

Ted Strickland, Governor
Lilleana Cavanaugh, MBA, Director

**2009~2010
Board of Commissioners**

Mary Santiago, Chair
Lorain

Andrés González, Vice Chair
Cleveland

Michael Florez, Secretary
Cincinnati

Richard Romero
Lorain

V. Tony Simms-Howell
Cincinnati

Sonia Troche
Toledo

Baldemar Velasquez
Toledo

Lupe Williams
Wooster

Isabel Framer
Copley

Dan Stewart
State Representative (D)
District 25 ~ Columbus

Terry Boose
State Representative (R)
District 58 ~ Norwalk

DIRECTORS' REPORT

APRIL 2010

To the Honorable Board members of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs

PUBLIC POLICY CENTER REPORT

Florentina Staigers, Program Director

Note: A very concise report is offered for the month of April. A detailed report summarizing April and May activity will be issued in May. PPC Director has been concentrating efforts on the Legislative Visit Day.

Policy Research and Information

General Assembly

Updated report on General Assembly will be included in the May Monthly Report.

Arizona SB 1070

PPC Director has been working on a response to SB 1070 and a statement from the commission on the same has been issued.



Advise

Latino Community Reports (LCRs)

PPC Director Staigers prepared and issued Latino Community Reports for Ohio Congressional Representatives. This should serve as a tool to maintain these representatives informed about Latinos in Ohio.

A Latino Community Report on Immigration was also prepared this month. More details as well as a hyperlink to this document will be provided in the May report.

Legislator Briefings

PPC Director Staigers continues to send legislator briefings, via an e-campaign feature.

Policy Briefs

Policy briefs have resumed the weekly schedule. Director Staigers is working with Intern to complete these briefs.

Increase Channels of Communication

Legislative Visit Day

Extensive work and preparation has gone into planning, securing partnerships and preparing content materials for the Legislative Visit Day. An in-depth report will be presented next month.

Enhance Government Effectiveness

English Language Learner's Catalogue

The Commission's ELL Catalogue is finalized and posted online <http://ochla.ohio.gov/ASSETS/B00CF5846BDD4812A18BD3E2480568D6/Catalogue%20-%20Ver.FINAL.pdf> An e-campaign was issued to inform Latino networks about the availability of this tool.

Capacity-Building

PPC Director participated as moderator in the Human Trafficking panel during the C.H.I.P. Conference in Lorain.



LATINO COMMUNITY NETWORK REPORT

Lilly Cavanaugh, Acting Director

Strategic Initiatives

Ohio Emerging Diversity



Census 2010

Nationally, 72 percent of households participated in the 2010 Census by mail -- the same rate achieved in Census 2000. Now census takers begin the task of going door-to-door to obtain census responses in person. As of April 28th, 2010, the participation rate for the state of Ohio is 76%. A detailed map outlining levels of participation is available online at http://www.census.ohio.gov/documents/CensusMaps/PR_20100428.pdf. Ohio Latino Affairs continues to produce e-campaigns with important information for the Latino community.



Hispanic Impact Campaign

The Sofia Arts & Cultural Center in Toledo continues to be displayed on homepage this month <http://ochla.ohio.gov>. The feature headline for this month is the announcement of Legislative Visit Day. A new profile will be posted after Legislative Visit Day.

Emergency Preparedness

Conversations are underway with Fire Marshall Cooper regarding a "Train the Trainer Workshop" on fire safety produced by David Wallace from Norwalk. The workshop content is being evaluated by the State Fire Marshall with the goal to have it approved and certified. This training will help educate the community on fire safety and emergency personnel on how to interact with New American communities.

An outreach plan for Fire Prevention Month Education for Latinos will be prepared in June. This plan includes translation into Spanish of key brochures and flyers which will be made available on the Division of State Fire Marshall website <http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire>. These materials can be used by fire stations across the state, social service agencies and other groups interested in providing information to Latinos on fire prevention.

Director Cavanaugh has joined as taskforce member the Multicultural Emergency Response Task Force, a Division of the Central Ohio Multicultural Public Safety Coalition (in collaboration with Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire and Division of Police, Columbus, Oh.) The purpose of this taskforce is to provide timely culturally competent emergency preparedness information, on-site response and recovery relief in different languages to the community. This program is an important pilot model that can be used to replicate in other regions of the state and serves an important purpose of serving New American communities.



Community Outreach (LCN)

All activities below have been conducted/attended by Director Cavanaugh in the area of Community Outreach:

Advise:

Central Ohio Multicultural Public Safety Coalition. (See Emergency Preparedness above for details.)

Connect:

Ohio Civil Rights Commission

Met with Vera Boogs and Beatriz Sanchez, Valerie Reed (bilingual investigators) to discuss strategy on the Civil Rights Commission's efforts to serve and educate the Latino community in Ohio about their services. Director Cavanaugh provided sample strategies, materials, contacts and other information. Ohio Latino Affairs will continue to be a resource for the commission in their efforts to better serve the needs of Latino Ohioans.

Central State University

A research and sponsored activities day was celebrated at Central State University. An OCHLA funded program for Latino students through the Grassroots Initiative was showcased in the event.

Special request for information regarding BMV policies

Additional inquiries have been received in OCHLA regarding BMV policies on registrations and driver license renewals. Queries have been forwarded to the BMV for review. Ms. Carolyn Williams, BMV Registrar has provided us outstanding service and is cooperating with us to clarify procedures and investigate any inquiries channeled through our office.

Puerto Rico Issued Birth Certificates

Our office has been in communication with the Governor's office and BMV regarding the new Ohio regulation for Puerto Rico birth certificates (details of policy detailed in March's report). An adjustment was made effective on April 8th to the rule and effective immediately, the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles will accept certified copies of Puerto Rico birth certificates issued on or after Jan. 1, 2010 by the Puerto Rico Health Department, through its Vital Statistics Record Office, as proof of identity and date of birth. This will facilitate the process for many Puerto Rican citizens in Ohio. An official press release issued on April 8 was translated into Spanish by our office and distributed to all Latino Media and networks to inform the community.

Minority Health Commission

Director Cavanaugh met with Director Cheryl Boyce to learn in more detail about the work of the commission, its outreach to Latino communities, and to discuss ways to partner in the near future. Minority Health has been doing an excellent job reaching out to Latino social service agencies and it is important that we continue to build strong relationships with them and improve our collaboration efforts.

Ohio Arts Council

Participated in the Advisory Committee meeting for Folk & Traditional Arts and received an update on programs offered by the OAC, also Director Cavanaugh participated in the selection of the Ohio Heritage Fellowship Award winner for 2010. The group asked for suggestions about how to build awareness, outreach and support folk and traditional artists in Ohio. They are looking for more involvement of the Latino community in their programs.



Columbus Literacy Council

Director Cavanaugh met with Joy Watson, Executive Director of the Council to learn about the services they offer for Columbus residents. Ms. Watson reported an increased demand for services of more than 100% in comparison to last year by Latinos in Central Ohio. She also reported having information of a growing community of Latinos in Southeast Ohio (an area where traditionally there has been very small numbers of Latinos.)

Build:

Ohio Diversity Latino Talent and Leadership Conference—October 14, 2010

Participated in planning meeting for this conference. This will be a full day event for both Latinos and non-Latinos, consisting of keynote addresses, presentations, and panel discussions that will focus on issues relating to the recruitment, mentorship, and advancement of Latinos and other minorities in the workplace. In addition, it will promote leadership development, cross-cultural competency, and professional growth of all conference participants. This conference is sponsored by Empleos & Employment.

Latinas en Accion, Cincinnati

With the theme “Facing Challenges, Taking Action,” this Latina grassroots group hosted its second meeting in Cincinnati (first meeting held in Oxford, Ohio.) The purpose of the group is to provide a forum for women to share about the reality of life in the United States, to provide information and support, and to celebrate the successes of Latinas in Central and South West Ohio. There were over 60 women who participate in this meeting. A similar meeting is being organized in Columbus for the month of June.

Wise Latina Conference, Northeast Ohio

Director Cavanaugh is working with the planning committee to organize this conference which is being planned during August 2010 for Latina Women. This conference will focus on 50-100 multigenerational diverse Ohio Latinas committed to results oriented strategic leadership. The conference seeks to create a vehicle of communication, networking and planning for civically engaged Latinas in Ohio, in order to accelerate the positioning of Latinas in key leadership roles in the public and private sector.

Latino Health Network

Lydia Alejandro and the Latino Health Network have been working diligently with focus groups to gather information on the status of health disparities for Latinos. A report with the findings will be distributed in the following weeks. Our Commission is very interested in remaining engaged with the Latino Health Network and supporting their efforts. Once the report becomes available, it will be posted in the OLANet Reports Library and Database.

C.H.I.P Conference, Lorain

Executive Director Cavanaugh and Public Policy Director Staigers attended the C.H.I.P. Conference in Lorain. Ms. Staigers served as moderator for the Human Trafficking Workshop.

Legislative Visit Day

A partnership has been formed this year for Legislative Visit Day with the Hispanic Roundtable from Cleveland, Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (OHCC) and the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Ohio. The collaboration effort is critical to ensure that Latino Legislative Day is a reflection of the commission’s commitment to empower Latinos across Ohio. Each partner organization contributes talent, knowledge, experience and carries with it the support of important sectors within the Ohio Latino community. Much energy has been focused this month by all staff to ensure that all logistics, partnerships, meetings and registrations are completed with excellence. It is expected that this year’s event should surpass 100 participants.



Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

A new board has been selected for the OHCC. Mr. Rafi Rodriguez from Dayton is the new Chair replacing Mr. Gus Hoyas from Cleveland. Director Cavanaugh will be meeting personally with Mr. Rodriguez in May to update him on OCHLA's Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and Business Associations Council and to discuss how our commission can support the work of OHCC.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Lilly Cavanaugh, Executive Director -

Appointment of New Commissioner

Ms. Lourdes Barroso de Padilla (Columbus) has been appointed commissioner by the Governor. Ms. Padilla replaces Ms. Blanche Aviles (Dayton). Ms. Padilla will be introduced to the Board in the June, 2010 meeting.

Financial Report

Communications have been shared with Executive Committee regarding end of year budget status. An updated will be presented at the next board meeting.

Reconciliations from the period January-March were performed by Office Manager to ensure all transactions are processed completely and accurately. At the end of the quarter, all revenue and expenditures are correct and reconciled. The report has been approved by Executive Director.

Strategic Plan

OCHLA's staff met with the ad hoc committee to obtain feedback and formalize the preparation of the strategic plan. Executive Director has prepared a plan and will submit it to the Board in May for final approval.

Personnel Changes

Approval was requested and obtained from OBM and the Governor's office to advertise the position of Public Policy Advisor. Ms. Tina Staigers will be resigning effective June 15, 2010 to pursue other opportunities. Recruitment efforts are underway and it is expected that a job offer will be presented to the chosen candidate during the last week of May.



Directors' Calendars—

Director Lilly Cavanaugh

- 1 April—Springfield/Clark County Latino Coalition Meeting (Springfield)
- 4 April—Cristina Farr, Columbus
- 6 April—Rep. Stewart, 25 District, Columbus
- 7 April—Cristina Farr & others, Columbus
- 8 April— Vera Boggs, Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Columbus
- 9 April—Wanda Canales, Central State University, Wilberforce
- 9 April— Women's Fund, Latina Event, Columbus
- 12 April—Claudia de Leon-Barco, Columbus
- 13 April—Ruben Herrera, Columbus
- 14 April—Cheryl Boyce, Minority Health Commission, Columbus
- 14 April—Trafficking in Persons Commission, Columbus
- 15 April—Ad Hoc Committee OCHLA, Cleveland
- 15 April— Max Rodas, Carlos Chinchilla, Gus Hoyas, Andres Gonzalez, Cleveland
- 16 April—Jeff Hooper, Ohio Arts Council, Columbus
- 17 April—Latinas in Acción Women's meeting, Cincinnati
- 20 April—Andy DiPalma, Columbus
- 20 April—Su Casa Banquet, Cincinnati
- 21 April— Lourdes Barroso de Padilla, Columbus
- 22 April—Latino Health Network, Columbus
- 28 April—Joy Watson, Columbus Literacy Council, Columbus
- 30 April— C.H.I.P. Conference, Lorain

Director Tina Staigers

- 6 April—Rep. Stewart, 25 District, Columbus
- 8 April—Ruben Herrera, Columbus
- 13 April—Latino Dream Team, Dayton
- 15 April—Ad Hoc Committee OCHLA, Cleveland
- 15 April— Max Rodas, Carlos Chinchilla, Gus Hoyas, Andres Gonzalez, Cleveland
- 20 April—Hispanic Alliance & IAM, Cleveland
- 30 April— C.H.I.P. Conference, Lorain

Respectfully submitted,

