

Madras, OR 9/13/2021

My Story.

My name is Yara Santos, I am a Mexican naturalized American, we moved to Madras the Summer of 1994. My husband and I raised our 3 kids in this wonderful community without many resources for memories population. We work and shop in Deschutes County and Jefferson County for the most part and we go to Portland sometimes, our family spends family fun times here in Central Oregon, Jefferson County and Deschutes County. We love camping and participating in all Community events.

I would love to have the Latino and Native communities remain together as a community of interest and my Goal is to support the Redistricting map (entitled House BSmith78 21-09-08) which includes Jefferson, adding some of Deschutes, Wasco, and Hood River Counties and Connecting to Klamath County.

My major concerns is the discrimination, poor support system for the Native and Latino Community in Jefferson County, we do not have leaders or representation in the school districts, we do not have a second language classes in the school district. It is especially important to continue to support the children's first language Native and Spanish, I would love to see that being implemented in our school curriculums. I would love to have more participation of the local authorities in events like the Latino Fest, which we should call it "Collage of Culture" and celebrate all the cultures in Central Oregon.

We also need to empower Latinos and Native leaders to learn how to participate in the State Elections.

Thank you to the Redistricting Committee for the opportunity to provide my input.

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