



Latino Educational Training Institute

6605 202nd Street Southwest, Suite 300, Lynnwood, WA 98036
Office: (425) 775-2688 Fax: (425) 778-8213 Website: www.letiwa.org

Latino Educational Training Institute Summary of Program and Service Accomplishments 2022

Educational Programs

GED Classes in Spanish

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.

GED Course List as Follows:

- 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.
- 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.
- Advanced Reading and Writing
This course provides an opportunity for 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.
- 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 have a successful transition to the GED® courses in Spanish offered at this College.
- 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.
- 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.



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English Conversational Class

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 class is typically assigned three courses per quarter (except in Summer, when no LETI Courses are available). 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. The partnership with the Edmonds ELA department commenced in 2019, and the community has demonstrated a keen interest in this program ever since.

Introduction to College and Technology – Spanish Course

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 this 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.

“Learn to Surf the Internet” Workshop

LETI provides free workshops where individuals can learn to use the internet through a mobile device or tablet. These workshops envision a pathway for individuals to realize their full potential and overcome any worries or fears concerning using technology or mobile devices. This workshop is flexible and has been administered to interested participants during operating hours. Recruitment and delivery of this workshop have been provided through the Latino Family Resource Navigator.

Entrepreneurial Leadership and Business Development Workshop

“How to Start a Small Business” is an 11-week course coordinator presented by LETI and Entrepreneurial Leadership Development (ELD). 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 five years ago 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.

Latino Leadership Initiative (LLI)

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 College, and the University of Washington Bothell. LLI encourages future Latino/a 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,



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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. All participating institutions emphasize community leadership, with special attention to assisting young Latinos in high school retention and graduation. 260 students from five colleges in four counties participated in our ten years of hosting this program. Their service projects benefited junior and senior high school students in Snohomish and Skagit counties.

Vocational School

Licensed under Washington State's Chapter 28C.10. RCW and with a Department of Labor and Industries (LNI) 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:

- Office Assistant Certificate
- Assistant Bookkeeping Certificate
- Beginner Level Microsoft Word and Google Docs W/Certification (Spanish Instruction Course)
- Intermediate Level Microsoft Word and Google Docs W/Certification (Spanish Instruction Course)

SHIP Program

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, and 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.

Basic computer classes and Zoom Workshop

This basic computer course is offered by LETI and the Mexican Consulate of Seattle, which provides BECAS (scholarships) to Mexican citizens who wish to obtain this training. Promotoras (volunteers) are a crucial component to students' successful enrollment and participation in this program. Once enrolled, students learn and apply their newly acquired skills in applications such as Gmail, Google Docs, Google Sheets, and the NorthStar certification in Basic Computing. Students also learn to use the Zoom platform effectively, both as participants and hosts, for personal, educational, or family needs.



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Health and Wellness Programs

Total Wellness of Latino Women

The *Total Wellness of Latino Women* program is held twice a year. Currently, this program completed the Winter 2022 and Fall 2022 series, which is set to begin on September 9th, 2022. In the Winter 2021 series, 107 individuals participated in the 16-week program. Our staff and a team of volunteers consider this program a great entry point to our services and programs as it allows participants to connect with a LETI staff member weekly while learning about all the resources available in the community.

LETI Child care Circles (Triple C)

This program aims to create a cohort of 8-9 Latino mothers in need of pre-k childcare services. The Triple C concept will have four objectives: (1) the project will provide the mothers with proper early-childcare training for them to provide consistent service and care to the children under their care; (2) create a quarterly rotation system so the mothers can share in the childcare of their children; (3) provide time and opportunities for the mothers to attend courses, complete assignments or projects assigned to them, or work to increase their earning potential; and (4) design a replicable model for others to implement. A key outcome is that the mothers will be trading childcare services for valuable time to empower themselves instead of paying for childcare. LETI will leverage the expertise of Edmonds College, the University of Washington, and the Edmonds School District to meet this need.

Advancing Health Literacy COVID-19 Related Programs/Services

LETI's Advancing Health Literacy COVID-19 Related Programs/Services is made possible through the partnership with the Snohomish Health District, Bastyr University, and Communities of Color Coalition (C-3). We aim to better understand the barriers to the health of community members through scientifically designed community surveys in multiple languages, appropriate training, and interventions and on-going work to increase awareness of optimal resources, testing and vaccinations for Covid. The purpose of the project is to demonstrate the effectiveness of local government implementation of evidence-based health literacy strategies that are culturally appropriate to enhance COVID-19 testing, contact tracing and/or other mitigation measures (e.g., public health prevention practices and vaccination) to Enhance Equitable Community Responses to COVID-19. Within the framework our accomplishments have been outstanding.

Vaccine Access Support Services and Outreach

This program initiative assists families in and around the Snohomish and Skagit counties with resource navigation and health information to promote the COVID-19 vaccine. As of 2020, 160+ individuals have been served with drive-thru flu shots. The outreach and support services provisioned through this program partner with local community organizations such as Sea Mar Health Centers and Coordinated Care to deliver COVID-19 drive-thru flu shots to families and PPE kit distribution to small businesses in Snohomish County. During our efforts to Advance Health Literacy in Snohomish County, the Latino Educational Training Institute (LETI) received the invaluable support of *Verdant* and at the same time, we were able to partner with *Safeway* in order to access vaccines for the Latinx community. Thanks to our partners, we were able to facilitate between 60 to 80 vaccinations per week for multiple months, during the Pandemic peak, thus affording access to many Latinos who would have had great difficulty in 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.



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Media and Entertainment Programs

LETI TeVe

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.

LETI Café

LETI CAFÉ is a business entrepreneurship program for Latina women living in Snohomish county, which has been developing for the past three years, turning into LETI's largest ongoing project. The specific emphasis is to improve the mental, physical, and financial health of local Latinas and their families by sharing culture through food. Participant students receive additional program benefits such as: obtaining a Washington State Food Vendor License and Permit, learning to develop a business plan, the proper use of a food labeling system, obtaining empowerment and business coaching, and more.

LETI Children's Choir & Dance

The LETI Children's Choir was created by our Volunteer Coordinator and led by a local elementary school teacher, artist, and volunteer of LETI who graciously donates her talent and time. Our choir of children comprises up to 20 children, all from our local community. Children have participated in presentations such as Autumn Concert, Las Posadas, Latino Expo 2022, and most recently, the Hispanic/Latinx/Chicanx History Month Celebration hosted at the Lynnwood Public Library. This program has been wildly successful and continues to be ongoing.

Rental Assistance (Program No Longer Accepting New Clients as of 03/2023)

The Rental Assistance program at LETI, comprises community members to provide services for community members and work in partnership with the Western Washington branch of Volunteers of America to distribute funds through the Treasury Rental Assistant Program (T-RAP), Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance (TERA), and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (E-RAP). Through the tireless efforts of LETI application navigators, \$3,080,001.76 of rent assistance was approved and distributed in 2022, and \$5.2 million of rent assistance was approved and distributed since 2020 for households across Snohomish County. This program is in partnership with Volunteers of America; however, those numbers represent what LETI was able to provide to the Latino community in Snohomish County.

Promotoras/Community Volunteer -Advocates Program

This program expands our capacity to serve the increasing and changing needs of our community during the pandemic and its lasting effects by providing COVID-related family support, access to resources and basic needs, providing food security, housing security, elimination of cultural and language barriers as well as COVID vaccination education and enrollment assistance, all uninterrupted and



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necessary in maintaining a healthy family environment, promoting positive family communication, and reducing stress. The key element that differentiates this project and the main concept for delivering services to the community will be the use 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, 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.

Housing Justice Project Legal Clinic

The Housing Justice Project (HJP) Legal Clinic is a program within the Snohomish County Legal Services (SCLS). The HJP Clinic has provided legal services and resources to struggling residents within Snohomish County dealing with eviction, housing discrimination, and other relevant housing issues that require legal advice and education. In partnership with LETI, the HJP Clinic provides individuals in South Snohomish County free legal consultations. These legal consultations have been held remotely and in person at the institution via scheduled time slots with Adam Wicks-Arshack, a bilingual staff attorney at SCLS. Mr. Wicks-Arshack offers legal advice to our Spanish-speaking clientele.

Edmonds Food Bank Distribution

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 the food orders continue 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. In 2022, we have placed and distributed 899 grocery orders and expect an increase in orders in 2023.

Nourishing Neighbors “Breakfast 4 All Kids” Campaign

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 a greater number of 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.

WIRF - Washington Immigrant Relief Fund Program (Program No Longer Accepting Applications as of 03/2023)

With a contract with DSHS LETI, was able to support the community by disseminating information on the program opportunity and qualifications, as well as the application process. This was a great economic relief for undocumented immigrants who could not receive stimulus checks due to qualifications. LETI was able to assist in the submission of 463 applications from September 19 through November 14th, 2022.