

Community Archives Center Tacoma Community House Oral History Interviews Transcript

Kmetovska, Aneta. Interview date: 05/11/2022

dindria: [00:01](#) Please state your name.

Aneta Kmetovska: [00:03](#) My name is Aneta Kmetovska. A N E T A.

dindria: [00:10](#) Good. What is the date?

Aneta Kmetovska: [00:13](#) Today is May 11th, 2022.

dindria: [00:17](#) Where are we located?

Aneta Kmetovska: [00:18](#) We are located in Tacoma community House.

dindria: [00:24](#) Perfect, All right, so for the first question, where are you from? Where is your home country?

Aneta Kmetovska: [00:33](#) My home country is Macedonia. This is a small country in Europe?

dindria: [00:39](#) Yes. Can you tell us about it?

Aneta Kmetovska: [00:40](#) Yes. This is a small country in the border with Greece, Bulgaria, Albania, and Serbia. And my country is small, the people are very nice. And we have like four season. I know, I don't know. I love. I love my country. <laugh>. This is the country where the Alexander the Great is born and also the Mother Teresa. Her, her hometown is in our capital town. Skopje, where I'm from. Yes.

dindria: [01:17](#) Yes. Right on. So, you have something in common with Mother Teresa and Alexander the Great.

Aneta Kmetovska: [01:23](#) Yes <laugh>.

dindria: [01:25](#) Um, next one is number three. Who is your family? Describe them

Aneta Kmetovska: [01:30](#) Like here?

dindria: [01:32](#) Could be family in Macedonia. Could be family here. Both.

Aneta Kmetovska: [01:36](#) Here I come with my husband and my two children. And in Macedonia it's, mm, it it's all my family is there. Like I have mom, dad, and two sister, and in Macedonia family, it's so important. We are so close between us. Yes.

dindria: [01:58](#) Yes. Right on. Um, that's good to know. How did you get to Tacoma, Washington and why?

Aneta Kmetovska: [02:07](#) I come in Tacoma, Washington because my husband get a job in the woman professional soccer team. He was like goalkeeper and now he's a, um, coach for goalkeepers and he work in, uh, the woman profe-professional soccer team, OL Reign. Um, they play in Seattle on Luma Field, and I want to support him and I come with him here.

dindria: [02:39](#) All right. Right on. I'm gonna have to get into my soccer. <laugh> <laugh>. Um, and you told me why, when did you come to Tacoma, Washington?

Aneta Kmetovska: [02:50](#) I come in Tacoma, Washington, 28th of February, 2020.

dindria: [02:56](#) All right. So, you've been here a couple years?

Aneta Kmetovska: [02:59](#) Like two years and three months? Yes.

dindria: [03:01](#) Two years and three months counting. <laugh>? Yes. <laugh>. What did you think the United States would be like?

Aneta Kmetovska: [03:10](#) I think that United, United States like, uh, offer a lot of things if you want to work and to build your dream. I don't know. This country's so big. You have a lot of opportunity and you just need to push yourself, and then I think you will have success. <laugh>.

dindria: [03:31](#) All right. I like how you think of the United States, um, that puts us in a positive light. How do you think, um, before you came, what did you think about United States and how is it different?

Aneta Kmetovska: [03:43](#) I think that when I come in United States, I will see only the big buildings with, uh, I don't know, <inaudible>, something like that. But here in Tacoma, Tacoma town, um, I think that I'm like in my town because my town, it's like small houses with small buildings, and I don't know,

the neighbors are good in this place, area where we live, and I, I was surprised. We live <laugh>.

dindria: [04:18](#) I I love that it was similar to your homes. Yes. Your home city. Yes. Tacoma is smaller than Seattle.

Aneta Kmetovska: [04:26](#) Yes. But, but sometimes when I go to Seattle, I think, oh, I miss this because Skopje is a capital town and we have like a lot of traffic, but in the downtown of Skopje. But the, in my, uh, area where I live is the similar like university place where I live now. Like it's quiet, it's safety. It's like that <laugh>.

dindria: [04:51](#) Yes. Okay, that's good. Differences and similarities. What was your first American experience when you first got to the United States? What was the first thing that you did or first thing that that you felt?

Aneta Kmetovska: [05:07](#) First thing that I felt when I come in America was the Covid start <laugh>. We come 28th of February, 2020 and 16th of March, everything close. And it was like so bad experience because I don't know, everybody was so scared about what will happen. Nobody knows, you know. But thanks God, that this finish, I think <laugh>.

dindria: [05:40](#) We hope that it's finished. Yes. Um, now we get into some fun questions. Okay. What food do you enjoy?

Aneta Kmetovska: [05:49](#) Here?

dindria: [05:50](#) Could be this food, could be home food, whatever you like.

Aneta Kmetovska: [05:55](#) Um, in Macedonia we cook a lot. And we prefer to eat like home food. Like you made your food in your home. Which means I don't go too much to the restaurant. I eat, like with my kids, like burgers, pizza, I like the burger. And the pizza is the same, I think everywhere when you go. But I cook every day. And <laugh>, I don't know. We, we

dindria: [06:27](#) Want, sorry. What is your favorite recipe? Like your favorite dish?

Aneta Kmetovska: [06:32](#) Favorite dish? I don't know. We eat meat like beans every Friday. We don't eat, uh, meat, which means we eat fish and something with vegetables. And I don't know, I like different food. I can say that I have something, which is my

favorite dish. But for example, I, because I'm lion in, I don't know in horoscope, how to say. Yeah, I like meat,

dindria: [07:01](#) <laugh>, <laugh>,

Aneta Kmetovska: [07:02](#) Everything with meat.

dindria: [07:04](#) <laugh>. So Leo,

Aneta Kmetovska: [07:05](#) Right? Yes. Leo.

dindria: [07:06](#) Okay. You like the meat. All right. <laugh>. So maybe Monday through Thursday, right? Yes. Delicious. For Monday through Thursday. Um, next, what is your favorite music or a favorite song?

Aneta Kmetovska: [07:19](#) I like to listen like jazz. Blues also rock. Everything. What is good for my ear, for me is good. Okay. Country music. Sometimes we have also Macedonia, like folk music. Yeah. I like everything, but is good. Yes.

dindria: [07:36](#) Oh, I would love to listen to your radio station, <laugh>. Yes,

Aneta Kmetovska: [07:39](#) I will. I will tell you. Okay. Okay. And Indian music, relax. Indian music. Japanese jazz is also good. I don't know. <laugh>.

dindria: [07:48](#) Yes. It sounds like you have a lot of like musical likes, so I appreciate that. Um, now these questions get a little more difficult because there are kind of like why questions. Okay. Why do you want to share your story today?

Aneta Kmetovska: [08:04](#) I don't know. I don't have nothing to hide. For me, I want to tell that the community house, this is not like, uh, it's a good place, uh, people to feel like you are welcome. You have a place where you can learn something. What we pay here for three months, it's nothing. And they give us everything what they need. For example, they give you like, uh, laptop, if you don't have. Water, if you want to drink, you know, they're so like, kind. I don't know. I feel my, um, my classmates because I, I attend the last quarter and I feel them because we also go every time, every day. Oh no, every day. Sorry. One time in a month. Like we meet each other, and I feel that they're my friends. I have

friends now here because I don't have friends. They're so good. Yes.

- dindria: [09:11](#) Right on. Um, what do you want people to learn from you?
- Aneta Kmetovska: [09:17](#) Be kind, be nice, be good, and everything will be good. Yes. <laugh>.
- dindria: [09:25](#) I love that. Um, last question. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, what do you hope for your future?
- Aneta Kmetovska: [09:32](#) For my future, I hope that my kids, for example, my son will finish the college. He will get a good job. And then also my daughter, she dreams to be some surgeon, I don't know. And she is very good at school. And if they win or catch the goal, what they, I don't know how to say, but I will be happy if my kids are happy. Yeah, that's, that's make me happy, you know, <laugh>, right?
- dindria: [10:09](#) Yes. That's beautiful. Future goal. Um, we are done with the questions, so I want to thank you so
- Aneta Kmetovska: [10:16](#) Much. No, you're welcome. <laugh>. <laugh>.