

**Collection #  
BV 3516-3525  
CT 1991-2007  
DVD 2521-2550**

**HISPANIC INDIANAPOLIS: PERSONAL HISTORIES  
FROM AN EMERGING COMMUNITY  
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT, 1990**

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 10 bound volumes, 17 cassette tapes, 30 DVDs

COLLECTION DATES: 1990

PROVENANCE:

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Guthrie, Charles C. *The Indianapolis Hispanic community/* Indianapolis, Ind.: University of Indianapolis Press, c1995. Pamphlet Collection: F534.I55 G78 1995.

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1992.0490

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Dr. Charles C. Guthrie is a graduate of Indiana University. He is a professor of Latin American, African, and Colonialism/Development History at the University of Indianapolis. Guthrie began the Hispanic Indianapolis Oral History project. These interviews were all conducted by Dr. Guthrie in 1990.

Delia Diaz was born and raised in Cuba. She lived for many years in Havana, where she married and had three of her four children. In 1962, she, her husband and her children left Cuba for the United States. They stayed for a short time in Miami. They then came to Indianapolis with the help of the members of the Christian Church on Fountain Square who sponsored their move. After eight years in Indianapolis the Diaz family added one more member, the only child born in the United States. Around the time of the birth of her youngest child, Delia, and the rest of the family, became U.S. citizens. She has been involved with many aspects of the Hispanic community through St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Hispanic Apostolate and the Holistic Center.

Orencio Diaz was born in Cuba on January 25, 1942. When he was eighteen he came to Indianapolis to visit his older sister. Due to the war he was unable to return to his country immediately. When he did return he only stayed in Cuba a short time before he came to the United States again, but not by his own choice, his parents sent him. He has been in the United States ever since. He worked for many years at Stokely Van Camp in Indianapolis. In 1984, he began work at the Hispano-American Multi-Service Center, working with the Hispanic community of Indianapolis.

Maria Espinoza was born in Texas in 1924. There she married in 1950. In 1951, she and her husband moved to Indianapolis. She lived in Indianapolis for many years and all but one of her eight children still live here today. She and her husband are retired and reside most of the year in Mexico. The Espinoza's became important members of the Hispanic community in Indianapolis during throughout their lives here.

Alfredo T. Garcia was born in Michigan in 1948, where his parents had settled after leaving Texas. After leaving Michigan, Garcia moved to Franklin, Indiana where he worked with the Migrant Farmworkers Center. He also worked for the Associated Migrant Opportunity Services and the State Manpower Development in Indianapolis. He was director of the Hispano-American Multi-Service Center from 1980 through 1987. He was also involved with the Catholic Church in the Indianapolis area.

Elba Cecilia Gonzalez was born in 1941 in Puerto Rico. An only child, she married and had three children in Puerto Rico. She moved to the United States with her husband and children in the mid-1970s, and since 1977 she has resided in Indianapolis. She became heavily involved in the Hispanic community in Indianapolis through her work with the Bilingual program at IPS and her work with the Hispano-American Center.

Estela Martinez was born in Laredo, Texas in April of 1947. In 1967, she moved with her husband and children to Indiana. They became a part of the growing Hispanic population of Indianapolis. Through work with migrant workers and her position as the coordinator of

the Seniors Program at the Hispano-American Multi-Service Center Martinez has been very involved in the Hispanic community of Indianapolis.

Monica A. Medina was born in East Chicago, Indiana in 1954. After attaining her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Indiana University in Bloomington, Medina began working. She spent two years in admissions and financial aid at Purdue University Calumet. In 1983, she moved to Indianapolis and began working as the Education Development Coordinator at the Hispano-American Multi-Service Center. In 1987, she became the director of the Center strengthening her ties to the Hispanic population of Indianapolis.

Jesus Quintana was born in 1928 in Tampico, Mexico. Crossing into Texas illegally in 1944, he met his wife and married her in Mercedes, Texas. In 1950, he got his papers making it legal for him to work in the United States. He worked as a migrant worker before moving to Indianapolis. Once in Indianapolis, he worked to support his eight children and wife.

Consuelo Quiroz was born August 2, 1950 in Robstown, Texas. When her parents moved to Indianapolis she was sent to Mexico to live with her grandmother. She lived with her until she was thirteen, when her grandmother died. She then moved to Indianapolis to join her parents. It was here that she met her husband and bore her three children. She has been involved in the Hispanic community through many outlets, including a vice presidency with the Mexican Association and as director of the Ballet Folklorico Amic., as well as involvement with FIESTA.

Jesse B. Quiroz was born in East Chicago, Indiana in March of 1930. At the age of three his family moved to Texas, and he grew up in Dallas. He has spent most of his adult life in Indianapolis, residing here since 1950, except during the years he served in the army. He was involved with many different aspects of the Hispanic community in Indianapolis including helping to organize events and gatherings for the Hispanic population.

Sources:

Oral History Participants:

Information about the participants of this project was retrieved from the biographical sketches and interviews in this collection.

Dr. Charles C. Guthrie:

Information about Dr. Charles C. Guthrie was located at the following source:

<http://history.uindy.edu/faculty/guthrie.php>

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains the transcripts and cassette tapes of ten oral history interviews conducted with members of the Hispanic community in Indianapolis, Indiana. The interviews were undertaken by Dr. Charles C. Guthrie in 1990.

As of 2022, the cassette tapes have been transferred to Discs as MP3 files. Though audio files, they are designated as 'DVD' numbers within our collection for storage purposes. The DVDs constitute the user copies of the material. The master copy of each transferred cassette is stored as a digital file for preservation purposes.

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