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JANUARY 2017

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

Our team is ready to welcome 2017 with commitment, enthusiasm and ready to deliver outstanding programs and results on behalf of our commission.

On the administrative front, we have received very positive feedback on our [2016 Annual Report](#), which was distributed among state government, partners, the public and is now available on our website as well. We are pleased to report that our [FY18-19 Biennial Budget](#) has been submitted by the Governor with a slight increase to cover the projected personnel cost increase, thus allowing us to maintain the current operational levels.

We are pleased to announce that as part of our website revamp, we now offer "Google Translate" to enable users to translate web content into Spanish and Portuguese. A recent analysis prepared by Jesse Dotson affirms the importance of [OCHLA's website](#) to reach, communicate and connect with Hispanics and the public. Among the interesting information for this comparative traffic study between 2015 to 2016, we learned:

- During 2016, OCHLA's Homepage website views increased by 134%
- The Job Opportunities page experienced a 310% increased traffic
- The OLANet Directory had 115% increased views
- The Latino Resource Directories show a 257% increase in traffic
- The Ohio Latino Scholarship Page (276% increase) and Resources from the Ohio Attorney General's Office were among the most used resources during 2016.

The increased use of technology in Ohio matches national trends demonstrating that [the technology divide is decreasing for Latinos](#). This change provides our commission a great opportunity to effectively use technology to serve our growing Hispanic communities in Ohio.



Planning and organizing for many important programs and projects is well underway for this year as you will see in the rest of this report. We are also promoting Human Trafficking Month Awareness by sharing [resources](#) on how to identify victims of human trafficking and where to find support and resources. Moreover, our team will be completing the Governor's Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force 50 minute [online training](#) by early February as well.

In January, we hosted the Quarterly meeting of the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce where we had the chance to meet with Barry Peel, Economic Development Specialist with the Small Business Administration. Director Cavanaugh had the opportunity to participate in the advisory group working with the Ohio Department of Tourism, and continued to work with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services on the Learning Series. She also met with the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Development Services Agency to work on the initiative to increase Hispanic businesses participation on bidding for state contracts.

Meetings Attended

12 Jan—Mary Cusick, Ohio Department of Tourism
12 Jan—Latino Connection (Adelante, El Centro, Su Casa, Hispanic Coalition)
13 Jan—Jane Dockery, Wright State University
13 Jan—Latino Education Summit Planning Committee
18 Jan—Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Quarterly Meeting
18 Jan—Latino Health Summit Planning Committee
20 Jan—Commissioner Dan Molina, Cincinnati Latino Collaborative
26 Jan—Latino Connection (Adelante, El Centro, Su Casa, Hispanic Coalition)
30 Jan—Lisett Foley
30 Jan—ODOT Lynn Stevens, Jeffrey Johnson, DSA, Minority Business Chief

Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

Andrea Lewis, Public Policy Officer

Latino Education Summit

Many tasks during the month of January focused on preparing for the Latino Education Summit. We have confirmed attendance of important speakers, including Ohio Department of Education Superintendent Paolo DeMaria and Associate Vice Chancellor Brett Visger. I have been in contact with all speakers, presenters, panelists, and award winners to provide them with important information as well as handling all logistical matters regarding the event. Our education summit committee will be voting on proposals next month, there will be 29 proposals for consideration.



Constituent/Legislative Matters

Other key duties this month focused on working with our VISTA volunteer to create an immigration resources webpage on OCHLA's website. The webpage is meant to serve as an information hub on certain matters related to immigration and civil rights. I was also able to work with the Governor's Office and BMV to answer questions brought forth by a constituent as it relates to CDL licensure changes for certain immigrants. Another key duty was working with the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce to outline their 2017 priorities and legislative agenda. I also took part this month in the Fairness and Sensitivity Data Review Committee through the Ohio Department of Education.



Meetings Attended

1/10—Simone Crawley, MACC
1/11—Ashley Barbone, AG's Office
1/13—Daniel Furbee and Sheila Ross, Strategic Public Partners
1/13—LIRA meeting
1/13—Latino Education Summit Meeting
1/18—Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Meeting
1/24—Eugenio Mollo, ABLE
1/25—Fairness and Sensitivity Data Review Committee
1/30—Lynn Stevens, Terry Bolden, ODOT

Latino Community Network (LCN) Report

Lair Marin-Marcum, Community Liaison

During the month of January, we experienced a higher than usual workload for constituent calls. Work began with the 2017 Latino Pods "Cincinnati Latino Leaders Collaborative" meeting that will take place on March 2. The Latino Health Summit date is being moved to July 28 at University of Cincinnati's College of Medicine. This month, we increased by 10% the number of events & resources postings on social media and continue to grow the job offerings published on our Job Opportunities page.

The highlights of projects and meetings for the LCN that also took place during the month January 2017 are as follows:

- **Connect**

- Met with Milly Valverde OSU James Cancer Center - Recommendations on Community resources, OSU HR D&I employment outreach & 2017 OSU Obesity Conference
- Introduction meeting with Yari Natal - Greater Cleveland area/ Cleveland Cavaliers - Assistance with Latino Outreach.
- Meeting with Hispanic Chamber of Columbus Board Secretary Pamela Alvaro to advise and share grassroots organizations and other Hispanic/Latino organizations for their February Community Meeting.
- Meeting at Guadalupe Center with Ramona Reyes & Inna Simakovsky Connecting their organizations for Community partnership

- **Build**

- Meeting with Marcello Benavente - New in community & starting his new business - of GED Classes in Spanish—Needs Recommendations and Outreach Assistance
- Assisting Henry Guzman & Red Cross Staff for 2017 Latino Blood Drive Projects.

- **Advise**

- Meeting with Ashley Barbone, Assistant at the Legal Initiatives Office of Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine to advise on their Ethnic Minority Initiative.



Connecting the Community: Information and Resources

OUTLET	DESCRIPTION	DECEMBER	JANUARY
Facebook	Number of “Likes” to date	1,355	1,365
Facebook & Twitter	Postings of news, resources, events	952	1,000
Website (Job Opportunities Page) Facebook & Twitter	Job Openings Promoted	72	51

January Constituent inquiries processed:	40
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Intern / Volunteers

In the month of January we had several interns that were on vacation for winter break at OSU and 2 that left due to new jobs or heavier study workloads. We started recruiting volunteers and with a new members starting at the end of January. We do have one intern/volunteer confirmed for the 2017 summer.

Meetings Attended

- 4 January – Interview with Hannah Kesig - 2017 Summer Intern Candidate
- 4 January – Meeting with Marcello Benavente - Community Outreach Assistance
- 5 January – Meeting with Milly Valverde OSU James Cancer Center - Several items Community Outreach
- 5 January – Meeting with Kable Staffing / Jo-Leiny Andujar - Bilingual Staffing Agency in Columbus
- 9 January – Meeting with HCC secretary Pamela Alvaro to advise on Latino orgs for Feb. Community Mtg.
- 9 January – WOSU Columbus Neighborhoods website page Interview
- 10 January – Mtg w/ Eva Atunga/Hands on Central Ohio - Review of Central Ohio Health & SS Directory
- 10 January – Call with Commissioner Molina on Latino Leaders Collaborative for 2017
- 11 January – Ashley Barbone AG's minority outreach - Ethnic Minority Initiative
- 12 January – Intern/Volunteer Tavia Thompson - Review on Continuation of internship
- 17 January – Meeting with City of Columbus Sandra Lopez - Division of Community Engagement
- 18 January – Mount Carmel's Central Ohio Hispanic Latino Health Collaborative Meeting
- 18 January – Conference Call 2017 Latino Health Summit Steering Committee
- 19 January – 2017 Festival Latino Steering Committee Meeting
- 20 January – Jared Grandy City of Dayton
- 20 January – OSU / OCHLA Presentation for this 2017 Winter semester
- 23 January – Meeting at Guadalupe Center with Ramona Reyes & Inna Simakovsky, Esq.
- 25 January – Red Cross Latino Blood Drive Steering & Planning Committee
- 27 January – Intern Volunteer Candidate Interview with Meg Delagrang
- 30 January – Meeting with Lisset Foley



Organizations Development Center (ODC) Report

Latisha Jeffrey, AmeriCorps Vista. Capacity Building Specialist

CAPACITY BUILDING

We hosted the Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Quarterly meeting this month and had the opportunity to facilitate a 2016 review process, as well as lead the discussion for their 2017 work plan. Mr. Barry Peel from the SBA Administration presented for the Chambers as well as the Columbus Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. We will be working with the Chambers to continue the conversation regarding their 2017 Legislative Agenda and projects.

Grant Announcements

- Announced Franklin County Community Garden Grant to listserv and received several e-mails from other counties showing interest in grants like it in their area.

ODC Webpage Project

- Will be working with Jesse Dotson Outreach and Social Media AmeriCorps Vista to update and reorganize the Organization Development Center website to make it more user friendly.

Minority Health Month Project

- Worked on preparations for Minority Health Month by creating the flyers, ordering materials, speaking with Ramona Reyes about facilities.
- Dr. Anahi Ortiz facilitator for one of the events, was able to get Street Smarts to complete a presentation for MHM.

Hispanic Chambers Project

- Met with the OHCC to review 2017 transitional plans, Legislative Day, each chambers new year's goals and Columbus Hispanic Chambers new strategic plan.

Latino Connection Project

- Provided administrative support for the Latino Connection Group meeting to finish up a grant proposal face to face and via phone conference.

Meetings and Events Attended

January 12 - Met with the Latino Connection Group to discuss the Request for Proposal

January 18 - Met with the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce to discuss strategic plans

January 26 - Met with the Latino Connection Group to discuss the budget for the RFP

Respectfully submitted,

