

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

**PROCLAMATION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

Proclaiming September 15th through October 15th, 2015 - Hispanic Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the contributions Hispanic Americans have made to American society and culture. This month, we honor the rich heritage of the Hispanic community and celebrate its countless achievements.
- b. The Hispanic heritage of the United States extends historically over five centuries and has been a consistent and vital influence in our country's growth and prosperity. Hispanics have contributed to the rich history of Multnomah County and the State of Oregon. By the mid 1950s, Hispanic farm workers were a crucial part Oregon's agricultural economy. As early as the 1960s, Hispanics initiated businesses meeting local demand in the service industry, health, manufacturing, and high tech sectors, while establishing themselves as integral community members working in public service and civic society.
- c. Hispanics in Oregon are a diverse mix of first generation immigrants and long time residents. About three-quarters of all Hispanics in the county are originally from Mexico. The remainder comes from other parts of Latin America. Although about half of the overall Latino population is US born and half foreign-born, most Hispanic children were born in the US.
- d. Hispanics in Multnomah County live in households with mixed immigrant statuses, meaning family members and relatives are a mix of native-born citizens, naturalized citizens, legal permanent residents, temporary workers, and undocumented.
- e. Hispanics represent 10% of Multnomah County's workforce. The approximately five hundred Hispanic County employees bring language, cultural assets, diversity and richness to our workforce.
- f. Multnomah County takes great pride in the growing diversity of our community and in the impressive and valuable contributions made by our Hispanic residents to the County's growth, prosperity and well-being. Hispanics are showing their remarkable resiliency as people in diverse ways and forms such as: family support; remarkably positive infant health; a willingness to take jobs that few others will accept; and through increasingly active community groups.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:**

1. September 15th through October 15th, 2015 as Hispanic Heritage Month in Multnomah County, Oregon, in recognition and celebration of the many contributions of Hispanics to the county and our community. We urge all residents of Multnomah County to celebrate the history and recognize the contributions of Hispanics to our community, state, and nation.

ADOPTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.

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

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**Deborah Kafoury, County Chair**

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**Jules Bailey  
Commissioner District 1**

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**Loretta Smith  
Commissioner District 2**

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**Judy Shiprack  
Commissioner District 3**

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**Diane McKeel  
Commissioner District 4**

**REVIEWED:**

**JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**By** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Consuelo Saragoza, Senior Advisor of Public Health & Community Initiatives  
Multnomah County Health Department