



## Biography of Councilwoman Marilyn Torres

Marilyn Torres is a lifelong Camden resident and strong advocate for education. An alumna of Rowan University, Ms. Torres earned her associates degree. Ms. Torres continues to work for the Camden Board of Education for over 32 years as the District Parent Coordinator. As former President Barack Obama stated, Ms. Torres affirms that an investment in education is not only a moral imperative, it is a necessity.

In 2002, New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman awarded Ms. Torres with the *Governor's Award* for Achievement and service to her community. Ms. Torres hosted and produced a Spanish language health education talk show entitled "Enterate", which aired on the Camden School District Channel-19. Ms. Torres was honored by the Camden County Board of Freeholder as a recipient of the Martin Luther King medal of honor for her accomplishments. In 2010, Ms. Torres was

honored by Vice-President Biden and his wife during Hispanic Heritage Month in Washington, DC.

In 2010, Councilwoman Torres became the first Hispanic woman to serve on Camden City Council. She was elected to serve as Council-At-Large, representing the entire City.

Ms. Torres has served as Chairperson and Treasurer of the Camden Redevelopment Agency. She also served as the Chairperson of Camden County Human Relations Commission, Commissioner for the Camden City Housing Authority, Member of the Hispanic Youth Advisory Board of Camden County, and Member of the Camden Children's Garden.

In her devotion to her community, Ms. Torres has held voluntary leadership posts in numerous vocational and civic organizations, including the Association of Puerto Ricans on the March (APM), East Camden on the Move, the Hispanic Professionals Committee, Sensitivity and Cultural Awareness Now (SCA) and the National Association of Bilingual Education. She is presently a member of the Professional Latinas Alliance Network, (P.L.A.N.).

Ms. Torres was a former outreach worker for the Operation CeaseFire in Camden, an initiative funded through the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, to reduce gun violence in the City.

She is a single mother of four sons, all of whom graduated from Camden City Schools. Ms. Torres is blessed with nine grandchildren.