



*Beatriz Sierra*

Throughout the MONTH OF HISPANIC HERITAGE, CTI will present profiles of local Hispanic leaders to celebrate #LowellHispanicExcellence by learning about their experiences, perspectives, and the wisdom they share in our local communities.

**Hispanic Heritage Month 9/15-10/15**  
An Interview with **BEATRIZ SIERRA**

Nominated by **Maria Cunha** - Retired from Middlesex Community College (23 years) and also worked for Congressman Marty Meehan and the International Institute of Lowell (now Boston).

**What does Hispanic Heritage Month mean to you?**

For me, Hispanic Heritage Month means a time to showcase our traditions and values, and an opportunity to demonstrate that together we are stronger and will continue to contribute to the development of this country that has adopted us, our home countries that saw us born, and our families who inspire us to move forward.

**Throughout your personal and professional life, you've been involved in many activities benefiting the Hispanic community. Can you mention one or two that highlight your activism?**

On a personal level, I have had the opportunity to help our community show solidarity with other Latino communities by supporting them during natural disasters in their respective countries (floods, earthquakes, etc.), raising funds to help children and young people with resources to improve their education, and assisting newly arrived families with resources to adapt to our city.

Furthermore, it has been very rewarding for me to see how the children who participated in traditional dance groups and attended the raising of the Colombian flag at Lowell City Hall,

an event that has been taking place for over 25 years, continue these traditions as adults by bringing their own children to these events.

On a professional level, I have had the opportunity to work closely with students from different nationalities, educating and helping them enter the workforce. Again, it has been very gratifying for me when I visited employers looking for jobs for these young people and encountered individuals whom I helped years ago to find their first job. Now, they hold managerial positions and are the ones providing employment opportunities to the young people who are seeking their first job. I have also worked with parents, helping them navigate the school system and understand the benefits offered by the city.

#LowellHispanicExcellence #CommunityLeader #Leadership #DEIatCTI  
#HispanicHeritageMonth2023 #Appreciation #Gratitude #diversity #equity #inclusion  
#CTIResponds