Narrator Name: Dulce Gutierrez Interviewer: Xinqing Zheng(Jack)

Location: BLCI [Barrio Logan College Institute] site

Date: 05/08/2024

Collection: Race and Oral History Course, Spring 2024

Length of interview: 8:38

Jack: So nice to meet you Dulce. My name is Jack. So this is about the our Oral History class, getting know more about people around San Diego area and BLCI here. So my first question is, gonna be could you please introduce yourself, like hows your experience and how you like connected here, with the BLCI.

Dulce: Okay, so my name is Dulce Gutierrez. I'm the assistant for the elementary program, and I grew up around here in the area. I didn't know about BLCI. But I wish I knew when I was younger about it. But yeah, I grew up around here.

Jack: Okay, so is there like particular part you like about the BLCI, like attractive you here?

Dulce: Well, working with the kids, and then the mission of getting the kids like higher education.

Jack: Cool, so the second question, like, it's like, How did you know here took, how did you like first heard about the Barrio Logan Institute?

Dulce: Well, I was just online when I was like researching careers. I can fit my background. And I, I always like used to pass through here. I didn't know exactly what it was until I went like online instead of researching.

Jack: Ohh, interesting, okay, so move on to the third question. Could you describe, like your daily routines, like from morning, or like working here like BLCI. Like your daily like morning to the night.

Dulce: Like just my job part, or my daily life?

Jack: Either one, what would you like to share with us.

Dulce: So I'm part-time here. So I'm only here in the afternoons, and I start by entering all my data, like attendance from the last day's workshop. I work with the files, and then for I get ready for tutoring, and after that I just assist the specialists in the workshop.

Jack: Is there like a particular subject that you assist here, like, for example, like math or?

Dulce: Well I hope in math, reading whatever the students need.

Jack: Okay, the fourth question. What would you like to do during your spare time?

Dulce: I love to read, yeah, I love to read. So just going to Seaport village and sitting down in a bench and reading. That's what I like to do.

Jack: Is there a particular genre or author's your favorite?

Dulce: I like a lot of fiction, whatever fiction yeah

Jack: like science fiction?

Dulce: Yeah

Jack: ohh. Science fiction. Uhh. I forget what it's called. But the Netflix is they just like filmed the for the book to the TV series it's called three body problem. You know, that. it's like the aliens is coming to Earth. They are a higher intelligence creature as they come into the earth. It's a really good TV series, really recommend that. Moving on to the next question. Can you describe or, have a very interesting experience, or like with something just happen here, it won't happen other places like how they like, or maybe like how the kids surprises you. You feel like something that didn't feel like before, at here.

Dulce: I like when the students always say like, Oh, thanks to coming like here, like my grades are up, where, when they come up to you and say like, Thank you for helping me. That's rewarding. So that surprises me that they're into their education.

Jack: so like that, you could feel like, somewhat feels like achieved. Is there any like a big challenge? Here, you experienced?

Dulce: Big challenges?

Jack: Yeah

Dulce: Like with students? Or just...

Jack: I think either way. Like your personally or your experience with the students here.

Dulce: No, I don't think so not yet.

Jack: Or like sometime the small kids are annoying to you.

Dulce: No, I actually enjoy working with. Maybe if I were to work with middle school students. I think that would be challenging. Maybe I don't know.

Jack: Very interesting. So you say you work part-time here. Is there any like other? Your career pursuits like you wanted to like pursuits after here?

Dulce: Yes, I'm actually at City college. And I'm doing my associates for social work. eventually, I want to transfer to send you a state. Yeah, my bachelors. So maybe something more related into the social work field. But still with kids, I still want to work with kids.

Jack: Like children education?

Dulce: Yeah

Jack: Is there any like a particular major? You want to go with when you pursuing for the bachelor degree after enter the college?

Dulce: I don't know, I'm still deciding.

Jack: Same with me, before I enter college, I don't know what I want to study. So how do you see BLCI's role in shaping the border community? Llike, have you observed any change in your students or neighborhoods after they been here?

Dulce: So I see grades, the grades that do improve. And I also see, like the progress. Like, for example, with the Meta minutes. How they do! They started multiplication from 0 all the way to 12, and I see that, like they challenge themselves to finish under the 3 min. And, for example, we have third graders that already done with their 12, in multiplication.

Jack: Let me just do the last question, What are some advices you would give? Like other parents? They are hesitating to send their children here, what advice would you give to them?

Dulce: Well, I guess they can identify themselves here because I feel it's like how I mentioned before that I wish that when I was younger, that my parents would know about this program because it is a lot of help. And as you start going to sixth grade, seventh grade, like math starts getting harder. So I wish I had that support, and I know that the language for my parents was so barrier to they couldn't help me because of the English. So yeah, to bring your kids, there's a lot of support here, a lot of opportunities.

Jack: Well, that's all the question I have. Appreciate the opportunity to interview.

Dulce: Thank you.