



JACKIE REYES-YANES CANDIDATE FOR WARD 1 DC COUNCIL

Jackie Reyes Yanes is a Salvadoran-American public servant, mother, and community leader with more than two decades of experience serving the people of Washington, D.C., with a deep commitment to immigrant and working families.

Born in El Salvador, Reyes Yanes came to Washington, D.C. in 1990 and made the District her permanent home. As a young immigrant and teenage mother who experienced homelessness, she gained firsthand understanding of the barriers facing low-income and newcomer families, an experience that shaped her lifelong dedication to public service, housing stability, and community advocacy.

Her career began at the Latin American Youth Center, where she worked directly with youth and families while building expertise in data, outreach, and program coordination. She later served in the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services under Mayor Adrian Fenty, focusing on neighborhood problem-solving and interagency coordination.

Reyes Yanes went on to serve as Director of Latino Affairs and Community Outreach for the late Ward 1 Councilmember Jim Graham, where she acted as a key liaison to dozens of community-based organizations and advanced initiatives serving Latino residents.

In 2015, Mayor Muriel Bowser appointed her Executive Director of the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs (MOLA). During her tenure, she expanded the agency's budget and strengthened access to health care, education, employment, and social services for Latino communities across the District. Under her leadership, the District launched the Immigration Justice Legal Services Grant Program, securing \$10 million to provide critical legal defense and protection for immigrant residents. She also played a central role in the expansion and outreach of the STAY DC rental and housing stability program, helping thousands of families remain housed during times of crisis.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Reyes Yanes led one of the District's most extensive community-based public health responses. She coordinated multilingual vaccine education and access efforts, deployed mobile vaccination clinics in hard-to-reach neighborhoods, and partnered with faith-based and community organizations to ensure equitable vaccine distribution for immigrant and frontline communities.

In October 2021, she was appointed Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs, becoming the first Latina to hold this position. In this role, she oversees multiple community affairs offices, builds partnerships with neighborhood and civic organizations, and serves as a critical bridge between District residents and the Executive Office of the Mayor.

In 2017, Reyes Yanes was featured in the book "Sí Puede: 26 Successful Salvadorans in the Diaspora" by Ana Margarita Chávez, recognizing her as one of the most impactful Salvadoran leaders in the United States.

In 2018, she led a historic delegation to El Salvador that resulted in the official Sister City Agreement between San Salvador and Washington, D.C., strengthening diplomatic, cultural, and economic ties between the two capitals.

In 2024, she helped lead the team behind a Guinness World Record achievement for the world's largest pupusa, celebrating Salvadoran culture on a global stage and uplifting small businesses, artists, and immigrant entrepreneurs throughout the District.

In 2025, Reyes Yanes announced her candidacy for the Ward 1 seat on the Council of the District of Columbia. If elected, she would become the first Latina in the history of the D.C. Council to hold elected office, marking a historic moment for the city and for generations of immigrant and working-class families.

Reyes Yanes has been recognized locally and nationally for her leadership and impact, including being named to El Tiempo Latino's "100 Powermeter." A proud Salvadoran-American and Washingtonian, she continues to live in D.C., where she is raising her family and advocating for inclusive policies that help immigrant and working-class residents thrive.

JACKIE - THE WARRIOR FOR WARD 1