



10/26/2023 | 4:00 PM

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES CENTER, COUNCIL CHAMBER
3600 TREMONT ROAD
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM**

The Community Relations Committee welcomes comments from the public at the close of each meeting. For Zoom attendees: the Chair will ask them to raise their hand in Zoom if they wish to speak and the meeting organizer will admit them as a meeting participant. Please note - any comments added to the Zoom chat feature will not be incorporated into the meeting minutes.

Join the Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/883322130>
Join by Phone: 877-853-5257 | 312-626-67
Meeting ID: 883 3221 3009 | Passcode: 439088

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Approval of September 28, 2023 Minutes**
 - a. September 28 Minutes
- 3. Educational Speaker Series**
 - a. Best Practices for Hiring & Working with People Who Have Special Needs and/or Disabilities – Marck Harrison, Greenleaf Job Training Services
- 4. Discussion of Current Events in the Middle East**
 - a. Proposed CRC Statement – Hana Abdelbaki
- 5. Divided Community Workshop Update**
- 6. 2024 Strategic Planning & November 20 Presentation to City Council**
- 7. Community Questions/Public Comment**
- 8. Adjournment**

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

September 28, 2023 | 4 pm

Members Present

Jason Sayat, Co-Chair	Farida El-Hennawy, Co-Chair	Brent Theaker
Hana Abdelbaki	Howard Warner	Elaine Alicea
Andy Klaben-Finegold (remote)	Deborah Carvalho (remote)	

City Staff & Others Present

Steve Schoeny, City Manager	Emma Speight, Community Affairs Director	Maggie Rochon, Communications Specialist
Krystin Anderson, Upper Arlington Schools	Kathy Adams, UA City Council	Sarah Brown, Ohio Hispanic Coalition

1. Welcome

2. Approval of August 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Brent Theaker

Second: Jason Sayat

Minutes Approved

3. City Updates

- **CRC Annual Update to City Council** – the annual presentation by co-chairs Sayat and El Hennawy is scheduled for November 20, other CRC members encouraged to attend.
- **2024 Observances Calendar** – the draft has been shared with CRC members, some updates/corrections were discussed. The final will be uploaded to the CRC website.
- **Proposed 2024 CRC Meeting Schedule** – the proposed schedule was shared. If there are no changes, this will be finalized and added to the CRC website.
- **2024 CRC Innovation Small Grant Program** – the plan and schedule for the 2024 grant cycle was shared with members. The deadline for applications is December 15. The program is gaining traction, with more applications and grants awarded in 2023. It is hoped this trend will continue into 2024. CRC members encouraged to share the application with their networks and to encourage groups to consider applying. Farida, Elaine and Deborah will participate in the review and selection of grant recipients.
- **2024 Programming & Events Schedule** – a draft outline of potential CRC Welcome Series events and CRC programming was shared. Staff is seeking a CRC “cheerleader/lead” for each event/program. Goal of having one Welcome Series event per month, and some of the annual programming a natural fit for the Welcome Series, such as a Black History Month event and UA Pride.



- **Krystin Anderson shared** an update on the Schools' plans to host three opportunities (October 17, January 16, April 16) to welcome and engage new families in the district over the course of the school year, with an invitation for CRC participation at one of the sessions – after some discussion, the January opportunity appeared to be the best target date. This could tentatively be the January CRC Welcome Series activity.
- **CRC Event Presence** – final scheduling/CRC member presence for Neighbors Night Out and Songwriter Social were discussed. Brent shared that CRC members have been invited to Neighbors Night Out at no charge.
- **Divided Community Academy** – UA will have a group participating in the 2-1/2 day Academy being organized by OSU College of Law, including: Steve Schoeny, Emma Speight, Police Chief Steve Farmer, Rainbow UA representative Bonnie Emory, Equal representative Catherine Kennedy, UA Lutheran Church representative Steve Turnbull, CRC representative Brent Theaker, and UA Schools representative Denise Lutz. The group intends to focus on community responses and conflict resolution for potential LGBTQ+ related issues. Other participating communities include Whitehall (focus on housing challenges), Worthington (housing challenges), Columbus (community policing), and OSU (overall campus stability). Expect a report back at the October meeting.

4. National Hispanic Heritage Month

- Sarah Brown from the Ohio Hispanic Coalition provided a presentation on National Hispanic Heritage Month (see attached presentation).

5. CRC Strategic Planning/Goal Setting Session

- CRC members spent time writing down the topics/areas that they would like to work on in 2024 and beyond. These items were posted and grouped on the wall. Members were then given a set of dots that they could use to identify their priority projects.
- Results:
 - **5 Dots:** Collaborate with other community's CRC entities; host summit/gathering
 - **5 Dots:** CRC retreat: celebrate what has been done thus far; roadmap for achieving goals; common approach/theme for three areas (City; within UA; outside UA)
 - **4 Dots:** Celebrate diversity within the schools; connect with schools – find their needs; working with schools/community to promote non-traditional post-high school tracks (technical/trade schools)
 - **3 Dots:** Welcoming event as part of Fall Fest
 - **3 Dots:** CRC member transition plan (sustainability, continuity)
 - **2 Dots:** Some sort of main CRC event; multicultural event either at the Library or standalone event.
 - **2 Dots:** Address housing issues; housing disparity; promoting legislation banning source of income discrimination.
 - **2 Dots:** UA Police: good communication with all
 - **1 Dot:** Film series – international/cultural films followed by discussions
 - **1 Dot:** The welcoming series to include different cultural education/presentations
 - **Other Ideas:**
 - Continue to improve awareness and access to CRC (website, community center)
 - Share my story program
 - Speakers – from all walks of life; workshops/speakers from diverse representation



- Next survey – to check improvements in resident opinions/feelings of belonging
- Community “learn about the organizations day”
- It was agreed that many of these ideas warrant further review/discussion. It was suggested that the working groups meet to discuss which items are relevant to their areas, to review and develop actionable next steps.

6. Liaison Updates

- Equal UA – Jason shared that an Equal Eats event is coming up at an area restaurant. Equal will also be hosting a Big Table discussion on October 10.
- Leadership UA – Candidates Night is October 7. There are four candidates running for three City Council seats and six candidates running for three seats. Leadership UA is partnering with the Upper Arlington Community Foundation to run the program moving forward. The next program will begin in January.
- Members briefly discussed the CRC meeting time – some community members have expressed that the 4 pm start time proves challenging for some wishing to serve. It was agreed that it’s hard to identify a time that works for everyone, and members did not show interest in reconsidering the current schedule at this time.

7. Community Questions/Public Comment

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 pm





WE ARE THE

OHIO HISPANIC COALITION

COALICIÓN HISPANA DE OHIO

OHIO HISPANIC COALITION



- Founded in 1990
- 501©3 non-profit organization
- 100% Latino board of directors
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate direct services
- Serving the Latino communities
- Central Ohio & Statewide services



MEET OUR PROGRAM OFFICER

- Native of Panama
- Central Ohio resident for last 20 years
- Bachelor's Degree in Psychology & Spanish
- Manages programmatic, fiscal, and administrative development
- Over 6 years dedicated towards improving the wellbeing and quality of life of all Latinos
- Serves on Franklin County Public Health Equity Advisory Council;

Ohio Domestic Violence Network Meaningful Access

Collaboration



*Sarah
Brown*

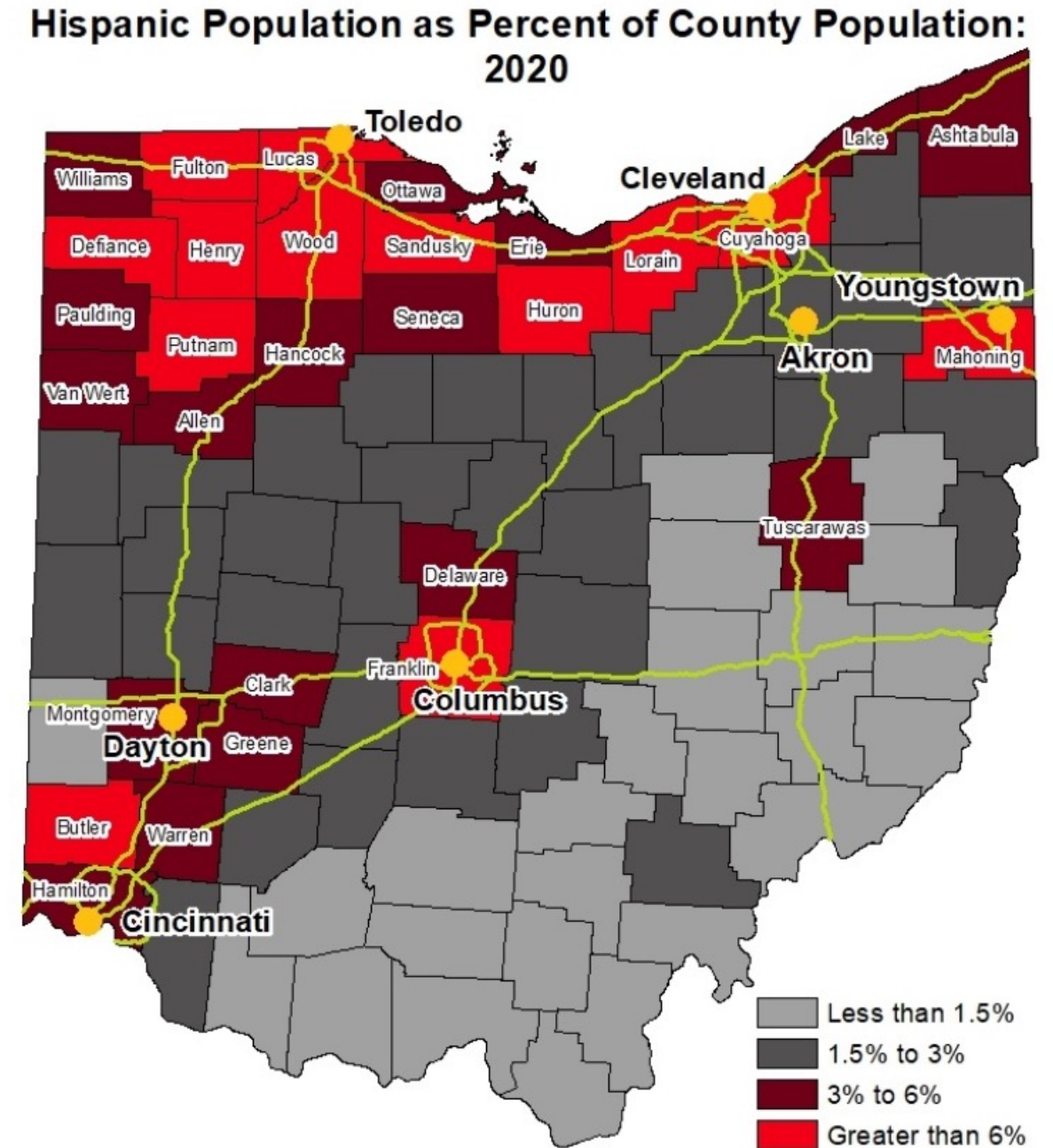
Program Officer

sarah@ohiohispaniccoalition.org

Latino Community Trends

- Ohio Hispanics
 - 505,000 individuals
 - 20% of individuals live below the poverty line
 - 7.9% unemployment rate
- Franklin County Hispanics
 - 91,182 individuals
 - 6.9% of population identifies as Hispanic

Ohio Department of Development: Ohio Hispanic Americans Snapshot from the 2021 American Community Survey





Latino Community Trends

- Higher rates of unemployment
- Higher rates of poverty
- Increased barriers in language, technology, and varying immigration status
- Lack of reliable transportation
- Lack of affordable housing
- Increased number of immigrants from Venezuela & Dominican Republic



OHIO HISPANIC COALITION

Our Mission:

To improve the wellbeing and quality of life of all Latinos through advocacy, education, training and access to quality services.





OHIO HISPANIC COALITION

Our Vision:

Creating collaborative partnerships in order to promote general awareness, including social, educational and economic advancement of Ohio's Latino population.

OUR DEPARTMENTS



Education, Technology, & Workforce Development

- Niños en Acción (Children in Action):
 - Afterschool Program
 - Summer Enrichment Camp
- Latinos in Finance: Bilingual Banker Training
- Digital Skills for Life: Technology Training
- Juventud en Accion (Youth in Action) Youth-Led Program



OUR DEPARTMENTS



Human & Civil Rights

- Soy Latina (I am Latina) Victim Empowerment Services
- Promotores de Salud (Community Health Workers)
- Interpretation & Translation



OHIO HISPANIC COALITION

Our Services:

Direct culturally and linguistically-appropriate services for Latino/Hispanic communities in Ohio

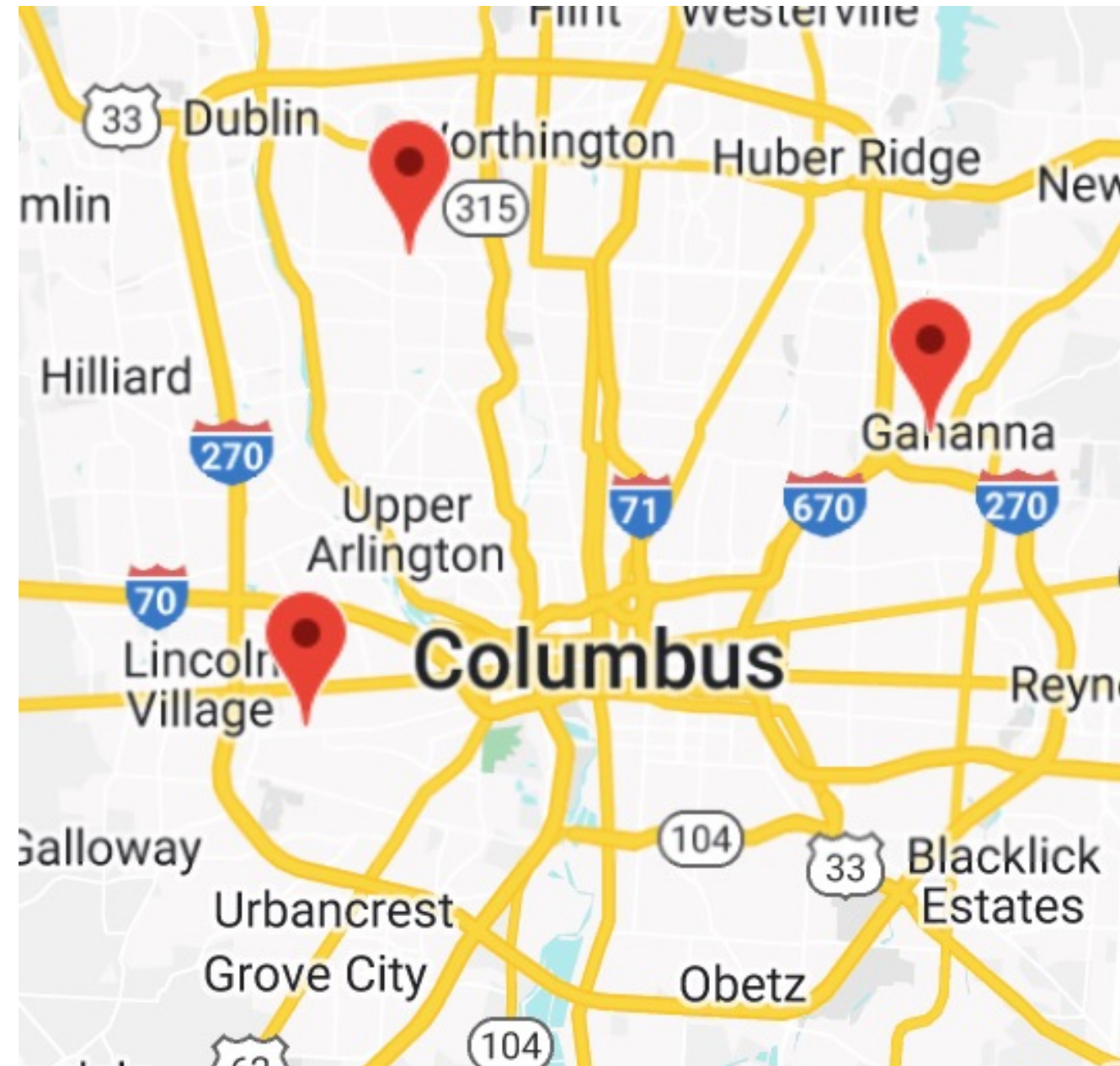
- Interpretation
- Translation
- Tutoring
- Mentorship
- College readiness
- Social/emotional development
- Cultural enrichment
- Technology advancement
- Case management
- Crisis intervention
- Court/Hospital/Law Enforcement Accompaniment
- Medical advocacy
- Legal advocacy
- Systems advocacy
- Support groups
- Legal services for victims
- Legal clinics
- Community events
- Access to community resources



OUR LOCATIONS

Main Office
1535 Bethel Road
Columbus, OH 43220

Cultural & Education
Center–West Site
5200 Sullivant Avenue
Columbus, OH 43228



Cultural & Education
Center–East Site
220 W Johnstown Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

“Mi casa es su casa”



CELEBRATING **HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**



- September 15 – October 15
- Purpose: Celebration of Latino histories, cultures and contributions in the U.S.
- Latino countries: 21
- Why? Majority of Latino Independence Days
 - Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Chile



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in any program or activity that receives Federal funds or other Federal financial assistance. Persons with limited English proficiency must be afforded a meaningful opportunity to participate in programs that receive Federal funds.

Example of violation:

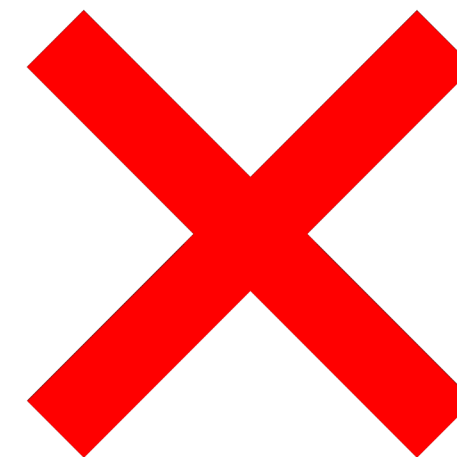
1. Not providing language assistance to Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals
2. Asking for citizenship status only to individuals who look or sound foreign



“UNDOCUMENTED”



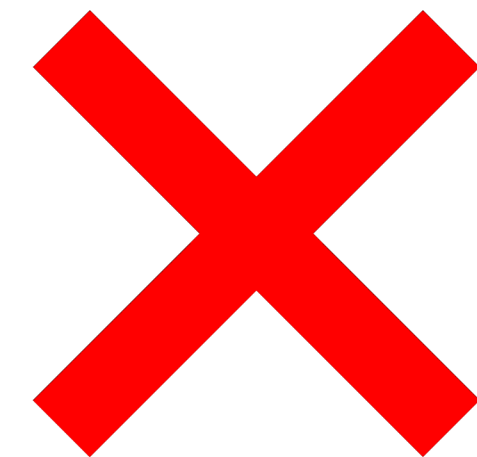
“ILLEGAL”



“INTERPRETATION”



“TRANSLATION”



CELEBRATING: ARTS & HISTORY



Despertando del sueño americano 'Waking up from the American Dream'

Mural by Ariel Peguero

Latino heritage and immigration mural
at agency's Main Office





Hispanic Heritage Youth Soccer Tournament

Annual soccer tournament for at Ohio Hispanic Coalition's soccer pop-up court.

In collaboration with Columbus Crew.



CELEBRATING: TRADITION & FAMILY



Día de los Reyes Magos (Three Wise Men Celebration)

Annual community event,
January

Traditional holiday among Latino countries. Celebration through food, parade, music, dancing, toy giveaway, and raffles.



CELEBRATING: LATINO EXCELLENCE



Afterschool Program Graduation

126 graduates

Students demonstrated significant improvements in reading, math, and social/emotional development



CELEBRATING: LATINO EXCELLENCE

Latinos in Finance: Bilingual Banker Training



94 graduates

\$47,000 provided in participants stipends

Partnership with UnidosUS, JPMorgan Chase, Morgan Stanley



CELEBRATING: CULTURE & COMMUNITY

Las Pilas: Dark Mexican Lager with Plantains



¡Ponte las pilas!

- Increase Latino visibility throughout Central Ohio
- Celebrate Latino success in STEM through craft beer.

Collaboration with Land-Grant Brewing Company & Columbus Crew



CELEBRATING: ADVANCEMENT



Ohio Padrino Recognition Awards

Recognizing individuals and entities that advocate for the advancement of Ohio's Latino communities.

Annual award celebration is
Friday, September 13th, 2024



HOW YOU CAN CELEBRATE



1. Volunteer
2. Donate
3. Partner
4. Sponsor
5. Be an Ally



Thank you! ¡Gracias!

Contact Us:

Sarah Brown
Program Officer
sarah@ohiohispaniccoalition.org



Community Relations Committee Educational Speaker Series

4 pm, Thursday, October 26

Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road

The Community Relations Committee is hosting a guest speaker on Thursday, October 26 in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness month. Please join us during the first hour to meet and listen to Marck Harrison from Greenleaf Job Training Services (based in Columbus, Ohio) share best practices for hiring and working with people who have special needs and/or disabilities.



MARCK HARRISON

Donor and Community
Engagement Specialist

Marck is a 41-year-old native of Columbus, Ohio, graduate of Beechcroft High School, and Columbus State Community College. He majored in small business management with the entrepreneurial focus. His previous work experience has been with Columbus Parks and Rec, working with individuals of amazing abilities as well as the general public as a recreational aide. He's also had experience as the Social Media Manager with Viaquest, helping to manage their social media platforms. He is a boccia athlete for Team USA currently ranked second in the United States and serves as an athlete representative with USA Boccia and the US Paralympic and Olympic committees (in addition to sitting on the board of directors for USA Boccia). Marck is also an assistant coach for the Freshman, JV and Varsity basketball teams at Eastmoor Academy.

Somehow, Marck still manages to find time to be a spectator of his favorite teams and to listen to the music he enjoys. In Marck's own words, he is "more than excited to be a part of the Greenleaf team, and I'm living my dream from an employment standpoint. I look forward to using my skills and abilities to impact Greenleaf and the people we serve."

The Community Relations Committee meetings are held in a hybrid format. To access the meeting remotely, click the following link to view the meeting packet (once it is available) and for meeting access details:

<https://upperarlingtonoh.gov/city-council-city-clerk/#council-agendas>

Upper Arlington Community Relations Committee
DRAFT STATEMENT
October 2023

In the face of escalating violence and horrific loss of human life in the Middle East, the Community Relations Committee of Upper Arlington stands in solidarity with community members impacted by these tragic events. Situations like this only bring additional suffering and division if individuals are not able to see beyond their own views—for this reason, we encourage our community to come together for conversation, connection, learning, and consolation. The CRC condemns any form of violence that transpires against certain groups or individuals because of their views, race, ethnicity or religion. An important lesson to learn from what is happening is that civility and mutual understanding is the only way we can live and thrive together. Let us continue to practice civility to resolve issues during these tough times and in any future challenging circumstances that we might face. We hope that peace and justice prevail at the end of the day.