



ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES — OF OREGON —



Doulas Latinas International, was founded in 2006 by Dr. Sandra Hernandez because she recognized the need for Latina women to have emotional and linguistic support during pregnancy and childbirth. Her mission to train community members to be doulas for Latinx families is based on health equity—women who have an advocate to translate and support them through their pregnancy have more options in their medical care.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Doula Latinas partnered with six other community organizations and faith groups to serve Latino and Black communities across Oregon. They provided consistent COVID messaging that was culturally relevant to populations at extremely high risk of acquiring COVID. They supported and created opportunities for community members to be vaccinated; for those who were presenting with COVID, they provided timely care and support.

Recently, Doula Latinas has played an integral role in the dissemination of updated messaging concerning well water contamination in Umatilla and Morrow Counties, in addition to supporting in-person campaigns to meet with representatives from the affected communities to hear concerns and share practical and accessible information and resources.