



**August 2016**

## **Message from the Executive Director**

Greetings from El Concilio!

I would like to thank the staff, board of directors, community partners and the community as a whole for welcoming me as the New Executive Director of El Concilio. It has been an amazing experience thus far having been a part of the Hispanic Fiesta July 9-10, 2016 which once again brought information and entertainment to thousands of families. During my first month, I have witnessed firsthand how impactful the services we offer are and how lives are changed every day by the efforts of our staff.

A walk down memory lane will reveal that nearly 55 years ago, El Concilio was built as a social and cultural institution serving Puerto Ricans and Latinos in the community. From Mr. Moises Gonzalez (first Executive Director) to Ms. Joanna Otero-Cruz (most recent Executive Director), El Concilio has advocated, created awareness and provided services to meet the ever changing needs of the Latino community in Philadelphia. I pay homage to the leaders that came before me and I'm honored to lead El Concilio into the future where we will seek many opportunities to enhance services all the while maintaining our roots and culture that has made El Concilio what it is today.



Adonis Banegas

As we move forward with our cultural events and services, I invite you to get to know us a little more and make El Concilio, "**Your Concilio**". We strive to serve our community better and will be able to do so with your involvement and your reach. Be a part of our upcoming events starting with Senior Luncheon (9/2/16), Annual Awards Gala (9/17/16) and the Annual Puerto Rican Day Parade (9/25/16) making September one of our busiest and fun-filled months of the year.

Respectfully Yours,

***Adonis Banegas***

Executive Director

[www.elconcilio.net](http://www.elconcilio.net)

## Upcoming Events

To RSVP for upcoming events, please call Concilio at **215-627-3100**.



Tickets are now available for our 2016 Puerto Rico Festival Gala. [Click here for more information and to purchase tickets.](#)

### **Cafecito de Ninos**

Wednesday, August 17th  
5:30-7:30pm  
141 E Hunting Park Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19124

*Want to learn more about fostering? Attend this event!*

### **Concilio's Bi-lingual CPR Trainings**

141 E Hunting Park Avenue,  
Philadelphia, PA 19124  
\$65.00 per person  
Friday, August 19th  
10:00-1:00 in Spanish only (en espanol)  
5:30-8:30 in English only  
For more information or to register, please call Migdalia Hernandez at 215-627-3100.

### **Concilio's Pre-Purchase and Financial Literacy**

Saturday, September 10th  
9:00am-1:00pm  
141 E Hunting Park Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19124

### **Parenting Classes**

Concilio offers an ongoing educational series about parenting skills for today's families. For more information, please contact our Parenting Educator, Migdalia Hernandez at: 215-627-3100.

### **Foster Parent In-Service Trainings for Current Foster Parents**

Thursday, August 18th  
10:00am-12:00pm in Spanish only (en espanol)  
5:30-7:30pm in English only

### **Banking Day**

Wednesday, August 24th  
11:00am-12:30pm  
Come and learn about best banking practices, banking options, and how to open an account. Vendors will include TD Bank, Santander and Wells Fargo. Light refreshments will be provided.  
RSVP by 8/22 at 215-627-3100.

### **Pre-Purchase Workshop**

Tuesday, September 20th  
5:00-7:00pm  
141 E Hunting Park Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19124

## Cultural Events

### Call for Volunteers!

***Do you enjoy helping people? Do you support good causes in your community?***

Concilio is looking for committed community members interested in getting involved to support our events!

For more information, please call 215-627-3100 OR sign up to volunteer on our [website](#).

Concilio would like to thank all staff and volunteers who supported a successful 2016 Hispanic Fiesta. We had a great turnout and beautiful weather! Large events, such as fiesta, would not be possible without the support of our loyal and hardworking staff and volunteers! Thank you!



### Save the Dates for 2016



**PUERTO RICAN  
FESTIVAL EVENTS**

- Seniors Luncheon**  
September 2, 2016
- Puerto Rican Festival Gala**  
September 17, 2016
- Puerto Rican Day Parade**  
September 25, 2016
- Closing Ceremony**  
November 11, 2016

CONCILIO

For more information call 215-627-3100.

To volunteer for any of these events, sign up on our [website](#)!

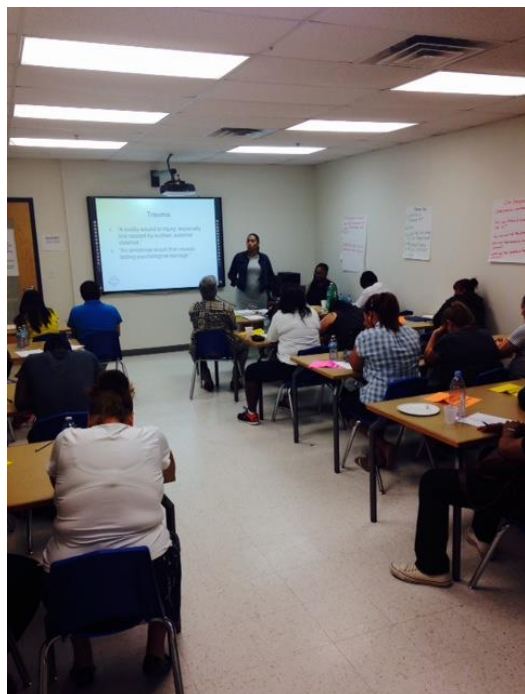
*\*Please note dates may be subject to change due to availability and confirmation of proposed venues for events.*

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## Program News

### *Family Social Services*

The Family Social Services Department is proud to be welcoming a number of new foster and kinship parents to the Concilio team! After three full days of training in late June, and working closely with their Resource Parent coaches over the summer, we are thrilled to open up opportunity for new temporary placements for children in out of home care.



### *Community Based Services*

#### East Division Victim Witness Services

Concilio, in collaboration with Congreso de Latinos Unidos is operating a "East Division Victim/Witness Hotline". The hotline is in operation Monday-Friday 8:30-5:00. Community members are welcomed to call to talk to a victim advocate, get connected to victim services, schedule appointments with a Concilio or Congreso advocate or to get information on victim rights. The hotline number is 267-986-1813.

**Concilio's Victim Witness Services Program is open for referrals! Please contact our main number for more information about appointments, services, and support: 215-627-3100.**

#### Housing Services

Concilio is now accepting applications for UESF utility assistance for community members who have a shut of notice from the Philadelphia Water Department. We are no longer completing applications for PECO or PGW, but welcome appointments to support with budget counseling to help get bills back on track. Please call 215-627-3100 to make your appointment with Dorris Carrion, Concilio's housing counselor.

### PYN Summer Youth Program

Concilio youth have been busy this summer working to exercise the "Power of their Voice" through both art and research. Youth have been learning about Teen Homelessness as their research topic for the summer. In addition, they have been busy building a Concilio float to be unveiled during the 2016 Puerto Rican Parade.



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## For Rent: Concilio's Hall

With 3,700 square feet of open space, come visit our Community Hall to book your next event!

In addition, we can offer: a prep kitchen space, break out rooms, and plenty of parking!



*Please contact Amanda Lopez ([Amanda.Lopez@elconcilio.net](mailto:Amanda.Lopez@elconcilio.net)) Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm to schedule a showing.*



## La Voz



As the presidential election gets closer, Concilio wants to remind you to get out and vote in November. The voter registration deadline for Pennsylvania is October 11th!

[Learn more about registering to vote on our website!](#)

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## Staff Corner

### August Birthdays!

Eva Freeman, August 8th

Oneyra Ortiz, August 9th

Nelsida Estevez, August 16th

Damaris Feliciano, August 19th

Devlyn Zayas, August 22nd

Anjanette Velazco, August 31st

### Welcomes and Farewells

Congratulations to both Anjanette Velazco, Immunizations Coordinator, and Patricia Canela, Court Advocate, who leave for maternity leave and both will be first time moms! Congrats to the new Mommies and the new Concilio babies!



*Anjanette Velazco*

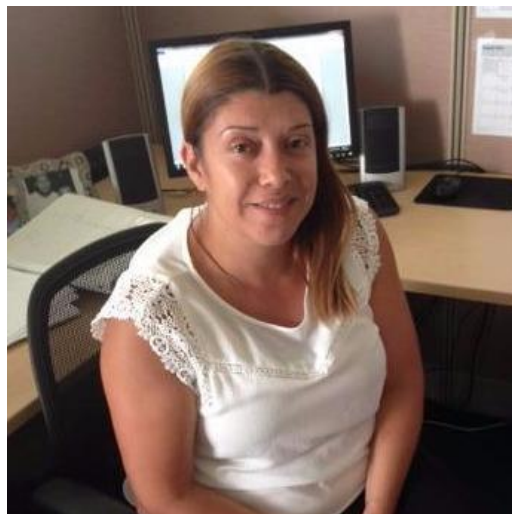
Concilio bids farewell to Vicky Paulino, Foster Care Social Worker in July! Concilio wishes Vicky the best and is thankful for her service to children and families!

After more than six years with Concilio, Yaritza Rivera, Data and Quality Assurance Coordinator's last day was August 3rd. Concilio is grateful for Yaritza's amazing contributions to our community and wishes her all the best in her future endeavors.



*Concilio wishes the best of luck to Yaritza Rivera (left, in red) and Vicky Paulino (right, in black)*

Concilio welcomes Michelle Cintron, Permanency Worker, to the Family and Social Services Department! Michelle joined our team in June 2016. Bienvenida!



*Michelle Cintron*

Concilio welcomes Yanira Rosario to the Concilio Familia! She began in July as a new Immunization Outreach Worker and we are thrilled to have her part of our Concilio team!



Yanira Rosario

### Concilio has the following positions open! Come work with us!

- [Bi-lingual Foster Care Coordinator](#)
- [Part Time Youth Facilitator](#)
- [Part Time Site Supervisor](#)
- [Marketing and Event Specialist](#)

## About Concilio

### Concilio's Mission

Our mission is to cultivate the strength and resilience of children and families, improve the quality of life in our community, and maintain our community's heritage, history, and culture.

### Concilio's Purpose

- To provide social, educational, cultural, prevention and intervention services and programs to underserved young people and families in the Philadelphia region;
- To serve as a convener/voice for the diverse Latino community around issues impacting children, youth and families;
- To serve as a catalyst for maintaining and celebrating the cultural heritages and histories of our diverse Latino communities.

### Concilio's Advocacy Role

Concilio's role as an advocate for the Latino community is to be *presente*, listening to, understanding and giving voice to the needs, wishes and dreams of our diverse community. Concilio also partners with other communities to address shared interests or concerns.

Concilio is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) in Pennsylvania and a Charitable Organization (No: 15208) a registered non-profit corporation. It was founded in 1962 and is a recognized leader in the Social Services field.

Concilio's operations are always aligned with Mission, Vision, and Values, and has no political or religious affiliations.

**United Way Contribution # 355107**

141 E Hunting Park Ave. Philadelphia, PA 19124  
215-627-3100 | [www.elconcilio.net](http://www.elconcilio.net)

