



# Alianzas Inclusivas: Empowering Families and Educators



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# *Reaching All Individuals and Communities to Establish Success in Language Learning (RAICES)*



*Raices* means roots in Spanish. Much like roots, the name was intentionally chosen to highlight the interconnectedness of language, culture and ways of knowing of family networks that are needed to grow successful academic achievement, language acquisition, and school-community partnerships. By acknowledging the interconnectedness, this grant team is guided in its choices by anti-racist, anti-bias philosophies and an asset-based framework specific to language acquisition, literacy development, culture, and community. The grant goals are aligned with these values, and it is expected that the participants, speakers, and other associates involved in the grant work also share these beliefs. The grant prioritizes play-based practices, promotes shared knowledge, and strives to achieve a power equality in the acceptance and celebration of community and caregiver expertise.

-Dr. Marisol Diaz (author and co-PI, RAICES grant)



# RAICES Overview



Four participant groups who receive stipends for their participation in the PD

25 In-Service Teachers

25 Pre-Service Teachers

8 EPP Faculty

25 Parents/Caregivers of MLL/EB Students

MLL/EB Students (PK-5)

4 all day long professional development experiences

Community PD sessions to celebrate culture of MLL/EB families

Parent sessions to provide resources for at home literacy

Pre-Service and In-service teachers  
Texas ESL certification preparation and support

Kermes- Language and Literacy  
Cultural Celebration for all



# Welcome to Our Community Sessions

Objective: Participants will cross cultural and language barriers to facilitate communication and build trust between teachers and parents.



# Welcome to Our Community Sessions



Our participants completing the same activity.



# Culturally Responsive Parent Recruitment

Step 1: Meet parents where they are

Step 2: Offer flexible scheduling options

Step 3: Start in a familiar space

Step 4: Ensure all events are child friendly

Step 5: Welcome friends and family



# COMMUNITY RECRUITMENT EVENTS

¿Por qué es importante aprender más de un idioma?









# PARENT RECRUITMENT EVENT

¿Por qué es importante aprender más de un idioma?



**"Hablar más de un idioma me ayuda mucho a mí porque mi mamá solo habla español. Algunas veces traduzco algunas cosas para ella."**

En mi opinión todos deberían saber más de un idioma porque si tú estás trabajando y solo sabes un idioma vas a necesitar tener otra persona para hablar con el cliente. Si estás en un lugar y una persona te pregunta algo en un idioma diferente que tú no sabes porque solo hablas un idioma; no vas a saber qué hacer. Saber más de un idioma me ayuda mucho para tener un trabajo y simplemente ayudar a alguien nuevo en mi área. Si tú vas a España y no hablas el idioma que ellos hablan; no vas a poder ordenar comida o tener el lugar que tu necesitas. Si tú sabes cómo hablar en ese idioma puedes ordenar comida y tener un buen trabajo. Si tú eres maestra y solo sabes un idioma, tú puedes aprender otro idioma o puedes tener a alguien que traduzca tus palabras. Si tú sabes dos idiomas, puedes ayudar más a tu comunidad. Haciendo que es malo saber solo un idioma. Saber más de un idioma me ayuda mucho a mí porque mi mamá solo habla español. Algunas veces traduzco algunas cosas para ella. Cuando está hablando con alguien que no habla español, cuando no puede hablar inglés, puedo ayudarlos. Hablar más de un idioma también me ayuda a hablar con mis amigos, porque los puedo ayudar. ¡Saber más de un idioma es como un milagro porque puedes ayudar mucho a tu comunidad! Hablar varios idiomas es como un milagro.

**Saber más de un idioma es como un milagro**





# DISTRICT RECRUITMENT EVENTS:







# Parent Leadership

# PARENT LEADERS



**¿NECESITA AYUDA DE EMERGENCIA?**

**Si está pensando en el suicidio, por favor comuníquese con:**

Línea para Prevención del Suicidio  
Lláme o envíe un texto al 988  
(TTY: Use el servicio de que prefiera o marque 711 y luego 988)

**Si necesita comida o un Casa**

Lláme o envíe un texto al 211, opción 8

**En Caso de Una Crisis:**

Mande un texto al 747471, sin costo, todos los días y a cualquier hora.

**Lineas de ayuda de las autoridades locales de salud mental:**

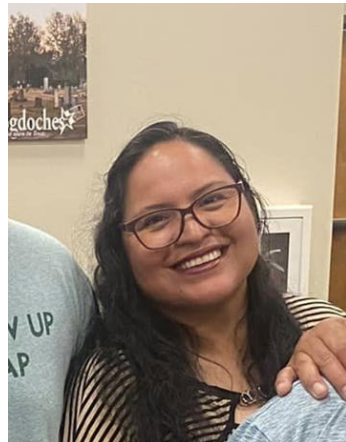
disponibles todos los días y a cualquier hora. Burke Center  
Nacogdoches County  
800-392-8343

**Línea Nacional de Tráfico Humano**

888-373-7888



When we asked our parents if they had things they would like to share with teachers and other families, Francisco was ready! Passionate about mental health support, Francisco provided a community session for parents and teachers on mental health resources that could be found online and in the local community.



Margarita, one of our parent participants, became a natural leader. She single-handedly recruited 5 additional parent participants and would regularly call or text to see if we need help. If we couldn't find someone we would call Margarita who inevitably knew their new phone number, or that they had lost their phone, or that they had no phone anymore but she could stop by and share updates with them!



# PARENT LEADERS



Another parent, Karina (in black dress on the right), works for a local city organization (Visit Lufkin) and presented a community session on the many family friendly entertainment options available for teachers and parents.



# Language & Literacy Kermes

Cultural Celebration meets Literacy Event



# Language & Literacy Kermes



Inmaculada is from Spain and wants her children to grow up valuing both cultures.



Our pre-service teachers are able to work directly with parents and children.



El Grupo Danza Folklórica performed at one kermes. (One of the dancers signed up as a parent participant for Cohort 2!)



The project connects our participants with bilingual authors from around the world to celebrate the variety of cultures represented.



Play-based learning is a key component for our children participating in the Language & Literacy kermes.



# Language & Literacy Kermes



Juan Gonzalez is a respected community member and banker in the community. He has attended every event. He has presented on financial impacts of home ownership, how to transfer a home into your name, how to open a small business, and what rights participants have.

He is also happy to complete the coloring sheets because it makes the kids smile.

We play Literacy Loteria during the Kermes. This is traditional Loteria (think Bingo) and adds bilingual references to local places of interest. Children, teachers, and parents all play together.





# Small group discussion & sharing

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- How can you incorporate parents as equal stakeholders in your program?

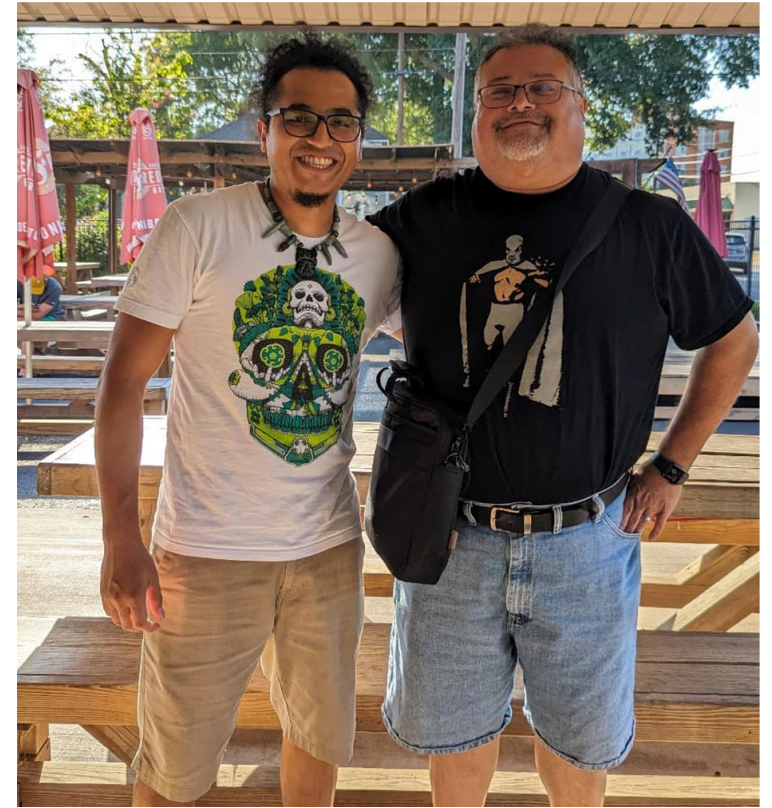












Enrique attends events to play Peruvian music during the Kermes. Xavier Garza was one our bilingual authors.

- Our social workers who present community sessions at each event: Catie Munguia & Carmie Paloma

- We have 3 translators on staff who ARE ALL RETURNING THIS YEAR! Mary Alexa was Mr. Tubbs's student in high school and is now working with the program!