

El Grupo Intercambio de Cultura (Cultural Exchange Group)

Sponsored by Alianza de la Comunidad

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Mission:

To sponsor greater cross-cultural interaction and community-building among Howard county residents.

Why is this important? To contribute to Alianza de la Comunidad's goal of educating the community about Hispanics in Howard County.

Objective:

To provide structured, consistent opportunities for county residents to:

1. gain insight on the commonalities of shared goals and perspectives in order to strengthen the larger community of Howard County.
2. increase their acquisition of either Spanish or English language in an informal, conversational environment;
3. provide opportunities for discussions of a variety of culturally-infused topics such as world-view orientation, recreation, heritage, societal expectations, cooking, etc..

Volunteer positions:

Seeking two co-facilitators for El Grupo Intercambio de Cultura Meet-ups (Cultural Exchange Group). One bilingual (Spanish/English) facilitator & one (English-dominant language) facilitator.

Skills: Be culturally-competent, knowledgeable and respectful of geographical, cultural and economic differences among a variety of Hispanic populations. Prefer some group facilitation skills.

Facilitator shared tasks:

- Create a monthly schedule of meet-ups with alternate meet-up dates.
- Identify, list and contact proprietors of centrally-located places where meet-ups can be held that will accommodate a range of 8 to 20 people.
- Inform participants of process and expectations; guide and facilitate group conversations
- Develop a simple system for matching up Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced language speakers on site
- Be a "point-of-contact" for group participants
- Create a user-friendly web presence on *meet-up.com*, specific to this group; maintain and monitor the resulting group.
- Keep track of attendance, profiles, posted survey results and comments from group users.
- Create an evaluative summary at the end of the session compiled from

completed participant surveys; verbal feedback and observations

Time commitment: 4-5 hours/month

- ~ One group meet-up per month for one hour
- ~ Planning for each meet-up (*including confirmation of site location, review of attendee list and creation of a list of thematic topics*)
- ~ Web-site monitoring of the group