



## RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

We had an excellent first meeting with our inaugural Loaned Executives (LEs) in September and they have gotten right to work! Campaign season is now in full swing and we are excited about the community effort!

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## CHILD WELL-BEING

Dragon-slayers? Superheroes? What exactly is the McLennan County Child Well-being Movement and what are its partners up to? Learn more in this video from some kiddos who asked the same questions!

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## GRANTS/FUNDED PARTNERS

United Way of Waco-McLennan County has their second round of Funded Partner Site Visits. This is an opportunity for UW staff and volunteers to see the impact their dollars are making first-hand. A new Grant Cycle also looms, and it brings things old and new to the table!

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## COMMUNITY

Pumpkin spice season is here once again and with that we think about fun fall foods and traditions. Food helps bring us together. This month Kent Mattern, Resource Development and Campaign Communications Coordinator, reflects on the impact of his family traditions.

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# Upcoming Events (next 4 weeks)

- October

- Día De Los Muertos Parade & Festival, October 29, 2022, Volunteers needed from 10:00 am - 12:00 am.

- November

- Inspiracion-Waco 4th Annual Remember Recess FUNdraiser, November 3, 2022, 7 pm - 10:00 pm, Freight Bar (1613 James Avenue)
- United Way Grants Eligibility Info Session, November 7, 2022, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (CST), held via Zoom. Register here.

- Please email [info@unitedwaywaco.org](mailto:info@unitedwaywaco.org) if you have any upcoming events that you would like us to feature in the next newsletter!

## Board Member Spotlight



**Orlando Rodriguez**

[www.firstcentralcu.com](http://www.firstcentralcu.com)

### **Tell us about yourself and how you became a United Way Board Member**

I was born and raised in North Waco, graduate of Parkview Christian Academy. I attended McLennan Community College and graduated with an associate's degree then transferred to Baylor University where I received my BBA with a major in Accounting. I have been employed with First Central Credit Union for 23 years and current role is Senior Accounting and IT Manager. Married to Stacy Rodriguez for 20 years and father to our son, Ayden, who is 16. In my spare time, I love spending time with my family, listening to all types of music and I am a huge sports fan and I especially enjoy Baylor athletics. I was introduced to the United Way by my friend, Alfred Solano, who introduced me to then United Way CEO, Barbara Mosacchio back in late 2018. I became part of the Finance Review Council in 2019 and then became a board member in 2020.

### **Why do you love United Way?**

I love the United Way because they truly help the citizens of Waco and McLennan County. Personally, I have heard how the United Way was a benefit to my wife and her siblings when they were young as they supported her family in a time of need. In addition, my father Orlando Rodriguez Sr, contributed to the United Way for several decades through an employee campaign through his job with Cargill. I am very proud to be a part of the United Way and its mission.

### **What is the importance of family and heritage to you?**

I am very proud of my Mexican-American heritage. I come from a humble background in Waco and worked very hard to achieve some of my goals. I know first hand the struggles that many families in Waco experience and use this to help my decision making process as a Board member of the United Way of Waco-McLennan County.