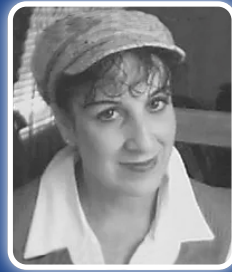


# In-Memoriam ~ Maria Isenberg



**Maria Isenberg**

This 2023 Annual Report is in loving memory of Maria Isenberg, former Hand in Hand Immigration Services board member, volunteer, client and strong advocate of the underrepresented.

Maria was a compassionate and caring woman, dedicated to her family, community, and to the nonprofit organizations that she volunteered for. She had a passion for helping others and believed in the mission of Hand in Hand.

Maria was a native of Costa Rica who came to the U.S in 1982. In 2017 Maria attended classes at Hand in Hand and — with our help — submitted her paperwork for citizenship, which she attained in 2018.

Maria started volunteering for us in early 2018 and became an advocate for citizenship as an important piece of wellness. Maria joined our board of directors in 2018.

Maria once said, “I can tell my story. I can empower others. I can let them know their rights and how they can use their voice. Now that I am a U.S. citizen, I feel called to give back to others.”

Maria passed away in November of 2023, leaving a legacy of advocating and supporting those less fortunate. She worked tirelessly to bring awareness of the importance of becoming a U.S. citizen.

Maria will be deeply missed but her legacy inspires us to do the work we do every day at Hand in Hand.

**Mission: To assist, motivate, and empower immigrants and their families to obtain their U.S. citizenship**

## Community Supporters and Friends

The following have donated by supporting us financially or by volunteer work

### Grants

Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council  
Inatai Foundation  
Give NCW Foundation  
Community Foundation of NCW  
Washington New Americans

### Community Partners

First United Methodist Church  
North Central Washington Public Library  
Unidos Nueva Alianza Foundation  
CreaTech  
World Relief

### Donors

Russell L. Beckstead and Elisabeth C. Beckstead  
Elizabeth Joanna Shekeryek  
Plaza Super Jet  
Carrie Kingsley  
Julie Forstrom  
Ellen Guisfredi  
Deborah Moore  
FUMC Women's Ministry  
Animal Chiropractic of the Cascades  
James and Maggie Bailey  
Edward and Beverly Baugh  
Lisa Melvin  
Jessica Kendall

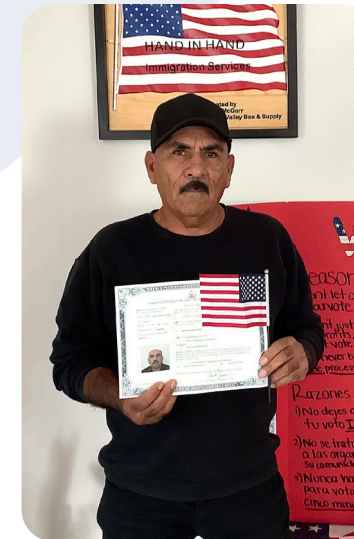
### Donors

Thomas Beck  
Catherine Bratrude  
Dale and Janet Crouse  
Dr Richard Dickson  
Orissa Renae Edwards  
Ellings Family  
Steven Eng  
Michele Fleming  
Shari Hagopian  
Ken Hunnicutt  
Alan and Kathy Kelso  
Philip Lacey  
Grace Larsen  
Kristine Loomis  
Shayne Magdoff  
Joe and Kristi Morrison  
Dr James Murray  
Allison Neher  
Oatey Family Donor Advised Fund  
Page- McBride  
Steve and Julie Robinson  
Sara Rolfs  
Merry A Roy  
Scheibler Brothers, Inc.  
Wyatt W and Kathi Scheibner  
Patricia L Strand  
Robert J Straub  
Terry A. and Suzanne A. Sorom Fund  
Peter W and Susan Westerlund Valaas

### Volunteers

David Marrow  
Irene Marrow  
Beth Sattler  
Carol Wardell  
Joyce Fisher  
Jovani A. Hernandez  
Sarah C. Gonzalez  
Carlee M. Gonzalez  
Andrea Gurrola  
Guadalupe Peregrino  
Mary Peterson  
Rudy Mueller  
Dianne Lattemann  
Kathy Baillie  
Jerry Baillie  
Deborah Moore  
Rosalba Korter  
Michael Downes  
Julie Mitchell  
Verna Winsor  
Alex Schdmidt  
Sasha Jacobson  
Clare Morrison  
Laurie Peek  
Armando Villa  
Estrella Gallegos

**Hand In Hand Immigration Services**  
119 S. Miller St. • Wenatchee, WA 98801  
(509) 888-4833 • [handinhandis.org](http://handinhandis.org)



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

## Hand in Hand Staff



Our team consists of four compassionate and passionate Hispanic bilingual women committed to serving the community.

Back row left to right:  
**Carla Sarabia**, *Administrative Assistant*  
**Alejandra Rodriguez**, *Assistant Case Worker*

Bottom row left to right:  
**Norma Gallegos**, *DOJ Program Director*  
**Johanna Hernandez-Ruelas**, *Operation Manager*

## Hand in Hand Board of Directors



**Ruth Macias**  
*Vice President - 2019 to Present*



**Joe Morrison**  
*Secretary - 2018 to Present*



**Steve Robinson**  
*Treasurer - 2020 to Present*



**Maria Isenberg**  
*Board Member - 2018 to 2023  
 In Memoriam*



**Mauricio Sanchez**  
*Board Member - 2022 to Present*



**Chuck Strawn**  
*Board Member - 2022 to Present*



**Dr. Becky Berg**  
*Board Member - 2023 to Present*



**Xavier Arinez**  
*Board Member - 2023 to Present*



**Levi Vega-Sanchez**  
*Board Member - 2023 to Present*

## Message from the Board and Staff

Dear friends,

This Annual Report is warmly dedicated to Hand in Hand board member and volunteer Maria Isenberg, who passed away in 2023 after a valiant battle with illness.

2023 was another productive year for Hand in Hand Immigration Services and its hard working staff. We proudly helped 116 residents pursue their dream and take their oath of citizenship; we helped 62 residents request a citizenship fee waiver and assisted with 42 legal permanent resident renewals; we also submitted another 93 citizenship applications.

We took several critical steps in 2023 to address our long term sustainability goals.

First, we opened our new offices at 119 S Miller Street in Wenatchee. This building is part of the First United Methodist Church (FUMC) campus. This informal affiliation with FUMC provides us with professional office space at very competitive lease terms, thereby allowing us to direct the majority of our operating costs to personnel costs in order to carry out our mission. Hand in Hand, in turn, allows the church to further its Latino ministry.

We added two new board members who will add depth and expertise to our governing body: Dr. Becky Berg, superintendent of Eastmont School District, and Xavier Arinez, Population Health Director at Columbia Valley Community

Health. Carla Sarabia was also hired as our office administrator.

Norma Gallegos — our founder and unrelenting advocate of citizenship — has been our sole Department of Justice certified legal representative since our inception. Importantly, we are training two other people to attain similar certification, thereby allowing us to increase the number of citizenship requests we can process.

We are also proud of our new website, where you can learn more about Hand in Hand: [www.handinhandis.org](http://www.handinhandis.org)

Our success is made possible by our financial supporters, listed in this annual report. We extend to you our heartfelt thank you. In particular, a few supporters bear special mention: Washington New Americans, the Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council, the Community Foundation of NCW, Inatai Foundation and Numerica Credit Union.

With your continued support, we pledge to continue working on behalf of those who pursue the American Dream of U.S. citizenship in 2024 and beyond.

Sincerely,

**Board of Directors and Staff**

## What We Do

Hand in Hand Immigration Services is a 501c(3) Washington nonprofit with offices in Wenatchee. We enhance lives and build community by helping legal permanent U.S. residents become U.S. citizens.

On average, 125 new U.S citizens are sworn in each year. While we do charge a modest fee for our services to clients who can afford to pay, no client is ever turned away because of inability to pay.

- 1** We assist legal permanent residents navigate the complicated and tedious maze of becoming U.S. citizens.
- 2** We offer citizenship classes for those people wanting to pass the required citizenship exam.
- 3** We conduct citizenship ceremonies where graduates of our program take the oath of citizenship and formally are sworn in as U.S. citizens.

## 2023 By The Numbers



**5,496**  
 Individuals Served by  
 Hand in Hand  
 Immigration Services staff



**104**  
 New Citizens  
 Sworn In



**60**  
 Legal Permanent  
 Residents Renewals



**10**  
 DACA Renewals



**7**  
 People with Disabilities  
 Provided Support



**237**  
 Eligibility Screenings  
 Completed



**68**  
 Fee Waivers Filed



**110**  
 Total Classes and  
 Informational Sessions

## How You Can Help



**Donate** By donating to Hand in Hand you are helping us go forward with our mission.

- You can mail a check to Hand in Hand Immigration Services
- You can visit our web page [handinhandis.org](http://handinhandis.org) and click on the donate tab



**Volunteer** We are always looking for individuals who would like to contribute back to their community. All ages are welcomed. Call our office today to get informed on volunteering at Hand in Hand Immigration Services.



**Refer a client** If you know someone needing help through the maze of citizenship, refer them to Hand in Hand. The team at our office will walk the person through our process and guide them throughout the citizenship process.