

Conéctate

The Network of Promotoras and Community Health Workers

OCTOBER The Month of the Promotor



We want to congratulate and show our appreciation to all the promotores and community health workers nationwide, especially to the promotores of the regional committees of the Network of Visión y Compromiso. As promotores and community health workers you help to build leadership and peer support and develop organizational and advocacy skills. Your resiliency and service from the heart was tested during the pandemic where you adapted to the new realities while acquiring new tools to continue serving communities. You are the bridge between the diverse populations you serve and because of this your hard work was recognized in 2009 when the California State Capitol declared October as the Month of the Promotor. Twelve years later, we still recognize your leadership and service. Many thanks for your *servicio de corazón!*



MESSAGES FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, NETWORK DIRECTOR, AND REGIONAL MANAGERS

A heartfelt thanks to all the promotoras and promotores on this special occasion.

MELINDA CORDERO-BARZAGA ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Honor to whom honor is due! You, the promotores who since history have been and will continue to be the managers of social change. You who day by day sow the seeds of knowledge, hope and well-being in our communities. This month of October is dedicated to you because we honor your role of accompaniment, teaching, advocacy and providing hope that facilitates transformation in our communities. Congratulations promotores for your heartfelt service!

NORMA BENITEZ NETWORK DIRECTOR

Feliz mes del promotor! Every day I am filled with hope, determination, but most of all, more in love with what we have built together, a community of fierce promotores in California and across the nation! I see the determination in your spirit and in your actions to build a more just society based on mutual respect, love and commitment for all that cross our paths. I am honored to call you all my sisters and brothers in our movement towards a more dignified life!

MARIAELENA AGUILAR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL MANAGER

A gift from heaven, that is what the promotores are. Angels, attentive to those most in need! They are doctors and they advocate for the needs of others and some have not gone to a university but they have a great HEART to serve!

ARTURO PALATO NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL MANAGER

Congratulations promotores! You who make a difference in your family, community, workplace and wherever you go. My love and appreciation for your tireless work, your heart of service and your joy. Please continue to be our inspiration to improve the living conditions of immigrants, people of color and those most disadvantaged by this system. An honor to work with you!

VERONICA ARCIGA SAN FERNANDO, LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL COAST, AND LAS VEGAS, NV REGIONAL MANAGER

The pandemic has shown us in a very tangible way the important role that community promotoras/es have in giving that helping hand to our families when they need it most. In these times when hope has been uncertain, you promotoras/es have been the first to respond by going out to offer education and essential resources to our communities most in need. You have also been those people who have understood and listened heart to heart the emotional pain—more than physical—that our community is suffering. Thank you promotores for always being present! For being those heroes with a great heart of service. It is a true honor for me to be able to serve you and support you so that your work is honored. Congratulations this promotor month and always!

NATALY SANTAMARIA KERN REGIONAL MANAGER

The heartfelt service of a promotor is not measured by size, but by the commitment they have towards their community to achieve community transformation. In this month of the promotor we celebrate all those who day after day work to provide resources, support or simply a helping hand to those who need it.

***“Many small people, in small places,
doing small things, can change the world.”***

—EDUARDO GALEANO

PETER PHILLIPS ADVOCACY MANAGER

Congratulations! Your hard work as community promotores inspires me. The way in which you guide our families towards a dignified and healthy life is truly unique. You share the needs of our communities and advocate for change. Thanks to you this year there will be classes in mental health for students and health care for undocumented seniors. Thanks!

Meet Five Promotores in Visión y Compromiso's Network

Many already know the work and the service from the heart of the promotores of Visión y Compromiso. They selflessly give their time, not only to their families but also to their community. They prepare by attending workshops and trainings. They have an insatiable thirst to help others. But do we know what they are like outside of their role as promotores? Join us to get to know five Visión y Compromiso Network promotores.



**KATHI CERVANTEZ •
LOS ANGELES COMMITTEE**

My parents met in Los Angeles, CA and this is where I was born. I am a coordinator, organizer, and facilitator. I am passionate about art, poetry, and listening to stories. More than anything, I like hearing stories from my family. I love to draw and be in classes to learn. It bothers me when I feel like they are not listening to me.



**ELVIRA HERRERA •
COACHELLA COMMITTEE**

I was born in Tijuana but I grew up in Coachella, CA. I have worked as an advocate for domestic violence, rape and human trafficking for years and criminal and family cases. I love fishing and defending human rights. Aside from seeing that justice is served, spending my time with my family. I dislike corruption and injustices.



**FELIZA CRUZ •
MADERA COMMITTEE**

I was born in Northern Baja California, but two weeks after I was born I was taken to Sinaloa, which I consider my homeland. I have had a law degree for more than ten years. I have dedicated myself to working with the community. I like to work and be myself. A woman who on the same day could be in the office, in a conference, taking tests, in a vaccination event, in a class of the supreme court of justice of the nation, in an appointment advocating with our congressmen, and cleaning pools with my husband. I am passionate about knowing that I am an amalgam of actions, a great diversity of services in one person. I like to dance, sing, walk in the mountains, listen to the sea and go aimlessly on a family walk. I dislike hypocrisy and I am allergic to people who like to humiliate others.

**MARIA LUISA FIGUEROA •
BAY AREA COMMITTEE**

I am from Guadalajara, Jalisco. I work for the community. I am passionate about supporting with necessary information. I like to help in whatever I can. It bothers me that the community does not get involved with their health.

**NANCY GONZALEZ •
COACHELLA COMMITTEE**

Originally from Sinaloa, Mexico, but I was raised in Mexicali, Baja California. I work in a Medical Billing Office. I have worked in a clinic in the Community Outreach department for seven years as a certified Enrollment Counselor under Covered California, Health Navigator. I am passionate about dancing, smiling and helping people. Since I was young I'd like to help make changes in the difficult situations that our communities face. What I enjoy the most is smiling next to my family. I am bothered by all kinds of injustice in human rights and animals.

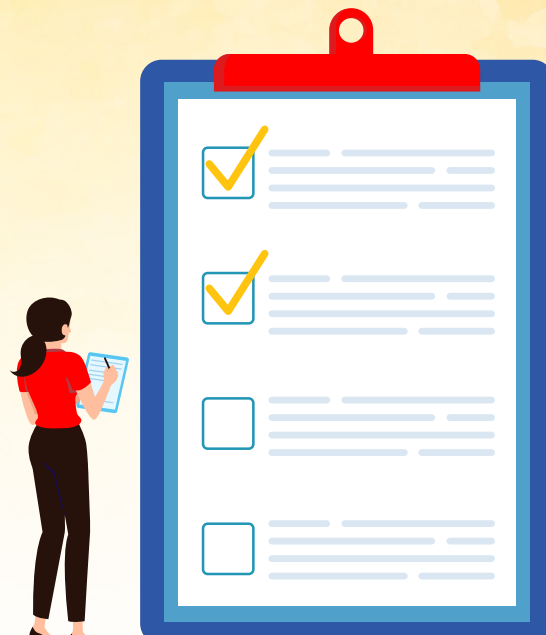
United in Advocacy

The California Legislature ended its annual session on September 15. We celebrate the passage of SB-224: Instruction for Students: Mental Health Education, and Health for All, the expansion of Medi-Cal to undocumented seniors which begins on May 2022. The Network of Visión y Compromiso advocated for the passage of these proposals. These bills will now go to Governor Newsom for his signature. Our state legislators will be in their districts this fall hearing new bills that will be enacted in the next legislative session in January. The Network of Visión y Compromiso is gathering information on the needs of our communities. Share with us those needs within the health, housing, environment, education, immigration, and workforce categories by filling out the survey below.

<https://forms.gle/inPwWTwbqTaXTjYQ9>

The Senate Parliament did not approve the proposal to provide citizenship to immigrants in the Democrats' spending bill. Democrats will try again to ask parliament to approve the modified version. The Network will continue to request meetings with congressmen. We are now awaiting responses from Congressman Mike Garcia from Los Angeles, Mark Takano from San Bernardino / Riverside, Jerry McNerney from the San Joaquin Valley, and Raúl Ruiz from Coachella.

If you would like to attend any of these meetings, contact Peter Phillips, Advocacy Manager at peter@visionycompromiso.org.



Smile, California

We are excited to collaborate with Smile, California. Smile is California's Medicaid program, or as we know it as Medi-Cal, currently offering dental services as one of the program's many benefits. Medi-Cal Dental, also known as Denti-Cal, is the program that provides free or low-cost dental services to eligible children and adults. Tooth be told, it's good to have healthy smile goals! Regular dental check-ups are a safe way to help you have good dental and overall health. Visit SmileCalifornia.org to find a Medi-Cal dentist and learn more about your covered services. #SmileCalifornia

• October •

For information about these events and more, visit our [events page](#).

PLEASE NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, these events are virtual and in Spanish.

GENERAL

19th Annual Conference
October 7-9

Sodium Warning Icon
Community Campaign
October 1
3:00 to 4:30pm
(virtual)

STANISLAUS

Regional Conference
October 30, 2021
(virtual)

La Red de Promotoras y Trabajadores Comunitarios de Visión y Compromiso los invita a que se inscriban a su celebración virtual del Mes del Promotor

DE PACHANGA CON PROMOTORAS

1 de octubre
5pm a 6pm
PST

Conozcan a la Red de Promotoras y Trabajadores Comunitarios de Visión y Compromiso
♥ Tendrán la oportunidad de descubrir cómo la Red de Visión y Compromiso inició y los comités que conforman la Red

8 de octubre
6pm a 8pm
PST

Noche de bienvenida de la conferencia anual www.vycconference.org
♥ Para asistir a este evento debe estar inscrito a nuestra 19a Conferencia Anual

15 de octubre
5pm a 6:30pm
PST

Cocinando con Violeta
PATROCINADO POR EL COMITÉ DEL ÁREA DE LA BAHÍA
♥ No hay pachanga sin buena comida. Acompáñenos a cocinar comida rica y saludable.

21 de octubre
11am a 1pm
PST

Celebrando y honrando el mes del promotor
PATROCINADO POR EL COMITÉ DE ORANGE COUNTY
♥ ¡En toda fiesta hay invitados de honor, en este caso son USTEDES promotoras!

22 de octubre
6pm a 8pm
PST

Promotores destacando el servicio de corazón
PATROCINADO POR EL COMITÉ DE SAN DIEGO
♥ En esta celebración tendrán la oportunidad de ganarse unos premios.

29 de octubre
5pm a 6pm
PST

Alimentando nuestra mente
PATROCINADO POR EL COMITÉ DE SAN BERNARDINO/RIVERSIDE
♥ Después de darle alimento al cuerpo sigamos con nuestra salud mental

30 de octubre
9am a 12pm
PST

Foro para promotoras y líderes comunitarios
PATROCINADO POR EL COMITÉ DEL VALLE DE SAN FERNANDO Y VALLE DEL ANTELOPE
♥ Valorando su labor como promotora y líder comunitaria

Para reservar tu espacio, insíbete aquí: visionycompromiso.org/events

Para más información pueden comunicarse con
Norma Benitez, Directora de la Red, norma@visionycompromiso.org

If you feel the calling to learn and serve, feel free to contact our Network Director or Regional Managers:

Norma Benítez Network Director norma@visionycompromiso.org

Arturo Palato Bay Area, Stanislaus, and Napa Regional Manager arturo@visionycompromiso.org

Nataly Santamaria Madera, Kern, and Tulare Regional Manager nataly@visionycompromiso.org

Verónica Arciga Los Angeles, San Fernando Valley, Central Coast, and Las Vegas, NV, Regional Manager
veronica@visionycompromiso.org

Mariaelena Aguilar Orange County and San Diego Regional Manager mariaelena@visionycompromiso.org

San Bernardino/ Riverside and Coachella Regional Manager norma@visionycompromiso.org

Peter Phillips Advocacy Manager peter@visionycompromiso.org

Visión y Compromiso Employment Opportunities

Lead Promotor Comunitario: Kern, San Bernardino Counties and East LA

Promotor Comunitario: Kern, San Bernardino Counties and East LA

Finance Assistant

Administrative Assistant, Education and Training Department • Los Angeles

Policy Director

Program Manager • East Los Angeles Area

Program Manager • Kern & San Bernardino Counties

Network Manager • Inland Empire

Project Coordinator • Los Angeles

Promotor Comunitario, Tarzana Treatment Center

Community Health Educator • Humboldt, El Dorado, and Shasta

COVID-19 Promotor Comunitario • LA, San Fernando Valley and Antelope Valley

Please [check our website](http://www.visionycompromiso.org) for job descriptions for our current employment opportunities.

Visit www.visionycompromiso.org.

