

## New Executive Director Announced

Mirna Wildasin has accepted the position

#### as the Executive Director of HACC

Recently you received the January HACC newsletter, in which there was the introduction to our new Executive Director. But, just like any transition of change, sometimes there are bumps along the way. As a result of some of those bumps, we are now sending this newsletter out as a special edition to notify you of the process and results of this search for the permanent Executive Director.

Ten months ago, the search began for a replacement for Carol Hinkle as the new HACC Executive Director. After Carol's many years of service, we knew this search would take time. Graciously, Mirna Wildasin, stepped in as the Interim Executive Director to fill the role as we went through the search. Later a task force search group was formed to review and update the job description, advertise and interview potential applicants for the new Ex. Director, and finally to make a recommendation for a hire. After a very thorough process, the task force made their recommendation at the Ministries Board meeting in December. Based on non-profit experience and several degrees of higher education the recommended candidate seemed to be a good choice. However, we were wrong, and that candidate was dismissed.

The Executive Committee, on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, then met with Mirna Wildasin, another potential candidate for this position. They humbly asked if she would consider staying on as the fulltime new Executive Director. Graciously, Mirna agreed to take on the position. We give thanks for her true dedicated passion and love for the people and ministry of HACC.

Please continue to pray for the Hanover Area Council of Churches, the volunteers and staff, the clients and residents, supporters and workers and especially Mirna Wildasin as she moves forward leading HACC into the future.

May God bless us in the work of love and help to our neighbors.



### From the desk of the Executive Director

Seven years ago, I was recruited by Carol Hinkle as a part time caseworker while I continued as the Executive Director of the Hispanic American Center of Hanover. The first day I walked in the building, I could see the Lord's presence and knew immediately that this is where I wanted to be. It was the epitome of the word 'community' and I wanted to be part of it.

In 2020, I was promoted to be the Associate Director. In April 2021, I became the Interim Executive Director. In this role, I took a new and different approach to increase the organization's visibility and public relations.

In my 43 years of knowing the Hanover community, I have grown to love the people here. I moved to Hanover in 1976 from my native country, Guatemala, Central America, where I met my biological father who was born in Cuba. I carry within me a beautiful combination of an indigenous and Caribbean Culture. I was the first 'English as a Second Language' student in the Hanover School District, and that is where I started my journey in learning my second language, English.

I bring over 20 years of experience in the non-profit sector. Among other projects, I was the founder of The Hispanic American Center, The Annual Diversity and Hanover Kid's Day. I am so grateful that my Lord has chosen me to lead HACC's ministry. The people of Hanover have stollen my heart. I will do everything in my power to strengthen the mission of HACC in our community where peace is lived and learned, and hope is shared through God's love.

I hope to have the opportunity to get to know our donors, volunteers, partners, and neighbors and invite you to stop by HACC's building so I can meet with you personally and introduce you to our dedicated staff, and you can learn more about our services and volunteer opportunities. I appreciate your continued support of HACC and look forward to sharing our stories and news with you.

Mirna Wildasin Executive Director





#### We Give Thanks

We give thanks for you, our loyal staff, supporters and volunteers, who give so much so that the Hanover Council of Churches ministry can help so many of our neighbors.

Many of you give of your time and energy, serving at PAL, Clothing Bank, Ruth's Harvest, Meals on Wheels, Changing Lives Shelter, and so many other ways. Some of you serve on committees and boards, helping guide the building maintenance or finances, doing outreach or new ministries, planning for Crop Walk or resource assistance, or helping guide our ministry.

We give thanks for your time and efforts.

Some of you are staff, overseeing the day-to-day work of making sure all the operations run smoothly. So often, this goes unseen and yet is so essential.

We give thanks for your dedication.

Many financially support HACC through regular giving directly to our ministries or through your own congregation's donation or through the three year Crisis Fund. Several of you give through grants, wills and bequests that help fulfill our ministry goals allowing us to vision for even more opportunities of service. This past year alone, the annual appeal raised over \$120,000 dollars toward the budgeted costs of our work. That is AMAZING! Just consider that in the previous 16 years of appeals we only raised around \$230,000 in total. That means in one year alone you have given about 1/3 the grand total.

We are truly thankful for your continued growing support.

By all your help, we are able to continue to do ministry and meet the growing needs of our neighbors and friends throughout the Hanover area.

WE GIVE THANKS!

*Reminder: The HACC Board meets on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm* 



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# Please let us know if you'd like to receive this newsletter via email.

Any Questions, Concerns, Suggestions or Address Changes?

For any newsletter submissions or updates please email: officeassist@hanoverarecouncilofchurches.org

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Our office is open Monday to Friday 8 AM to 1 PM

