

RICHARD VILLASANA

Reuniting immigrant and foster kids with family

Richard Villasana, a proud Navy veteran, is a leading international authority on immigration issues and foster families.

A monthly columnist for Foster Focus Magazine, he has been featured on CNN International, Univision, ABC TV, in U.S. magazines (Costco Connections, Foster Focus Magazine) and newspapers (AP News, Washington Post), in newspapers and magazines in Europe and Latin America and online about his expertise in locating family members. He has been interviewed on

radio and by EFE, the world's largest Spanish media company. Richard is a published author and international speaker.

He is the founder of Forever Homes for Foster Kids. For 25 years, the organization has worked with government agencies across the country to reunite immigrant and foster children with their families.

Richard has helped more than 10,000 families find their relatives in the U.S. Mexico and other countries in Latin America. Richard was a university professor at UABC, Tijuana, B.C. and has given presentations at some of Mexico's largest institutions, associations and corporations such as Plantronics and Thermo Fisher. He was recently honored as a California Hero.

RICHARD'S MOST POPULAR MEDIA TOPICS

Child Immigration Issues - Addressing ongoing challenges for immigrant children while in federal care and once they enter the population.

Value add for the audience - Richard connects the dots to highlight a growing crisis because the story doesn't end at the border.

Immigrant and Foster Children in Crisis - With hundreds of deaths annually, government and foster care is slow to reform while children suffer. Lack of oversight and accountability is leading to ongoing deaths of both immigrant and foster children.

Value add for the audience - People want to feel that children can be helped and to know how to help.

Sexual Abuse of Foster Children - 1 in 5 kids enter foster care because of abuse. Statistics show the abuse continues and increases for kids while in foster care.

Value add for the audience - Many people want to know how to stop the abuse, that there is hope and how to be part of the solution.

PRAISE

"You helped us find an uncle in Mexico which led to us to the youth's Godmother in California. She is now adopting the youth!"—YMCA Youth & Family Services

"Because of your considerable and dedicated research, we were able to establish direct contact with this foster child's family."—Anjuli Barak, CASA of Travis County, TX

CONTACT

- rvillasana@ForeverHomesforFosterKids.org
- 619-886-4760
- www.ForeverHomesforFosterKids.org

in @richardvillasana

@FAMILYFINDINGMX / @foreverhomesforfosterkidsca