

Application Form

Profile

Prefix Boris First Name A Middle Initial Ozuna Urueta Last Name Suffix

boris.ozuna@gmail.com
Email Address

1114 Rockingham Dr. Home Address Suite or Apt

Harrisonburg City VA State 22802 Postal Code

How many years have you been a resident of Harrisonburg?

9

Mobile: (540) 908-1210 Primary Phone Alternate Phone

Mennonite Central Committee Employer Newcomer Connections Coordinator Job Title

Demographics - *(Submission of this information if voluntary and will not subject you to any adverse treatment should you chose to not complete)*

Ethnicity

Hispanic

Gender

Male

What is your age?

30-40 years old

Are you reapplying for a current position you hold? *

No

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Community Services (Chapter 10) Board (CSB): Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Boris A Ozuna Urueta

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

Because I can support the CSB with my skills in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion as it designs and implements policies and procedures to promote belonging among staff and communities it serves.

What other interests or concerns do you have regarding the community?

Access to affordable housing Access to mental health for youth Access to services that prevent recidivism and incarceration

What relevant experience or education do you have to this board or commission?

Over twelve years of experience in the nonprofit sector in areas such as community organizing, adult education, and coalition building. I use a combination of tools from the field of Conflict Transformation and Public Health to develop community coalitions to advance issue-centered campaigns. This includes power mapping, assessment, action and evaluation plans. In addition, I design and implement Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) organizational strategies to generate structural changes to foster a sense of belonging for all populations in any type of organization and/or group.

Please list any past or present community involvement e.g. City Council, Boards and Commissions, Citizen Academy, etc. in Harrisonburg or elsewhere:

Director of International Festival, 2015 Futuro Latino Coalition (a JMU program to prevent substance abuse among Hispanic youth) Adjunct Instructor of Conflict Transformation at Bridgewater College
Director of DEI at VMRC

[Resume_Ozuna_06_2023_.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

EPSAC Applicants only

Bike/Pedestrian Subcommittee Applicants only

BORIS OZUNA
(Pronouns He, Him, His)
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Academic Achievements

May, 2018	M.A. Restorative Justice, Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) Certificate, Non-profit Management, EMU
November, 2011	B. A. Peacebuilding & Development, EMU
October, 2009	B. A. Bible and Theology, Seminario Bíblico Menonita de Colombia (SBMC)

Overall Experience and Skills

Over twelve years of experience in the nonprofit sector in areas such as community organizing, adult education, coalition building, and nonviolent mobilization. I use a combination of tools from the field of Conflict Transformation and Public Health to develop community coalitions to advance issue-centered campaigns. This includes power mapping, assessment, action and evaluation plans. In addition, I design and implement Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) organizational strategies to generate structural changes to foster a sense of belonging for all populations in any type of organization and/or group.

Work Experience

March 2022 - May 2023 *Director of DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community (VMRC), Harrisonburg, VA.*

- Transformed the new employee onboarding educational process into an engaging and participatory experience by redesigning training content, collaborating with hiring managers and education directors to distribute facilitation roles.
- Developed skills for leadership team, residents, and staff by facilitating monthly meetings and educational sessions with DEI lenses.
- Advocated for underrepresented groups by creating additional leadership bodies of participation in the organization, revising bias in the process of employee corrective action, and establishing clearer processes for dealing with conflict among staff.
- Established DEI measurable goals by conducting a participatory data collection process and identifying areas of need through organizational assessment.

March 2021 - March 2022 *Lead Community Organizer, Friends United for Equity & Grassroots Organizing (FUEGO) Harrisonburg, VA.*

- Formed a local coalition to reduce mass incarceration by co-facilitating a year-long campaign to stop the expansion and additional construction of a regional jail and immigration detention center.
- Organized community-led strategies and activities to change policies and procedures to reduce youth criminalization in public schools.
- Served as a resource for families affected by arrest, criminalization, and deportation by assisting them when seeking and securing legal representation.
- Established operational capacity of the coalition by securing fiscal representation, developing budget goals, and a membership based constituency.
- Established first alert mechanisms to respond to arrest and immigration detention by training and educating communities impacted by incarceration in nonviolence mobilization strategies.

I took an emotional break during this time due to the pandemic. I worked on construction which I kept doing while I also worked with FUEGO as a part time organizer. Both jobs increase my time outside and It was very rewarding and gratifying to learn a new manual skill while having a sense of community purpose through FUEGO.

Feb. 2020 – Jan. 2021 *Administration and Communications Associate*, Catalyst for Peace, Harrisonburg, VA.

- o Assisted with the functioning of communication systems that included company website(s), mass email communication, and marketing efforts.
- o Executed all administrative tasks that allowed day-to-day operations. This includes, but not limited to managing contracts, scheduling, maintaining filing systems, and troubleshooting IT communication needs with third party contractors.
- o Planned and facilitated all aspects of in person and online community events with organizations and individuals in a multilingual and multicultural setting. This included planning organizational retreats, business meetings, and training sessions through online platforms with partners around the globe.

August 2019-February 2020 *Adjunct Instructor*, Intensive English Program, EMU, Harrisonburg, VA.

- o Planned and prepared lessons for students learning English with basic and advanced proficiency levels.
- o Facilitated group sessions and discussions among staff and students addressing cultural competency and racial justice.
- o Promoted a higher level of engagement among students by changing the participation and evaluation standards of class material and English proficiency.

January-May, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023 *Adjunct Instructor, Intro to Conflict Transformation*, Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, VA.

- o Introduced students to the basic concepts of trauma awareness, resilience, cycles of violence and additional tools to understand physical response to traumagenic events, and different types of trauma (individual, collective, historic, secondary, and systemic) by developing class activities to reflect and learn through their life experiences.
- o Introduced students to the basic concepts and practice of restorative justice, transformative justice, criminal justice flaws, and alternative paths to redefine and achieve justice by analyzing organizational, personal and cultural case studies.
- o Introduced students to the concepts and practice of peacebuilding as a professional skill to address interpersonal and systemic conflicts by using metaphors and comparisons from other practitioners in the field.
- o Introduced students to the concepts and practices of nonviolence mobilization by analyzing nonviolent contemporary and current nonviolent social movements around the globe.

August 2016-May 2019 *Futuro Latino Coalition Coordinator*, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

- o Implemented coalition activities to prevent substance abuse and violence among Latinx youth in public schools in Harrisonburg and Rockingham, VA.
- o Intervened in conflict and violent behavior among youth in public schools by using restorative justice and trauma awareness principles.
- o Conducted community assessments and developed logic models, action plans, evaluation and communication plans to reduce substance abuse among youth in public schools.
- o Convened, facilitated, and organized monthly work sessions with community partners that included government institutions, businesses and non-profit organizations.

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- March 2015- May 2016 *Harrisonburg International Festival Director*, FairField Center, Harrisonburg, VA
- Oversaw general planning, implementation, and evaluation of the annual event in compliance with parks and recreation and first responders regulations.
 - Developed and implemented a budget, marketing and fundraising plan for the yearly event.
 - Supervised volunteers and coordinators of multiple areas of the event.
 - Meet fundraising needs by streamlining registration of sponsors and participants.
 - Supervised the creation and managed the event website.
 - As part of the Restorative Justice program, conducted two trainings inside state prisons in Petersburg, VA.
- Feb. 2013- May 2014 *Program Coordinator and Case Manager*, Thrive DC. Washington, D.C.
- Sustained everyday operation activities to support individuals experiencing homelessness by organizing and supervising volunteers, interns, and auxiliary staff.
 - Prepared educational presentations and enrichment activities for staff and individuals experiencing homelessness, and to prevent chronic homelessness.
 - Worked one-on-one with participants to access social services and housing in the D.C. Metro area.
 - Managed emergency incidents during day-to-day activities. (Fights, drunkenness, assault, health crisis, among others)
- 2008-2009 *ESL Instructor*, CECAR University, Sincelejo, Colombia
- Increased students' English proficiency by planning and conducting class sessions five times a week.
 - Enhance students' engagement by attending learning needs, interests, and life experiences.
 - Advanced students credentials by grading and providing progress reports.
- 2004-2006 *Program Assistant*, Paz Caribe, Sincelejo, Colombia
- Prevented further militarization of minors to the armed conflict by providing organizational and strategic support to the Program Director.
 - Assisted Internally Displaced People (IDP's) in accessing social services in the City of Sincelejo, Colombia.
 - Planned and supported organizational networking efforts in coalition building with local agencies and religious groups.
 - Organized, monitored, and mediated community disagreements to prevent escalation of violent conflicts.

Additional Qualifications

- Native Spanish speaker; excellent written and verbal communication in English and Spanish.
- CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America) certification in coalition building to prevent substance abuse among youth.
- Certification of Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience (STAR, Levels I & II)
- Group facilitation through circles of process for youth and adults using restorative justice.
- Proficiency with cloud-based payroll and human capital management software Paylocity.
- Proficiency in software platforms such as Wordpress, NationBuilder, Slack, MSTeams, MS365, Google Suite.