



Centro Rendu -- A Special Program of St. Vincent De Paul of Seattle | King County

Centro Rendu, one of the special works of the Seattle King County Council, provides culturally and language specific programming, which includes adult basic education, high school completion, financial & computer literacy, leadership and civic engagement opportunities, case management services in Spanish, and legal counseling.

Centro Rendu began creating a Back 2 Work program in July 2019. We had been operating our high school completion programs such as GED and “21+” since 2015 to help Latino adults receive high school diploma.

Recognizing the challenges of working mothers and fathers, Centro Rendu enhanced its educational programs by accommodating childcare services for parents and guardians, while they attend their classes.

Back 2 Work

Back 2 Work is a program offering individualized support and job opportunities in a trade industry. At Centro Rendu, we have expanded this concept to include other industries. This will open doors for **Back 2 Work** participants to start a career, earn a living wage and become valued members of the workforce. Anyone unemployed or working a minimum wage job and over 18 will qualify for this program.

Alliances & Partnerships

We currently collaborate with two community colleges: Renton Technical College for the 21+ High School completion program and Green River College for ESL and GED. We also collaborate with the Mexican Consulate for the Plaza Comunitaria and its INEA program which helps adults, whose English is their second language, and who need adult basic education to succeed in a GED program.

We also are developing relationships with unions like carpenters, plumbers, laborers, and pipe fitters with a goal of developing a bilingual pre-apprenticeship training program.

The Centro Rendu 21+ program has built a unique partnership with Renton Technical Collage (RTC) that enables students to transition from the 21+ program to RTC's technical fields of nursing and welding. Additionally, we are developing relationships with teacher unions to create a pipeline for para-educators to increase equity in schools.

Centro Rendu and SVdP are connected to a wide variety of other resources and community-based organizations. One example is the University of Washington School of Social Work where interns receive practical experience on the job.

Workforce Development & Employability Skills

We currently have a pipeline for jobs at our SVdP thrift stores, community resource connectors program, parent liaisons in the schools, and tutors for our INEA literacy program. We have naturally encouraged and empowered mothers to become liaisons in their schools, sometimes getting jobs in the community. Some mothers continued studying to become licensed child-care providers, para-educators, peer and community connectors, and even case managers. We have received funding for school parent cultural brokers and systems navigators from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation.

We have a training program for case managers, cashiers, parent school ambassadors, and Helpline assistants. We work with Washington Cash, now called Ventures, to help develop entrepreneurial skills and supports.

Centro Rendu is excited to offer all of our students training that prepares them for success in work. This includes training in "employability skills" including resume development, budgeting, time management, customer service and other skills that are important for success in any job.

Case Management Services

Our case management team supports the students in their educational journeys by providing encouragement, offering resources, support, counseling and skill development to help students learn how to work with coworkers and supervisors.

These skills also strengthen the students' view of the importance of timeliness and help to understand how others---particularly your co-workers, view new employees.