



WASHINGTON IMMIGRANT NETWORK

WIN membership is open to all current and former Washington State Employees

washingtonimmigrantnetwork.org

Thank you for allowing me to serve these past three years as Editor and Chief of WIN's newsletter. It has been an amazing learning experience, and I am glad to have had the opportunity to work with such incredible people. It has been my honor to help promote WIN!



As of January 2023, Todd Baker will serve in this role. Please send any articles, stories, or news items to [Todd Baker](#) for inclusion in future newsletters.

Warmly, Colin Helsley

Message from WIN's Chairperson, Christina Pourarien



It has been an incredible honor to serve as your current WIN BRG Chair. Since July 2022, I continued to feel overjoyed by the amazing WIN members who have shared their desire and passion for improving our communities and creating a space where everyone feels they belong.

As another holiday season is approaching, I wanted to send a special message of thanks and gratitude for all of your support and hard work you have been doing and for all we have accomplished this last year. [See recap of WIN's 2022 Year.](#)

WIN's Mentoring Program Now Accepting New Mentees

Are you new to state service?

Are you seeking guidance on how to manage your career goals?

Do you need someone to talk to and share ideas with?

If yes, then [WIN's Mentoring Program](#) maybe a good resource for you. We have mentors from several state agencies from various ethnic backgrounds with varied expertise and experiences, including multilingual. You can view [WIN's list of eligible mentors](#) to see if there is someone whose career experience and background would be a good match. After reviewing the mentor's profiles, you can submit your mentoring request [here](#).



Questions about the Mentor Program? Please reach out to Joanne Lee, Past Chair & Mentoring Program Administrator at Washington Immigrant Network, at joanne.lee@des.wa.gov.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

WIN Membership Outreach Chair

The Membership Outreach Subcommittee oversees and manages WIN BRG outreach efforts through various agencies and communities. The team is responsible for coordinating outreach events and oversees all immigrant and allies' membership outreach and retention.

If interested please contact:

WIN@ofm.wa.gov

Seeking a Speaker on Sugar Mas

Labor & Industries (L&I) is hosting a events to learn more about cultural celebrations around the world. **On January 11 from 10 to 10:15am**, they will be hosting an event on [Sugar Mas](#). They are looking for someone who could share what Sugar Mas is about and the ways it is celebrated.

If you or someone you know would like to speak to L&I about Sugar Mas, please email Hannah Stoelb: Hannah.stoelb@lni.wa.gov.

WIN June 2023 Annual Event Planning Committee Volunteers

We are looking for members to participate in planning for WIN BRG June annual event. Please contact Sally Elliott, WIN co-chair at YOUS235@lni.wa.gov if you would like more information or would like to volunteer as part of the WIN 2023 annual planning committee.

Seeking Feedback from Thurston Co. BIPOC Business Owners

The Thurston Strong BIPOC Business Task Force would like to better understand the challenges BIPOC business owners face in starting and growing their business, why they decided to become entrepreneurs, how they achieved success, and opportunities to support BIPOC-owned businesses throughout Thurston County.

As community stakeholders and partners, you are in a distinct position to connect with specific BIPOC entrepreneurs in the community. As such, we are requesting that you take a moment to send the following link of our questionnaire to those whom it is intended for.

BIPOC Entrepreneur Questionnaire: <https://wcwb.typeform.com/to/uqggoDtv>



Do you have a story to share?

You can submit your immigrant story by visiting:
[WIN's Immigrant Stories page.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

WIN General Membership Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

12:00 PM 1:00 PM

General Membership is open to all current Washington State employees, including full-time, part-time, hourly, and salaried employees who are committed to supporting and advancing the mission of WIN.

[Click to join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 867 8744 7524
Passcode: 312248



WIN's Career Development Presentation:

Searching Tools for Better Opportunities

January 11, 2023 11am-Noon



[Register in advance for this meeting](#)

WIN's Informational Booth at the 2022 Governor's Equity Summit

Nadia Damchii, DSHS, Lorraine Lee, OAH, Phillip Muirhead, OAH, Christina Pourarien, ESD, and Sally Elliott, L&I

See all photos at: [washingtonimmigrantnetwork.org](https://www.washingtonimmigrantnetwork.org)



January 2023 Global Holiday & Observances

January 1
New Year's Day

January 4
World Braille Day

January 6
Epiphany

January 7
Orthodox Christmas

January 11
National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

January 16
Martin Luther King Day / Civil Rights Day

January 22
Lunar New Year

January 27
International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Get Involved with a BRG

WASHINGTON STATE BUSINESS RESOURCE GROUPS



[Statewide business resource groups \(BRGs\)](#) bring together groups of employees and their allies who have a common interest or characteristic. All BRGs have a charter, mission, goals and bylaws and contribute

to an overall statewide business strategy. BRG members bring their unique knowledge and perspectives, making them an asset to state business needs, such as recruitment and retention. (OFM.wa.gov/BRGs)

[See Business Resource Group Events Calendar](#)

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WASHINGTON
IMMIGRANT NETWORK

WHO WE ARE:

Support the professional development of immigrant state employees.
Recommend strategies to advance recruitment, retention, career progression and leadership development.

Educate state agencies on the experience, skills and knowledge of immigrants and the value of a diverse workforce.

WHAT WE DO:

Provide a support structure, educational resources and leadership assistance for immigrant state employees.
Encourage immigrants to consider the state as an employer of choice through inter-agency and external outreach activities.
Serve as a resource for the Office of Financial Management, State Human Resources division and state agencies in creating and sustaining a diverse and inclusive workforce.

[BRG Participation Policy FAQ](#)

Find us on Youtube.com!

Meet the Washington Immigrant Network [Leadership Team](#) and some of our wonderful [members and volunteers](#).

