

*Please Support the 26th Mildred Council  
Annual Community Dinner celebrating our  
community's Diversity*

January, 2026

Dear

Committee  
members:

**Nerys Levy, chair**

**Spring Council**

**Heather Bolduc**

**Marlyn Valeiko**

**Paul Slack**

**Regina Mahalek**

**Mary Caviness**

**Tama Hochbaum**

**UNC Press**

**Regina Merritt**

**Lewis Atwater**

**Clementine Self**

**Lorie Clark**

**Tiffany Lytle**

**Patricia Farrington**

**Cissy Green**

**HRC- Wendy Calvin**

On May 20th 2018, our co-founder and inspiration Mama Dip, (a.k.a. Mildred Council) passed away. To honor her memory, the Community Dinner Committee has renamed the Annual Community Dinner after her. We all miss her so much and, as she would have wanted, the Dinner continues. On behalf of the Community Dinner Committee, we invite you to join other members of our community in contributing to this annual celebration of diversity on Sunday, Sunday, April 26 2026 at 1:00pm at McDougle School Cafeteria. Now more than ever, we as a community must find ways to live together in harmony and learn to appreciate one another's cultures and traditions. The Community Dinner encourages people from all sectors of the community to share a meal, enjoy entertainment and build lasting friendships. In April 2025, and thanks to local support and participation, over close to 500 people from many cultures and socio-economic groups shared a meal and musicale. At that event, because of local donations and the participation of many local restaurants, we were able to underwrite over 60% of the tickets, allowing people in need to sit at the table. We hope that you will want to be a part of the 26th Mildred Council Annual Community Dinner and are kindly asking you for a food donation of your choice to feed 40 people. Providing quality food for 500 people and all our entertainers and volunteers is a daunting task. Beau Catering and many other culturally diverse local restaurateurs will be preparing the main meal and coordinating the menu together with the Community Dinner Committee. All that we ask is that you participate in an event that is so important to our community. For your information, in March 2014 the Community Dinner was honored in Washington D.C, with a National League of Cities Award for Cultural Diversity. This indeed was a great honor. The organizers are making an extra effort to include local farm products and community gardening projects in our 26th Community Dinner. This year, in addition to receiving checks, we are also able to receive online donations supporting the dinner through our website <http://communitydinner.org>. As a participant, you will be recognized as a contributor in publicity, on the Dinner's website and at the event. If you have any questions, please contact the Dinner's Chairperson, Nerys Levy at 919-417-3081 or at [rilevy@mindspring.com](mailto:rilevy@mindspring.com). Our website at <http://communitydinner.org> lists previous contributors and images of our 2025 dinner. We look forward to your participation,

Sincerely,  
Nerys Levy,  
Chair, Community Dinner Committee

EIN number (Tax number for Orange County 56-6000327)