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FEBRUARY 2016

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

In February, we focused much of our attention on strategic planning activities. Beginning with our own Board Retreat held early in the month, followed by the session held with the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce to define their strategic initiatives, and the Latino Connection representing five leading Latino organizations - we feel encouraged and excited as the work for 2016 and beyond begins to take shape.

We are very pleased with the excellent response to our call for proposals for the 2016 Latino Education Summit. Twenty proposals were received and 14 of those will be showcased at the summit on March 11th. Our team has been working expeditiously to organize and coordinate the many details for this event. We are very pleased to host Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Lonny Rivera as our keynote speaker, as well as University of Toledo President Dr. Sharon Gaber and representatives from the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute.

Additionally, we are actively recruiting potential partners for the 2016 Latino Health Summit and 2017 Latino Education Summit. Calls for proposals have been issued and our team is working with possible partners for these important events.

PPC Officer Lewis and Director Cavanaugh had the opportunity to participate in the 2016 United States Hispanic Leadership Institute Conference which was a great opportunity to learn about critical trends in the area of education, meet and network with representatives from national organizations.

Meetings Attended by Executive Director

03 Feb—Claudia de Leon, Columbus Hispanic Chamber President

04 Feb—Latino Connection Meeting

05 Feb—Wilter Perez, PPC Project

Rick Perales
State Representative
District 73 ~ Greene CountyDan Ramos
State Representative
District 56 ~ Lorain CountyGayle Manning
Senator
District 13 ~ Huron & Lorain
CountiesCharleta Tavares
Senator
District 15 ~ Franklin County

10 Feb—Natasha Curtis, Interpretation Conference Planning
11 Feb—Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Quarterly Meeting
11 Feb—Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, presentation
17 Feb—Stacey Rokoff, Evi-Base
18 Feb—Franklin University, Council on World Affairs
19 Feb– 21 Feb—USHLI National Conference (Chicago)
23 Feb—Vista Volunteers Training
25 Feb—Boards and Commissions Administrative Meeting
26 Feb—Erik Barbon, John Ramos (Educational Grants)
26 Feb—Chris Jones, Marketing Research

Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

Andrea Lewis, Public Policy Officer

Latino Education Summit

The main focus of February has been on the upcoming Latino Education Summit. Our committee has held teleconferences this month and I have been in regular communication with The University of Toledo and other committee members. I have been working on many details for the summit, such as sending out personalized invitation letters to our VIPs. Our VIP list includes city, county, state, and federal elected officials, and other community leaders.

We are excited to have University of Toledo President Dr. Sharon Gaber, and Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Lonny Rivera attend. Our Education Summit Chair, Senator Charleta Tavares, will also be traveling from Columbus to attend this event. State Senator Edna Brown, State Representative Michael Sheehy, Toledo City Councilmembers Cecelia Adams and Larry Sykes will also be attending. Representatives from the Office of Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur have also RSVP'd. Additionally, Linda Alvarado Arce from the Toledo Board of Community Relations will be in attendance as well. The Most Reverend Bishop Daniel E. Thomas has confirmed his attendance and will give the lunch prayer.

I have personally contacted via email and/or phone upwards of 100 individuals from around Ohio inviting them to take part in the event and to spread word. From commissioners, university leaders and Latino student organizations, to K-12 teachers, I have reached out to a wide range of interested parties that we hope to have attend the summit. In addition to personally contacting individuals regarding the summit, I created and sent out two e-campaigns to our listserv of 400+ individuals promoting the summit, and have posted flyers about the event on our social media. The e-campaigns and FB posts included a summit agenda, workshop descriptions, exhibitor information, etc.

One of my most important duties this month was to create a program booklet for the education summit. This took up most of my time and I was fortunate to work with BTAS on the formatting. Additionally, I drafted a run-of-show for the summit, which gives a minute by minute run-down of the day's events.

This month, our committee met to review workshop proposals. Over 20 proposals were submitted, and we were only able to accept 14 proposals. I contacted all individuals who submitted a proposal to notify them of the status of their submission. After notifying individuals, I created a list of important



information to be given to them. I then contacted all panelists, honorees, facilitators, panelists, speakers, and presenters to ensure they understand all expectations and logistical details for the summit. I remain in constant communication with individuals who have further inquiries.

Office Manager Briana Black and I worked together to design and order tote bags, pens, awards, plaques and lanyards for summit attendees and honorees. I have continued to finalize other logistics during the month, and will continue to do so up until the event.

New American Summit

We have continued work with the New American Summit Committee and Representative Kevin Boyce to plan an all day summit that focuses on addressing the needs of Ohio's New American community.

I have met 6 times this month with various committees that I am part of. This includes the full committee, the planning and marketing committee, and the legislative committee (which I lead.) During our meetings we have been able to devise an agenda, key stakeholders, potential speakers, topics of discussion, marketing strategies, legislative ideas, and much more.

Specifically, as it pertains to the legislative committee, we received bill drafts for a language access bill and VAWA benefits bill. We hosted an attorney from ABLE to discuss the language access bill and garner his thoughts. We've also solicited the input of other attorneys to read over the bill language for the VAWA benefits bill. During our meetings, we have also worked on drafting language for a bill that would create a statewide office that addresses the needs of the New American community. Several other states, including neighboring Michigan, have offices like these, and we are working to finalize bill language, so that Ohio may consider this initiative as well.

MBE Certification for Minority-Led Non-Profits

This month I drafted a co-sponsor request for Rep. Sears' office that would allow minority-led non-profit organizations to obtain an MBE certification. The co-sponsor request was sent to the entire House of Representatives during the last week of February and I have been encouraging House members to support the bill. The co-sponsor request has a deadline of March 11th, and after that time the bill will be formally introduced in the House. During the month of March I plan to meet with more legislators to promote the bill.

During the Latino Connection meeting this month, I spoke with its members about this bill that they have initiated. We discussed a possible advocacy strategy and went over the contents of the bill. The Latino Connection plans to provide proponent testimony for the bill if given a chance. I will be working with the group to help them devise the testimony in future meetings.

During my meeting this month with a Columbus City Councilmember, I promoted the MBE bill and we discussed the possibility of introducing this initiative on a city level as well. I provided the Councilmember with the bill language and he will review this proposal further. I will provide him with follow-up information as necessary. I also provided the Councilmember with contact information for the Columbus Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President, and encouraged him to meet with members as they are in the process of devising a legislative agenda.



Cesar Chavez Day Initiative

Senate Bill 280, which would recognize Cesar Chavez Day in Ohio each year, was formally introduced by Senator Charleta Tavares this month. I featured the bill on our legislative update this month, and I notified our Cesar Chavez Day committee members. We plan to meet next month to devise an advocacy strategy for the bill.

Legislative Update

During February, I worked with an intern to track new legislation introduced by the Ohio House and Ohio Senate, and drafted a legislative update that was sent to our ListServ of 400+ individuals. The legislative update featured summaries and status updates of SB 280, SB 272, SB 274. Included with the update were relevant news articles and a list of upcoming community events. I also included a registration link for the upcoming Latino Education Summit.

Latino Community Report

This month I worked with an intern to devise an outline for the next Latino Community Report. The focus of the report will be on the importance of Latino representation in government and on boards. The report will address many key areas, including an overview of Latino demographics in Ohio, with reference to economic contributions. We will discuss in-depth, Latino representation in government on a federal, state and local level. We will research Latino representation in universities and on private/non-profit boards. A section of the report will be dedicated to discussing the unique challenges of Latino elected officials in Ohio. We will finish out the report by underscoring the importance of Latino leadership and inclusion.

Other

-This month I worked with ODC Officer Georgina Alvarez to try to coordinate a Honduran moving consulate for Honduran nationals currently residing in Ohio. I've reached out to community leaders to try to gauge the need for a moving consulate in different areas of the state.

-I assisted a constituent with finding financial assistance to pay her rent.

-I worked with the Hispanic Chambers of Commerce to help them devise a legislative agenda during the February meeting. We will continue working on devising an agenda in subsequent meetings.

Meetings Attended

2/2- Latino Affairs Commission Board Meeting
2/3- Teleconference: US Response to Central American Migrants
2/4- Latino Connection
2/6- New Americans Summit—Legislative Committee
2/9- Councilmember Shannon Hardin
2/10- Latino Education Summit Teleconference
2/11- New Americans Summit- Planning Committee
2/11- Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
2/17- New Americans Summit—Planning Committee
2/19-2/21- USHLI Conference



2/22– New Americans Summit with Rep. Boyce
2/23– Magaly Aranda
2/24– New Americans Summit– Planning Committee
2/24– House Session
2/25– New Americans Summit– Legislative Committee
2/26– Columbus Bilingual Academy teleconference

Latino Community Network (LCN) Report

Lair Marin-Marcum, Community Liaison

We continued updating resources list for 2016 including: The Catalogue of Latino Outreach Initiatives, ESOL Catalogue, Ohio Latino Media List, Attorney's list and Interpreters & Translators list. We have noted an increase on constituent requests and have been working on special projects, as well as supporting PPO with Education Summit logistics and event planning.

Below all highlights of projects and meetings for the LCN that also took place during the month February 2016.

- **Connect**

- Connected new Hispanic Community Liaison for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Jose Morales Crispin with several organization in central Ohio for further outreach to community and to inform them of their new services and partnering for results.
- Assisted Centro Guadalupe Program Dir. Ramona Reyes with resources and information for their new programs and services that they are offering.
- Assisted new HR Sr. Consultant for Immigration & Employment Services at Nationwide Children's Hospital Jaclin Rohaly to connect with several agencies and organization in Ohio. Their goal is to start their Hispanic outreach to inform community of their programs, services and efforts to serve the Hispanic families that need health care for their children.

- **Build**

- Worked on designing a strategy with Commissioner Dan Molina on Regional Hispanic-Latino Pods Project in Cincinnati .
- Finalized the 2015 Latino Health Summit Summary and assisted in preparation of grant request letter for 2016 Latino Health Summit.

- **Advise**

–We continue to have follow up calls and meetings with Ohio BWC for outreach to Latino community for the Columbus March OSHA10 Classes. Successfully pinned down Columbus training location at Ohio Hispanic Coalition, in addition to promoting and posting for their successful recruitment. As of February, 29th there are already eleven confirmed registrations.



Summary Connecting the Community: Information and Resources

OCHLA Events Calendar, website calendar & Social Media

The Ohio Latino Affairs Facebook likes are at → 1, 090 1 and we and achieved 7,764 impressions!

We continue to work on the community outreach and informing constituents about events, services, trainings, resources and other relevant information by using our events and social media outlets (Facebook & Tweeter). We have started to do more postings of calendar events on social media by scheduling postings in a mores regular basis. This will allow more outreach to community through social media rather than the website calendar that receives fewer visits.

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Job Opportunities section on OCHLA’s website home page. Promoting through Social Media

The month of February for Job Opportunities Postings on the OCHLA website went back to a normal average for this time of year . We posted: 52.

Constituent Services

During the month of February we continue to have a higher number than usual for constituency request calls with a total of 36.

Student Intern / Volunteers

In the month of February we had 2 Interns volunteers and continue recruitment for 1 more intern until May 2016 and June 2016 when we will have 2 summer interns and Vista interns will start.

Summary Connecting the Community: Information and Resources

OUTLET	DESCRIPTION	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
Facebook	Number of “Likes” to date	1,063	1,090
Facebook & Twitter	Postings of news, resources, events	204	116
Website (Job Opportunities Page) Facebook & Twitter	Job Openings Promoted	128	52

February Constituent inquiries processed:	36
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Meetings Attended

- 2 Feb – Ohio Latino Affairs - Board Meeting and Retreat 2016
- 3 Feb– Meeting with Columbus Hispanic Chamber New President Claudia Y. de Leon
- 3 Feb– Call with BWC Melony Bryant Spanish OSHA-10 class in March Project Follow up
- 4 Feb – Conference Call NW Childrens / LaVone Caldwell - 2016 Latino Health Summit Update
- 8 Feb – Conference Call LULAC OH /Dan Almaguer - 2016 Health Summit Update & venue options
- 8 Feb – Conference Call Commissioner Molina on Regional Latino Pods Planning strategy
- 10 Feb – Meeting w/ YMCA Columbus/Annette Santiago-Reyes Leadership & Inclusion Programs Dir.
- 10 Feb – Conference Call Ohio Language Access in Healthcare Conference Steering Committee
- 10 Feb – Meeting with Jose Morales, Hispanic Community Liaison Franklin County Sheriff's Office
- 16 Feb – Conference Call with Metro Health - 2016 Latino Health Summit Venue Opportunity
- 16 Feb – Conference Call Comm. Molina on Cincinnati Latino Pods Designing and next Steps
- 17 Feb – OCHLA presentation at OSU - Spanish Classes & Recruitment of Intern/Volunteers
- 19 Feb – Interview with candidate Tyler Duvelius, OSU Student for Intern / Volunteer opportunity
- 22 Feb – Meeting with Nationwide Childrens Hospital / Jaclin Rohaly HR Sr. Consultant for immigration & Employment Services
- 23 Feb – Meeting with LULAC Ohio Health Director Dan Almaguer - 2016 Latino Health Summit Strategy & Venue Opportunities with Cincinnati Childrens Hospital
- 23 Feb – 2016 Latino Health Summit possible venue location at Cincinnati Childrens Hospital - Meeting with John Scott Community Relation Dir. Cincinnati Childrens Hospital & LULAC/ Ohio Health Director Dan Almaguer to visit their Auditorium and facilities.
- 23 Feb– Greater Cincinnati Latino Coalition Meeting. OCHLA updates, resources and promote Education Summit/Medical Interpreter Conference.
- 24 Feb – On-site visit at Toledo University for Latino Education Summit event & logistic planning.
- 24 Feb – Northwest Latino Alliance of Meeting - OCHLA updates, resources and promote Education Summit/Medical Interpreter Conference.
- 25 Feb – Facilities Grants Conversation for Columbus Academy
- 29 Feb– Conference call with Melony Bryant BWC to prepare Board of Directors roundtable meeting

Organizations Development Center (ODC) Report

Georgina Alvarez, ODC Officer

CAPACITY BUILDING

Grant Announcements—E– Campaigns

ENLACES was sent out twice during this month with useful resources in Spanish for Latino serving organizations. The publication is now [permanently available on our website through the Organizations Development Center page.](#)

Prepared and submitted a grant request to the Commission on Minority Health in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the Health Summit 2016.



BUILDING RAPPORT WITH HISPANIC SERVING ORGANIZATIONS

Consulate of Honduras

Initiated contact with the Honduran Ministry of Foreign Relations on February 4th, 2016 to request their support for a Consulate visit to Ohio based on the request presented to our Board of Commissioners by Pathstone. After several interactions, we received a positive answer on February 24th from Mr. Stephen Mejia. Through community organizations, we are gathering data regarding the number of Honduran citizens to be served, specifications of the sites that the Consulate service should go around the State, support organizations/churches that could host the event, and media coverage to promote their visit.

Follow up: Grant on Regional Health Conversations

We continue to make excellent progress with our regional health conversations in different cities across the state. During February, two meetings were held with health services and community representatives from Dayton, Springfield and New Carlisle at Wright University. Lydia Alejandro is providing regular reporting on the progress of this project which has a June completion date.

Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Quarterly Meeting

On February 11th the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce held their first quarterly meeting for 2016, which focused on finalizing the strategic priorities and initiate conversations on the implementation plan. The priorities are identified in four main areas, including:

#1: Small Business Government Procurement Opportunities

- 1.1 Encourage and promote diversity in the awarding of contracts and increase participation in MBE/EDGE opportunities
- 1.2 Prioritize counseling and support programs for Latino micro and small businesses

#2: Access to Capital

- 2.1 Promote micro and small business lending
- 2.2 Foster capital formation and support partnerships for entrepreneurs in micro and small businesses

#3: Education & Workforce Development

- 3.1 Equip workforce with adult education opportunities
- 3.2 Incorporate youth programs for work readiness

#4: International Trade & Commerce

- 4.1 Encourage foreign investment and act as intermediaries and/ or assist venture capitalists
- 4.2 Feature success stories to highlight value of foreign investment in the state

Ohio Latino Connection

Convened the Latino Connection meeting with representatives from Adelante, El Centro, Spanish American Committee, the Ohio Hispanic Coalition and Su Casa. Among the different projects reviewed by the group, we are pleased to report that the Vista Volunteer Application has been accepted and we will be able to compete for volunteers for each of these organization in 2016. Additionally, conversations are underway with [Evi-Base](#), a Center of Excellence for collaboration and delivery of quality, scalable evidence-based health education solutions for potential collaboration.



Coaching and Mentoring for Latino Grassroots Organizations

Prepared a report on the status of our coaching and mentoring involvement with Adelante in Toledo and Spanish American Committee in Cleveland. These reports will be shared with the respective organizations to assess progress and future support needs.

Workforce Analysis Project

Initiated research and review of Workforce programs and the Workforce Transformation Office to assess scope of work and priorities and identify opportunities to work with state agencies and programs. The results of this project will be utilized in formulation the commissions workforce strategy for 2016-2017.

Meetings Attended

- Feb 2 – OCHLA’s annual retreat as well as Board meeting
- Feb 4 - Hosted the Ohio Latino Connection month meeting in Columbus
- Feb 11 - Hosted the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce quarterly meeting in Columbus

Respectfully submitted,

