

Oral History Transcript

Alma: My name is Alma Reyes, today's date is March 10th, 202. Today we will discuss the experiences of people during the covid-19 pandemic. Today we are in San Antonio, Texas and I am interviewing.

Cesar: Cesar Reyes

Alma: Where were you born?

Cesar: August 3rd, 1988.

Alma: Where are you from?

Cesar: San Antonio, Texas

Alma: What is your occupation?

Cesar: I work for the United States Postal Service.

Alma: When and how did you first hear about the virus and can you explain your experience?

Cesar: So, I was having lunch with my father and my family when it came out on the TV and when we saw that they hadn't yet made its way down to Texas yet, San Antonio. So, you know we discussed it for a bit finished having lunch and we went on our way and that was probably the last time that I've have seen my dad in person and got to hug him.

Alma: Can you explain how has the coronavirus affected you and your family or friends, what has changed?

Cesar: So, before you know we would go family and friends house you know um mingle, barbecue and now since the pandemic hit were just basically stick to ourselves, we try to stay safe cause you know I have five children and a wife I have to take care of, so I want to make sure everybody's safe.

Alma: Can you explain hoe covid-19 affected your daily or weekly routine? Like shopping for groceries, spending time with family.

Cesar: So, shopping for groceries is a little easier now cause all you got to do is curbside it. I spend a lot more time with my family cause I'm not at the store shopping. Um my daily routine instead of coming home and hugging everybody and telling them hi I'm home I have to go immediately to the shower change, and you know then I proceed to the rest of my day.

Alma: Due to the pandemic are you able to work from home? Why or Why not?

Cesar: So, unfortunately, I can't work from home because I deal with the mail directly, I handle packages and letter mail so all that has to be sorted out manually.

Alma: Do you know anyone that has been infected with the virus?

Cesar: Yes, I know several individuals that has been affected with corona.

Alma: How has adapting to the virus affected your work responsibilities?

Cesar: So, the way it affected my work responsibilities is I have to now be careful of maintaining social distancing between coworkers while sorting all the packages and I gotta make sure that I also keep my hands washed at all times after I'm done, and the volume of work has jumped up a lot due to everybody switching to online now.

Alma: And um since you live in San Antonio Texas when you were hit with the February's winter storm did you think about the virus? Why or Why not?

Cesar: I did because then you know you have to think that some people had light some people had water and the ones that did or didn't went with their families members that did so you know now you have many households together and you know still we would have to go into work and coming into work everybody would be there saying that they had extended family over we just have to be more cautious cause you know the virus is still here still around you can still catch it.

Alma: What would you like to tell the future generations about the pandemic?

Cesar: That if you see that there is a global pandemic and the government starts recommending you do certain things, I suggest you listen to what they say cause it will make everything go by a lot faster and recover would be a lot better

Alma: Okay, Thank you.