



# NEWS FROM EXTENSION

UW-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION • JUNTOS



## Welcome / Bienvenidos

Hello and welcome to the Juntos Wisconsin Newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to highlight program resources, strategies and successes to continue to connect and grow our community, JUNTOS, in Wisconsin!

## Juntos - For a Better Education

Juntos, "together" in Spanish, works to unite families, schools, and community partners to ensure student academic success. The program provides Latino/a 8th to 12th grade students and their parents with knowledge, skills, and resources to help youth graduate from high school and to encourage families to work together to gain access to college. Currently, Juntos in Wisconsin includes:



**Family Workshop Series** - Workshops for Middle School and High School youth and their parents help families make education a family goal, improve family and school communication, understand higher education options and how to pay for it.

**Family Nights** - Families engage in a variety of workshops and projects from the 4-H program related to art, nature, school success skills, and more.

*“Because of my participation in the Juntos program, I feel better able to ask for help for my child.” -Parent Testimonial*



Trempealeau County Middle School Workshops



Trempealeau County 4-H Family Night

## *Program Spotlight!* Richland County

A group of families in Richland Center celebrated the completion of the Juntos Family Night program in April. Over 5 weeks, families discussed ways to support their students and factors that contribute to academic success. Upon completion of Juntos, students improved their study habits and had more conversations with their families about their school interests. Parents are hopeful that their children will attend higher education and have found new ways to encourage them

**Community connections** play a key role in Juntos!

- [Richland Center High School](#) and [UW-Platteville-Richland](#) guest speakers provided details on graduation, enrollment criteria, opportunities to earn credits, and ways to pursue future plans.
- [Southwest Wisconsin Technical College \(SWTC\)](#) provided a Spanish language tour for families to learn about training and education opportunities beyond high school. Youth were especially interested in graphic design and culinary career programs.

Program facilitators were Karleen Craddock and Chelsea Wunnicke of Extension Richland County, and community partner, Maria Orellano. Financial support was provided by the Multi-Cultural Outreach Program (MCOP) and the Wisconsin 4H Foundation.



## *Partner Spotlight!*

### Office of Student Financial Aid

Juntos Wisconsin is proud to partner with the Office of Student Financial Aid (OFSA) at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Paying for higher education is a major concern for most students and families. The financial aid process can be confusing and not all students are aware of the various college access programs and aid packages that they may be eligible for. Through this partnership, Juntos Wisconsin's goal is



Joselyn Diaz-Valdes speaks to students at Burlington High School.

to connect families with information and resources through financial aid workshops provided by OFSA advisors.

Apply early for financial aid! - FAFSA opens on October 1

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## Get Started JUNTOS! Gather your team

Attention school representatives, community leaders, faith community, non-profit organizations, businesses owners, families, and more!

The Juntos Program recommends a **team effort** to planning a successful program. This includes:

- Identifying community partners that will help create a Juntos Community Partners Team. This team could be made up school and community members who are either already connected with the Latino Community and/or have resources or interest in engaging with Latino families.
- Meeting with potential community partners as early as possible. The agenda for the first partners' meeting should include: 1) An overview of the Juntos Program with a focus on the Family Workshop Series component; 2) Determine preliminary logistics for the program (e.g., location, time, and childcare needs); 3) Identify how each partner can help in the program's development; and 4) Establish a commitment among the partners to form a Juntos Community Partners Team.

(Excerpt from Leader's Program Manual for Juntos High School Family Workshop Series.)

If you see yourself already involved or wanting to be involved in this work, please reach out to Adam Trunzo at 715-538-3037 or [adam.trunzo@wisc.edu](mailto:adam.trunzo@wisc.edu)

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## ¡Celebremos! *El Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana*

From September 15-October 15, the United States celebrates the history and contributions of our Hispanic Community. While Juntos focuses on the youth, family and community assets of our participants all year round, Hispanic Heritage Month provides additional opportunities for us to share and honor the many colorful traditions of Latin American countries. Let's join together to celebrate the achievements and contributions of the Hispanic community in Wisconsin and across the country. Click on the image to see resources from the National Museum of the American Latino.

# Hispanic Heritage Month Resources



## About Juntos

North Carolina State launched the Juntos Program in 2007, with a plan to provide high school Latino students and their families with the knowledge, skills, and resources to ensure high school graduation and increase college access and attendance rates. Juntos is a national program with affiliates in Alabama, California, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin.



### Juntos Wisconsin

Web site: <https://youth.extension.wisc.edu/juntos-wisconsin/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/JuntosWisconsin>

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