

 BIOGRAPHIES**Virginia Marrufo-Martinez**

Virginia Marrufo-Martinez was born in Salt Lake City and adopted by Mexican immigrants to Utah. She was raised in a festive household, which had all nationalities of Latinos. From a young age, her parents instilled the belief that you have to take care of your community and neighbors.

Her career started in 1965, working for the Community Action Program, and former Utah Governor Rampton. She then moved to California where she worked for “El Proyecto Del Barrio” to defend the rights of Latinos within the Los Angeles community.

Virginia currently works as a community organizer for Community Action Program where she organizes residents of mobile parks with their transitions. She is the honored recipient of Governor Leavitt’s Utah Woman’s Achievement Award, Utah Housing Coalition Award, Sandy City Partnership Award, Employee of the Year for Community Action Program, and an Award from the Mexican Civic Center for her contribution to the Latino/Hispanic Community.

Inspirational thought that has helped you during difficult times.

“Learn everything you can, anytime you can, from anyone you can—there will always come a time when you will be grateful you did. My mother always said ‘patience is a virtue’ because she needed it with me and I need it now with the barriers people have been facing during these hard times.”