



EL CENTRO DE LA RAZA

2005

ANNUAL REPORT

2524 16th Avenue South ▪ Seattle, WA 98144 ▪ www.elcentrodelaraza.org

Estimadas Amigas y Amigos,

In spite of the man-made and natural disasters that dominated our lives in 2005, we worked mightily all year long to provide critical services and also to keep alive the hope and optimism necessary to build the "beloved community" that Dr. King and thousands of our leaders worldwide have taught us over the ages.

And in spite of the fact that this nation is signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (December 10, 1948) and at the present time violating at least 14 of the 30 articles of this magnificent document, we will step up our efforts to remind our people and pressure our politicians to live up to our country's signed word.

It is in this spirit that in 2005, we participated in and organized activities involving children, youth and elders at El Centro de la Raza, in the community and across the country. Our children sang songs of peace and justice at numerous events, our youth expressed themselves all over through profound poetry writing presentations, our elders celebrated life daily in the senior program and our youth wrote their pen pals in our sister school in Cuba through our after school program.

We also celebrated the installation of a beautiful new boiler, the allotment of \$900,000 from the Washington State Legislature to replace our original windows, engaged consultants for our 2006-07 Capital Campaign and were awarded the Neighborhood Builders Award of \$200,000 from Bank of America in 2005.

Amid the shameless corruption of the enemies of progress and justice, El Centro de la Raza has emanated the love and unity it takes to turn tragedy



A participant in our Senior Nutrition and Wellness Program with her pen pal in our Luis Alfonso Velasquez Flores After School Program. (See next page.)

MISSION STATEMENT

El Centro de la Raza's mission includes ensuring access to services and advocating on behalf of people regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, level of income, age, ability and sexual orientation. El Centro de la Raza was founded in 1972 to address the problems that people face related to cultural differences, literacy, health, racism, education and economics.

into strength and struggle into power to push forward to better days.

These better days lie ahead in 2006 and wherever you find yourself at this moment, our best wishes are with you. ¡Buena suerte siempre!

Cariñosamente,

Roberto Maestas
Founder and Executive Director



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

This year we received \$900,000 from the **Washington State Legislature** to replace our windows, so that El Centro is warmer and more energy efficient! This put us closer to our goal of \$1.3 million. Our old boiler has already been replaced and we can feel the difference, including a 33% energy savings. El Centro would like to thank the Washington State legislators and volunteers who helped with the 2005 Capital Campaign. Thank you to the sponsors: **Representatives Sharon Tomiko-Santos, Eric Pettigrew, Phyllis Gutierrez Kenney, and Senator Adam Kline**. A special thanks to **George Scarola**, a consultant with **Executive Alliance** and the **Muckleshoot Nation** for volunteering their time on this project and whose work was instrumental to the success of the campaign.



El Centro de la Raza
The Center of the People of All Races

NEIGHBORHOOD EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE

A very special 'Mil Gracias' to **Bank of America** for honoring El Centro de la Raza with the **2005 Neighborhood Builders Award of \$200,000**, to be distributed over a two-year period. The initiative aims to help revitalize Seattle communities by identifying and addressing community priorities, offering fiscal support and building community leaders. The funds will be used to further develop our Homeownership Program and other initiatives. This was a highly competitive process and we appreciate the generosity and community involvement of Bank of America!



El Centro receives the \$200,000 check from
Bank of America!

CAMPAÑA QUETZAL

This coalition of community groups includes educators, parents, youth and concerned citizens was organized to address the needs of Latinos in the public school system in order to make our educational institutions more successful for all students, including Latino students. This coalition coordinates with Seattle Public Schools and El Centro de la Raza acts as the fiscal agent. Campaña Quetzal is also responsible for holding Seattle's first ever **Latino Education Summit**.



On stage at the Bridge Builders Awards.

"GANG OF FOUR" RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Roberto Maestas, Bob Santos, Larry Gossett, the late Bernie Whitebear, the founders of El Centro, and Dorry Elias-Garcia were presented with the annual **Bridge Builders Award** from Partners for Livable Communities in Washington, D.C. for their participation in the founding and ongoing participation in the Minority Executive Directors Coalition of King County. The "Gang of Four" formed an alliance in the late 1960s and early 1970s that brought together the African American, Asian American, Latino/Chicano and Native American communities to work together to best advocate for the diverse population of King County.

BUILDING USES

We have space available for meetings, weddings, birthday parties and community activities. In 2005, our building usage hours totaled approximately **4,238 hours**. The World Affairs Council held three lectures in our building throughout the fall and many local organizations and businesses utilized our facilities for meetings.

INTERGENERATIONAL PEN PALS

This year we **paired youth in our after school program with elders in our senior program** so that they could engage in various pen pal activities. From letter writing and game playing to dancing and holiday gift exchanges, the participants learned from each other and celebrated their life and youth together. See for yourself!



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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

"Para los niños trabajamos porque los niños son los que saben querer,

porque los niños son la esperanza del mundo."

MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF EL CENTRO DE LA RAZA



A young girl in El Centro's Food Bank.

Human Services: Seeking to address immediate aspects of human suffering such as hunger, healthcare and homelessness, El Centro provides diverse human services from our Frances Martinez Community Service Center.

▪ *Senior Nutrition & Wellness* ▪ *Homeless Assistance* ▪ *Basic Healthcare Plan*

Sponsorship ▪ *Infant Mortality Prevention* ▪ *Food Bank* ▪ *"La Cocina" Latino Meal Program*

Child & Youth Services: Investing in our children and their future, El Centro provides an array of child and youth services to the local community.

▪ *José Martí Child Development Center* ▪ *Luis Alfonso Velasquez Flores After School Program* ▪ *Hope for Youth Poetry & History Classes* ▪ *Seattle Team for Youth* ▪ *Adolescent Family Life Program* ▪ *Parent Involvement in Education Program*

Education & Skill Building Programs: El Centro seeks to promote self-sufficiency and empowerment through education and skill building initiatives.

▪ *First Time Homebuyer Education* ▪ *Financial Literacy* ▪ *Life Skills & Job Readiness Training* ▪ *ESL & Citizenship Classes* ▪ *Bilingual Legal Clinics*

Community Building & Development: El Centro believes that only through civic involvement, grassroots organizing and political and social activism will our community be able to effectively address the profound contradictions facing our city, state, nation and world. We bring together communities of all ages, races, genders and classes to fight for civil rights and human rights both locally and globally. We also offer voter education and registration to empower people to become active, voting citizens.

▪ *Low-Income Housing* ▪ *Commercial Space* ▪ *Building Uses & Tenants* ▪ *Volunteerism* ▪ *Global Relations*



Peace rally at Westlake Center.

"It is for the young that we work, for they are the ones who know how to love,

NEW AND EXPANDING PROGRAMS

Our newest and most exciting endeavors include a new program called the Adolescent Family Life program which addresses the challenges associated with teen pregnancy and parenting.

Hope for Youth has expanded to Denny Middle School and the Bi-



El Guanaco and Khazm, with Hope for Youth Coordinator, Alex.

lingual Center, and has added a new hip-hop component to the program featuring Khazm and El Guanaco of Mad Krew Productions, who will pilot this program, emphasizing hip-hop, poetry, spoken word

and music expression for our Hope for Youth artists.

Seattle Team for Youth has an additional case manager and has been asked to double its case load to reach more schools and students in the Seattle Public School District. A Parent Involvement in Education program and staff position has been integrated to engage parents in the education of their children in our program.

Our José Martí Child Development Center

has expanded by adding a new classroom to prepare children for kindergarten through the Early Learning Network paid for by funds from the Families and Education Levy passed by Seattle voters. We have also added 16 new spots

for the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP), which doubled our enrollment in this program. A recent Public Health SERF exam identified 8 out of 30 children that were in the top 50% of the study as José Martí students. We've had five teachers finish their AA Degree, paid for by the Early Learning Network and SERF program, and five teachers are enrolled in Bachelor's Degree programs.



José Martí children at the Early Learning Network Press Conference with Mayor Greg Nickels.

for they are the hope of the world."

-José Martí, Cuban Poet and Martyr (1853-1895)



EL CENTRO DE LA RAZA

2005 STAFF APPRECIATION

In December 2005, we recognized the work of our loyal staff members by honoring them in a recognition ceremony. We would like to thank all our staff and volunteers for their dedication to El Centro, the people they empower and to the principles of justice. Your work is truly inspiring. Please see the list of recipients

Employee of the Year: Maria Rico

Spirit Award: Marta Diaz

Volunteer of the Year: J. Martin Padilla

Service 20+ Years: Carmen Miranda, Steve Erickson

Service of 15+ Years: Feliciano Turla

Service of 10+ Years: Sandra Medina, Martha Cano

Service of 5+ Years: Virginia Culbertson, Arturo Gonzalez, Bobbie Stephens

Service of 3+ Years: Apolonio Rubio, Maria E. Rico, Maria Aguilera



Employee of the Year Maria.



Spirit Award recipient Marta.

The next generation of leaders! El Centro would like to highlight current employees that have a history of continuity with us. In his early days, Enrique participated in José Martí, Hope for Youth and is now a case manager for Seattle Team for Youth. Enrique follows his grandmother and father as the third generation to make history at El Centro. Former Seattle University students, Cristina and Norma, once held work study positions at El Centro and were hired full time for the Facilities Office and the Citizenship/ESL program respectively. Current Seattle University students, Pedro and Thomas, have returned for their fourth and second year of work study with us. Mil gracias for all your hard work.

In 2005, El Centro de la Raza applied for several volunteer corps positions. We welcomed our new corps staff members in September: Emily Stoll with Lutheran Volunteer Corps to Financial Literacy and Homeownership, Sarah McPhie with AmeriCorps*Washington State Service Corps to the Senior Nutrition and Wellness program, Derek Schoonmaker with AmeriCorps*JustServe to Hope for Youth, Daniel Kauffman with AmeriCorps*Literacy to Job Readiness and Life Skills Training, and Ashley Haugen with AmeriCorps*VISTA to the Development Office. Thank you to these dedicated individuals for devoting their year of service to El Centro de la Raza!



20 Year recipient Carmen.

"This organization's philosophy takes the notion of community and care much further. El Centro de la Raza is an actual, physical community, a center for its constituents to go to and participate in forums and classes, and connect with needed services. And, probably more to the point, this organization's principles embody a very strong identity-that of champion of human rights, champion of multi-racial unity, and champion in particular of the Latino community."

—Washington State Housing Finance Commission (October 2005)



José Martí children singing peace songs celebrating the work of Cesar Chavez.

"Technology has made the world a neighborhood; we must now make it a brotherhood [and sisterhood]."

–Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1968)

STAFF

José Martí Child Development Center:

Hilda Magaña
Maria Aguilera
Martha Cano
Martha Diaz
Diana Elenes
Rocio Espiritu
Maria Fitz
Elvia Guzman
Bertha Hernandez
Marisela Hernandez
Marta Labiosa
Claudia Marquez
Sandra Medina
Carmen Miranda
Martha Morales
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Heyda Raymundo
Maria D. Rico
Maria E. Rico
Michi Robinson
Belem Ruiz
Elma Soliz
Hector Torres
Dominique Vijarro

Frances Martinez Community Service Center:

Graciela Gonzalez
Israel Andrade
Alex Bautista
Bryan Bautista
Norma Cuevas
Virginia Culbertson
Luis DeLeon
Raquel Garcia
David Gonzalez
Enrique Gonzalez
Daniel Kauffman
Sarah McPhie
Mirabella Mendiola
Louisa Pierce
Sylvia Rubio
Derek Schoonmaker
Juan Vega
Sandra Villagarcia
Belinda Zintzún

Homeownership:

Arturo Gonzalez
Leilani Finau
Corrie Kutkey
Adalberto Macias
Emily Stoll

STAFF

Low-Income Housing:

Bridget Barni

Basic Healthcare Plan:

Rosalie Ronquillo

Facilities Office:

Steve Erickson
Cristina Jimenez
Apolonio Rubio
Marcos Samol
Ricardo Solis

Fiscal Office:

David Bauch
Pedro Meza
Bobbie Stephens
Feliciano Turla

Executive Office:

Roberto Maestas
Ashley Haugen
Elizabeth Lopez
Thomas Martinell
Pablo Mendoza
Estela Ortega
Dick Sprick

LEADERSHIP STAFF

Roberto Maestas
Executive Director
Estela Ortega
Associate Director
Hilda Magaña
Director of José Martí CDC
Graciela Gonzalez
Human Services Director
Steve Erickson,
Security/Facilities Director
David Bauch
CPA Controller
Bobbie Stephens
Human Resources
Dick Sprick
Grants Manager
Arturo Gonzalez
Homeownership Manager
Alex Bautista
Youth Services
Leader in Training

SUPPORTING OUR WORKERS

In spite of declining resources, El Centro de la Raza leadership has been able to maintain a high level of benefits for its employees. Both full-time and part-time employees receive vacation time, paid holidays, sick days, healthcare including vision and dental plans, retirement, life insurance, a 125 tax advantage plan, trainings and a yearly Sound Transit-Metro Flex Pass, which helps our employees save on transportation costs and reduce pollution to the environment.

We follow the United Way's guide for pay rates, provide cost of living increases and recognize our employees for their dedication every year. Our employee handbook is written in Spanish and English, and staff meetings are held in both languages.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

El Centro de la Raza is directed through a 13-member Board of Directors that meets on a monthly basis. Our diverse board membership consists of young and seasoned professionals, senior citizens, volunteers, and low income to upper middle class members.

BOARD OFFICERS

President - Ramon Soliz
Independent Contractor
Current Term: 2/2005 - 2/2008

Vice President - Laurie Prendez
Seattle Genetics
Quality Assurance
Current Term: 2/2005 - 2/2008

Secretary - Minty Jeffrey
Colors NW
Co-Owner and Vice President
Current Term: 2/2005 - 2/2008

Treasurer - Jeffrey Middleton
Architect
Current Term: 1/2004 - 1/2007

Parliamentarian - Jairo Sanchez
Self-Employed
Current Term: 2/2005 - 2/2008

BOARD MEMBERS

Ricardo Aguirre
Financial Planner
Current Term: 2/2005 - 2/2008

Ricardo Garcia
Executive Director, Radio KDNA
Current Term: 12/2005 - 12/2008

David Gasca
Frontier Bank
Vice President Manager
Current Term: 2/2005 - 2/2008

Steve Gonzalez
King County Superior Court Judge
Current Term: 2/2005 - 2/2008

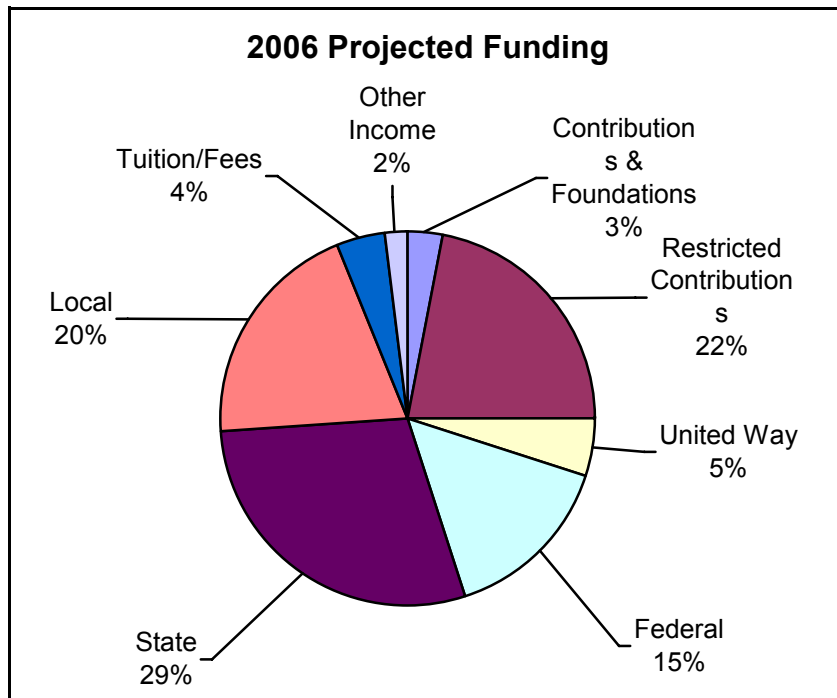
Victoria Kill, PhD
Adjunct Professor
Dept. of English, Seattle University
Current Term: 1/2004 - 1/2007

Phyllis Little
Executive Director, POCAAN
Current Term: 10/2002 - 10/2006

Urbano Santos
Guatemaltecos Unidas
Current Term: 3/2004 - 3/2007

Rita Zawaideh
Travel Express/Caravan Serai, Inc.
Current Term: 10/2002 - 10/2006

2006 PROJECTED FUNDING



2006 Projected Funding		
SOURCE	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Contributions & Foundations	\$124,512	3%
Restricted Contributions	\$972,772	22%
United Way	\$229,228	5%
Federal	\$660,845	15%
State	\$1,292,227	29%
Local	\$913,556	20%
Tuition/Fees	\$197,781	4%
Other Income (rent, etc)	\$88,177	2%
TOTAL	\$4,479,098	100%

GEOGRAPHIC REACH OF SERVICES

We operate from Beacon Hill in Seattle and have services in South Park and an office in Bellingham. A majority of our participants come from Seattle and King County, but we are open to serve people from all across Washington State and work with programs and organizations in many states, as well as countries across the world, including Cuba, Nicaragua and Mexico.

PARTICIPANTS SERVED IN 2005

Total Individuals	10,455	Total Families	6,204
Male	6,772	1-2 Members	4,804
Female	3,673	3-4 Members	854
Latino/Latina	7,217	5-6 Members	431
African American	965	7+ Members	115
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,179	Single Person	4,036
Native/Alaskan	186	Two Person (no children)	193
White	706	Single Parent	719
Other	192	Two Parent	935
0-5 yrs	767	Other	321
6-11 yrs	702	No Income	716
12-17 yrs	854	Receive Public Benefits	662
18-23 yrs	944	Employment/Pension	1,642
24-69 yrs	6,464	Combined Sources	289
70 and over	714	Other	2,895

Numbers are unduplicated.

Basic Healthcare Plan
In addition to the unduplicated individuals and families served in 2005, El Centro de la Raza sponsored the membership fees of 4,850 individuals in Washington's Basic Healthcare Plan.

'MIL GRACIAS' TO OUR 2005 DONORS

DONACIONES ESPECIALES

In Memory of Boyd Detonancour

DONANTES DE LOS NIÑOS

Vicente Collins-Friedrichs

Katie Vick

PUBLIC SUPPORT

AmeriCorps

City of Seattle

Early Learning Network

Emergency Shelter Assistance

State Program

Federal Funding

King County

King County Housing & Community

Development

Seattle Housing Authority

Seattle Public Library

Seattle Urban League

Seattle Step Ahead Preschools

U.S. Department of Health &

Human Services

WA State Department of Communi-

cation Trade & Economic Develop-

ment

Washington State Legislature

VOLUNTEERS

Donations of time are just as impor-
tant as money. Our volunteer hours
for 2005 averaged 3,278 hours.

Thank you to all our volunteers!

¡GRACIAS!

Thank you Kristin Houser and Mark
Burke at the Law Offices of
Schroeter, Goldmark & Bender for
providing free, bilingual legal clinics
for our clients!

BENEFACTORES \$10,000+

Anonymous

Bank of America Foundation

National Council of La Raza

School's Out Consortium WA

United Way

PARTIDARIOS \$1,000-9,999

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Judy Eng

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MacDonald Miller Facility Solutions

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Jennifer Osborne

Doug Ostergaard

Steve Palomo

Robert Pankl

Jose Pazos

Matthew Perez

Santiago Perez-Labrada

Pedro Pineda

Yvonne Plata

Sergio Prado

Michael Predmore

Susan Purington

Antonio Ramos

Joe Recchi

Heather Reilly

Alberto Rocha

Oswavo Rojas

Doug Rolph

Rita Salazar

Alicia Saldaña-Barreto

Fidelina Salmeron

Elena Santana

San Juanita Segura

Warren Segura

Juan Sierra

Rourke Smith

Amaya Souarez

Helene Starks

Shan Sullivan-Weiss

Christina Torres

Julio Tresiera

Kevin Trombold

Pablo Valdes

Cesar Valera

Alexander White

Mike Wilson

Maria-Elizabeth Zamora

Amar Zumkhawala

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 Salmon Bay Sand & Gravel Co.
 Seattle Academy of Arts & Sciences

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 Dolores Rossman
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 Countrywide Mortgage-Karina Veliz
 DANCE this
 Eagle Home Mortgage-Paul Roof
 Environmental Works
 FITCH
 Food Life Line
 Fremont Public Association
 Hilltop Red Apple Market-John Thai
 Home Street Bank-Xiomara Piña
 Hopelink
 Laura McAlister Consulting
 Loyalty Reality-Roberto Mears
 Lutheran Volunteer Corps.
 McDonald's
 Muckleshoot Nation
 The Museum of Flight
 National City Mortgage-Emily Ott
 Northwest Film Forum-Adam Hart
 Northwest Harvest Hunger Network
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 Public Health-N. Perry Moore
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 Seattle Center-Sharing Gift Box
 Seattle Central Community College
 Senior Services Shuttle
 Ski Skoot, Inc.
 Teens in Public Service
 Toys for Tots
 Washington State Community Action
 Washington State Finance Commission
 Wells Fargo-May Wan
 Wells Fargo Home Mortgage-Tony Alcantara
 Woodland Park Zoo



¡Gracias to our donors from our children at the José Martí Child Development Center!

Where I'm From

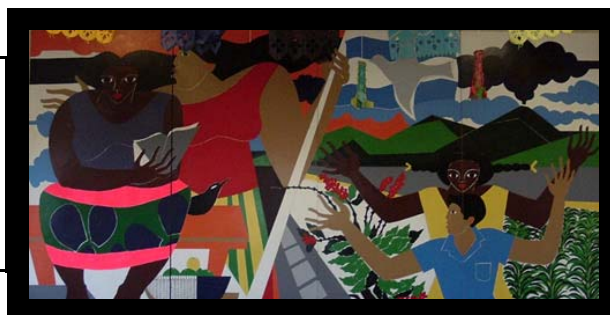
I am from bones & blood that
 connect between veins
 From Jalisco deserts to Washington
 rainforests
 I am from the heart of a woman who
 gave me her life
 From the colors of the Mexican flag
 Red for blood, White for Peace, Green
 for Land...the gente
 I'm from the light of the sun that
 shines so bright
 From the rainy and cloudy &
 watery too
 I'm from the border line that keeps me
 from crossing sides
 From the Raza of Mexican People all
 over the world
 I am that person
 —Hope for Youth Student, Proyecto
 Saber, Age 12

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Donate online at www.elcentrodelaraza.org.
- Volunteer at El Centro! Call: 206.957.4605.
- Bring in donations for our Wish List found on our website.
- Donate your car! Call: 206.957.4611 or e-mail: donor@elcentrodelaraza.org.
- Tell your friends, family and community members about El Centro de la Raza.

BELLINGHAM LOCATION

Basic Healthcare Plan
 4455 Cordata Parkway
 Bellingham, WA 98226
 360.788.7157



El Centro is filled with beautiful, original murals like this one. Some of our murals have been featured in various publications, including the *Washington State Minority and Justice Commission 2003-04 Biennial Report*.

EL CENTRO DE LA RAZA

2524 16th Avenue South • Seattle, WA 98144
 Tel 206.957.4605 • Fax 206.329.0786
www.elcentrodelaraza.org

Washington State Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Corporation

EIN# 91-0899927 • UBI# 601025014

IRS 990 Available Online

El Centro de la Raza is a United Way Agency, a Washington State Community Action Agency, and an affiliate of National Council of La Raza.