Latina Republic
2021 Year in Review
# Table of Contents

About Us .................................................................................................................. 3

¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program ........................................................................ 3

Fall 2021 Tutors ......................................................................................................... 7

¡Adelante Mamás! ...................................................................................................... 8

Family Resource Specialist Internships ..................................................................... 10

Responsible Fatherhood Workshops ......................................................................... 11

Immigration Resources ............................................................................................. 12

Future Journalist Program ......................................................................................... 13

Voces .......................................................................................................................... 21

Latina Republic’s Vision for the Americas ................................................................. 23

Central American NGO Alliance .............................................................................. 24

Latina Republic Special Events 2021 ........................................................................ 27
Latina Republic

Latina Republic is a 501(C)3 California-based nonprofit organization with a dual mission. Internationally, we partner and collaborate with Latin Americans working to improve and celebrate their societies. Through our Future Journalist Program, we are committed to improving the diversity and professional development of storytellers in the media industry as representation matters and affects the stories we tell. Latina Republic makes space for and empowers unheard voices and trains the next generation of leaders in the United States. Domestically, Latina Republic supports migrant, front line and underserved communities in California through its ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program, an educational and enrichment initiative that addresses the critical needs of youth of color in the areas of education, programming, leadership, and language education. These programs are an extension of our ¡Adelante! Immigration Program focused on filling the gap in information and resources vital to immigrant communities in the region.

¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program

Ava Gibler, Director of ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program

In the onset of the pandemic, Latina Republic sought to serve “the salad bowl” of California, by bringing education, language training, enrichment and resources to migrant communities in Monterey County. ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program (“Adelante” means, charge forward in Spanish) tailors educational and enrichment program support for the children of field laborers in Monterey County. As an organization, we address the critical needs of youth of color in the areas of education, programming, leadership, and language education for them and their parents. Our free, virtual tutoring program supports underserved students from elementary school through college. We also serve the language needs of our tutees and their mothers through ¡Adelante Mamas! Our program is an extension of our ¡Adelante! Immigration Program focused on filling the gap in information and resources vital to immigrant communities in Monterey County, California.

Latina Republic’s ¡Adelante! program was built to provide distance learning for learning communities that were challenged during the pandemic. The children of families who live in remote areas, experienced difficulties including little or no connectivity, lack of access to online educational assessment tools and teachers who
experienced challenges with the move from traditional classroom teaching to online environments. We launched a nationwide search for tutors to work with these students, met with families and schools and assessed their educational needs. We developed engaging tutorials that worked around the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic introduced in the lives of students. The initiative is tailored to K-12 students and adapted to learners with different learning styles and needs. The effort led to the creation of high quality online educational resources, and an online delivery pedagogy built to engage students through online learning. We hoped to do our part to stop the spread of the COVID-related learning gap from becoming a generational crisis.

**Who we Serve**

As an organization we address the critical needs of youth of color in the areas of education, programming, leadership, and language education for them and their parents. Our free, virtual tutoring program provides enrichment and academic support to underserved students from elementary school through college. We also serve the language needs of our tutees' mothers.

Our virtual program launched on March 3rd, 2021 and our first term concluded in June 2021. We then moved into our summer camp, delivering Math Club, Book Club, Piano Camp, and Art Camp followed by our Fall session. In March, approximately 65 families enrolled for our tutoring services and a waiting list was created.

**Deliverables**

We delivered 622 hours of tutoring and mentoring services, free of charge to the families from March 1st through June 1st, 2021. The summer series operated from June through August, providing 360 hours of summer programming. In August we launched our Fall sessions providing 920 hours of free tutorial and enrichment sessions through December 1st, 2021. In total our Adelante Virtual Tutoring Program delivered 1,902 hours of educational and enrichment tutorials in 2021.

**Approach**

Latina Republic's ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program and ¡Adelante Mamás! are part of an intergenerational initiative built to promote well-being of California's children and families. We use an intergenerational lens to combat structural education and economic challenges.

Through family-centered strategies we promote equity and access to resources and serve as a prevention partner and family strengthening organization. ¡Adelante! disseminates culturally respectful resources to empower parents and youth as a system-partner advocate for the families we serve.

Through our programs we build resiliency in families affected by poverty. ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program and ¡Adelante Mamás! provide strategic education and training to parents and increase supports especially for brown, indigenous, migrant and LGBTQ+ children and families, including rural communities and those who have been historically underserved and marginalized. The families we support have been adversely affected by persistent poverty, COVID-19 and migration stressors. Latina Republic builds resiliency in families. Our Adelante Programs promote positive childhood experiences that prevent adverse circumstances from rooting themselves in the community.
Goals

The ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program aims to dismantle academic barriers for migrant students in these communities and support the mothers through language and civics empowerment. The barriers to migrant students’ education include complex agricultural work hours and patterns that affect parental involvement in the children’s education, which in turn affects student self-esteem. Migrant parents want their children to have more, different and better opportunities than they ever had. Despite the myriad difficulties that besiege migrant children and their families, scores of them have been successful and with the right support, we believe this generation, too, can overcome the odds.

Leadership and Tutors

Ava Gibler is the Director of the ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program. Ava started with Adelante as a tutor. 16-18 tutors, 2 family resource specialists, and 1 ¡Adelante Mamás! instructor teaching English to mothers comprise Latina Republic’s ¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program.

Students’ Towns and School Districts

Students are from Greenfield, Salinas, and Soledad, all of which are located in Monterey County, California. In Greenfield, students attend Arroyo Seco Elementary School and Greenfield High School. In Salinas, students attend Everett Alvarez High School, Harden Middle School, Loma Vista Elementary, Madonna Del Saso Elementary, and Natividad Elementary School. In Soledad, students attend Frank Ledesma Elementary School and Gabilan Elementary School. 70% of our students are girls.

Tutorials

Each tutor meets with their tutees once a week for two hours. The first hour we focus on academic skill strengthening and homework. The academic hour emphasizes reading comprehension and math skills in addition to homework and personal development. The second hour is focused on enrichment. Our family resource specialists design individually tailored enrichment sessions based on our tutees’ interests and to help them dream of possible career paths and fields they have never heard of before. Our enrichment tutorials this year included:

- 7 Wonders of the World
- The Solar System
- The Ancient Roman Empire
- Australian Wild Life
- Environmentalism
- Overcoming Bullying & Stereotypes
- Diversity Appreciation
- Global Citizenship
- Reptiles
- US Presidents
- Animal Kingdom
- Applying for FAFSA
- So you want to be an Archeologist
- So you want to work as an Artist
- The world of Bears
- Birds and their Ecosystems
- Butterflies
- Building a Career Vision Board
- Community College or University?
- Adulting after high school
- Dinosaurs
- Ecology
- Egypt
- Fashion Across Time
- Shoes Across Time
- Oceanography
- Weekly Science Experiments
- Forensics
- Geography
- Building a career as a fashion designer
- Overcoming stage fright to become an entertainer
- Geography
- Geometry
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- Korea
- Careers in Robotics
- Owls
- Peacocks
- Flamingos
- Becoming an Entrepreneur
- Building your Own Business
- Social Justice
- Taking Action in Life
Our Amazing Fall 2021 Tutors

A majority of tutors in the program are from California, attending or recent graduates from the following universities: Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo; Pomona College; UC Berkeley; UC Davis; UC Riverside; UC San Diego; UC Santa Barbara; and UCLA. Four tutors reside outside of California and attend the following universities: Cornerstone University in Michigan, Florida International University, Temple University in Pennsylvania, and DePaul University in Illinois. Tutors majors include Anthropology, English, International Relations, Liberal Studies, Linguistics, Biology, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Spanish. Three of the tutors in this program reported that they are first-generation college students and one tutor reported that they are a DACA recipient. Almost every tutor is fluent in both English and Spanish, and a few are even trilingual. Every tutor is passionate about empowering Latinx youth and contributing to more equitable education in the United States. At the beginning of fall session, each tutor assessed their students’ strong points and struggles in each academic subject, along with their personal development. After the fall session concluded, each tutor completed the same evaluation to assess their students, along with providing additional information about their student and their experience participating in the Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program

Tutors Assessments

In the assessment, all tutors mentioned to some capacity that their student opened up and became more confident and assertive throughout the fall session. An increase in confidence, outspokenness, and/or input during sessions was observed in nearly every student as they developed a close and trusting relationship with their tutor. This strong tutor-tutee relationship enabled productive and effective tutoring sessions, and the benefits were observed in students’ academic progress across a variety of subjects along with personal growth. Many tutors noted that they have learned just as much from their student as their student has learned from them.

Due to this effective partnership, some of the younger students will ask their mother when they get to meet with their tutor each week. Additionally, many of the tutors of younger students have developed relationships with their students’ families. One of these tutors wrote, “The fact that his Mother is able to message me and tell me how she feels is valuable. Especially because it is important to have a good friendship with their Mother. Since both her and I would like to see her children continue to succeed.” (Y.).

While another wrote that the most valuable aspect of her experience in this program is “Connecting with the
tutees and families on a very personal level!” (S.). On the other hand, some families are not as present in their child’s academics. The tutors who work with a student from these families have stated that they are glad they get to provide their student with the necessary support that they would not otherwise have access to.

One tutor wrote, “The most valuable aspect is that this program isn’t just a standard tutoring program, it’s one that helps the kids who may need it most. That was something that especially spoke to me about the program; I love that I get the opportunity to help kids like [student’s name] who may struggle to receive help due to her family’s circumstances.” (M.).

Tutors who work with older students, especially students who are in high school, have somewhat of a different role in their student’s life, but it is just as effective and important. These are formative years that will directly affect and determine what route the student takes after graduating from high school. This program opens up opportunities for students to choose what they pursue after high school. Students that have strong academic potential may not receive the encouragement and/or necessary help to pursue higher education.

A tutor who works with a senior in high school made this powerful statement, “[Student’s name] has demonstrated a strong desire and drive to become an independent and dependable adult. [He] does not lack motivation or drive. It has brought me great joy to see how his personal goals have grown. Once set on becoming a construction worker, [he] now wants to receive his AA in a related field of interest. With the support of his school and hope to create a stronger foundation for his future, [he] decided to apply to local community colleges.” (M.).

This program facilitates a spectrum of positive short-term and long-term effects. Each session, students receive academic help that directly improves their grade on those individual assignments. This is observed over time through improvement in grades at school. For example, one high-school student went from having to retake several failed classes over summer school, to enrolling in an AP class and earning almost entirely As and Bs this semester. Another tutor was able to talk with her students about conversations her student had at school and how she defended herself against bullies.

Another tutor mentioned that sometimes she and her student will learn math concepts together. She described how it is exciting for her student to see that adults are still learning and it is fun to keep learning more. Another tutor described how through this program she and her student discuss social (in)justice topics that are not taught in the traditional school setting. All of these examples provided by tutors, along with many more, have shown how this program is working to create more equitable education opportunities for students in Monterey County, most of whom are children of immigrants from Latin American countries, or immigrants themselves. Most tutors reside in California, but due to this program being virtual, tutors can come from all over.

One tutor wrote, “When I applied I wanted to contribute to my community. Although “student” and I are not part of the same geographic community, I find fulfillment in supporting a fellow brown-migrant youth. In addition, this opportunity has enabled me to better understand how I want to feel in the careers I pursue.” (M).

These one-on-one long-term connections are proving to be transformative in each student’s academics and personal lives. This also allows students to connect with their academic work in culturally relevant ways, which
research has proven to be more academically effective for students belonging to minority groups. When asked what the most valuable aspect of what we do is, one tutor made this statement that encompasses the goal of this program: “I absolutely love the multiculturally geared company because it’s exactly in line with some of my deepest goals. I enjoy that we’re supporting minority communities and working towards equity in education in order to properly provide for everyone, instead of allowing the system to continue shorthanding kids and families who deserve help. Beauty in diversity is a deep conviction of mine, and being able to celebrate that while also encouraging individuals to focus in on themselves both academically and (especially) emotionally and mentally is incredibly valuable to me.” (G.).

¡Adelante! Virtual Tutoring Program has made incredible progress in each students’ life in just a few months. Unlike many tutoring programs, ¡Adelante! looks at the bigger picture and has tutors work with their students in both academics and personal growth to empower their students. The benefits of this have been observed in every student, each coming from a variety of age-levels and backgrounds, throughout the fall session.

**Latina Republic is thankful for our supporters without whom our work could not be possible:**

![Community Foundation for Monterey County](https://example.com/community-foundation)
![Ray Solem Foundation](https://example.com/solem-foundation)
![Resist.](https://example.com/resist)

**¡Adelante Mamás!**

Elena Gutierrez, Director of ¡Adelante Mamás!

¡Adelante Mamás! is a program designed by Latina Republic that inspires and teaches the Mothers who enrolled their children in our Adelante Virtual Tutoring Program. In conversation with the mothers who told us about their children’s needs, the mothers shared that they would really like a program to support their own needs, especially, to help them learn to speak English. Hence, we began English classes on July 5th 2021 with 16 Mothers enrolled in the course. Since July, we hold classes twice a week, once on Tuesday and the next on Friday in the mornings. We scheduled our class times to accommodate the Mamas’ busy schedules. Although one Mama was not able to attend our scheduled sessions, our director, Elena, holds special sessions for her on the weekends and practices new content one on one.
Each Mama has their own unique stories, many being Mothers would like to communicate in English with their children's teachers, want to understand everyday conversation, some lead unions for their communities and learning English would help them reach more members, and others apply their academic hours as educational hours toward requirements to legalize their status.

Many Mamas work full time jobs and even tune into our weekly sessions at work in the fields picking crops, in the kitchen at a restaurant they work at, in the car of a taxi they drive and at home with their babies. Evidently, every Mama makes the effort to show up to classes and demonstrate their commitment to their goals.

In the beginning of the course, every Mama had different levels of experience with English, some having some background knowledge and vocabulary while others were being exposed to new words and grammar structure for the first time. Using our course textbook, I was able to construct course syllabi for class content. So far we have completed 2 books’ worth or content, the first one highlighting the basics and guiding me step by step on how to teach the Mamas. Many of the Mamas purchased the first activity book to practice the content after we have talked about it in class. After we finished the first book on September 16th, we began our second book, this time with practice worksheets on grammar. Our grammar lessons range from pronunciation, sentence structure, vocabulary words and conversational dialogue for the Mamas to practice and get comfortable with speaking out loud.

We focus on content as well as putting the knowledge to the test with engaging activities like quizzes, games, fill in the blank worksheets and much more. To this day, the Mamas have learned everything from pronouns, grammar tenses like: past, present, future, simple and continuous tenses, singularity versus plurality, possessive nouns and even irregular versus regular verbs. In the beginning many Mamas were hesitant to do pronunciation and participating in interactive conversations out loud, but with practice and encouragement Elena helped create a safe and comfortable space for the Mamas to practice talking. Today, the Mamas are vocal and inquisitive and constantly ask for clarification on pronunciation. Many of them try the pronunciation on their own and are gaining confidence and independence in this aspect. They practice on the days we do not have class and they bring new vocabulary words that they’ve learned on their own as well. In class the Mamas are constantly conjugating and creating new sentences with the content we learn. Each individual Mama is thriving and making exceptional progress for their level. Their dedication and commitment for learning is truly paying off, their conversational skills and buildable knowledge is evident through each unit we complete together. As a group of women supporting other women, we continue to move forward towards our goals, Adelante!

¡Adelante Mamás! launched July 1st, to teach the mothers in the community to speak English. as a number of our mamas have chronic health concerns, like blindness, back pain, accident recovery. Dads are invited, too, but mostly the mothers of the tutees we mentor asked us to teach them English, so we launched our program and they tune in from wherever they are. Dads, too, care deeply about their children. We've had dad's “show” up virtually from the fields while sitting on a tractor.

¡Adelante Mamás! is our Parent Language and Leadership Program. Through weekly sessions our goal is to provide our families the gift of language and the development of expertise in a wide variety of English and literacy skills like speaking, listening, writing, and reading for living and working in the U.S.
Family Resource Specialist Internships

We partner with universities to provide service-learning opportunities connecting university students with the local community. We design active and participatory opportunities where service, research, mentoring, and reflection combine to provide experiences that improve cross-cultural communication for underserved populations in Southern California.

Family Resource Specialists choose from a variety of topics, including education, literacy, parent and family engagement, parenting, health care, self-sufficiency, healthy relations, communication, economic empowerment, immigrant integration, civic engagement and cultural appreciation to research, design and deliver bilingual presentations vital to the community’s health.

The Specialists design community assessments, engage in outreach, network and form partnership with local organization to create allyships for change. Through these activities, students develop a deeper understanding of the Latinx community and apply prior and new knowledge to help support the needs of the local community.
Responsible Fatherhood Workshops

Through its Responsible Fatherhood Initiative, Latina Republic seeks to empower Southern California fathers to improve relationships with spouses, significant others, their children and to reach self-reliance. We believe that integrated and empowered immigrant communities build stronger families and economies.

Latina Republic is helping fathers develop a set of behaviors that will help them become the best fathers possible through the National Fatherhood Initiative’s® (NFI) 24/7 Dad® Key Behaviors Workshop.

Latina Republic facilitates virtual workshops to help dads learn and apply the 12 key behaviors of a 24/7 Dad. The behaviors are associated with the five characteristics—or traits—of the 24/7 Dad (as identified in NFI’s evidence-based 24/7 Dad® Curriculum). Those traits are: Self-Awareness, Caring for Self, Fathering Skills, Parenting Skills, and Relationship Skills.

“NFI is excited about Latina Republic’s efforts to help fathers learn how to practice important behaviors of an involved, responsible and committed father through the 24/7 Dad® Key Behaviors Workshop,” said Christopher Brown, President of NFI. “Research shows that a major barrier to father involvement is a lack of skills in dads, many of whom grew up without fathers in their lives. At a time when nearly 20 million children in the U.S.—more than 1 in 4—live in father-absent homes, Latina Republic should be applauded for its efforts to help dads get involved.”

Latina Republic educates on the consequences of father absence, the positive impact of involved fathers on children, and the importance of promoting involved, responsible, and committed fatherhood. We highlight unique and irreplaceable contributions that fathers make in the lives of their children, and support men to be good and responsible fathers.

The virtual workshops are bilingual in Spanish and English. The schedules are flexible. To book a virtual workshop please email soledad@latinarepublic.com
Immigration Resources

**Adult Education**
- Benefits of Adult Education

**Immigrant Rights**
- At Risk of Deportation
- Know Your Rights
- Mexican Immigrants in the U.S.
- Mexican Institutes in the U.S.
- Public Charge – Does it Apply to Me?
- Solicitantes de Asilo

**Launching a Business**
- How to Launch Your Business: Video
- How to Launch Your Business: Worksheet
- Licensing – Food OC
- Mexico – U.S. Business

**Path to Citizenship**
- Road to American Citizenship
- Camino a la Ciudadania Americana

**Responsible Fatherhood**
- Responsible Fatherhood Press Release
- Keys to Being the Best Dad Virtual Workshops
Future Journalist Program

Vanessa Campa, Director of the Future Journalist Program

Latina Republic is a 501(C)3 California-based nonprofit organization that seeks to generate opportunities for college-aged students interested in beginning careers in journalism. We are committed to improving the diversity and professional development in the media industry. Latina Republic makes space for and empowers unheard voices and trains the next generation of leaders in the United States.

Through our Future Journalist Program, Latin American Correspondents (LAC) and Immigration Writers (IW), participate in our hands-on internship. We provide training programs that are individually tailored to university students and recent graduates across the United States interested in pursuing careers in journalism, diplomacy, nonprofit work, international relations and human rights. In 2021 we expanded our storytelling to include stories of entrepreneurship in Mexico and Environmentalism, its advocates and its challenges in Latin America.

Future Journalist interns work part-time, between 10-15 hours per week. Internships are competitive, and in many cases may be used to obtain college credit. Among our key milestones, since the inception of Latina Republic's Future Journalist program in May of 2020, Latina Republic has trained a total of 58 Future Journalists. In all, they wrote 277 articles, featuring original interviews and in-depth reporting and covered over 34 countries while developing critical experience working for a global organization furthering human rights and social impact through solutions-based journalism. We prioritize training of first generation journalists, and report on stories about immigrants, minorities, and communities of color across the U.S. and Latin America.
Future Journalists continued

Our journalists are first generation correspondents, including DACA recipients, and sons and daughters of Venezuelan, Cuban, Mexican and Honduran refugees. The stipends are life changing, allowing emerging journalists to receive economic support during their internships that alleviates the financial restrictions preventing them from reporting and developing journalistic skills and experience and covering stories that receive little to coverage in mainstream American news. Thanks to funding from the Gannett Media Foundation, Latina Republic was able to recruit and train 13 future journalists who did an exceptional job conducting original interviews and reporting on 123 stories on the following themes:

Stories of migration from Central America to the U.S.; detention of Honduran journalists; environmental challenges in Latin America and the courageous advocates on the ground, LBGTQ rights, marriage equality in Latin America; the intersection of migration and LBGTQ status; immigrant contributions to the economy in the US; obscure immigration laws that target black immigrants; honoring immigrant artists who beautify American cities; celebrating Latinx communities in the U.S. South; fighting to end food deserts in the US South; immigrant music, at risk youth of color and the organizations that assist them; Latinx diasporas, refugee services in the US; decolonizing the outdoors; refugee women’s networks, book and culture festivals; movements for democracy in Haiti, Venezuela, art and politics in Colombia; women for democracy movements; ending child labor in the fields, binational and bipartisan humanitarian efforts in the border; the family reunification task force; the Biden administration and immigration laws; DACA, Kids in Need of Defense; refugees in Chile, elections in Peru, Chile and Ecuador; diaspora conferences in th U.S.; Dominican Republic’s immigrants in the US work to achieve high
positions in government in the U.S; powerful Guatemalan women; vaccine distribution in Bolivia; Arab-American contributions to the U.S; Street Vendors in the U.S; politics of midwifery, Mexican art and patrimony; solidarity with Cubans; pollution in Mexico; fast fashion in Mexico; entrepreneurship in Mexico; vaccine distribution in Bolivia, Argentina’s abortion laws; bee conservation in Mexico; women entrepreneurs in Mexico, food delivery and COVID-19 in Mexico; corner store survival in Mexico; South East Asian Immigrant experience; farm worker legislation; deforestation and reforestation efforts of the Brazilian Amazon; indigenous land rights; turtle conservation; wild bird conservation; shark protection; amphibian protection; Machu Pichu and Peruvian patrimony.

Future Journalists 2021

Dashiel Allen

In Her Shoes: Stories Of Migrant Women
Honduran Journalist Detained After Seeking Asylum in The United States
Kamala Harris visits Central America, Pushes for Foreign Investment
Massive Nature Reserve in Paraguay Celebrates 30th Anniversary
It Took This Honduran Transgender Asylum Seeker Nearly 2 Years To Enter the United States
Chile Set to Pass Marriage Equality Law

Opinion: Do journalists extract words the same way corporations extract natural resources?

“It’s Like Trying to Put Out a Fire With a Glass of Water.” An Underwater Pandemic Poses An Existential Threat to the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef

“It’s Like Stepping Back Into the Closet:” LGBTQ+ Migrants and Refugees in Chile Need Protection

This Honduran Feminist Activist Has Been in The Fight For Over 40 Years
Authors and Booksellers Struggle to Make a Living In Honduras
Visual Language, Colors, Shapes and Politics in Honduras: The Case of Rojo Luna

Flor Chavez Barriga

Spirit of International Unity: How Immigrant Workers Helped Create the 1996 Olympics
“I Still Can’t Hardly Breathe,” A Deep Dive Into Georgia’s Stewart Detention Center
How Obscure Immigration Laws Racially Target Black Immigrants: The Guyer Rule
Yehimi Cambrón: Honoring the Immigrant Community in the South
Amplifying the Latino Voice in the South – The Latino Community Fund
Mariposas Rebeldes: A Queer Latinx Group and Their Fight against Food Deserts
Vanessa Campa

President Ivan Duque Becomes a Great Example to the World as He opens the Door for Afghans and Venezuelans to take Refuge in Colombia

Manuela Álvarez, Fashion Designer, Launches, “La Esencia,” Exalts Pride in Colombian Craftsmanship

Venezuela Makes History in the Tokyo's 2020 Paralympic Games

More Than a Million Venezuelans in Colombia requested appointments for the Second Phase of ETP

Colombia Once Again Ranks as the Most Dangerous Country for Environmental Defenders

Mexico Seeks to Consolidate CELAC as a Regional Benchmark

Haitian Migrant Crisis

Book and Culture Festival in Medellin, Colombia

Diáspora Y Desarrollo 2nd Conference: Dominican Women in Power

In Conversation with Diaspora y Desarrollo Author, Rodolfo R. Pou

Cuba Initiates Crucial Steps to Legalize Same Sex Marriage and Adoption

Bogota's Film Festival: Bogocine38

Joseline Peña-Melnyk: Top 100 Most Influential Women in Maryland

New York State Supreme Court Justice: Lourdes M. Ventura

They Are Exemplary Colombians. Here are the Winners of the 2021 Edition

Women for Democracy in Venezuela

Interview with Venezuelan deputy, Sandra Flores Garzon

The Scalabrini Foundation

Barbados Becomes a Republic
Nohely Diaz

Exploring Colombia’s Joropo Scene

Nevada-Immigration State Profile

Decades of Toxic Material dumping within Indigenous Peruvian Communities

New Mexico – Immigration State Profile

Colorado – Immigration State Profile

Tobacco and its Ties to Latin American Child Labor in the U.S.

The Road to Recovery: Human Trafficking Services for Latin American Survivors in the U.S.

---

Erica Drufva

Family Reunification – How Does It Work and Who’s Involved?

The Biden Administration’s Family Reunification Task Force: History, Partners, and Progress

America’s CHILDREN Act – Proposed Protection for Documented Dreamers

DACA in Need of Defense

United We Dream on the DACA Backlog and the Fight for a Path to Citizenship

Kids In Need of Defense (KIND) on the Fight to Reunite Families

Virginia-Immigration State Profile

Connecticut-Immigration State Profile

---

Hannah Fontaine

Bi-Partisan and Bi-National: Supporting Humanitarian Efforts Along the Border

Migrant-Led Advocacy with the Kino Border Initiative

Trauma and Activism on Los Dos Lados

Multimedia Reporting and Centering Subjects with Stories From the Border

Mexico, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago Take on Sexual Harassment on Public Transit

Ecuadorians Continue Fighting for Clean Water, Reparations After April 2020 Oil Spill

Symbolic and Structural Change Mark Pedro Castillo’s First Official Week as Peru’s President

Yavari Tapiche: The Peruvian Indigenous Reserve 17 Years in the Making

Cholitas Luchadoras: Empowerment Inside and Outside the Ring

Vaccine Distribution and Pandemic Prevention in Bolivia
Argentina Revisited 2018 Abortion Law in 2020: What Changed, What Didn't, and What are the Implications?
Mujeres Guatemaltecas: Powerful Guatemalan Women Changing History
Politics and a Pandemic: Peru's 2021 Election Cycle is Full of Surprises

Kimberly Gabriela Martinez
Legislation Updates for Farmworkers and Immigrants in California
The Young Latino Community of Rhode Island: RILA
Taking Over the Narrative: The Arab American National Museum
Permanent Residency as a Way Out of Limbo: National TPS Alliance
South Dakota-Immigration State Profile
The Southeast Asian Immigrant Experience: SEARAC
Oklahoma-Immigration State Profile
Michigan – Immigration State Profile
For the Community, From the Community: The Local Hearts Foundation
The Voices Behind One of the City's Most Important Businesses: Street Vending in Los Angeles
The Resilience of Brown Youth

Alfredo Moreno
Making Waves of Social Support & Progress in Puerto Rico: Interview with Wilfred Labiosa
Fostering Healing and Remembrance through Photography
Pangs & Pangs in Colombia: The Story of the Spring 2021 Paro Nacional
Nancy Ortega

Imaginary Journey into Oaxacan Art: San Martín Tilcajete
Parteras Mexicanas: CAMATI "Mujeres Construyendo desde Abajo"
Forum of Cinco de Mayo: Día Internacional de la Partera
Return of Feria del Libro Dominicano
If There is No Food for the People, Imagine for the Animals
Haiti Searches for Answers & Vows they will Get Through this, Too

Cuba: Libertad, Patria y Vida
Politics in Midwifery
Argentina's National Identity Document: “X” for Nonbinary
Solidarity for Cuba
World Attention: Haiti Earthquake
Writing For a Change: Jóvenes Escritores Latinos

Michael Davis

Toxic Breath: The Private Sector's Fight against Air Pollution in Mexico City
Working Together For a Greater Goal
From your Closet to the Landfill: Fast Fashion and the Fight against it in Mexico
Risky Business: The Success and Challenges of Running a Startup Business in Mexico
Back from the Dead: Día de los Muertos Stimulates Economic Growth in Mexico
From Food Delivery to Covid-19 Tests: Rappi Care's New Feature in Mexico City

That Stings!: The Decimation of Bee Populations and Importance of Conservation
Breaking Down Barriers: Female Entrepreneurs in Mexico Fight for Gender Equity
Small Corner Stores in Mexico Get a Makeover
A Long Awaited Opportunity: Private Businesses Are Now Legal in Cuba
Preserving Local Cuisine: PRoduce
Clara Rabbani

Indigenous Land Rights Under Threat in Brazil
Deforestation of the Brazilian Amazon
Reforestation of Brazil's Araucaria Tree
Defenders of the Amazon Under Threat in Brazil
The Tamar Project
The Battle Against Deforestation in Brazil's Atlantic Forest

A Recent Ruling Grants Justice to the Krenak People of Brazil
Aliança da Terra
The Amazon Conservation Team
Amigos da Terra
BR-319 Highway Threatens the Heart of Brazil's Amazon
Cemave: The National Center for Research and Conservation of Wild Birds in Brazil
Technology as a Weapon against Deforestation
Illegal Wildlife Trade
The Indigenous Brazil Nut Trade as a Tool for Conservation
Amacro

Sophia Turcott

Every Day is National Parks Day! But officially...
Exploring the World Sustainably-Ecotourism in Costa Rica
An Artist's Voice in Conservation
Sharing the Sea with Sharks
Preserving Machu Picchu
Amphibian Advocacy Protecting the Marsupial Tree Frogs of Ecuador

The UN's 2021 Glasgow Conference

Latina Republic is grateful for the Gannett Media Foundation support.
Voces

In 2021 Latina Republic fundraised in support of journalists in Central America and the Caribbean embarking on research and reporting on the damaging effects of COVID-19. This new initiative is called, Voces.

The pandemic has impacted the work of journalists in Latin America, as their stories and reports are needed more than ever. Latina Republic launched this journalistic initiative to support independent journalism in Latin America.

Thanks to donations made in support of our Special Events' Series, we were able to raise $900 to support our international journalists, Mauricio Caceres from El Salvador, Astrid Chang from Panama and Milton Turcios from Honduras.

Mauricio Caceres, El Salvador

The Impressive Peñón Natural of El Salvador
El Parque de Montaña, La Casa de Cristal, El Salvador
The Hyacinth of Lake Suchitlán blossoms in Suchitoto’s crafts
Portezuelo Adventure Theme Park, El Salvador
Little Antigua Guatemala, in El Salvador’s Suchitoto
The Historical Eco Hotel Mariscal reopens in all its Charm
Concepción de Ataco–Place of High Springs and The House of the Looms in El Salvador
Nahuizalco an Indigenous Town with a Rich History
Panchimalco Place of Flowers and Palms
San Salvador Celebrates its First Feria Nacional del Libro in the National Palace
Paseo El Carmen - A Tourist Destination in Historic Santa Tecla
The Military Museum of El Salvador
The National Palace of El Salvador
Route 66 of Santa Tecla in El Salvador
Capitán Hawk - A Magical Corner of El Salvador
**The Voces program** seeks to raise funding to support independent journalists’ documentation of recovery efforts resulting from COVID-19, and from natural disasters affecting Central America. Latina Republic believes that democracy thrives when people and communities are informed and engaged in their own recovery.

The pandemic has resulted in numerous Central American journalists’ layoffs. Community journalists in particular need help and at a time when communities are fighting to recover from the pandemic and natural disasters, these voices are more urgent than ever. They are the pulse of their communities.

Through this program, our goal is to generate revenue solutions to ensure journalists and their independent work have a sustainable future. Local journalists play a key role in leading and tracing recovery through preparedness, response and recovery.
Latina Republic’s Vision for the Americas

Latina Republic supports the Sustainable Development Goals

1. NO POVERTY
2. ZERO HUNGER
3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4. QUALITY EDUCATION
5. GENDER EQUALITY
6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9. INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13. CLIMATE ACTION
14. LIFE BELOW WATER
15. LIFE ON LAND
16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Central American NGO Alliance

ASOGEN

The Association of Women Generating Change legally represents 400 criminal cases, annually, in crimes of violence against women in the department of Chimaltenango in Guatemala. ASOGEN is an organization that advocates for the defense of women's rights. They work to end forced motherhood for adolescents, seek justice in femicide courts, and empower and shelter women on the road to healing and self-reliance. The situation for women in Guatemala, especially indigenous women, is increasingly dangerous. Due to machismo, the patriarchal system that exists and abuses of power, the rate of violent deaths of women has increased along with cases of sexual violence towards girls and adolescents. ASOGEN ensures safety, dignity, and rights for many Guatemala survivors of assault and abuse.

Representatives of ASOGEN accompany women to hearings in childhood and adolescent court, family court, and femicide courts. They walk alongside the women until their cases our finalized and there is a conviction for the offender. It can take several trials to pursue and win a sentence. To shelter them from danger, ASOGEN operates a temporary shelter for women and children who have no other safe place to go. This is a space where women receive individualized, psychological support, and comprehensive care. Each woman is supported by a multidisciplinary group of professionals including attorneys, procurators, psychologists, social workers, and doctors.

ASOGEN provides no-cost multidimensional support and empowerment for their clients including:

- legal assistance
- emotional healing
- social services
- support groups
- medical care
- shelter
- food

Chimaltenango, Guatemala

Located in the department of Chimaltenango, Guatemala with a population of about 96,985, ASOGEN is 35 miles from the capital.

Chimaltenango is known for the production of textiles and pottery.

ASOGEN conducts statistical analysis and presents evidence to stop the cycle of violence against women in Guatemala.

ASOGEN serves a large population of Kaqchikel Mayan
El Salvador

In El Salvador, the complexity of treatment required for children and adults living with multiple disabilities causes those living with multiple disabilities to experience exclusion from public schools, the workplace and other public sites. To make matters more difficult, El Salvador does not provide disability benefits to the families caring for children with disabilities, which puts incredible emotional, financial and medical stress on these families.

FUSSDIM's founder, Xiomara de Hernández, wants to make it easier for children with disabilities to access services by developing rehabilitative services across municipalities and supporting their families with emotional, group and technical support. Prior to FUSSDIM, children with disabilities had no service which offered educational opportunities nor advocacy for their specific needs and the caretakers in their lives. FUSSDIM has provided educational and community support programs so that individuals and families can enjoy the dignity they deserve. FUSSDIM has several strategies, projects and activities to foster a national commitment of inclusion for people and their families with disabilities.

The organization has been advocating for the rights of people with multiple disabilities and have presented their case in front of the legislative assembly of El Salvador.

Central American NGO Alliance

FUSSDIM

FUSSDIM - the first multiple disability rights Foundation in El Salvador was founded in 2014. In March of 2020, we entered into an alliance with FUSSDIM in order to write grant proposals on their behalf and connect with funders throughout the United States. FUSSDIM supports parents and families who are affected by deaf-blindness and multiple disabilities.

Unfortunately, the situation for people living with deafblindness and multiple disabilities in El Salvador is extraordinarily difficult as they are often excluded from public schools, the workplace and other public sites. Moreover, families and caregivers of peoples with disabilities are not provided benefits which puts incredible emotional, financial and medical stress on these families.

The Salvadoran Foundation for Deaf-Blindness and Multiple Disabilities (FUSSDIM) is the only foundation in El Salvador that rehabilitates and trains Salvadorans with multiple disabilities.

El Salvador

In El Salvador, the complexity of treatment required for children and adults living with multiple disabilities causes those living with multiple disabilities to experience exclusion from public schools, the workplace and other public sites.

To make matters more difficult, El Salvador does not provide disability benefits to the families caring for children with disabilities, which stresses families emotionally, financially and medically.

The Salvadoran Foundation for Deaf-Blindness and Multiple Disabilities (FUSSDIM) is the only foundation in El Salvador that rehabilitates and trains Salvadorans with multiple disabilities.

The organization has been advocating for the rights of people with multiple disabilities and have presented their case in front of the legislative assembly of El Salvador.
**ASOGEN**

Chimaltenango’s population consists of 80% Kaqchikel Mayan indigenous families, affected by lack of healthcare, education and employment. Economic activity for the region is based on 80% informal work, disrupted by the pandemic, placing indigenous women in precarious domestic violence risks. Average salaries prior to COVID-19 were 16 quetzales a day ($2.08). Amidst the pandemic, crimes of sexual violence, and femicides continue to register at alarming rates, including violence suffered by women with disabilities. Due to the global pandemic, ASOGEN has reported a rise in demand for their services, which are free. In 2021 Latina Republic was able to support ASOGEN in continuing to provide women and their children with much-needed services.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and members of our board, we donated $485 to Asogen for its shelter. We purchased mattresses, feminine products and clothing for the women and children in the shelter.

**Sustainable Development UN Goals we aligned with in helping ASOGEN:**

- 1 NO POVERTY
- 2 ZERO HUNGER
- 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
- 5 GENDER EQUALITY
- 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
- 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
- 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

---

**FUSSDIM**

Before FUSSDIM came along, the services offered to those living with multiple disabilities focused only on rehabilitation without an educational institution that knew how to work with this population's various needs, how to advocate for their rights, or how to support the caretakers in their lives. Rehabilitation and education are especially important in the lives of children with deaf-blindness. These trainings allow them to develop independence and autonomy so they can enjoy a life of dignity. Part of FUSSDIM’s advocacy work involves visiting companies, government offices and schools and demonstrating, through hands-on activities, what it is like to live without sight or hearing, or both and encouraging employers to consider hiring workers with disabilities. They hope to gain strength as an institution and have a sustainable impact over time by working out of their own building, continuing specialized training, and setting a precedent at the national level as a committed organization working to lower the exclusion rates in the country for this sector of the population. Latina Republic is proud to support FUSSDIM in their fight to raise awareness, advocate, educate and provide training for those living with multiple disabilities and deaf-blindness.

Thanks to the support from our donors and generous members of our Board we were able to raise $785 for FUSSDIM. All proceeds went To FUSSDIM’s teachers and families.

**Sustainable Development UN Goals we aligned with in helping FUSSDIM:**

- 1 NO POVERTY
- 2 ZERO HUNGER
- 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
- 4 QUALITY EDUCATION
- 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
- 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
- 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Latina Republic Special Events 2021

February 21, 2021 - **Film screening of “Voces Inocentes”**

March 14, 2021 - **Film screening of “Madan Sara”**

February 21, 2021 - **Photojournalism of Migrant Caravans**
Film Screening of "Voces Inocentes"

A los 12 Años Solo Quieres Vivir &
Q&A with Filmmaker, Oscar Torres

Sun, Feb 21st 2021
at 9:00 AM PST

Register:

About the Movie:
A young boy, in an effort to have a normal childhood in 1980’s El Salvador, is caught up in a dramatic fight for his life as he desperately tries to avoid the war which is raging all around him. This story is based on Oscar Torres’ childhood.

Filmmaker Oscar Torres
Writer and Producer of films such as “Voces Inocentes,” is the winner of more than 70 National and International awards.
Latina Republic Hosts a Special VIRTUAL EVENT

Celebrating The Women of Haiti

Film Screening of "Madan Sara,"
Meet The Women Behind The Informal Economy In Haiti + Q&A with Filmmaker, Etant Dupain

Sun, Mar 14th 2021 at 9:00 AM PST

REGISTER:

Opening the Event-Poetry by Haitian American poet, Belle La Poet

The Madan Sara documentary tells the stories of the indefatigable women who work at the margins of Haiti's economy.

This film amplifies the calls of the Madan Sara as they speak directly to society to share their dreams for a more just Haiti.
Hosts a Special Virtual Event

MIGRANT CARAVANS

A Special Virtual Event by Latina Republic

Sunday, May 9th at 9 AM
(Pacific Standard Time)

Awarded Photojournalist, Mauricio Caceres accompanied migrant caravans from Guatemala to the U.S on 4 occasions.

For our event, Caceres showcases his photography accompanied by his testimony of the lives and places traversed by migrants on the route to the American Dream.

Register here to attend:
https://secure.givelively.org/event/latina-republic/migrant-caravans-a-photojournalistic-