



BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Announces Recent Hires in Community Development and Public Health Programs

Berkshire County, MA -- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission is pleased to announce the recent hiring of staff members Michaela Grady and Noe Gonzalez Ortiz. The BRPC Public Health Program supports Berkshire County and its municipalities in areas including emergency preparedness and response, substance use prevention and harm reduction, community health planning and education, climate resilience, and infectious and chronic disease prevention.

Michaela Grady

Michaela Grady has joined BRPC's Community Development & Housing Program as a Housing Planner. In this role, she conducts research and data collection to develop plans, reports, and other materials, assists in developing grant applications, and conducts outreach to encourage people to apply to both the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the Home Modification Loan Program (HMLP). Michaela has two years of experience as the CDBG Coordinator for the City of Westfield. During her time in Westfield, she also assisted in securing a Vacant Storefront District and designated Cultural District, as well as securing grants for other municipal departments. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Westfield State University.

Noé González Ortiz

Noé González Ortiz has joined BRPC's Public Health Program as a Planner focused on substance use disorder across the lifespan, including harm reduction, treatment, and recovery. He also focuses on initiatives geared toward youth substance use prevention and mental health promotion. Noé is a bilingual (Spanish and English) professional with a BBA in Computer Information Systems and extensive experience in community outreach, public health, and data management. He has worked across diverse roles including DEI Coordination, Individual and family support, and marketing.

About BRPC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission is the regional planning agency for Berkshire County, Massachusetts. BRPC assists the thirty-two Berkshire cities and towns in a diverse set of topics, including community and economic development, housing, community planning, data and information services, emergency preparedness planning, environmental and energy planning, regional services, public health, and transportation planning.

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