



# Quarterly Newsletter

Sponsored by San Diego Rotary Club and Mission Valley Sunset Rotary Club

## A Message from our President ...



It is truly a pleasure and honor to be serving as the fifth president of the City Heights Rotaract Club! Since joining our club, I knew it was a unique and special group to be a part of. Being part of an organization by young people, for young people, who are like-minded AND want to give back to their community - there's nothing better than that!

the World." We hope to reconnect with past members as well as continue reaching out to young professionals in City Heights that have not experienced Rotary and Rotaract before. In growing our membership, we also hope to step outside our comfort zone and address issues that not only affect our local community, but the world at large. Some interesting conversations have been brewing about service events; I am really excited for what new service projects this year will bring!

Over the years I have seen our club take part in many different events. Whether it be helping to clean up Swan Canyon, cheering on riders at Point Loma Rotary Club's "Ride the Point" or wrapping and handing out gifts for children in City Heights through the Copley Price YMCA, our club is always there to lend a hand - and we hope to continue doing so!

Three months into the Rotaract year, we have pinned five new members, welcomed exemplary Rotarians to address our members and participated in service events that aim to make City Heights just a bit more beautiful. In all that we do, my hope is that all of our members have fun and enjoy themselves! Lastly, I want to recognize our sponsors and supporters, San Diego Rotary Club, Mission Valley Sunset Rotary Club and Price Philanthropies, who work so hard to ensure our club continues to succeed. Our club is truly appreciative of your guidance, we hope to continue making you proud. Cheers to another great year!

This year's Rotary theme is "Rotary Connects the World." In thinking about what we hope to accomplish this year, we decided our theme would be, "Connecting City Heights to

*Stephanie Perez, 2019-20 President*

City Heights Rotaract turns 4!



City Heights Rotaract Club, 2019-2020

# Meet the 2019-2020 Board of Directors!



Stephanie Perez

President

Stephanie has called San Diego home her entire life. She attended Hoover High School and went on to pursue higher education at Point Loma Nazarene University where she double-majored in Spanish and

Sociology. Currently, she works for the Immigration Center for Women and Children and hopes to return to school to pursue a law degree! In addition to serving as president, she is serving a second term as Director of Finance for Rotaract District 5340. Outside of Rotaract, she is a board member of the City Heights Community Development Corporation and is the D9 representative on the Citizen's Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations. In her spare time Stephanie enjoys reading, traveling and cheering on Real Madrid!

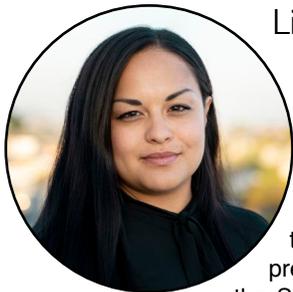


Stacey Ulloa

Vice President

Stacey grew up in Lancaster, California. Though a desert native, she relocated to San Diego to earn her degree in Sustainability from San Diego State University. Her work with the Cardinals Interact program brought

her into the City Heights community where she fostered a new home. Stacey was introduced to Rotaract through her work with Cardinals Interact and Price Philanthropies. Since joining City Heights Rotaract, Stacey has served as Secretary and is the current Vice President. She is looking forward to working on and advancing CHR's long term goals. Stacey is passionate about learning new trades. When not volunteering Stacey can be found dancing, singing, or simply having a good laugh.



Lizette Alvarado

Secretary

Lizette has been a member of the City Heights Rotaract Club for the past two years. This is her first year serving on the Board of Directors and previously served as a member of the Service Committee. Lizette is a

San Diego native and first generation college graduate. Lizette graduated from UCSD with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology with emphasis on Social Inequalities. Lizette has been involved as a social justice advocate and community organizer since the age of fifteen and continues serving communities as a social worker. During her free time Lizette is involved with various organizations and nonprofits throughout San Diego County. Lizette also enjoys practicing Jiu jitsu, boxing, hiking and spending time with her dogs.



Lizbeth Pastenes

Treasurer

Liz is a chartering member and current Treasurer of City Heights Rotaract. She has held board positions in the club since its inception and has been recently honored as a Paul Harris Fellow for her contributions as Past

President. Liz is a native San Diegan who grew up and currently resides in the community of City Heights. She is a proud Aztec, obtaining her Masters of Public Administration from San Diego State University. Liz is passionate about giving back to City Heights and does so by working with youth in the community with the Price Philanthropies Foundation. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, wine tasting, and is a fitness enthusiast.



Jose Hernandez

Director of Service

Jose is a native San Diegan who was born and raised in City Heights. He graduated from San Diego State University with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology. He currently works as a rideshare driver and

hopes to return to school for a Master's degree in Health. In addition to being the Director of Service for CHR, Jose also serves on the City Heights Area Planning Committee (CHAPC) and is part of two Mid City Community Advocacy Network momentum teams: Improving Transportation for City Heights (ITCH) Momentum Team and the Peace Promotion Momentum Team (PPMT). Jose is very passionate about policy and community advocacy. Traveling and trying new foods are his favorite pastimes.



Jesus Herrera

Director of Professional Development

Jesus is a proud San Diego native - specifically he is from a special community called City Heights. Jesus has experienced classes at UCSD, SDSU, and USD working with Phds in the fields of Marine and

Molecular Biology. Despite his staggering background in staggering in science, Jesus chose to keep looking for a stronger passion and left Mira Costa college during his first year to pursue a job in real estate. Jesus has worked for great companies like Keller Williams Realty and Ascent Real Estate where he's amplified his core values; relationships and community. In his spare time, you can find Jesus strengthening his leadership skills, gardening, or running a small house painting business he started for fun.

# July

July marked the beginning of the new Rotaract year and the beginning of year five year for the City Heights Rotaract Club. This year City Heights Rotaract's theme is "Connecting City Heights to the World" going along with Rotary's theme of "Rotary Conencts the World." This year's goals for the club include bringing community members to the Rotary family as well as connecting City Heights to what is happening in the world and vice versa. Within our club we hope to continue cultivating leaders and professional relationships that will benefit our community for years to come. We would also like to focus on emphasizing respect for the rights of others and to promote ethical standards and the dignity of all useful occupations.



## Rotaractor of the Month



Sonya Vargas, Immediate Past President

Sonya is the current Immediate Past President of City Heights Rotaract and continues to be a valuable member of our club. For the month of July, Sonya was chosen as Rotaractor of the Month for her continued support and dedication as well as her work as president for the 2018-19 year.



(above and below) Members worked in teams to complete a team building activity during the first meeting of the year.



(above and below) Members celebrated CHR's fourth birthday with an annual tradition, enjoying some birthday cake! A great way to kick of the 2019-2020 year.



(above and below) A few of our board members had the opportunity to join San Diego Rotary President, David Oates for Club 33's Annual Change of Command program.

# August



Happy Birthday!

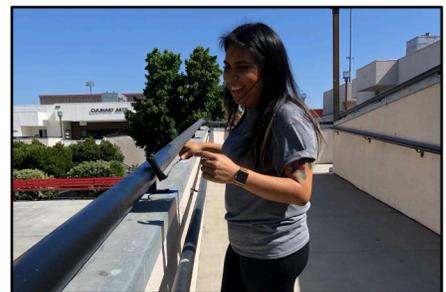
Sonya Vargas  
August 27th



Rotaractor of the Month

Belgica Crespo, Club Member

Belgica is a chartering member and first president of our club. Her efforts to give back to the community have gone beyond City Heights, as she has served as DRR for Rotaract District 5340 and Treasurer for Big West Rotaract.



(above and right) City Heights Rotaract kicked off the month of August by participating in the annual Hoover Beautification Day with the Alumni Association and current Hoover students ... a lot of painting took place!



Our August Business meeting hosted San Diego Rotary Club President David Oates. David discussed his goals and vision, including the fight against human trafficking in San Diego County for the 2019-2020 Rotary Club year.

# September



Happy Birthday!

Regina Aguilar  
September 24th



## Rotaractor of the Month

Jesus Herrera, Director of Professional Development

Jesus first became involved with CHR in 2018. Though he is one of the club's newest members, he is always present and willing to lend a helping hand. In such a short time, Jesus has fully embraced what being a Rotaractor is all about!

For the month of September, we were lucky to pin four new members! Our newest members are students at local universities, community advocates and individuals who are simply trying to find ways to improve our community. In such short time they have embraced Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self." Welcome Regina, Tristen, Dawn and Nancy! We are so lucky to have you!



Rotaractors from our club and San Diego State University joined forces with the Hoover Cardinals Interact program to clean up Swan Canyon in City Heights for I Love a Clean San Diego's Annual Coastal Clean Up Day! Our rotaractors continue to come back to this site year after year. We can't wait til next year!



If you would like to join us at our monthly meetings, take part in our events or would like more information about our club, please email us at [chrotaractclub@gmail.com](mailto:chrotaractclub@gmail.com). Like us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram to keep up with City Heights Rotaract! Club!