



**LATINO EDUCATIONAL
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LETI Programs and Services

Jan - Apr 2025



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(425) 775-2688 letiwa.org facebook.com/letiwa.org

#	Category	Program	Contact
1	Education	GED Classes in Spanish	Samantha Avendano (206) 981-0024 samantha@letiwa.org
2	Education	English Conversational Class	Samantha Avendano (206) 981-0024 samantha@letiwa.org
3	Education	Introduction to College and Technology – Spanish Course	Samantha Avendano (206) 981-0024 samantha@letiwa.org
4	Education	Entrepreneurial Leadership and Business Development Workshop (ELD)	Rene Acevedo (360) 399-6541 rene@letiwa.org
5	Education	Latino Leadership Initiative (LLI)	Sarina Barrett (425) 610-9586 sarina@letiwa.org Andres Koteles (425) 321-7473 andres@letiwa.org
6	Education	Vocational School	Nelly Romero (206) 279-7673 nelly@letiwa.org
7	Education	Safety & Health Investment Projects (SHIP)	Tom Laing (425) 775-2688 tom@letiwa.org
8	Education	Spanish Financial Education Series	Nelly Romero (206) 279-7673 nelly@letiwa.org Yustine Saavedra yustine@letiwa.org



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#	Category	Program	Contact
9	Education	Financial Counselor	Josefina Carrillo (206) 531-8774 josefina@letiya.org Yustine Saavedra yustine@letiya.org
10	Education	NOAA "Restoration for All" Project	Marisol Bejarano (425) 510-8792 marisol@letiya.org
11	Education	INEA: Spanish Basic Academic Literacy Program for Hispanic Immigrant Adults	Felisa García (425) 321-7167 felisa@letiya.org
12	Education	Nuestro Aire- Nuestra Salud	Marisol Bejarano (425) 510-8792 marisol@letiya.org
13	Education	Rural Energy For America Program (REAP)	Rene Acevedo (360) 399-6541 rene@letiya.org
14	Health and Wellness	Total Wellness of Latino Women	Jazmin Herrera (425) 269-0954 jazmin@letiya.org
15	Health and Wellness	LETI Child Care Circles (Triple C)	Felisa García (425) 321-7167 felisa@letiya.org
16	Health and Wellness	Vaccine Access Support Services	Ericka San Juan (425) 775-2688 ericka@letiya.org
17	Health and Wellness	Protecting your Oral Health: Healthy Choices Initiative	Lia Matias lia@letiya.org
18	Basic Needs	Eviction Prevention Program	Andres Koteles (425) 321-7473 andres@letiya.org



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19	Basic Needs	Workforce Economic Security for All	Andres Koteles (425) 321-7473 andres@letywa.org
20	Basic Needs	Latino Resource Navigator	Josefina Carrillo (206) 531-8774 josefina@letywa.org
21	Basic Needs	Promotores: Community Volunteer Advocates	Rene Acevedo (360) 399-6541 rene@letywa.org
22	Basic Needs	Edmonds Food Bank Distribution	Ericka San Juan (425) 775-2688 ericka@letywa.org
23	Basic Needs	Nourishing Neighbors "Breakfast 4 All Kids" Campaign	Ericka San Juan (425) 775-2688 ericka@letywa.org
24	Basic Needs	Worksource Connection Site	Rene Acevedo (360) 399-6541 rene@letywa.org
25	Media and Cultural	LETI TeVe	Nelly Romero (206) 279-7673 nelly@letywa.org
26	Media and Cultural	Latino Performing Arts - Dance Group	Rene Acevedo (360) 399-6541 rene@letywa.org
27	Media and Cultural	Latino Performing Arts - Pre-Mariachi	Rene Acevedo (360) 399-6541 rene@letywa.org



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EDUCATION PROGRAMS

1. GED Classes in Spanish

Partners: Edmonds College (EC)

Edmonds College (EC) has contracted with LETI to conduct outreach and enrollment of Latino students into its Spanish GED program. This collaboration began in 2012.

A typical quarter at EC will require LETI to enroll a minimum of 15-25 students per course, with approximately five courses available each quarter. It is evident that without the assistance and recruitment accomplished by LETI staff and volunteers, some of these courses would be undeliverable as courses with insufficient enrollments would be canceled altogether.

This is the current GED Course List:

1. *Basic Reading and Comprehension*

This course enables adult learners to develop fluency, vocabulary, pre-reading strategies, text comprehension, organizational skills, and response techniques. It is also designed for them to have a successful transition to the Spanish GED® courses offered at this College.

2. *Reading with Social Studies*

This course allows adult learners to improve their reading skills while learning about the United States government, civics, geography, history, economics, culture, and society. It will allow them to prepare to pass the official GED® test for Social Studies.

3. *Advanced Reading and Writing*

This course allows learners to develop and utilize new advanced reading and writing skills with analytical and contextualized lessons. Students also learn how to develop persuasive essays in preparation for passing the GED® Reasoning through Language Arts test.



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4. *Basic Mathematics*

This course allows adult learners to learn and reinforce math skills such as operations with whole numbers; decimals; place value; rounding; ratios; rates; proportions; percentages; and fractions. The design of this course was made to prepare learners for the mathematical problems presented in everyday life and for them to successfully transition to the GED® courses in Spanish offered at this College.

5. *Intermediate Mathematics*

This is a structured course to help students improve their skills in operations with positive and negative numbers, rules of exponents, square and cube roots, scientific notation, solving PEMDAS, basic concepts of probability, and statistics, data analysis, and geometry. of two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects. This course allows adult learners to learn new problem-solving skills in preparation for passing the GED® Mathematical Reasoning test.

6. *Advanced Mathematics*

The intent of this course is to help students improve their skills in basic algebra concepts, solving operations with rational expressions, evaluating binomials and polynomials, factoring, solving linear equations, and graphing linear equations. This course allows adult learners to learn word problem-solving skills in preparation for passing the official GED® Mathematical Reasoning test.

2. English Conversational Class

Partners: *Edmonds College (EC)*

The English Conversational Class, also known as “LETI ELA”, is offered through Edmonds College (EC). ELA classes were designed specifically for adult learners recruited by LETI. The partnership with the Edmonds ELA department commenced in 2019, and the community has demonstrated a keen interest in this program ever since.

The class is typically assigned three courses per quarter (except in Summer, when no LETI Courses are available) and LETI is responsible for conducting outreach, creating marketing materials, and enrolling students.

A minimum of 25 students are required per course to keep the course active for enrollment. As of now, we have been more than successful in reaching our goal, having a waiting list for almost every next quarter.



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3. Introduction to College and Technology – Spanish Course

Partners: Edmonds College (EC)

Similar to the GED program and course offering, LETI began recruiting students and providing guidance in completing admissions applications. This course allows students to transition to college-level classes successfully and helps them find the support system they need while entering a higher education system.

Within the Introduction to College and Technology – Spanish Course, individuals learn about technology (such as creating documents, spreadsheets, presentations, etc.), are provided with available career and study options, and are supplied with financial aid information in higher education and learning.

4. Entrepreneurial Leadership and Business Development (ELD) Bilingual Course

Partners: Entrepreneurial Leadership Development (ELD)

“How to Start a Small Business” is a bilingual 11-week course presented by LETI and Entrepreneurial Leadership Development (ELD) (eld.global). Offered to the community twice per year, this workshop is now administered virtually to overcome barriers by reaching a wider audience and provides a 25% scholarship for those who qualify.

Every year our organization has witnessed new entrepreneurs emerge from this course and graduate ready to start their businesses, often with great success. This partnership began after observing a desire by Latino individuals to become entrepreneurs but lacked the correct tools and knowledge to start the process. With time and perseverance, we have achieved a successful course and look forward to many more.

Some topics covered in the course:

- Learn ways to innovate and encourage creativity in situations of uncertainty.
- Explore your strengths, design, and purpose.
- Define your product or service, identify your ideal customer, and clarify your unique value proposition.
- Learn the basics of marketing, pricing, and budgeting.
- Explore the principles of ethics, character, and leadership.



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5. Latino Leadership Initiative (LLI)

Partners: Edmonds College, Skagit Valley College, and the University of Washington Bothell

The Latino Leadership Initiative (LLI) aims to energize the Latino Community and expand the current leadership base in Skagit and Snohomish Counties. This initiative is done in partnership with Edmonds College, Skagit Valley College, and the University of Washington Bothell.

LLI encourages future Latino leaders to apply their innovative perspectives and approaches to solving community problems in a team setting. Through this program, leadership is seen by converting oneself into a spokesperson and defender of Latino aspirations, understanding the community's needs, and putting one's hands to the task when called to do so.

LETI requires students to collaborate on community projects to assist the community with real and tangible results, while attending seminars where they're met with the opportunity to network with Latino leaders in local government, education, and business roles.

6. Vocational School

Partners: N/A

Licensed under Washington State's Chapter 28C.10. RCW and with a Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) Approved Provider Number, the Latino Vocational School offers long and short-term certifications to private parties/individuals and L&I injured workers obtaining state-required retraining. With well-qualified bilingual-bicultural instructors, culturally appropriate educational instruction, and a low instructor-student ratio, we aim to assist students in crafting and achieving their educational goals.

The Vocational School currently offers the following certifications:

1. *Office Assistant Certificate*

This program focuses on providing students the required knowledge and skills for a successful career as an Office Assistant. Students will gain a strong background in computer skills, office skills, business communication, and customer service.

2. *Beginner Level Microsoft Word and Google Docs W/Certification*

This course is designed for students with little or no experience with Microsoft Word or Google Docs. It provides an introduction to the basics of this software while learning to successfully navigate both



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the Microsoft and Google suites. Amongst others, introductory topics include creating and saving documents, printing documents, text basics and formatting, and important features such as the Ribbon, Quick Access Toolbar, and Backstage view.

3. *Intermediate Level Microsoft Word and Google Docs W/Certification*

This course is designed for students who already possess a basic knowledge of these software programs. This course advances students to achieve intermediate level skills, understanding, and navigation of Microsoft Word and Google Docs. Amongst others, topics include creating tables, inserting shapes and pictures, applying styles, inserting comments, using track changes, and creating flyers, brochures and essays. The program is intended to give students some of the skills needed to work for small businesses and advance their careers.

4. *Bookkeeping Assistant Certificate (Program currently on HOLD)*

Program of basic courses designed for students with little or no accounting experience. The certificate teaches an introduction to basic accounting skills and business technology used by small businesses. The program is intended to give students the necessary skills in bookkeeping, taxes, financial software, and communication for employment with small businesses. The Bookkeeping Assistant Certificate emphasizes practical accounting theory and day-to-day skills used in the field. Embedded in the certificate is a thorough training in a leading accounting software package.

7. Safety & Health Investment Projects (SHIP)

Partners: *Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I)*

The Goal of the Safety and Health Investment Projects (SHIP) Program is to identify, fund, and assist with the implementation of safety and health projects that are designed to eliminate workplace injuries, illnesses, and fatalities. This grant program is made and entered into by and between the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I). In the past, we have worked with UW-Bothell, the Mexican Consulate Seattle, Las Americas Business Center, and others in creating and promoting our safety content.

We have established media relationships with Univision Seattle and Bustos Media for all FM radio in King, Pierce, Yakima, Skagit counties, and El Rey 1360. In addition to radio spots, LETI intends to resource digital media to reach a wider audience via LETI's various social and informative media platforms.



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8. Spanish Financial Education Series

Partners: Department of Financial Institutions (DFI)

This grant started in July 2023. The Spanish Financial Education Program is designed to build confidence and empower our clients to make informed decisions regarding their financial stability. Through a well defined plan of action and well prepared presentations both relevant and linguistically appropriate, our clients will obtain an abundance of knowledge and tools to ensure that, at the minimum, all of their basic/essential needs are met.

The Department of Financial Institutions protects consumers and advances the financial health of Washington State by providing fair regulation of financial services and educating consumers to make informed financial decisions.

9. Financial Counselor

Partners: Washington State Department of Commerce

Financial Coaching and Mentorship project to invest in communities disproportionately harmed by the historical design and enforcement of state and federal criminal laws and penalties for drug possession, including but not limited to Black, Indigenous, and Latino individuals and families.

We host financial education workshops on different topics including buying a home, building credit, financial protection, and retirement plans. This program gets promoted in our Eviction Prevention cases and Workforce Economic Security for All as well.

10. Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience NOAA's "Restoration for All" Project

Partners: Edmonds College, Snohomish Conservation District

Project funding provided by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

This program is part of NOAA's Grants for Underserved Communities. It offers an opportunity to advance advocacy and climate justice for local communities of color in Snohomish County.



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Edmonds College, the Latino Educational Training Institute, and the Snohomish Conservation District recognize underserved BIPOC communities and intend to use this grant opportunity to develop a technical program that both educates and prepares communities of color in the fields of environmental restoration and preservation.

This technical training program equips individuals with job readiness, program development, and management skills through practical experience in habitat restoration. As such efforts, it would comprise a two-quarter training plus a quarter of internship that, upon completion, would earn individuals state-verified certification and preparedness in coastal habitat restoration activities.

Such certification would open the door to greater income opportunities for BIPOC communities and address the lack of an established workforce within the coastal habitat restoration sector. In an effort to remain inclusive and accessible to all, this technical program would be delivered in a bilingual and hybrid format to reduce barriers for people of color within the Puget Sound region.

11. INEA: Spanish Basic Academic Literacy Program for Hispanic Immigrant Adults

Partners: *Instituto Nacional para la Educación de los Adultos (INEA)*

The National Institute for Adult Education (Instituto Nacional para la Educación de los Adultos - INEA) is a decentralized organization of the Mexican Federal Public Administration.

Among others, INEA has the purpose of preserving the Mexican education unit so that studies made in Mexican schools are accredited in the USA and other parts of the world.

INEA offers its services through Plazas Comunitarias (community spaces). INEA Plazas Comunitarias are educational spaces open to the community where free alphabetization services are offered to Spanish speaking individuals 15 years or older, no matter their immigration status. A great resource for adults that don't know how to read or write.



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12. Nuestro Aire- Nuestra Salud

Partners: *Department of Ecology*

The "Nuestro Aire-Nuestra Salud" program aims to educate Latino community members about the harmful effects of air pollutants on health and engage them in identifying local air quality issues. The program will take a two-phase approach, starting with a Planning and Design phase from February to April 2025. This phase will involve bilingual, bicultural educational sessions led by health experts, covering topics like pollution sources, health impacts, protective behaviors, and available community resources. Local Latino organizations, schools, and churches will help ensure broad participation. Participants will also receive a portable HEPA filter to improve home air quality.

The program will culminate in an Earth Day event on April 19, 2025, at LETI's Everett Campus, promoting awareness and connecting residents with health providers. The program will finish with a comprehensive report and community-driven strategies for improving air quality and health outcomes.

13. Rural Energy For America Program (REAP)

Partners: *Spark Northwest, Pierce Conservation District, Center for Inclusive Entrepreneurship, Community Energy Challenge, and Sustainable Connections*

The program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers may also apply for new energy efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing.

Funds may be used for the purchase and installation of renewable energy systems, such as biomass, geothermal, hydropower, wind generation, solar generation, and ocean (tidal, current, thermal) generation.

This program offers the following resources for farmers and rural communities:

- **Educate** farmers and rural communities about energy conservation options.
- **Technical assistance** to evaluate the viability of the change to energy efficiency and renewable energy.
- **Subsidy delivery** for state and federal grant and loan programs.



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HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS

14. Total Wellness of Latino Women

Partners: Hazel Miller Foundation

According to the United Nations, investing in women's economic empowerment sets a direct path towards gender equality, poverty eradication and inclusive economic growth. make enormous contributions to economies, whether in businesses, on farms, as entrepreneurs or employees, or by doing unpaid care work at home.

The United Nations Women act aims to end poverty by breaking the cycle of poverty and empowering women through enhanced social protection. Providing training, practical skills to empower women economically, and to give them a voice, aimed at income security, decent work, and economic autonomy.

Empowering women has a multiplier effect and enormous socio economic ramifications. What is true for families is also true for communities and, in the long run, for entire countries. When women thrive, all of society benefits and succeeding generations enjoy a better start in life. Research shows that every woman that we can educate will have a positive effect on a minimum of 3 other family members through network empowerment, emphasis and participation in their children's education, and creation of family wealth.

LETI created the Latina Wellbeing Network in 2015 in conjunction with WSU Latino Community Studies, CIE Pinchot, Goodwill, Familias Unidas, and the City of Lynnwood.

Thanks to the support of Hazel Miller Foundation, we were able to take the program into full operation in 2016. In-kind program partners included: WSU Extension Latino Community Studies, UW Bothell School of Nursing and Health Sciences, Edmonds Community College, Dr. Diana Morelli, Las Americas Business Center, and Sea Mar Mental Health.



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LETI developed the Bienestar Total de la Mujer Latina program to address the needs of underserved Latina women and mothers and deliver resources that promote health, family wellness, social connectivity, and financial prosperity. A holistic approach to health that recognizes financial health and education, as an equal component of a healthy family.

LETI plans to continue to provide our current Bienestar Total de la Mujer Latina program, as this program has become a gateway for connecting local Latinas to their community and the untapped resources available to them. The program is delivered in two 16 week sessions (Spring and Fall) with one presentation per week, two hours in length, via Zoom.

The Bienestar program uses the expertise and the available resources of the entire community in one location. We will continue to utilize RN to BSN nurse interns from UW Bothell to assist with program planning and evaluation.

Delivering multiple services to clients under one roof minimizes the critical time they spend away from their families and businesses while allowing us to be cost-effective and efficient. Therefore, it is imperative that efforts to increase overall education and access to resources, and more specifically educating.

15. LETI Child Care Circles (Triple C)

Partners: *Edmonds School District*

This program aims to create a cohort of 8-9 Latino mothers needing pre-k childcare services. A key outcome is that the mothers will trade childcare services for valuable time to empower themselves instead of paying for childcare.

The Triple C concept has four objectives:

1. Training. Provide the mothers with proper early-childcare training for them to provide consistent service and care to the children under their care
2. Childcare share. Create a quarterly rotation system so the mothers can share the childcare of their children
3. Time for self-growth. Provide time and opportunities for the mothers to attend courses, complete assignments or projects assigned to them, or work to increase their earning potential
4. Replicable model. Design a model that other institutions can eventually implement themselves. LETI will leverage the expertise of Edmonds College, the University of Washington, and the Edmonds School District to meet this need.



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16. Vaccine Access Support Services

Partners: Sea Mar, Safeway, Providence, Bird Eye, Verdant and Washington State Department of Health

This program initiative assists families in and around the Snohomish and Skagit counties with resource navigation and health information to promote the COVID-19 and other vaccines.

This program's outreach and support services partner with local community organizations such as Sea Mar Health Centers and Coordinated Care to deliver shots to families and PPE kit distribution to small businesses in Snohomish County.

Thanks to our partners, we were able to facilitate 60-80 vaccinations per week for multiple months during the Pandemic peak, thus affording access to many Latinos who would have had great difficulty receiving this potentially life-saving intervention. Concurrently, when PPE was scarce, North Sound gave us products to dispense to those lacking access or sufficient funds to afford these essential protective products. In summation of community outreach and engagement, the Vaccine Support Specialist had roughly 540 unduplicated encounters.

17. Protecting your Oral Health: Healthy Choices Initiative

Partners: Arcora Foundation

The Healthy Choices Initiative, led by LETI, aims to promote water consumption and reduce sugary beverage intake in the low-income, Latino communities of Snohomish and surrounding counties. This initiative also focuses on increasing access to nutritious food and educating the community about oral health. By combining the goals of the Arcora Foundation with a culturally responsive approach, the program will distribute Healthy Food Bags, which include nutritious snacks and oral health materials, and introduce healthier beverage alternatives like sugar-free options and xylitol gum. Workshops and outreach events led by trained advocates will further educate community members about the benefits of healthy eating and hydration. LETI targets reaching 500 individuals through this initiative, emphasizing the long-term benefits of improved nutrition and oral care.



BASIC NEEDS PROGRAMS

18. Eviction Prevention Program

Partners: *Snohomish County Humans Services Department*

Snohomish County's Eviction Prevention Program emphasizes permanent housing stability through extensive case management, where participants work with their caseworker to create and facilitate a client driven action plan. Along with case management services, households receive limited financial support to cover arrears and portions of upcoming rent, allowing participants to remain housed. Funding can be used for:

- Rent payments
- Utility payments
- Relocation/move-in costs
- Other housing costs

Households must be behind on rent and at risk of homelessness to be eligible, with priority given to those who've received eviction notices, 14 Day Pay or Vacate notices, court proceedings, and/or have not been approved for previous rent assistance programs through LETI.

LETI is contracted by Snohomish County as a By & For Partner to provide case management services to native Spanish speakers and community members identifying as Latino/Hispanic. As a By & For Partner, LETI is of the Latino community and serves the Latino community.

19. Workforce Economic Security for All

Partners: *Workforce Snohomish*

LETI has partnered with Workforce Snohomish to refer individuals and businesses to their EcSA, MISA, and business programs.



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- EcSA stands for Economic Security for All. Participants receive \$1,000.00 monthly stipends for making progress on career goals they set with case managers. Participants must be the following to qualify:
 - Eligible for legal employment in the United States
 - Under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level
 - Resident of Snohomish County
 - Eligible for WIOA Title IB
- MISA stands for Matched Investment Savings Account. Participants are matched 2:1 savings for up to \$20,000. Those receiving the \$1,000.00 stipends from EcSA can deposit their \$1,000.00 into this account and be matched 2:1, meaning they may receive a total of \$3,000.00 monthly. Participants must be the following to qualify:
 - Enrolled in EcSA
 - Below 100% Self Sufficiency at Enrollment
 - 18+ years old or Emancipated Minor

20. Latino Resource Navigator

Partners: Hazel Miller

This program helps immigrant families navigate resources available in the Edmonds School District and across Snohomish or the Puget Sound Region.

LETI's Resource Navigators counsel individuals to maximize the benefits offered by the services from local agencies and organizations.

21. Promotores: Community Volunteer Advocates

Partners: Verdant

This program has expanded our capacity to serve the community by providing COVID-related family support, access to resources and basic needs, providing food security, housing security, elimination of cultural and language barriers, and COVID vaccination education and enrollment assistance, all uninterrupted and necessary in maintaining a healthy family environment, promoting positive family communication, and reducing stress.

The key of this project is the involvement of well-trained Spanish-speaking volunteer "Community Promoters" further known as "Promotoras". Promotoras is a proven system used during the 2020 Census in Snohomish County. Well-trained Promoters will reach out to our community members to educate, recruit,



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schedule, and, most importantly, assist in completing the applications or forms required to access critical COVID testing/vaccines and family support resources, multiplying the effectiveness.

22. Edmonds Food Bank Distribution

Partners: *Edmonds Food Bank*

This program began during the Pandemic in response to the need for food for low-income families in and around South Snohomish County. Since the beginning of the food bank distribution with the Edmonds food bank, recipients of food orders continued to grow with bi-weekly order deliveries sent to the LETI building. Individuals who place orders for free food visit the LETI office on Tuesdays bi-weekly.

23. Nourishing Neighbors “Breakfast 4 All Kids” Campaign

Partners: *Safeway, Albertsons*

Through a fundraising campaign carried out by multiple local Safeway and Albertsons stores in Snohomish County, LETI was awarded \$42,743.66 to resume our former summer emergency nourishment project. This project allows us to provide \$50 gift cards (for food) to numerous low-income families, exclusively for those with children enduring hunger as a result of financial hardships, more specifically, the children in Snohomish County. Additionally, families who participated could register with LETI for additional assistance and referrals for family support, health, and educational programs. LETI is proud to join the fight against hunger by providing food security to as many children as possible within our reach.

24. WorkSource Connection Site

Partners: *WorkSource Snohomish County*

WorkSource is a valuable resource in Snohomish County that provides assistance to individuals seeking employment. They offer support in various ways, including helping clients create effective resumes that highlight their skills and experiences.

WorkSource also provides access to a wide range of resources that can aid in the job search process, such as resumes, job connections, and networking opportunities. The main goal is to help individuals find suitable employment by equipping them with the necessary tools and knowledge to succeed in the competitive job market.



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MEDIA AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS

25. LETI TeVe

Partners: Hazel Miller Foundation

LETI and the South Snohomish County community are very excited about the outcome of this pilot project. LETI TeVe has not only gained regular followers throughout the state of Washington, but we have also been able to reach and engage folks internationally.

Through this engagement, LETI has had people inquire and register for programs offered through LETI from both Eastern and Western Washington regions.

This program was formulated to combine entertainment and education for the local community with access to useful information and resources as needed.

On November 11th, 2022, LETI TeVe hosted its 1st-anniversary. LETI TeVe's program has invited various professional guest speakers and continues to receive inquiries regarding future participation and guest speaker requests. Excitingly, we aim to make LETI TeVe fully self-sustainable and profitable for its staff and organization.

26. Latino Performing Arts - Dance Group

Partners: N/A

The Folkloric Dances LETI, is a project that was run by volunteer professional Dancers, under the name of "LETI Mexican Cultural Dance Program", aimed to foster Mexican Cultural Awareness. This program will provide Latino families in Snohomish County with a culturally enriching performing arts program, it will be hosted at the LETI Triple C building over a 36-week series. This cultural enrichment and performing arts



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program will support and foster Latino American cultural awareness for any families within the BIPOC community, with special emphasis on low-income Latino children.

27. Latino Performing Arts – Pre-Mariachi

Partners: N/A

LETI Pre-Mariachi is running where members meet twice a week. This multigenerational program fosters cultural engagement and artistic expression. We have the group perform at different LETI events and community opportunities.