

Washington State Patrol



El Protector
Unified Communities through Education



2023 Annual Report

Mission

The Washington State Patrol makes a difference every day, enhancing the safety and security of all people and communities by providing the best in public safety services.

Vision

To be the best public safety agency in the United States.

Motto

Service with Humility

Values

Every employee is a critical member of a team committed to earning trust and confidence through:

- Strong Leadership
- Effective Partnerships and Community Relationships
- Professional Excellence
- Integrity & Accountability
- Respecting and Protecting the Rights of All
- Fostering a Culture of Continuous Improvement
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Goals

Make the WSP a great place to work. Make our highways safe. Provide specialized investigative, forensic, and support services. Secure communities from terrorism, fire, and disaster risk. Sustain and enhance agency infrastructure and business processes.



El Protector
Unified Communities through Education



James Mjor
Assistant Chief
Field Operations Bureau



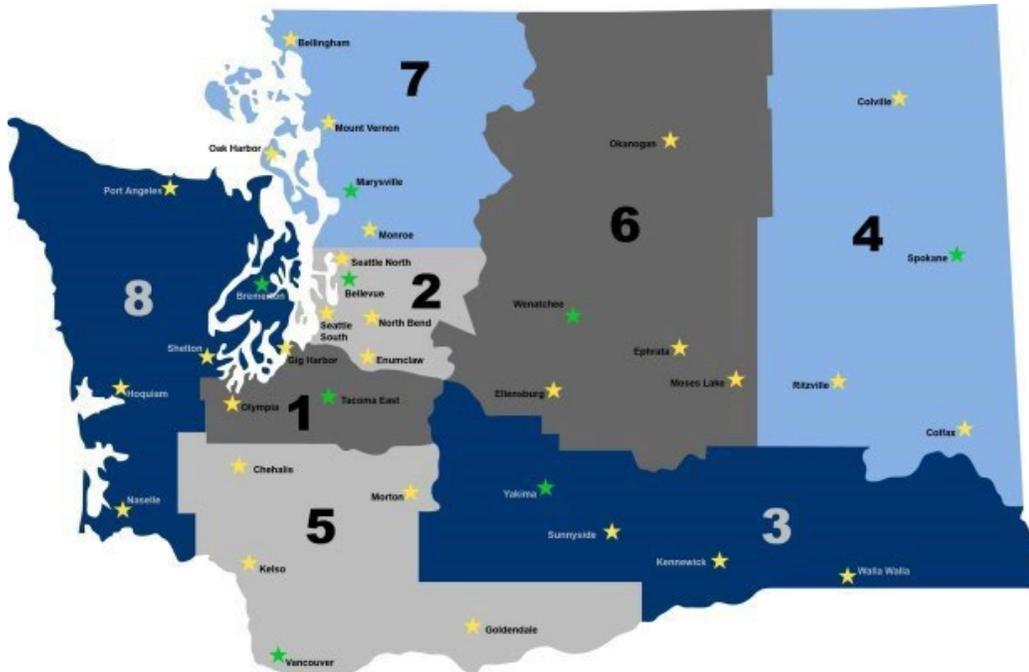
Chief John R. Batiste



Shane Nelson
Captain – District 3
Field Operations Bureau

District 3

Yakima County, Benton County, Franklin County, Walla Walla County, Columbia County, Garfield County, and Asotin County



As an agency, we face the ongoing challenge of interacting with motorists who do not speak English as their first language. Historically, Hispanic/Latino motorists had accounted for about half of licensed drivers involved in serious injury, fatal, and felony collisions within the Mid-Columbia Valley (the southeast portion of Washington State). In 2003, the El Protector program was launched to address the increased concerns of Hispanic/Latino surnamed drivers being overrepresented in these collisions.

The El Protector program officially began on February 20, 2003, at a community meeting held in Burbank, Washington. Various Hispanic/Latino community leaders, state and local law enforcement officials, and members of state and national traffic safety organizations were in attendance that evening. The Washington State Patrol (WSP) led a presentation that included statistics from all fatality and felony collisions in previous years. During the meeting, there was an overwhelmingly positive response and a commitment from all attendees to take action on this very important issue.

In response to the meeting, the WSP developed a citizen's advisory board and created a fulltime El Protector position to work closely with the Hispanic/Latino community. The advisory board was designed to provide guidance, develop shared goals and objectives, and ensure that our traffic safety message remained consistent through all outlets.

The El Protector program reached its 20th anniversary in 2023. Although we have made many adjustments over the years, we continue to utilize best practices. The original goals set 20 years ago are still essential and the backbone of the program. In 2023, with the continued support of our partners, stakeholders, and allied law enforcement agencies, we increased the number of El Protector representatives, which enabled our traffic safety message to reach even more communities throughout the state. We will continue to promote positive relationships, while building trust with the communities we serve by providing traffic safety education.

The 2023 El Protector challenge coin was designed with images highlighting the program and also included some of our surrounding landscape. The coin's front side displays the program's colors and a WSP badge with an El Protector rocker. The back side of the coin displays Trooper Mosqueda shaking hands with community members, images of an apple orchard, the Blue Mountains, wheat fields, and the Columbia River. The El Protector Motto, "unified communities through education," can be seen on the coin's rim in Spanish and English.



EI Protector Program

The EI Protector program was initially developed to reach a segment of our community who may otherwise have limited access to traffic safety information or laws within the State of Washington. The program continues to collaborate with the community to have a positive impact on the reduction of fatality and felony collisions involving Latino surnamed drivers. The face-to-face outreach instills trust while demonstrating transparency and equitable access to the Hispanic community.

Contact with law enforcement personnel at these events is done in a neutral and educational setting; no enforcement is taking place. Several of the radio stations we collaborate with utilize “live” social media accounts and receive questions from their listeners that are then answered over the air, in real time. Trooper Mosqueda consistently provides his phone number and e-mail information during these interviews in order to remain accessible to the community, even after the live interview is over. This type of interaction provides a unique opportunity to engage one-on-one with the people we serve. It also demonstrates how the Washington State Patrol is not only working **for** the citizens of the state, but we’re also working **with** them, all in an effort to make a positive difference every day.

In 2023, the EI Protector program increased our outreach via the radio waves and we’re proud to have worked with a dozen radio stations. We also partnered with several new companies, schools, and organizations who reached out to us to help educate their employees, community members, and students. Our traffic safety messages were broadcast throughout the east side of Washington with the assistance of several FM radio stations and online platforms. These stations are based in the Tri Cities, Yakima, Granger, and Wenatchee areas. The radio coverage areas include most of eastern Washington and parts of northeast Oregon. Through a multitude of media and outreach outlets, the information continued to flow into the community year-round. Throughout 2023, we were able to connect with our citizens on a myriad of topics that included: traditional traffic safety information, current and focused traffic safety campaigns, pedestrian safety in crosswalks, child car seat laws, drug awareness, current crime trends, new and/or updated state laws, and recruiting for a variety of positions within the Washington State Patrol. Without the collaborative relationships we enjoy with our media partners, our reach in the community would be limited and the success of the program would be nowhere near what it has become.

Our current EI Protector, Trooper Daniel Mosqueda, is a 13-year veteran of the Washington State Patrol. Trooper Mosqueda is a certified Drug Recognition Expert and a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician. He obtained his Public Information Officer (PIO) certification through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2019. Daniel initially became involved in the EI Protector program in 2012 when he worked as an assistant to Trooper Sergio Cervantes, who has since retired from the Washington State Patrol. Daniel continues to work closely with community stakeholders and community leaders to address traffic safety concerns and workplace safety. His passion to educate others and promote positive interactions between the community and law enforcement is vital to the continued growth and success of the program, now more than ever.

In 2023, Trooper Mosqueda continued to grow our number of partnerships with officers from allied law enforcement agencies. He collaborated with officers from Pasco Police Department, Kennewick Police Department, Richland Police Department, Franklin County Sheriff’s Office, Benton County Sheriff’s Office, Mattawa Police Department, Sunnyside Police Department and Yakama Tribal Police.

Mission, Goals, and Action Plans for the EI Protector Program

Mission

To provide Hispanic/Latino community outreach education addressing the leading causes of fatality and serious injury collisions in Washington while building and promoting positive relationships between law enforcement, the community, and our stakeholders.

Goals

1. Reduce the number of fatality collisions involving Hispanic/Latino drivers and/or occupants.
2. Reduce the number of felony collisions involving Hispanic/Latino drivers and/or occupants.
3. Reduce the number of Hispanic/Latino community members injured or killed as a result of failing to use vehicle occupant restraint equipment.
4. Evolve the program to address all traffic safety issues.
5. Create a good rapport and break down barriers within the Hispanic/Latino community to provide a better understanding about law enforcement in the State of Washington.
6. Earn and maintain trust from the Hispanic/Latino community by being transparent in our approach and dedication to serving all people who live, work and visit Washington.

Action Plans

1. Utilize a standardized training program within the Field Operations Bureau (FOB) core mission of traffic law enforcement. The focus will continue to be on maintaining and providing Spanish/English presentations on the following topics:
 - a. DUI (alcohol, prescribed medication, and illicit drugs)
 - b. Domestic violence
 - c. Fear of reporting criminal activity due to legal status/retaliation
 - d. Occupant restraints
 - e. Speeding
 - f. Distracted driving
 - g. Aggressive driving
 - h. Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) laws and regulations
2. Develop Hispanic/Latino community partnerships
3. Develop Hispanic/Latino media partnerships
4. Involve the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC)
5. Create a statewide information exchange within the Hispanic/Latino community
6. Outreach to the agriculture industry, community groups, businesses and local schools
7. Work with our allied law enforcement partners throughout the state to accomplish our goals
8. Attend Hispanic/Latino community events and activities to foster and promote open dialogue
9. Continue to grow our outreach via all types of social media and media partners
10. Open lines of communication via telephone, EI Protector e-mail account, radio stations, and social media accounts

Strategies

1. Provide information related to traffic safety issues affecting the Hispanic/Latino community.
 - a. Attend major community events to ensure face-to-face contact
 - i. Cinco de Mayo Festival
 - ii. Vista Hermosa Community Health Fair and KDNA Community Health Fair
 - iii. National Night Out and Native Night Out
 - iv. Fruit Grower Harvest Celebrations
 - v. Fruit Warehouse Safety Briefings
 - vi. Chiawana High School Winter Fair
 - vii. School Carnivals and Bicycle Rodeo Events
 - viii. Elementary Students Crossing Guard Picnic Event
 - ix. Trunk or Treat Event for Halloween
 - x. Pasco Community Family Field Day

** 2023 Community Involvement **



2. Collaborate with media to communicate a consistent traffic safety message.
 - a. Newspaper columns in El Sol de Yakima
 - b. Weekly on-air talk shows in Spanish as well as bilingual radio broadcasters & television stations
 - c. KiPaRi TV Tri-Cities, Telemundo, Hispanavision, TV Azteca and Univision networks
 - d. La Fiera, La Raza, La Z and La Grande (Tri-Cities)
 - e. La Pera Radio, La Z and La Grande (Wenatchee)
 - f. La Maquina Musical and La Grande (Yakima)
 - g. Radio Caden (Granger)
 - h. Conexión Contigo and La Grande (Seattle)
 - i. Continued development of television and radio public service announcements
 - j. Use online social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram & "X" (formerly known as Twitter) to reach listeners/viewers across the state and country

3. Continued internal communication regarding the EI Protector program.
 - a. Attend district leadership meetings to disseminate relevant information and when requested, attend SAF to present progress report to WSP executive staff
 - b. Attend detachment meetings in both east and west regions in District 3 as well as other Districts when requested
 - c. Annual report to stakeholders as well as potential partners/stakeholders
 - d. Interagency collaboration with WSP Commercial Vehicle Division (CVD), Criminal Investigative Division (CID), Fire Protection Bureau (FPB), Government and Media Relations (GMR), Investigative Assistance Division (IAD), Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and the Human Resource Division (HRD)

4. Recruiting to build a strong foundation that supports diversity, equity, and inclusion for the future of the Washington State Patrol.
 - a. Partner with Human Resource Division staff
 - i. Work with WSP recruiters across the state for all positions within the agency
 - ii. Attend job fairs, career days and assist with testing of local applicants
 - iii. Be available to handle ride-a-long requests
 - iv. Record recruiting videos and post on EI Protector social media accounts
 - v. Continue to assist HRD with national recruiting efforts

JOIN OUR TEAM



The Washington State Patrol is committed to Target Zero, the state’s Strategic Highway Safety Plan that aims to reduce the number of highway deaths to zero by 2030. We constantly monitor identified problem areas and assess our efforts to ensure we’re focused on the right strategies to help us achieve this very important goal.

In the last ten years, nearly 40% of local fatality collisions WSP investigated have involved Hispanic/Latino surnamed drivers. This is a substantial decrease from 2002 when the problem was first identified, and fatality collisions included an overwhelmingly high number of Hispanic/Latino surnamed drivers.

Washington is currently seeing record-breaking trends involving fatality collisions that have not been seen since 1990. In 2023 there were over 800 traffic-related deaths on our roadways. The main aspects involved in these fatal collisions were impaired, distracted, and aggressive driving. Impaired driving was a factor in 50% of all fatal collisions in 2023 and 25% of all collision investigated in Washington involved a distracted driver on their cell phone prior to the collision. Sadly, most of these fatal collisions were and are preventable. Therefore, providing a consistent traffic safety message to the communities we serve and continually addressing these risky driving behaviors remains a top priority for the program.

Fatal Collisions Involving Hispanic/Latino Surnamed Drivers - East Region of District Three

Kennewick & Walla Walla Fatal Collision Data			
Year	Total Fatal Collisions	Hispanic Driver Involved	Hispanic Driver Impaired
2013	10	3	0
2014	12	4	1
2015	11	4	0
2016	10	4	1
2017	16	9	5
2018	10	7	1
2019	15	5	3
2020	7	2	1
2021	18	6	5
2022	22	7	2
2023	22	10	6

The EI Protector program continues to focus on educating migrant workers and those driving commercial motor vehicles and/or farm equipment during harvest season. The following table represents the number of fatality collisions that occurred within the East Region of District 3 during harvest season over the past ten years:

Commercial Vehicle Training in January

Fatal Collisions During Harvest Season	
Year	Total Fatal Collisions
2013	2
2014	2
2015	4
2016	1
2017	4
2018	4
2019	4
2020	0
2021	2
2022	3
2023	2



In 2006, the EI Protector program began to immerse itself into the Yakima Valley communities in an attempt to devise strategies to decrease the fatality collision picture within the West Region of District Three. We continue to work with multiple radio stations and Spanish TV networks to ensure our traffic safety message is heard throughout communities in Yakima County.

Fatal Collisions Involving Hispanic/Latino Surnamed Drivers - West Region of District Three

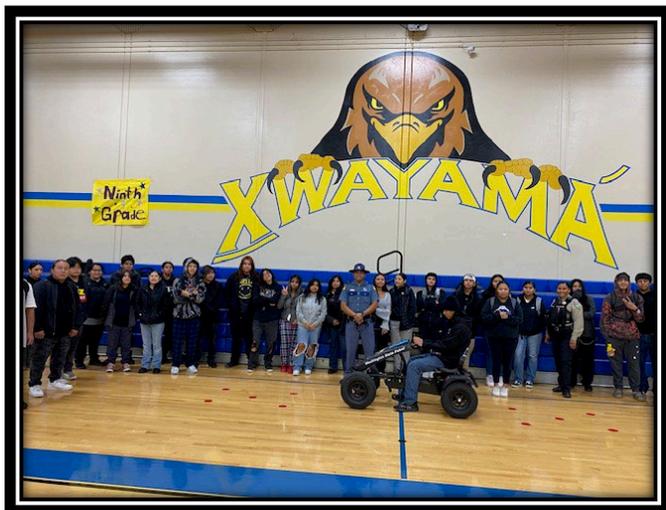
Yakima and Sunnyside Fatal Collision Data			
Year	Total Fatal Collisions	Hispanic Driver Involved	Hispanic Driver Impaired
2013	23	9	5
2014	28	10	4
2015	26	11	5
2016	19	6	3
2017	20	5	5
2018	12	6	1
2019	15	9	5
2020	17	9	3
2021	25	9	3
2022	10	4	3
2023	16	7	5

2023 New Partnerships

On August 23, 2023 the EI Protector program was invited by the Yakama Nation Police Department to participate in Native Night Out in White Swan. Trooper Mosqueda received a warm welcome while providing our first EI Protector outreach event with the Native American community. In November the program was invited to provide a traffic safety presentation to students from White Swan High School and students from the Yakama Nation High School. Both events were a huge success and provided traffic safety information to students from 8th through 12th grade. At the end of each presentation the students were given the opportunity to drive a pedal kart through a distracted driving course. This unique hands-on exercise provided students a firsthand experience with the dangers associated with distracted driving, drowsy driving, and impaired driving.



White Swan High School / Pedal Kart Course



Yakama National Tribal High School



Native Night Out (Toppenish)

We also partnered with the Sunnyside Police Department and participated in several non-traffic related radio interviews in Granger. Topics discussed included the dangers of illicit drug use and how to identify and assist a person who may be overdosing, how to keep youth from joining gangs, and warning signs for parents or guardians to look for. This is another positive step in the right direction to help reach and educate the communities in Yakima, Sunnyside, Wapato, Outlook, Toppenish, Mabton, and Prosser.

Community Outreach and Education

The EI Protector Law Enforcement Advisory Committee (EPLAEC) is comprised of mostly Hispanic/Latino police officers from local agencies and works collaboratively under the umbrella of the EI Protector program.



(Left to right) Kennewick Police Officer Jesus Contreras, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer Mireya Antunez, Pasco Police Officer Alex Michel and Trooper Daniel Mosqueda.

Most people understand the importance of overall traffic safety and appreciate having an EPLAEC member explain our concerns and issues in these types of environments, instead of on the side of the road during a traffic stop. This positive interaction allows them the opportunity to ask questions and clarify laws they may not fully understand. Officers from different agencies provide a wide range of expertise and allow equitable access to our rural and inner-city community members. Through these efforts, we hope to establish a more positive and interactive rapport between law enforcement and the local Hispanic/Latino communities.

In 2023 we continued our partnership with a number of local law enforcement officers as well as members of Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway, Washington Department of Ecology, and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission. Working together with one common goal in mind reinforces to our community that their safety is our top priority, no matter what uniform we wear.

Our Partners in the Media

Our dedicated partners in the media are a critical component to the success of our mission. Through their efforts, our community stays informed and engaged with the EI Protector program on a consistent basis. Like any successful traffic safety campaign or program, the effective use of media outlets and community partnerships cannot be understated. To maintain transparency and equitable access, the EI Protector program has developed strong ties with local businesses, media groups, and local government agencies. Spanish media outlets have been instrumental in delivering our traffic safety messages to the Hispanic/Latino community. We currently work with twelve FM Spanish radio stations that broadcast in Yakima, Ellensburg, Tri Cities, Walla Walla, Moses Lake/Quincy, Wenatchee/Brewster areas and northeast Oregon. Prerecorded and live Public Service Announcements (PSA's) make it possible for us to reach thousands of listeners at work, at home, and in their vehicles. Some stations have online platforms that deliver our traffic safety messages to listeners across the United States as well. The program continues to develop and update PSA's based on current community needs, collision trends, and planned traffic safety campaigns.

Telemundo



La Raza Radio



La Maquina Musical



La Fiera Radio



For the fourth consecutive year the Washington State Department of Ecology has utilized Trooper Mosqueda as the Spanish spokesperson for their annual “We Keep Washington Litter Free” Campaign.



The informational announcements pushed out through the media in 2023 include the following topics: securing your vehicle load, child car seat safety, occupant restraints, dangerous and distracted driving, underage drinking, driving under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal and prescribed drugs, pedestrian safety, and winter driving tactics. All of these commercials and PSA's were developed in both English and Spanish and are aired throughout Central and Eastern Washington.

Social Media

Social media serves as an immediate link between Trooper Mosqueda and the community. He utilized the El Protector “X” (formerly known as Twitter) account and the new Instagram account throughout the year to communicate traffic safety messages in both English and Spanish but also to recruit for the future of the agency. Having the ability to push information out to our audience in real-time has been received well by the community, especially when it comes to traffic hazards or blocked roadways.



[@WSPPELPROTECTOR](https://www.instagram.com/WSPPELPROTECTOR)



[@ELPROTECTORWSP](https://www.instagram.com/ELPROTECTORWSP)



El Protector
Unified Communities through Education

Recruiting for the Future

Throughout the year, Trooper Mosqueda partnered with local WSP recruiter, Trooper Bryan Villanueva and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer Mireya Antunez. Together, they seek to increase the number of Spanish-speaking applicants for positions within the commissioned and civilian side of the Washington State Patrol. With over half of all WSP employees working in non-commissioned positions Trooper Mosqueda will continue to support our mission by advertising all available careers within the WSP. With a special focus on community connections, we hope to dissolve historical and cultural barriers between the Hispanic/Latino community and law enforcement while supporting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

As an agency, the Washington State Patrol strives to create and foster an inclusive culture inspiring everyone to be their authentic selves, speak openly, and be courageous. We know it is imperative to build and maintain strong community relationships in order for our agency to continue to flourish in the future.



New Tools

In 2023, Thanks to a traffic safety grant from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, we were able to acquire pedal karts, distracted driving electronic glasses, polydrug use goggles, interactive floor mats, tabletop activities, and a new trailer wrap. All the of new items were used to demonstrate to community members a hands-on experience associated with impaired driving, drowsy driving and distracted driving.



Training

In August Trooper Mosqueda was approved to cross train with the officers in the El Protector program within the California Highway Patrol (CHP). He learned about the history of their El Protector program, the agriculture industry, and the Hispanic community in the surrounding area. He visited CHP's Central Division and attended several community outreach events in the Fresno and Madera area. Trooper Mosqueda also received media training at Univision in Fresno and observed a live press conference involving seven media outlets that covered a retail theft investigation. He worked with the Strikeforce Unit and was also introduced to the Safety and Farm Labor Vehicle Unit (SAFE). He visited the Fresno Mexican Consulate to learn about the important collaboration done between both organizations to help save lives in the Hispanic Community.

In October the California Highway Patrol invited Trooper Mosqueda, Trooper Carlos Mata, Trooper David Mora, and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officer Mireya Antunez to their annual El Protector in-service training. This training is provided to all CHP officers working in the El Protector program. The original El Protectors, retired CHP Sergeant Jorge Chaidez and retired CHP Captain Roy Huerta shared the history of the El Protector program that they created back in 1987. They discussed the importance of the program and how it significantly reduced fatality collisions while overcoming barriers between CHP officers and the community. During the training there were a variety of topics discussed including: safety and farm labor vehicle education, using proper Spanish for effective communication, social media training, commercial industry education program and Hispanic culture.

California Highway Patrol El Protector Training

(Ret) Capt. Huerta & Sgt. Chaidez



**** Successes in 2023 ****



63 Community Outreach Events



43 Traffic Safety Presentations



22 School Outreach Events



137 Media Interviews



140 Community Phone Calls

A few additional highlights from 2023 are listed below:

Chiawana High School Winter Carnival – On February 23rd, Trooper Mosqueda teamed up with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission and attended the Chiawana High School Winter Carnival. Hundreds of students and their families participated in the event, which was an excellent opportunity to speak to the least experienced drivers on our roads. During the event, hot topics for discussion included impaired driving, distracted driving, speeding, and seatbelt use.

Teen Target Zero Presentations – Throughout the year, the Washington Traffic Safety Commission and officers from several law enforcement agencies presented Teen Target Zero. This curriculum educates high school students about Washington's leading causes of fatal collisions. The presentations took place in the student's classroom and the topics discussed were drug awareness, distracted driving, speeding, seatbelt use, impaired driving, and prevention strategies.

Vista Hermosa Health Fair – On May 11, the Vista Hermosa Health Fair took place in Prescott. Trooper Mosqueda set up a WSP booth and handed out trooper hats, candy, coloring books, and traffic safety flyers. The DUI goggles were a big hit with attendees, providing a safe first-hand experience of the dangers of impaired driving. Community members enjoyed speaking with a Hispanic trooper and had many traffic safety-related questions.

Easter Day Community Outreach Event – On April 9, Alcon Media sponsored a community outreach event with Fire radio and La Fiera radio stations in Kennewick. There were over 400 community members who attended the event. Traffic safety flyers were handed out to parents, and kids received a cool trooper hat. Raffle tickets were distributed during the event, and several lucky families won a food basket.

Cinco De Mayo Festival - On May 5, Trooper Bryan Villanueva, officers from Pasco Police Department, and Trooper Mosqueda joined the Pasco community to celebrate Cinco De Mayo. Traffic safety flyers, candy, and stickers were handed out. They spoke one-on-one with many community members and enjoyed the traditional folklore dancing, and Mariachi music performed at the event. Hundreds of local and out-of-the-area community members attended this yearly family friendly event.

Zirkle Fruit Presentations - Throughout the year, Trooper Mosqueda was invited to Zirkle Fruit to discuss various traffic safety tips and Washington laws with employees. By the end of the year, several thousand of their employees received training on topics including occupant restraints, distracted driving, commercial motor vehicle rules & regulations, cell phone laws, impaired driving, cannabis use, domestic violence, assault, malicious mischief, littering, open container, urinating in public, calling 911 to report dangerous drivers on the road, and trespassing.

National Night Out (Mattawa & Basin City) - On August 1 and August 4, Trooper Mosqueda, Trooper Villanueva, and Officer Mireya Antunez attended National Night Out in Basin City Memorial Park and Hund Memorial Park in Mattawa. At the WSP booth, we handed out candy, trooper hats, stickers, and traffic safety flyers. Community members drove pedal karts while wearing distracted driving glasses to experience the dangers of drowsy and distracted.

Native Night Out (Toppenish) – On August 23, the El Protector program and Trooper Thorson were invited by the Yakima Nation Police to attend Native Night Out in Toppenish. A WSP booth was displayed at the event and trooper hats, stickers, pencils, and traffic safety flyers were handed out to community members. We shared a meal with the community while discussing traffic safety and career fields within the Washington State Patrol.

Edison Elementary Bike Rodeo – On June 1, Washington Traffic Safety Target Zero Manager Ruben Hernandez partnered with the Bicycle Barn and Trooper Mosqueda for a community bike rodeo event in Walla-Walla. The event had a bicycle course with stop signs, traffic cones, crosswalks, intersections, and a variety of obstacles. Kids and parents were educated about biking and pedestrian safety. Free helmets were provided and were fitted correctly for each person who received one. Many flat tires were also repaired at no cost during the event.

West Richland Veterans Day Parade – We partnered with the West Richland Police Department, Benton County Sheriff’s Office, and Franklin County Sheriff’s Office for the Veterans Day Parade. We were able to display the newly wrapped EI Protector trailer during the parade. The trailer was updated to show the Target Zero logo, the EI Protector logo, recruiting information, and several traffic safety messages in Spanish and English.

Yakima National Tribal Traffic Safety Day – On November 28, a traffic safety presentation was provided to the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students of Yakima Nation Tribal High School in Toppenish. The Yakima Nation Police partnered with the EI Protector program and educated students about the dangers of distracted driving, impaired driving, speeding, and the importance of buckling up. The students had great questions about traffic safety and the law enforcement profession. The presentation concluded with students driving through a distracted driving course using pedal karts and distracted driving glasses.

EI Protector Citizen Advisory Board & Partners

Lucy Cartagena

Vista Hermosa Health Fair



Kyle Hutchinson

Chateau Ste. Michelle Winery



Delia Pena

WSP SAF



Throughout the year, the following individuals contributed their time by meeting with Trooper Mosqueda to provide program input, share ideas for traffic safety training, and plan community outreach events:

Ms. Socorro Garcia – Ms. Garcia has been part of the Vista Hermosa Community for 29 years and has served as their health advisor for the last seven years. She shares information with community members about how they can be healthier and maintain spiritual well-being. She works to connect them to available resources and provides self-help tools as well.

Ms. Lucy Cartagena – Ms. Cartagena is one of the original advisory board members and has worked alongside all four EI Protectors. She is currently the Human Resource Manager for First Fruit Farms. Ms. Cartagena also works directly with employees and supervisors and manages all aspects of workplace safety, personnel issues, workers' compensation, and employee benefits. She has been with First Fruit for seventeen years. She holds a degree in Social Sciences from Washington State University.

Mr. George Gomez – Mr. Gomez is the Safety Planner for First Fruits Farms and supervises the packing division. He is responsible for the safety of the entire corporation, which has over six hundred employees. First Fruits employs a large Hispanic workforce at their packing warehouses as well as in their orchards.

Mr. Fidel Sandoval – Mr. Sandoval is the lead Safety Specialist for Lamb Weston in Paterson. He oversees safety operations for the dairy department and agriculture department, which employ hundreds of Hispanic workers year-round.

Mr. Kyle Hutchinson – Mr. Hutchinson is the health and safety manager at Ste. Michelle Wine Estates. He has been employed by Ste. Michelle Wine Estates for twelve years. The safety and wellbeing of several hundred full-time employees is one of his main priorities.

Mr. Juan Martinez – Mr. Martinez is the recovery manager for First Fruits Farms and supervises 52 employees. He is in charge of the transportation operations and is the direct supervisor for the commercial vehicle fleet. He has over 32 years of experience at First Fruits.

Mr. Eduardo Samano – Mr. Samano is the lead food safety supervisor at First Fruits Farms. He is in charge of 35 orchard supervisors who in turn oversee 700 orchard personnel. Mr. Samano oversees all orchard operations and has been with the company for nine years. He wants to instill in all his employees the importance of workplace safety as well as and traffic safety.

***** The Washington State Patrol would like to thank all of our stakeholders for their unwavering support of the EI Protector program in 2023. We look forward to seeing the positive impact our partnerships will continue to have in our communities in the years to come. *****