# Multicultural Student, Parent, & Teacher Resources In Berks County

# Hispanic Resources & Services

Berks County Latino
Chamber of Commerce
PO Box #924,
Reading PA 19601
610-616-5610
http://www.latinochamber.net

The Berks County Latino Chamber of Commerce provides programs, services, resources, events, and activities to the Hispanic community in order to improve Latino leadership and economic development. The BCCLCC strives to connect Berks County Latinos and Latinas to local business and community organizations. Their mission includes recognizing and encouraging the achievement of Latinos and Latinas within their communities and to give Hispanics tools to become or elevate their entrepreneurship. Programs offered include workshops on bilingual business skills, networking and cultural galas, and educational partnerships with local universities.

Centro Hispano Daniel Torres (Hispanic Center) 501 Washington St., Reading, PA 19601 610-376-3748 http://www.centrohispano.org/ The Hispanic Center offers acculturation services for Hispanics in the Reading area. The Center provides social, referral, and information services to the Hispanic Reading community. Programs offered include interpretation and translation, transportation, connections to medical and counseling services, senior services, women's services, educational workshops and pathways to higher education, and a variety of other community resources. The Center's main mission is to provide access to the Reading community to those that would otherwise be limited because of cultural or language barriers.

El PALO Magazine
P.O. Box 564
Reading, PA. 19603
610-223-7071
http://www.elpalomagazine.co
m/#!contact/c24vq

EL PALO is a free to the public bilingual Spanish/English magazine serving the Greater Reading area. Distributed monthly, El PALO functions as a local community calendar and community resource guide in order to "bridge" the Reading Latino community to the Greater Reading community. El PALO includes informational articles on education, local businesses, local events, the arts, music, cooking, medicine, mental health, legal advice, and other services and events.

Puerto Rican Latin Association PO Box 221 Reading, PA 19603 610-781-5729 http://www.prlaberks.com/Abo ut\_Us.html The Puerto Rican Latin Association strives to preserve Puerto Rican culture and identity while creating a community environment within the larger Reading area. The PRLA focuses on youth development through education programs that encourage cultural recognition, Puerto Rican traditions, and family values. PRLA funds LEAP summer youth camp for 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade students, the organization Educating Latino Youth Through Empowerment (ELYTE), and an annual Latin American Festival. PRLA's youth programs highlight leadership, responsibility, education, cultural pride, and positive community awareness and involvement.

### Reading Area Community College Command Spanish Program

http://www.racc.edu/Communi tyEd/HCPS/commandSpanish. aspx Reading Area Community College, in partnership with the Command Spanish Program, offers affordable online language classes and training programs in order to minimize language barriers between multiple interpersonal relationships. Specifically offered is a program designed for school teachers to lower language barriers by teaching Spanish specifically aimed at school interaction. Command Spanish could be used to help content teachers further communicate in their students native language.

## African American Resources & Services

Central Pennsylvania African American Museum African Methodist Episcopal Church 119 N. Tenth Street Reading, PA 19601 610-371-8713 http://www.cpaam.net The Central Pennsylvania African American Museum is located in the historical African Methodist Episcopal Church. The CPAAM functions to preserve and present local African culture and history through a large collection of exhibits, artifacts, documents, books, and arts. The museum specializes in preserving the local Underground Railroad and organizing cultural education events for local African Americans. Among the community events provided by the CPAAM, educational bus tours and community education outreach through underground railroad tours and special exhibits are their specialties. The CPAAM also provides mobile art exhibits for outreach in local schools.

<b>African Global Super Center</b>
49 Commerce Drive,
Wyomissing, 19610
484-336-8771

The African Global Super Center offers a variety of resources, conferences, and network connection in order to promote American and African trade and business. The Center strives to create positive economic, political, education, social, and developmental relationships between the U.S. and Africa and to better connect nations. The center provides programs to improve education, health care, economics, and communities in both Africa and high African diaspora areas in the Reading area. The center most notably offers conferences to raise awareness of the culture and relationship between Reading and African countries.

#### St. John Missionary Baptist Church 436 South Seventh Street Reading, PA 19602 610-376-9234 http://sjbcrdg.webs.com

The St. John Missionary Baptist Church offer religious, as well as secular services to the Greater Reading African American community. The church offers a range of services to its members and friends, including higher education, hospitality, nursing, women's, youth, and couples ministries. The church welcomes African Americans in need of a variety of services and is always taking new members.

# Reading NAACP Suite 207 529 Court Street Reading, PA 19601 http://www.readingnaacp.org/b ook\_justice\_20thcenturyoccup ations.html

The Reading NAACP pride's itself in its extensive community involvement within the Great Reading area. The NAACP organizes collaborations with Reading school district, including scholastic dinners and student events, as well sponsoring "Weed & Seed" anti drug month community events. It's PAL Feed a Friend Program offers food options for those in need in the community, and has various anti poverty coalitions. The NAACP also offers educational outlets for African American cultural preservation, progression, and liberties. Their community action network functions to help African American families in need.

#### Hopewell Furnace National Park-African American History Center 2 Mark Bird Lane Elverson, PA 19520 610-582-8773

The Hopewell Furnace National Park presents the pivotal role in history African Americans played in the ironmaster history. The park celebrates the historical African community of Six Penny Creek. Hopewell Furnace offers cultural tours of historical sites and a variety of educational programs and sources. The National Park also offers mobile educational units, interactive lessons, and web resources for local schools to preserve Berks county African American heritage and industrial influence.

Jewish Resources & Services		
Jewish Federation-Jewish Community Center 1700 City Line St., Reading, PA 610-921-06242120 Oregon Pk., Lancaster, PA 17601717-569- 7352 19604	The Jewish Federation provides all encompassing services for Jews in the Greater Reading Area. The JCC provides social, cultural, recreational, fitness, health, and educational programs and services for the community. The Federation provides a Jewish Cultural Center, Jewish preschools, elementary, middle and high schools, a Jewish magazine, kosher food banks and meals on wheels, welcome packages and relocation support to new Reading area Jews, and a vast variety of community camps, programs, lecture series and workshops.	
Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of Reading 223 Hawthorne Court N Reading, PA 19610 610-678-7431	Hadassah is a Jewish women's organization that promotes health education, volunteerism, social advocacy, and education in the Greater Reading community. Hadassah is involved in community programs that support local women's shelters, local youth women, and women's projects such as Breast Cancer awareness. Hadassah has over 300 members in Reading and works extensively in conjunction with the local Jewish community.	
United Synagogue Youth 1245 Perkiomen Avenue Reading, PA 19602 610-374-1763	The United Synagogue Youth utilizes the Conservative Judaism movement in order to provide community outreach to 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade students in the Greater Reading area. Located in the Kesher Zion Synagogue, the USY strives to provide social and educational opportunities for teenagers to create positive lifelong friendships while maintaining their cultural identity.	
L'Chain Chaabad-Lubavitch of Berks County http://www.l-chaim.org	L'Chain offers a variety of services, centers, programs, and events for the Greater Reading community. Programs include recovery programs for substance abuse and drug prevention, children's education centers for early learning including original comics, stories, and interactive web tools to advance education, birth and parenting services, community kosher food banks, health and wellness services, relationships and marriage services, women services, and a variety of cultural events.  L'Chain also offers a variety of online community resources and multimedia services for patrons.	
Bnai Brith Youth Organization	The Bnai Brith Youth Organization is a Jewish organization that provides opportunities for youth to engage and interact in a	

1026 Franklin Street	youth directed (adult supervised) non-profit volunteer
Reading, PA 19602	organization. Youths are given the opportunity to participate in
_	social action programs and community service. The organization
	focuses on leadership skills and education for youths to develop
	positive Jewish identities.

Multicultural Resources & Services		
Reading Public Library 100 South Fifth Street Reading, PA 19602 610-655-6350	The Reading Public Library Provides a variety of books, materials, computers, and programs for the local Reading community.	
Cultural Collaborative of Berks County, Inc P.O. Box 28, Temple, PA 19560 610-779-8131	The Cultural Collaborative promotes cultural awareness and diversity through education and community outreach. The collaborative strives for equality and cultural appreciation of diversity by using a variety of media outlets. It also hosts the Festival of Nations each summer in order to educate about different cultural traditions.	
Berks County Community Television http://www.bctv.org	Berks County Community TV gives local community organizations free airspace to broadcast informative and educational programs. A large amount of the Reading Hispanic and African American community resources from above air TV shows on this channel in order to progress their objectives and missions.	
Literacy Council of Reading- Berks Joan M. Breisch Adult Learning Center 35 South Dwight Street West Lawn, PA 19609 610-670-9960 http://www.lcrb.org/index.php	The Literacy Council of Berks offers tutoring, English Language classes for all ages of learners, citizenship preparation classes for immigrants, GED classes, technical skills classes, and a variety of multicultural literacy based workshops.	