

CENTRO IN THE NEWS

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Winter 2020 Newsletter

AGENCY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

THANK YOU MG&E!

Investing Agency Partners like MG&E are fundamental to the success of our work and provide support for Centro's programs and services at the deepest level. Learn more ab

out MG&E and their Living in Balance Initiative.

Learn more about Centro's Agency Partnership Program.



Centro's Career Pathways Program is Expanding

Centro is excited to be expanding its Career Pathways Program in 2020 with the addition of CAMINOS PROGRESO, a

new eight-week training program offered at Centro focused on providing crucial job readiness skills, and enhanced digital literacy skills needed for upward mobility in workforce.



CAMINOS PROGRESO is the newest development in our Career Pathways Program which already includes a Finance and a Certified Nursing Assistant track. PROGRESO will focus on developing transferrable skills and offer digital literacy and technology training to participants that they can utilize across different employment sectors and that can help them develop a sustainable and attainable career plan for their professional development.

CAMINOS Progreso will also include the following components: hands-on training, online assessments, hone leadership skills, self-assertiveness, and civic engagement activities. To learn more about CAMINOS PROGRESO and our other career pathway programs please click [here](#).

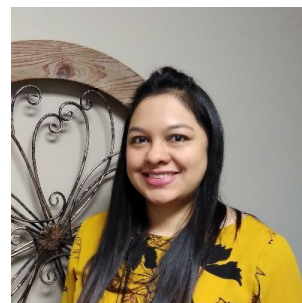
The CAMINOS PATHWAYS PROGRAM is made possible with the generous support of the United Way HIRE Initiative, UnidosUS, A Fund for Women and our [Agency Partners](#).

Q&A: Maria Paula Lujum, Centro Youth Programs Manager

In September 2019, we welcomed our new Youth Programs Manager, María Paula Lujum, to the Centro team. Maria Paula is a native of Colombia and recently relocated to Madison from Atlanta to join us.

What motivated you to work at Centro?

I am a person that is invigorated by initiatives or programs that have a purpose. Before moving to Madison, I worked in programs that involved inclusion, diversity from an equity lens with youth and Latino women.



I came across Centro's work through a common connection while working on Inclusion and Diversity initiatives. As I did more research and learned more about the organization's values and work, I got interested. I liked the holistic approach that Centro has, the work with youth and the community and I wanted to be part of it.

What are your goals as a new Youths Program Manager?

I believe in leadership, I would like to be a support for the staff and build a team with a defined purpose. We are here for the students, but I also want to develop an environment that is respectful/mindful of the well being of coworkers, especially the youth coordinators. I would like to keep building on the foundation that has already been established; and help guide students that are seeking new horizons.

What do you like to do outside Centro?

I like to travel. I like to be connected with people from around the world. I enjoy learning from those experiences. I also enjoy attending concerts and listening to podcasts and to know what is happening in other countries.

Would you like to add anything else?

I would like to invite everyone to be part of our Centro: **this is an open space and we welcome you with open arms. It is a perfect place because it feels like home and I work with people that inspire me.**

2019 Becas Program Award Luncheon Recognizes Youth Dreams and Achievements

By Shalicia Johnson & Jonathan Gramling

Writing for the Capital Times
Hues

Photos by Hedi Rudd
December 30, 2019



For many Latino and immigrant families, they are of limited means. Within their limited economic means, the families give the children every opportunity to pursue their American Dream, which almost always means pursuing academic excellence all the way to higher education.

On November 30, about 125 people attended the Becas Awards Luncheon at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery. Centro Hispano separated the awarding of scholarships — which it has done since the early 1990s — from its annual banquet so that more attention could be focused on the award recipients.

The Becas Awards Luncheon is the nice culmination of the hard work and academic focus that the students have maintained for years. Together, with Centro Hispano and other community resources, the students can take their academic game to the next level, in the warm, loving arms of their academic family. [Read more.](#)

Tres Reyes Celebration welcomes 400+ children and their families to Centro in January

The Tres Reyes Celebration was a perfect example of collaboration, teamwork, and love for our community. Although it only lasted two hours, the work of volunteers from different schools, churches and companies started months in advance and impacted hundreds of children and their families.



We would like to thank all of our Agency Partners, listed below, for their support . Your continuous support makes us stronger and all of the work that we do possible. Thank you to our in-kind donors who brought gifts, supplies, coordinated time to come to Centro, helped us wrap toys, volunteered hours before, during, and after the event.

Thank you, In-Kind Donors and Agency Partners!

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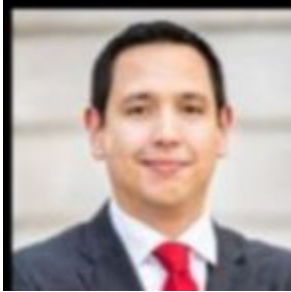


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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Strategic Update
Thursday, April 23
By Invite Only

31st Annual Celebration Gala
Saturday, September 19
The Concourse Hotel
6pm - 11pm

Central Park Sessions
Wednesday, August 19
202 South Ingersoll Street
5pm - 10pm

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Consider supporting the work we do by making a gift to Centro. Explore our different giving opportunities.

Together we CAN make a difference!

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2020 Census: You matter in the count.

*The **2020 Census is coming in March!** To learn more about the census and why a complete count is important, visit cityofmadison.com/2020Census #MadisonCounts #2020Census*

Your support at any level makes a difference. Gracias!

Local “Support Puerto Rico” Effort Looks to Bring Relief to Island Devastated by Earthquakes

How far we’ve come and still need to go in Madison

Crossing barriers: Nonprofits seek to reach growing Spanish-speaking immigrant population

Student shares story of personal journey to America

Centro Hispano's Becas scholarships help students advance in higher education

Hundreds of Students March, Rally at State Capitol to Defend DACA

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Centro Hispano of Dane County

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