Building Integrated Communities (BIC) will partner with the City of Washington, NC

Washington, NC, September 3, 2020: The Building Integrated Communities (BIC) initiative at the Institute for the Study of the Americas and the City of Washington, NC signed an memorandum of understanding to initiate a process to build leadership opportunities and language access for foreign-born community members. Over the next two years, Washington BIC will conduct a community assessment to better understand the experiences of immigrant and refugee residents and bring together stakeholders to create a plan of action.

The Building Integrated Communities Program is an initiative of the Latino Migration Project at UNC Chapel Hill in collaboration with local governments, community residents and organization leaders. Since 2010, the statewide BIC initiative has partnered with the local governments of Chapel Hill, Siler City, Greenville, High Point, Winston-Salem, and Sanford and has gained national recognition for their work from the U.S. Mayor's Association. To date, more than 2000 foreign-born residents from 26 countries of origin have participated in these planning processes.

For more information about the BIC program, visit the BIC website (<u>https://migration.unc.edu/building-integrated-communities/</u>) or contact Hannah Gill, Director of the Latino Migration project at <u>hgill@email.unc.edu</u>.