



Newsletter

TOGETHER Updates July 2020

Board of Directors Team: Shannon Curley, Miguel Valencia-Vallejo, Rocío Vallejo-Alegre

★ TOGETHER Volunteer Community Advisors

- Cultures Learning TOGETHER is honored to have the advice and support of Tim McMahon (Community Advocate), Grandma Jean Schild (Retired Teacher), Mr. Rob Dicarlo (Associate Director for Internship Opportunities at SUNY Geneseo), and Ketsia Rodríguez (Reporter for the *Catholic Courier* and *El Mensajero Católico*).



★ Road to NGO Update - Hired a lawyer

- Initially, we had planned to have our members complete and file the paperwork required to become an NGO. However, after speaking with individuals in the nonprofit sector, it became clear that we should work with a lawyer to prevent any mistakes. Through Don Tim, we established contact with Kellan and Yacci, the founders of *Enlace*, another nonprofit organization. They put us in contact with their lawyer, Zak Shusterman. After speaking and understanding the associated costs, we will be working with him to complete Phase I of the process: filing as a nonprofit in New York State. Phase II is federal filing and we will complete this at a later date when we secure the funding.

★ Crowdfunding Campaign

- Despite the fact that TOGETHER typically operates with little to no expenses, we are currently facing costs associated with becoming a nonprofit. Once we are an official NYS organization, we will be eligible for grants; however, to cover the fees to get to this point (which will allow TOGETHER to be a more permanent organization), we have started a crowdfunding campaign through [GoFundMe](#) ([Click here](#)). The goal is to raise enough funds to cover the lawyer, filing fees, and other organizational expenses that we will incur before being eligible for grants. We would be grateful if you could share this link with everyone!

★ 2020 Strategic Plan

- In the coming weeks, we will be revising the 2019 Strategic Plan to better address the adjustments related to the creation of an NGO, online tutoring brought about by COVID-19, and other organizational shifts. We look forward to sharing this with you!