

Latine Programs Team



Latine Programs Co-Director

Berta Campos-Anicetti

Berta emigrated to the U.S. from El Salvador when she was 16 years old. She did not speak English and faced the struggles of being a new immigrant. The gifts and challenges of those experiences have informed her work and given her great compassion for the difficulties that are faced by newcomers to this country. She has focused her career and volunteer work on human rights and the health and wellness of immigrants, in particular Latino and low-income communities. As the former Health Education and Promotores Program Director at the Novato Youth Center, she was integral in launching a teen pregnancy prevention program, the Novato Wellness Center and most recently a Promotores Program. She has a Master's Degree in Public Health from UC-Berkeley and has over 27 years of experience working with Latino and low-income young people and their families.

As an active parent volunteer, Berta has served on the Site Leadership Team and PTA Board at San Ramon Elementary and as a Lynwood parent representative in the Blue Ribbon Coalition and NUSD Gate Advisory and Diversity Committees. Berta was also a steering committee member of United for Safe Schools Novato (USSN), a former Novato Youth Center and School Fuel board member and a current Marin Academy board trustee. She is also an active volunteer docent at the Robert Ferguson Observatory. Berta is a passionate advocate for her community and continues to make a lasting contribution to the community at large. In 2008, she received the Novato Multicultural Commission Rene Lopez Faces of Novato award; In 2009, the Marin County Human Rights Commission Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian award; and in 2011, Empowering the Latino Community Leadership Award, North Bay Leadership Council. Her commitment to fostering cross-cultural understanding and building inter personal respect has helped make Novato a better place for us all to live.



**Latine Programs Co-Director
Maria Jaramillo-Botero**

Maria worked for the County of Marin- Behavioral Health and Recovery Services as the Outreach and Engagement Coordinator and helped support their efforts to reduce ethnic and racial disparities by investing more resources, training, and support for Community Health Advocate and Promotores programs in underserved communities (including Latine individuals, mono-lingual Asian populations, and individuals living in Marin City), and increasing coordination and cultivating relationships with grassroots, faith-based, and other community providers and partners. In this role, she fostered strong relationships with key community partners, led Mental Health First Aid trainings, Family Support Groups, and Parenting Classes. She was previously a therapist at an inpatient facility providing services for people with dual diagnoses and has trained and worked in a variety of clinical settings and provided psychotherapy to adults, adolescents, children, couples, and families, with a focus on addressing the needs and disparities in the immigrant Latine population and LGBTQ+ communities.



**Promotores Program Coordinator
Silvia Albuja**

Silvia emigrated to the U.S. from Ecuador in 1990. She has a B.A. in Business Administration from Universidad Central del Ecuador. While working for NYC, Silvia was the School Linked Services Coordinator at Hill Middle School for 9 years where she advocated for immigrant students and their families - connecting them to the school system and other community resources. Silvia has also facilitated Parent Project parenting classes for parents of teens and Abriendo Puertas parenting classes for parents of young children. She was also a co-facilitator in the Teen Moms program, has worked with Kinder Academy and helped facilitate playgroups. In addition, she has many years of experience working as an interpreter and translating materials into Spanish. Silvia has been the Promotores Coordinator for the past six years.



**Latine Program Assistant
Tatiana Rojas**

Originally from Colombia, Tatiana Rojas emigrated 4 years ago from Ecuador to Novato. She arrived with a Bachelor Degree in Political Science and a Masters in Higher Education. Tatiana connected with NMCS as a volunteer Promotora as she oriented to living in the US. Two years ago, she was hired as an ECE teacher's aide, achieved her childcare teaching permit, and became a teacher in our preschool room. Recently Tatiana was promoted to Latine Services Program Assistant and became our first full-time Promotores staff person. She states, "Through workforce development at NMCS, she was immersed into a bi-cultural environment that diversified her knowledge and skillset and grew her leadership skills." In her free time, Tatiana enjoys reading literature books and practicing yoga.



**Latine Youth Wellness Coordinator
Alexis Mendoza**

Alexis has been working for North Marin Community Services for the past 4 years as the Latine Youth Wellness Coordinator. He has been working with youth in middle and high schools as well as with transitional youth ages 12-25, at the Novato Teen Clinic. Alexis states, "I'm passionate about promoting wellness within people and empowering them to thrive." During his free time, Alexis loves to dance ballet, go to the gym, and on outdoor runs.



**Climate Action Coordinator
Maria Albuja**

Maria Albuja joined NMCS in September 2014. Maria started as a driver and kitchen assistant, and in June 2015, she transitioned into a new position as the Head cook. Maria shares that her passion for cooking is rooted in the strong belief her grandmother teaches her, "food brings family and people together." Maria has most recently started a new position with NMCS as a Climate Action Coordinator. She wants to use her passion, motivation, and share her beliefs on *climate change* with the community. She states "We can work together to have a good and sustainable life, reducing our footprint over the World and leaving a legacy for our children and future generations." Maria emigrated from Ecuador 15 years ago; she lives locally with her daughter.



Promotores Team

Core to the Latine Programs team are the Volunteer Promotores. This is a NMCS volunteer program that trains and engages Latine natural communities leaders who are trusted and embedded in the existing community infrastructure. This program model is a powerful way to bridge the English- and Spanish-speaking communities. Currently we have 21 Promotores who serve in Novato, San Rafael Canal area and West Marin. 90% of our Promotores represent 8 Latin American countries - Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and El Salvador.