



TED STRICKLAND
GOVERNOR

EZRA C. ESCUDERO
DIRECTOR

OHIO COMMISSION ON HISPANIC/LATINO AFFAIRS

Ohio Latino Affairs: Advise. Connect. Build.

November 2007

Director's Report

to the Honorable members of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs



Special Projects

Immigration-related Legislation of 2007: The Office has prepared a Special Policy Brief on Senate Bill 260. That report will be presented at the December meeting of the Commission. The report identifies some serious deficiencies with the proposed legislation, namely:

1. It promises to jeopardize community policing efforts and to divert police attention, thereby endangering public safety instead of enhancing it
2. The proposal is a de-facto unfunded mandate, which additionally threatens to deny much-needed funds to Ohio's cities and counties
3. There is a lack of support among the majority municipal police and sheriffs across Ohio and nationwide for proposals like SB260

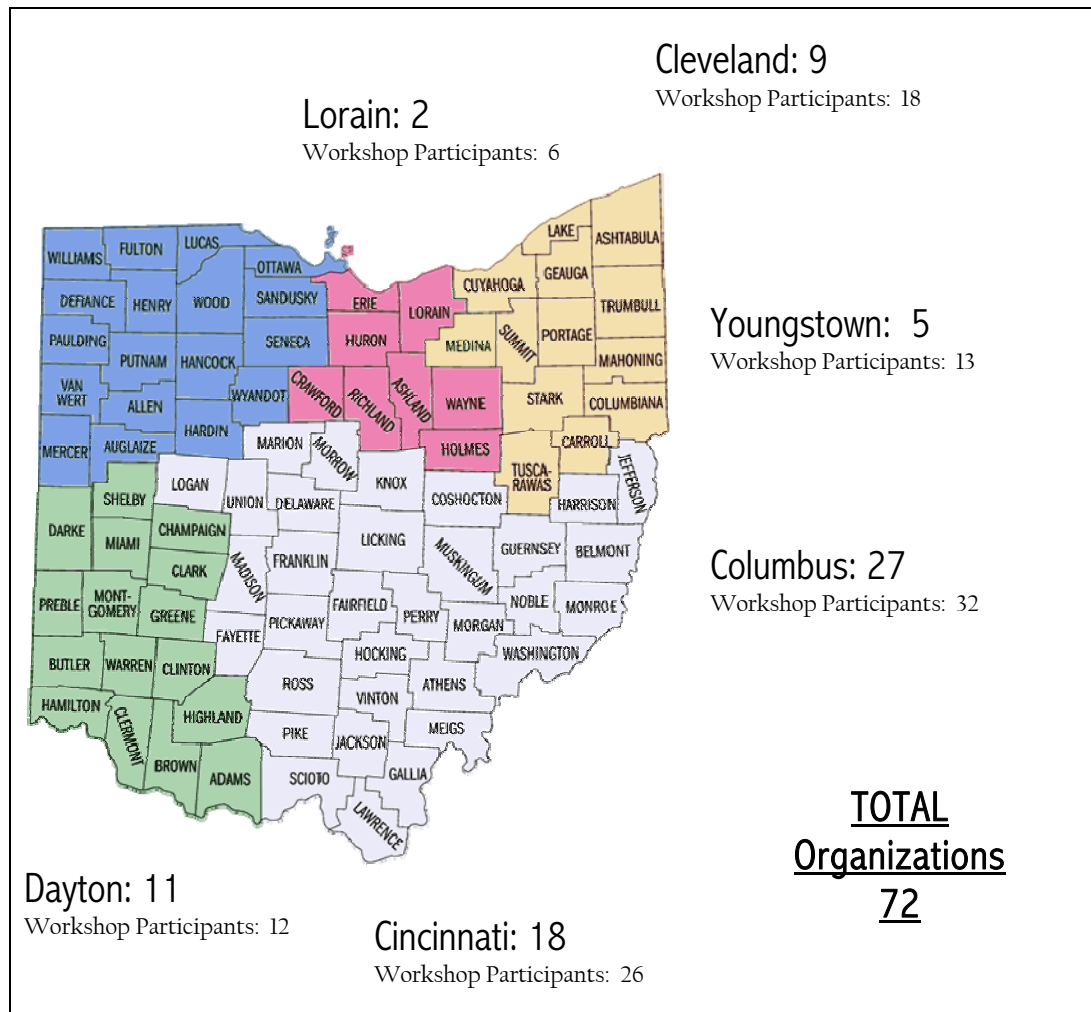
Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Office of Hispanic/Latino Affairs that the Commission continue to monitor the progress of SB260 and other legislation like it, but no formal action on behalf of the Commission is recommended at this time.

Additional information and analysis can be found in the Special Policy Brief, available from the Office of Hispanic/Latino Affairs, and downloadable at the Commission's website.

Tactical Initiatives

Infrastructure - OLANet: During the month of November, the Latino Community Network program of the Office conducted twelve training sessions in six cities across the state of Ohio with a goal of educating and registering at least 50 Latino community-serving organizations in the Commission's new website and OLANet Database.

The Office has exceeded the goal by 144%, with over 70 organizations registered, in spite of having to reschedule four training sessions in the cities of Toledo and Bowling Green. Some basic metrics and reporting can be found below:



	Cincinnati	Dayton	Lorain	Cleveland	Youngstown	Columbus
Actual to Average	150%	92%	17%	75%	42%	225%
Show Rate	87%	67%	75%	67%	325%	68%
Registration Success Rate	69%	92%	33%	50%	38%	84%

Director's Calendar

Meetings with Policy Makers – “Advise”: The Director participated in meetings the following with Legislators, Officials & Government Agencies:

- Meet with Maria Mone, Director of the Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management (1 November)
- Meet with Guadalupe Velasquez, New Americans Outreach Coordinator for the City of Columbus (1 November)
- Meet with Jarrod Weiss of the Office of State Rep. Courtney Combs (1 November)
- Meet with Jennifer Vargo of the Ohio Department of Education (6 November)
- Meet with the Honorable Vicente Fox, President of Mexico from 2000-2006 (7 November - Cincinnati)
- Meet with the Honorable Jim McGregor, Member of the Ohio House of Representatives (27 November)
- Meet with the Honorable Larry Flowers, Member of the Ohio House of Representatives (28 November)

Community Outreach – “Connect”: The Director attended/participated in the following events:

- Attend the Anniversary Awards Dinner of the Organizacion Civica y Cultural Hispana Americana (OCCHA) event (2 November - Youngstown)
- Meet with Su Casa Community Center (7 November - Cincinnati)
- Attend the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Gala event (7 November - Cincinnati)
- Conduct OLANet Training Sessions (8 November - Cincinnati)
- Conduct OLANet Training Sessions (9 November - Dayton)
- Conduct OLANet Training Sessions (14 November - Lorain)
- Conduct OLANet Training Sessions (15 November - Cleveland)
- Conduct OLANet Training Sessions (16 November - Youngstown)
- Meet with Ty Marsh, President and CEO of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce (19 November)
- Conduct OLANet Training Sessions (26 November - Columbus)



Community Investment – “Build”: The Director continues to work directly with the following organizations to assist in the various organizations' development and capacity building as it relates to serving their respective Latino communities. This work is in lieu of the Organizations Development Center's establishment, and provides important practical experience for the Office and the Director for when the resources become available to begin operations of the ODC.

- Board of Trustees of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio
- Alpha Psi Lambda Co-ed Latino-interest Fraternity at The Ohio State University
- Community Advisory Board of Huntington Bank
- Advisory Committee of CAPA (Columbus Association for the Performing Arts)
- Citizens' Academy of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Submitted by Ezra C. Escudero, OCHLA Director, 7 December 2007