

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. 2020-084

Proclaiming September 15 through October 15, 2020 as Hispanic and Latine Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Multnomah County has been home to people who identify as Hispanic, Latino, Latine, Chicano or indigenous from Mexico, Central or South America for over 100 years. In the 1920 census, 37 Mexicans were listed as living in Multnomah County.
- b. Latines in Multnomah County include people whose families have been here for generations and some of the newest members of our community. Latines in Multnomah County are among the fastest growing populations in Oregon and are estimated to make up 12 percent of our population.
- c. Latines in Multnomah County contribute to our culture and arts as singers, performers and writers. They help drive our small business economy as workers, owners and entrepreneurs. They enrich our academic environment as teachers, professors and engineers. They are driving social and political change as advocates, activists and elected officials. They ensure our health and community as nurses, doctors, caretakers and childcare workers.
- d. The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 has disproportionately affected Latine communities in Multnomah County. Individuals who identify as Hispanic comprise 12 percent of Multnomah County's population, but have accounted for 38 percent of COVID-19 cases in Multnomah County.
- e. Many jobs and professions that are classified as "essential workers" during the COVID-19 pandemic contain workforces with large numbers of Latine people, including but not limited to: medical professionals, teachers, grocery store workers, farmworkers, and other jobs that are critical to a functioning society.
- f. Multnomah County's own workforce is comprised of 10 percent Latine employees. The approximately five hundred Latine County employees allows us to better serve our community by bringing multilingual and multicultural capacity to our workforce.
- g. Multnomah County takes great pride in the growing diversity of our community and in the impressive and valuable contributions made by our Latine residents to the County's growth, prosperity and well-being.
- h. Latine Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the contributions that Latines in the United States have made to society and culture. This month, we honor the rich heritage of Latine communities and celebrate their countless achievements.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

1. September 15 through October 15, 2020 as Hispanic and Latine Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon, in recognition and celebration of the many contributions of Latines to the County and our community.
2. We call upon all residents of Multnomah County to celebrate the history and recognize the contributions of Latines to our community, state, and nation.

ADOPTED this 24th day of September, 2020.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By

Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson, District 3