

**REMARKS ON HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH  
EVERSOURCE  
MULTICULTURAL BUSINESS RESOURCE GROUP  
DR. NÚÑEZ  
OCTOBER 5, 2022**

**“UNITED IN DIVERSITY”**

Good afternoon, everyone! I’m very happy to join you today for this celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month at Eversource. I wish to express my thanks to my friend Ana Alfaro for asking me to speak with all of you today. I know that Ana and the members of the Multicultural Research Group have been working very hard to make this a successful event today, as we pause and reflect on the contributions that Hispanic people have made to our nation and to the State of Connecticut. I am delighted to have the opportunity to speak to you today about the Puerto Rican experience in Willimantic, Connecticut, where Eastern Connecticut State University is located. But first, I want to set some context for you.

**My Grandmother Ramona**

There is so much I remember about my childhood in San Sebastián, Puerto Rico. My father was a hard worker at his job, and my mother worked just as hard to make a home for my father, my brother and me. But today I want to talk about my grandmother, Ramona. My grandmother was a single mother of eight living in El Fanguito, “The Mudhole”, one of the worst slums in the entire Western Hemisphere. Back then, 40,000 people called El Fanguito home, including my grandmother. She built her home by hand from scraps that she would find scattered about. The mud and water would rise and fall with the tides, and we would walk on planks that were placed just high enough to keep us out of the mud.

























