



## **Video Transcript: Ask Me Anything: Advancing Health Equity for Youth (Jose and Erik)**

**Erik (00:00):** What's your favorite hobby?

**Jose (00:01):** My favorite hobby, Erik... Oh, I'm a musician, so I think just being able to play the piano and the bass for sometime when I'm stressed or I'm overwhelmed, I think that's what calms me down. What's your favorite hobby?

**Erik (00:14):** I'm a sports guy, so I love soccer. Soccer has always been my passion, so if I see a ball, even if it's a basketball, volleyball, man, I'll start kicking it. So my favorite hobby is just to go out to the park and play some soccer.

**Jose (00:26):** Ask Me Anything: Advancing Health Equity for Youth.

**Erik (00:30):** Hi, I'm Erik Luzanilla.

**Jose (00:31):** And I'm Jose Gallardo, and we're from Campesinos Sin Fronteras.

**Erik (00:34):** And today we're going to let the RHNTC ask us anything about our work, advancing health equity for youth.

**Erik (00:41):** So Jose, what is the best part of working on your project?

**Jose (00:44):** I think the best thing about working on our project, Erik, is that we get to work with youth that resemble a lot of who we were growing up. You know, we are from the same community in San Luis, Arizona, we have the same background and being able to create and, you know, ferment the change that they are going to be part of, then our kids are going to be part of, I think that's the best part of working in this project.

**Jose (01:05):** So what keeps you committed to positive youth development?

**Erik (01:09):** Well, like you mentioned, Jose, we do work for our community and one of the main things that drives me is just seeing that positive impact in the youth. So mainly just being that support system for our youth that need it, so that's our main focus.

**Erik (01:22):** Why are adolescent sexual and reproductive health programs and services essential community resources in your community?

**Jose (01:29):** It's essential to us because we live in a majority Hispanic community and these topics are very taboo. So not a lot of people, not a lot of youth receive this education at home. Or if they asked for that information, they get shut down. So I believe that if we provide information for those who can receive it, they're going to be able to make better decisions later on in life that's going to provide a better future for them.

**Jose (01:51):** What is the special something that your project offers youth that they might not get from other programs or services?

**Erik (01:58):** I would have to say the opportunity to glow. Our programs are mainly youth-led, so we give them the voice to express their opinions, their ideas, and it's amazing to see the talent and the... just the vision that they see to move forward and provide that positive impact to their peers.

**Erik (02:16):** So just seeing that glow in our youth throughout the program and just the results itself is amazing.

**Erik (02:22):** What are you most proud of related to your work advancing health equity for youth?

**Jose (02:25):** What I'm most proud of, of my work is that we have seen how youth have changed throughout the years. We have seen that our middle schoolers, when we first started four years ago, have made better decisions as they grew up. We know that some students may not have made good decisions, yet however, didn't let that stop them from creating a brighter future. And that's what I'm most proud of that we were able to sow the seed and with time it's, you know, been growing.

**Erik (02:52):** This video was created by the Reproductive Health National Training Center, RHNTC.