



To the Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights Advisory Commission:

My name is Clarisa Reyes-Becerra, and I am the Programs Director for Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño (CBDIO) in Monterey County. CBDIO is a community-based organization that was created by and for Indigenous communities in rural California to organize and make sure our communities' culture, languages, and knowledge are recognized and respected by the systems and institutions that impact our lives. At the end of our day, our goals are simple: the self-determination of Indigenous people, and building Indigenous power in California. In Monterey County, CBDIO works with Mixtec, Chatino, Triqui, Zapotec, and other indigenous communities.

CBDIO believes that having representatives of the Indigenous community in spaces where recommendations and advice is necessary, especially as they relate to equal opportunity and civil rights. These representatives are crucial to help inform and ensure that the needs of our Indigenous communities are recognized and met. Therefore, CBDIO sends this letter of support in favor of Yesica Guzman Rodriguez to be appointed to the Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights Advisory Commission as a representative of CBDIO. We believe she is the ideal candidate to provide a voice for the families and community members CBDIO works with in Monterey County.

Yesica works within our Labor Justice program, where she leads the work to organize and train Indigenous workers on their labor rights and advocates for the improvement of working conditions for farmworkers. Yesica was also part of the CBDIO team that made sure that the Mixteco community was represented in the Pajaro Revitalization Committee meetings after the noticeable absence of this affected community from these meetings. This, in addition to her own lived experience as an indigenous Mixtec woman and farmworker, makes her an ideal candidate and representative of CBDIO for this Commission.

We hope you take into consideration our candidate for the Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights Advisor Commission. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at or at my cell,.

Sincerely,

Clarisa Reyes-Becerra, J.D.
Programs Director, Monterey County
Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño