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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE RELEASE DATE: Mar. 25, 2021 CONTACT: Ruthie Retana (562) 463-3145

# New Río Hondo College Trustee Promises Equity, Support During Virtual Swearing in Ceremony

**WHITTIER** – Río Hondo College's Board of Trustees welcomed Anais Medina Diaz as the Area 1 Trustee following a swearing-in ceremony during a March 24 board meeting.

Medina Diaz was sworn into office by her husband, El Monte Union High School District Board of Trustee Clerk David Diaz, during a virtual Zoom meeting. In attendance were Congresswoman Grace Napolitano and a representative for Assemblymember Blanca E. Rubio.

"I feel incredibly humbled to have received the vote and confidence of El Monte residents to represent them on the Río Hondo College Board of Trustees," Medina Diaz said. "I ran for office because I have a deep commitment to education, equity and community and I strongly believe that I wouldn't be in the position that I am currently in without my education and community."

The final ballot count, released by the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder's Office on March 12 and certified on March 15, officially elected Medina to serve on the Board of Trustees.

"I am so glad that we finally have a complete board because it makes me feel better now when we're making tough decisions, knowing that our entire community is being represented," Board of Trustees Clerk Kristal Orozco said. "I am so excited to have you here."

Medina Diaz is a public information officer for the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in communications from the University of La Verne in 2010, after taking several classes at Río Hondo College. Medina Diaz received a master's degree in strategic public relations from the University of Southern California in 2018.

"It is an honor to serve alongside Anais Medina Diaz. I believe she will be a powerful voice for the Río Hondo College community," Board of Trustees President Rosaelva Lomeli said. "Her passionate spirit is admirable and I think she's going to be a role model to many as she serves on this board."

### MORE

Río Hondo College is an educational and community partner committed to advancing social justice and equity as an antiracist institution that collectively invests in all students' academic and career pathways that lead to attainment of degree, certificate, transfer, and lifelong-learning goals. For information on the College or its programs, please call 562-692-0921 or visit **www.riohondo.edu**.

Medina Diaz said she is looking forward to providing additional support to community members who are personally and professionally impacted by COVID-19, first-generation college students and Asian-Americans/Pacific Islanders.

"I am proud to welcome Anais Medina Diaz to our Board of Trustees, and I know she is going to be a stellar trustee because of her love of the community," Superintendent/President Teresa Dreyfuss said. "I look forward to working with her in making Río Hondo College even better than before."

### PHOTO CAPTIONS:

**TRUSTEE1**: Río Hondo College Trustee Anais Medina Diaz takes the oath of office, administered by her husband El Monte Union High School District Board of Trustee Clerk David Diaz. Medina Diaz was sworn into office March 24 during a virtual zoom Board of Trustees meeting.

**TRUSTEE2**: Río Hondo College Trustee Anais Medina Diaz poses with her son and husband David Diaz during a virtual March 24 Board of Trustees meeting.

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