daylight Saving Time Ends

11th: Veterans Day

23rd: Thanksgiving Day

28th: National Day of Giving

Events:

TBD Thanksgiving Luncheon

DECEMBER

17th: Ugly Christmas Sweater Day

24th: Christmas Eve

25th: Christmas Day

31st: New Year's Eve

Events:

15th Annual Community Holiday Event - more info to follow

DECEMBER

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25* | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

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

*Closure in observance of a Holiday



WE'RE HIRING

We are hiring for various Part Time and Full Time 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.yvoic.org/careers/







Every Vote Counts!



**Tuesday, October 24th
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm**

**OIC Henry Beauchamp Community Center
1211 South 7th St in Yakima**
A non-partisan community education event

Bring Your General Election Ballot
Be an informed voter and learn more about:
District & School Board Candidates,
Bills, Initiatives & Referendums

English with Spanish Interpreter Assistance
Refreshments

BUSINESS IGNITE VIRTUAL WORKSHOP

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO IGNITE YOUR STARTUP BUSINESS



ABOUT THIS TRAINING

This **Virtual Workshop** will go over the following:



Your Mission, Your Vision.



Type of Business, how to apply for your business license.



Business Plan, Savings, & Funding.

PLACE & DATES:

WHEN: OCT 24th

TIME: 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

WHERE: MICROSOFT TEAMS

Email, call, or text for Virtual Link.

CONTACT:

Jeremy Lopez

P: 509-770-4372

E: j.l@yvoic.org



HARVEST CARNIVAL

5:30PM-
7:30PM

26 OCTOBER
2023

CANDY
BUCKETS FOR
THE FIRST 100
YOUTH

OIC HENRY BEAUCHAMP COMMUNITY CENTER
1211 S. 7TH ST, YAKIMA, WA

SPONSORED BY:



O.I.C.
OF WASHINGTON
Opportunities for a lifetime

**TRUNK
or
Treat**
**30 OCTOBER
2023**

4:30PM - 8:00PM

PERFORMANCE BY M-STATUS

OIC OIC EXCEL YOUTH CENTER
1009 N. 9TH AVE, YAKIMA, WA

SPONSORED BY:

OIC OF WASHINGTON PRESENTS

BASKETBALL League

YOUTH AGE
**KINDER-
8TH GRADE**

INFO MEETING
NOV 27TH
6:00 PM

PRICE
\$10

SCAN ME TO REGISTER

Now is the time to sign up for the Basketball League where youth get to learn how to play basketball.

Every child gets to play while making new friends and learning new skills!

QUESTIONS?
Contact Micheal Mendoza
509-864-7313 | m.meyvoic.org

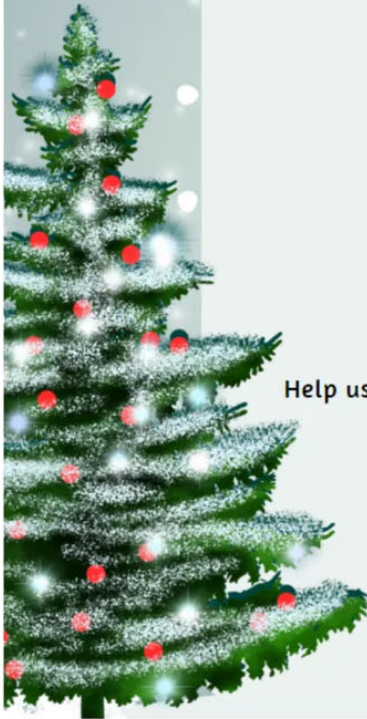
PRACTICE DAYS

OIC HBCC: Kinder to 4th Grade
1211 S. 7th St, Yakima, WA 98901
Mondays & Wednesdays | 6PM-8PM

OIC Excel Youth Center: 5th Grade to 8th Grade
1009 N 9th Ave, Yakima, WA 98902
Tuesdays & Thursdays | 6PM-8PM

OIC OF WASHINGTON

TOY DRIVE



Accepting Donation Through
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 08

Help us bring joy to kids in our community by donating
New, Unwrapped Toys to

OIC Henry Beauchamp Community Center
1211 S. 7th Street, Yakima, WA 98902

WHAT TO GIVE

Donations are accepted for children ages newborn to 18.
Only new, unwrapped toys are accepted.
Will not accept Gift cards, or toys resembling realistic
weapons.


For questions or more information
call 509.575-6114



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



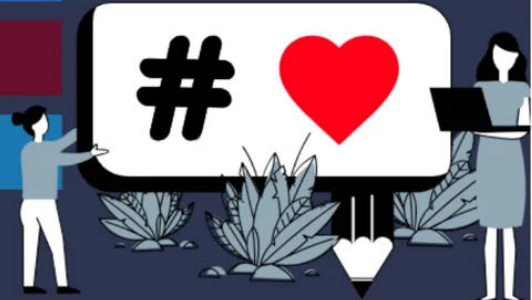
Let's get connected for our latest news,
events, & updates

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Washington Relay Service 1-800-833-6384 or 7-1-1.

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