

Conexiones Latinas
Cuatro Condados Unidos
Jefferson-Walworth-Rock-Dodge

The mission of Conexiones Latinas is to inform and educate the Hispanic community of the services available in the counties of Dodge, Jefferson, Rock & Walworth.

For those of you who don't read Spanish, but have an interest in what *Conexiones Latinas* is all about, we will be including a brief summary in English of the articles included in the newsletter. If your organization would like to submit an article or other information for publication in future editions of *Conexiones Latinas* feel free to do so. Information which is time specific should be submitted at the beginning of the quarter **PRIOR** to the quarter in which your event will take place. Publication dates for the year are January, April, July, and October. We want *Conexiones Latinas* to work for you, so let us hear about your organization, upcoming events and information of interest to our community.

Information should be written and ready for publication when it is submitted. If possible, submit the information in Spanish. If this is not possible, you may send it in English and it will be translated by a *Conexiones Latinas* volunteer. Submit information to: info@conexioneslatinas.org or fax to (920) 568-5023

July/August/September 2015

Acción Diferida...Deferred Action

In June of 2012, President Obama signed an Executive Action known as DACA authorizing young people who were brought to the US by their parents to stay in the US and obtain work permits and attend school here. This program is still in force and has not been cancelled. DACA can be renewed every two years. Those young people who have recently renewed their work permits and received a card good for three years will receive letters from USCIS letting them know that they will be getting a new card that is only good for two years and the three year card needs to be returned to USCIS. They will not be left without work permits, but unfortunately they will not be able to keep the cards that were authorized for three years. This is because the pending case has not been resolved for the changes made by the President in November of 2014.

In November of 2014 President Obama announced an extension of the DACA program. That would give an extension to youth with DACA and would create deferred action for the parents of children who are US citizens that were in the US, known as DAPA. Nevertheless, on February 16, 2015 a Federal District court in Texas issued an order that put the DACA extension program and DAPA on temporary hold. This case is still ongoing. We are waiting for the decision of the Federal Judge in Texas who has to decide whether the executive order is a legal program or not.

The judge's decision to maintain the programs on hold while the case is pending has been appealed, and the parties presented their arguments to the Court of Appeals in recent months. Usually this type of case is slow and it can take a long time.

Although we don't know what the final decision will be regarding the legality of the DACA extension or DAPA, one should still be prepared and ready in case they can qualify in the future. Many families have decided to prepare the documentation necessary to be ready to win their case when they applications are opened to the public. The information that is needed to qualify for DAPA and DACA extension are then listed. If you have questions, call 608-819-6540.

Phone number correction – The Client Service phone number for Unity Health in a previous edition was incorrect. The correct number is 800-362-3310.

La Importancia de Aprender...The Importance of Learning English

When a person doesn't understand the English language they have various disadvantages. For example, they can't communicate with their doctors or teachers, can't report an accident or run a higher risk of having an accident at home or at work because they don't understand the instructions on labels of possible toxic solutions that they have to work with. Also, they can't take advantage of all the opportunities that they could have to be successful.

The Whitewater School District sponsors free English classes for adults along with the help of community organizations like United Way and private donations. These English classes are held at the Whitewater High School, 534 S Elizabeth St, Whitewater, WI.

There are three levels available and the classes are held Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. The course begins with the school year and runs from September until May. Along with the English classes they offer basic computer skills, citizenship classes, and childcare with trained staff.

The only cost the students need to cover is the cost of a book with is \$25, but if an interested person doesn't have the ability to pay that amount they will not be turned away and they will be given the materials free. The students learn about important themes like daily activities, food, health, clothing, money, how to fill out a work application and a wide variety of conversations, reading, vocabulary, phonics and grammar. The teachers that teach the classes are trained and take into consideration all aspects of specialized adult education.

These English classes have been offered as a service to the community for the past 18 years and have helped people from various countries. Students who have taken the classes are now citizens, have gotten their drivers licenses, have a better economic position, they develop in a more professional manner, they have been a good example to their family, in the community and they are able to help other people. In 2013 this program was honored by the League of Women voters for promoting education and democracy.

The goal of this program is to promote education so that all members of our community become part of the community and there can be better communication among all of us.

Education is the key to success and the way to reach the American Dream. For more information call 1-414-418-8424, Jorge Islas Martinez

Tortas del Verano...Summer Sandwiches in the Park

Families with children are invited to share a free, healthy lunch in the parks in Watertown. The lunches are provided three times a week during the 12 weeks of summer vacation. Each program serves lunch between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm. The lunches include a sandwich with protein, fruit, vegetables, a carton of milk and sometimes dessert. Fruit juice is available for those with milk allergies. The program begins on Tuesday, June 16 and ends Friday, August 28. Lunch will be served even if it is raining. The schedule is: Tuesdays in Clark Park, Wednesdays in Riverside Park and Fridays in Lincoln Park. All families are welcome. Join us for lunch and stay to play in the park.

Adolescentes y la Violencia.. Adolescents and Dating Violence

This article, submitted by PADA, starts out by quoting the statistic that one in ten high school students in the US reports being a victim of violence in a romantic relationship in the past 12 months. Types of dating violence include: 1. physical abuse - hitting, pushing, pulling, etc., 2. emotional/verbal – jealousy, insults, isolation, harassment, or threats of harming themselves or loved ones, 3. sexual – forcing one to participate in sexual activities when they don't want to or can't give their consent, 4. Technology – constant calls to intimidate or to know where someone is, constant harassing texts, sexting, sexual photos or videos, social forums to monitor and know what you do, where you are and who you are communicating with. Some signs of dating abuse include: using threats or violence to solve problems, jealousy, frequent calls and text messages to see where you are and who you are with, the person doesn't let you have friends or go out with your friends, the person tells you how to dress, they threaten suicide or to hurt themselves, they make you do things you don't want to do. Studies have shown that adolescents are at lower risk of this type of abuse if they have the support of their family. If you are the parent of an adolescent, be sure to make time every week to talk with your son or daughter. Ask how they are and check if they need help with anything. These simple actions show your child that you are present, interested in their lives, and are available to help them if they need it. The other half of the article talks about the dangers of grooming and sexting on the internet. Grooming is a tactic used by pedophiles to get into sexual conversations with minors. The intention is to establish a relationship, get emotional control over the teen and pave the way for some type of abuse. It is

important to know who your child is communicating with and if these people are teens or adults. Many times the adults pass themselves off as teens to gain the confidence of the teen and then start stalking them. Sexting includes sending sexually explicit messages and/or photos via text which may facilitate the messages getting spread on the internet. These photos and videos are shared with other people, causing harm to the victim and also can be used for blackmail. Once again, parents need to talk with their children to keep the lines of communication open, but they also need to set rules for using the internet. What a person shares on the web isn't private and it can cause harm in the future.

Un número limitado... A number of free school supplies and backpacks are available for families that cannot afford to buy them for their children. Tuesday, August 18, Community Family Night at St. Henry Parish Center in Watertown. Each family needs a coupon to participate. The coupons will be available in August at churches that are part of the Shared Community Mission Group. Ask for the coupons at your church.

Programa de Nutrición...Senior Farmer's Market Program

The Senior Farmer's Market Program offers the chance to get fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs produced by local, certified farmers. Senior Farmer's Market checks can be used from June 1 to October 31 in any Farmer's Market or farm stand that is a participant in the program. Almost every county in the state has at least one participating Farmer's Market. The program focuses on purchasing the fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers to help the local economy and it offers a way to get healthier, fresher food. The checks are given out at CAC in Watertown. For more information, call 920-262-9667.

Las Garrapatas y los Mosquitos... Ticks and Mosquitos are back!

It's time to start paying attention to protecting yourself against these harmful pests. Mosquitos are very active at dawn and at dusk and you can see and hear them. Some types of mosquitos in our area carry West Nile Virus and this can be serious. Even though the chances of getting a bite from an infected mosquito are small, it's worth it to take the proper precautions to avoid getting bitten. To prevent mosquito bites, apply repellent and wear long pants and long sleeve shirts when you go out especially at dawn and at dusk.

Servicios Legales de Inmigración...Immigration Legal Services

The lawyers from CMC (Catholic Multicultural Center) offer legal services for immigration by appointment and using a sliding fee scale. Eligibility of the client depends on family income. Initial consultations are offered in the following locations, with appointment only.

First Friday – Holy Rosary Catholic Church, 104 E. Harriet St., Darlington, WI

Second Friday – St. John the Baptist, 324 E North St., Jefferson, WI

Third Friday – St. Thomas, 104 E Park St, Montfort, WI

Fourth Friday – Nativity of Mary Center, 117 N Wisconsin St, Janesville, WI

Call 608-441-0114 to schedule a consultation. See the ad on the back page for more info.

Programa de Lectura del Verano...Summer Reading Program

The theme of the 2015 summer reading program is "Every Hero has a Story". Each library has their own program with events, prizes and much more for children, teens and adults. Visit your local library for more information and to sign up.

Requisito de Trabajo...Work Requirements for FoodShare

Starting April 1, 2015 if you are age 18 through 49 and do not have any children under age 18 living in your home who are in the same FoodShare household, you may need to meet a work requirement to keep getting FoodShare benefits, unless you meet an exemption.

There are three ways to meet the work requirement:

1. Work at least 80 hours each month, or
2. Take part in an allowable work program such as FSET, Wisconsin Works (W-2) or certain programs under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) at least 80 hours each month, or
3. Both work and take part in an allowable work program for a combined total of at least 80 hours each month.

FSET can help you meet your work requirement. Learn more about:

The Work Requirement for Adults Age 18 through 49 P-00710

([English](#), [Albanian](#), [Arabic](#), [Burmese](#), [Chinese](#), [Hmong](#), [Laotian](#), [Russian](#), [Serbian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Vietnamese](#)) (PDF, 120 KB).

Keep in mind that if you choose not to meet the work requirement, you will only get 3 months of FoodShare benefits in a 36-month (3 year) period until you meet the work requirement, meet an exemption, or your 36-month period has passed.

You can still take part in FSET even if you do not have to meet a work requirement. To take part in FSET, [contact your agency](#) and let them know that you are interested in FSET services.

New FSET Regions and Service Providers

Starting April 1, 2015, there will be new FSET regions across the state. Some of these regions may have a new FSET service provider. [See the FSET region map to find your region and your FSET service provider.](#)