

Kankakee County Hispanic Partnership

Economic Alliance of Kankakee County

**Empowering Futures: A Call to Support
Hispanic Students**



Monica Pizano

2nd Vice Chair



Kankakee County Population

*Total Population is an estimated 106,410

*Hispanic Population is an estimated 13%

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/kankakeecityillinois,kankakeecountyillinois/RHI725223>

Hispanic Students Attending College

Kankakee Community College has reported that of their 2,669 enrolled students 22.7% are Hispanic.

Secondly- of their 482 Adults for GED/ESL

68.9% are Hispanic.

KCHP has provided sponsorships to Adults getting assistance to get their GED/ESL Certifications.

Olivet Nazarene University has reported of their 3,500 students 13% are Hispanic.



Barriers Hispanic Students Face

- Parents Immigration Status
- Financial Constraints
- Lack of Knowledge about the US Education system
- Lack of College Preparation

What are we doing to help:



Providing Scholarships

Offering financial assistance to help cover tuition, books, and college-related expenses.



First-Generation Student Support

Guiding students who are the first in their families to attend college with mentorship and resources.



Partnerships with Local Schools

Collaborating with counselors and educators to identify and assist students in need.

Scholarships Granted

- Since 2004 we had been giving out 10 scholarships a year of \$1000 each. We had received so many that the amount was lowered to \$500.
- We recently raised that amount to \$1,000
- We have given out a total of 110 scholarships

Hispanic Heritage Celebrations



- We are bringing back our Hispanic Heritage Luncheon this year. Funds raised at this event will go towards scholarships. Date to come soon!
- We organized a Hispanic Heritage celebration in 2020. Started small with Hispanic Owned businesses as vendors at the Farmers Market and a small band playing at night at the Gazebo in Downtown Kankakee.
- Every year has grown so much that we had to move our celebrations to the entire parking area of the Train Depot.























MUNICIPAL BANK





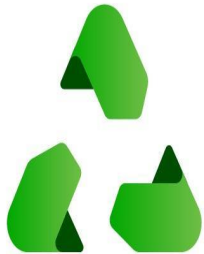
Kankakee Community College



An  Essential Utilities Company



**Ascension
Saint Mary**



BelsonSteel
C E N T E R S C R A P

Let's Make It Happen...

 **Peoples Bank**
of Kankakee County

ReJoyce
Re-Elect Patrick Joyce State Senate



RE/MAX
PRESTIGE HOMES

Los Perez
SUPERMARKET
Kankakee

SAVE THE DATE

NATIONAL
HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH
CELEBRATION

September 20, 2025

KANKAKEE
TRAIN DEPOT



Why do we do this?

- Investing in our Youth is good for the community and local economy.
- The impact a \$1,000 scholarship can make can be life changing.
- This scholarship makes it possible for students to take part in extracurriculars, internships, or unpaid opportunities that build future success.
- Today's scholarship recipient could become tomorrow's teacher, nurse, business owner, or civic leader.
- Investing in youth sends a strong message that the community stands together to uplift and empower its own.
- Educated young people often return to their hometowns to live and work, enriching the local economy.

How Can Your
Business Help?????



Sponsorship Levels

1. Diamond Sponsorship - \$5,000.00
2. Platinum Sponsorship - \$2,500.00
3. Gold Sponsorship - \$1,000.00
4. Silver Sponsorship - \$500.00
5. Other Sponsorship - \$ _____

Join Us In Making A Difference

These students are our future nurses, teachers, entrepreneurs, and leaders. But for many, the path to college feels out of reach—not because they lack the talent or ambition, but because they lack resources.

When your business invests in a scholarship, you're not just writing a check. You're planting a seed of hope, building a bridge to opportunity, and shaping a stronger, more vibrant community for us all.

We invite you to stand with us—to be a champion for equity, education, and the future of our youth. Together, we can break down barriers and open doors.

Let's build futures, one student at a time.

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