

CentroNia is a Washington D.C. Bilingual Charter School housed in Columbia Heights. CentroNia has been nationally recognized for its efforts in multicultural learning and bilingual education.

CentroNia strives to educate children and youth and strengthen community and familial bonds through their diverse bilingual environment. In 1986 CentroNia was founded as the Calvary Bilingual Multicultural Learning Center, a center aimed to provide quality yet affordable early childhood education and support. Over the years, the programs expanded to including after-school help and parent education. In 1995 CentroNia moved to its Columbia Road location in Columbia Heights after receiving a generous donation from Verizon. 2004 marked the year that CentroNia DC Bilingual Public Charter School enrolled its first class of kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students.

CentroNia offers many different programs and services to support a wide spanning and variety of people in the Washington, D.C. community. Their early childhood program readies children for school in a bilingual environment. CentroNia's community education program collaborates with many different schools and partners in the area all who which are working toward the same goal: to help members of the community develop integral life skills that will contribute to their success. CentroNia also has a passion for promoting healthy eating habits and lifestyles. Their "Eat Healthy, Live Healthy" campaign is devoted to providing nutritional information to children and parents in addition to the healthy meals and snacks offered throughout the day. In 2011 First Lady Michelle Obama visited CentroNia to launch her "Let's Move! Child Care" campaign. DC Bilingual Public Charter Schools also received the Gold Award with Distinction from the USDA as a part of the Healthier US School Challenge.

Read about the experience of a CentroNia Parent:

"Thanks to CentroNía, my wife and I are able to work. CentroNía welcomed my daughters when they first arrived in the United States and cared for them, it's more than a school, it's a home, that gives a helping hand to all-- Lorenzo Ramos Suarez, Father