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JUNE 2015

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

The highlight of June was the realization of a Workshop for grassroots organizations on [Social Enterprise](#). All Hispanic serving organizations were invited to attend this training. Prior to this event, a webinar was hosted on the same subject with a total of 16 participants. To date, the webinar has received over 85 views and is being utilized actively as a resource.



NALEO CONFERENCE

Director Cavanaugh attended the NALEO (National Latino Elected and Appointed Officials) Conference (June 17-19.) This event provided opportunity to network with national leaders and participate in breakout sessions on: Latino youth homelessness and human trafficking; Ethical decision making for policy makers; Latino Power: A profile of Latino leadership and growing electorate; national leadership luncheon; Increasing opportunities for Latino undocumented students in higher ed; Protecting Latino voters – past, present and future -; Recognizing the promise and potential of Latino males, National Congressional Leadership Forum; Immigration Reform: Update on DACA, DAPA and local efforts to help new Americans.

We are also continuing our work to increase outreach and connections with the Hispanic community in Canton, to this end, we are in conversations with Al Carranza and other Latino leaders to assist in the planning of the Canton Latino Health Fair 2015. OCHLA is providing support in the planning, logistics, list of potential speakers and other needs as requested by the Latino Business League.



The work on capacity development and empowerment continues through the following activities:

- Latino Coalition (Adelante Inc., El Centro, Ohio Hispanic Coalition)
Hosted meeting with this working group to continue conversations regarding potential grant funding opportunities and possible projects of interest for this alliance. Working with these organizations is part of our strategy to increase collaboration among Latino serving groups and increase the amount of funding on potential projects. (Funders prefer larger scale, collaborative efforts than one time small projects.)
- Continued work with El Barrio and Adelante in regards to their collaboration for the development of a Workforce Development Center
- OCCHA Youngstown
Reconnected with the leadership of OCCHA in Youngstown and outlined potential areas where the commission can support their work in the community.
- Organized, promoted and hosted a Social Enterprise Webinar on June 11, 2015.
- Grant Opportunities for Health Education, Outreach and Programming
Participated in call with Rep. Sears regarding the state of grant opportunities in the area of healthcare for Latino organizations. Along with Public Policy Officer, strategized about a meeting with Latino leadership and the Representative to continue to explore the need for increased and improved funding opportunities for Latino serving organizations.
- Met with Dr. Lonny Rivera, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Education to brief him about the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission and our Education initiatives.
- Unaccompanied Children and Children in Foster Care
Met with Leila Kubesch, Cincinnati to gather information regarding Latino children in foster care, and the problems with keeping these children connected with their parents and families. Additionally, we collected information on the issue of unaccompanied children and how organizations are supporting their needs and connecting with these children.
- MBE/EDGE Translations – Hispanic Outreach
Bobbi Bell from DAS – MBE/EDGE requested our assistance to review the Spanish translations for their outreach materials. Director Cavanaugh and Liaison Marin-Marcum worked on this project. The finished materials are expected to be ready for distribution in August (with a launch at the Columbus Latino Festival.)

Highlight of Administrative Matters –

- Review of end of year encumbrances with Connie Alexander. Majority of available funds were encumbered.
- Completed training on new performance appraisal system with Regina Schneider. Performance evaluations for Full time employees to be completed before end of July 2015. Part time and intermittent employees to be evaluated before October 2015.
- Participated in IT Planning and Procurement Webinar.
- Worked with auditor on biennial audit.



Meetings Attended by Executive Director

01 Jun—Al Carranza, Canton Business Hispanic League
03 Jun—Latino Health Coalition (Adelante, El Centro, OHC)
04 Jun - Connie Alexander, End of Year Financial Review
05 Jun—Rep. Sears (Conference Call)
05 Jun—Lynn Stevens, Governor’s Office
08 Jun—Natasha Curtis, Language Access Project
08 Jun— Allen Proctor, Social Enterprise Project
09 Jun—Ingrid Angel, El Barrio, Workforce Development Project
10 Jun—Commissioner Mary Santiago, DHO Project
11 Jun—Workshop on Social Enterprise
11 Jun—NSHMBA Networking Event
15 Jun—Biennial Audit Discussion M. Schmidt, P. Manns
15 Jun—Mary Lou Reyes, OCCHA (Conference Call)
16 Jun—OCHLA Board Meeting
17 Jun—19 Jun— NALEO National Conference (Nevada)
24 Jun—Angela Dawson, Minority Health Commission
25 Jun—Dr. Lonny Rivera, Assist. Superintendent, Dept. of Education
25 Jun—Boards and Commissions Management Meeting
26 Jun—Leila Kubech, (Cincinnati)

Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

Andrea M. Lewis, Public Policy Officer

During the month of June, efforts were focused on finishing the Latino Community Report, and ensuring that OCHLA’s rent funds were included in the budget. Further investigation on the topic of undocumented children and their educational rights was conducted as well.

• Advise

Biennial Budget

There were numerous hearings regarding Ohio’s biennial budget that I attended throughout the month. Together with Chairman Oelslager’s office, I coordinated public testimony for four individuals who wished to testify on OCHLA’s behalf. The amendment that was offered to reinstate our budget allocation was not accepted into the initial Senate budget. Upon discovering that our amendment was not accepted, I proceeded to reach out to Senators on the Finance Committee. I spoke with and sent relevant information to the offices of Senators Oelslager, Patton, Skindell, Coley, Faber and Gentile and discussed the importance of our amendment, asking that it be accepted in the omnibus version of the bill. I also spoke with the offices of Senators Manning and Tavares to discuss next steps. The Senate accepted our amendment in the omnibus bill, and the amendment also made it through conference committee and was signed by Governor Kasich on June 30.



Thank-you letters were sent to Senate Committee members for accepting our budget amendment. Thank-you letters were also sent to the witnesses who testified on OCHLA's behalf. Budget updates were sent to all people who testified on OCHLA's behalf as well as members of our Commission.

Unaccompanied Minors

Throughout June I worked with Catholic Charities in Miami as well as the Mansfield City School District to enroll two unaccompanied minors in school. The students will be living in the Ontario School District. After facilitating a conference call with the caseworker and the Ontario HS Principal, it was decided that it would be in the students' best interest to enroll in Mansfield Schools, which has an established ELL program. After calling the Lau Resource Center and nearly 10 Latino-serving organizations, I was able to obtain an Ixil interpreter for the boys' sponsor. I facilitated a conference call with the interpreter, sponsor, Mansfield Schools Administrator and the caseworker, and we were successful in beginning the process of enrolling the boys in school.

This case revealed the lack of knowledge some schools have regarding the rights of educating undocumented children. After sending information to the Ontario School principal from the USDE regarding children's educational rights, I called the Ohio Department of Education to begin a conversation on this topic. Lilly and I met with Dr. Raul Soto and Assistant Superintendent Lonny Rivera to discuss the educational opportunities of undocumented children. At the moment I am strategizing best practices for advising school administrators on this topic.

I've also reached out to the Guatemalan, Honduran and El Salvadoran consulates to inquire about the services offered to undocumented children. Our office has established a line of communication with the Salvadoran consulate, as the Consul General was able to visit our office when she visited Columbus during the last week of June.

Currently, I'm in the process of researching the number of undocumented children in Ohio. I've reached out to the Pew Research Center and the Governor's office, as well as internet sources to find this information.

Legislative Relations and Legislation Tracking:

- Coordinated with Rep. Patterson's office to speak on HB 149 at the June board meeting.
- Spoke with Speaker Rosenberger's office to recommend appointment of Rep. Perales to OCHLA's board of commissioners.
- Worked with Rep. Sears and the Ohio Department of Health and the Commission on Minority Health to find information on the number of Hispanic organizations that receive grant funding through their organizations. Reported findings to Rep. Sears and will continue to address this matter during the summer.
- Directed interns to research the barriers Latino organizations encounter when applying for grants
- Started following 10 new bills: House Bills 248, 249, 255, 257, 262, 268, 270, 274 and Senate Bills 174, 127
- Updated status of all bills that are being tracked by commission
- Attended hearings regarding House Bill 64
- Researched relevant news articles for legislative update
- Updated monthly events on Legislative Update
- With intern, drafted a 600+ news article on the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The Senate recently approved a measure to overhaul ESEA, which plays a key role in providing support to disadvantaged students, many of whom are English language learners and/or students of color.



- Drafted and sent Legislative Update to 400+ individuals. Update featured HBs 203, 249 and SBs 148, 162
- Drafted and sent Legislative Update to 400+ individuals. Update featured HB 274 and SBs 63, 87, 127

Latino Community Report 2015

Latino Community Report Research:

With the assistance of two interns, I was able to complete all research and writing for the Latino Community Report. We worked very closely with the Department of Administrative Services’ Equal Opportunity Division to obtain statistics on the number of MBE/EDGE certified Hispanic-owned businesses. [The report focuses on Hispanic-owned businesses, and provides important information regarding the increasing number of Hispanic businesses in Ohio.](#) There are 22 pages in the document and over 50 citations.

**Ohio Hispanic Business Owners:
An Emerging Economic Force**



Ohio | Latino Affairs Commission

The LCR will be sent to all 133 members of the 131st General Assembly, well as the Governor and Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce.

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• **Connect**

Constituent Outreach

- Sent constituent information on Central Ohio’s Latino-serving organizations
- Discussed possible opportunity for HOLA expansion with Executive Director Veronica Dahlberg
- Researched Spanish-speaking alcohol/drug addiction counselors as well Spanish AA meetings for constituent living in Columbus
- Assisted recent high school graduate with information on applying for college and scholarships under the “international student” status
- Found data for the City of Columbus on the number of undocumented immigrants in Central Ohio and Ohio as a whole.
- Sent an MBE partnership opportunity to an MBE certified business.
- Working with constituent to set-up a town hall meeting for Latinos living on the Northside of Columbus
- Provided a newly-arrived constituent from Puerto Rico information on obtaining an Ohio teaching license, and discussed substitute teaching opportunities around Central Ohio.

Meetings Attended:

- 6/2 - Rep. Stehpanie Howse
- 6/4 - Education reform conference call
- 6/6 - Conference call with Rep. Barbara Sears and Lilly
- 6/5 - Sandra Carrillo of Attorney General’s office
- 6/8 - Tele-Press Conference on Budget Bill
- 6/9 - Budget hearing
- 6/10 - Budget hearing
- 6/11- Budget hearing
- 6/11 - Budget Briefing conference call with Chair Florez and Lilly
- 6/11 - Ethics training
- 6/15 - Alejandra Machado



6/15 - Ramona Ragland, Ohio House of Representatives
 6/16 - OCHLA board meeting
 6/17 - Budget hearing
 6/22 - Al Carranza, Latino Business League
 6/22 - Rafael Rodriguez, City of Canton
 6/22 - Jeff Stewart, Centro San Jose
 6/22 - John Alvarez Turner, University of Akron
 6/23 - Greater Cincinnati Latino Coalition meeting
 6/25 - ODE Assistant Superintendent Lonny Rivera
 6/25 - Conference call: America's Youngest Pioneers
 6/26 - Leila Kubesh

Latino Community Network (LCN)

Lair Marin-Marcum, Community Liaison

During June, we focused on the 2015 Latino Health Summit logistics with Agenda, partners, work-shops, and exhibitors recruitment of the event. The LHS will take place at OSU Wexler Medical Center with the partnership of LULAC, Molina Health, OSU, Buckeye Health and CareerSource.

The LCN continues working on Updates on Resources Lists:

- Aug 2015 OLANet—Latino Serving Organizations
- 2015 Lawyers List
- 2015 ESL Catalogue
- 2015 Interpreters/Translators

Below all highlights of projects and meetings for the LCN that also took place during the month of June 2015.

• Connect

- Meeting with ODJFS Carolina Silva to Advise on Diversity Recruitment efforts and Collaboration Opportunities between both agencies and update on events and resources.
- Meeting with Dr. Luis Ortega-Cruz regarding Latino Health Summit & Connecting with the Community on his new position as Senior Staff Therapist at Ohio State University Counseling and Consultation Services & recruit as presenter for LHS.

• Advise

- Canton Business League Health Fair on September 13th. Advise on Events programing, logistics, exhibitors and E-Campaigns with Al Carranza.
- United Way Hispanic/Latino Engagement Committee - 1st meeting. Advise on the creation of an engagement plan for the UW Latino community Outreach Mission.

• Build

- Canton Akron visit with PP Andrea Magana-Lewis to connect with Hispanic Organiza



tions and to build on contacting organizations to start a Hispanic Collaborative:

1. Meeting at El Centro San Jose – Jeff Stewart / Silverio Mejia / Manuela Pena & Legal Counsel Anthony.
2. Meeting at City of Canton with Organizational Development Dir. Rafael Rodriguez.
3. Meeting with Canton Business League / Alfredo Carranza Director.
4. Meeting at University of Akron with John Alvarez-Turner Associate Director of Multicultural Center.
- 5.

Connecting the Community: Information and Resources

OUTLET	DESCRIPTION	MAY	JUNE
Website Calendar	Community Events	69	59
Facebook	Number of “Likes” to date	788	805
Facebook & Twitter	Postings of news, resources, events	224	265
Website (Job Opportunities Page) Facebook & Twitter	Job Openings Promoted	56	72

JUNE constituent inquiries processed:	22
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Student Intern / Volunteers

During the month of June we were down to 4 Interns volunteers, due to vacations and other intern opportunities abroad, but will have 2 more again in the month of July.

Meetings Attended:

- 1 June – Canton Business League Health Fair on September 13th. Advise on Events programing, logistics, exhibitors and E-Campaigns with Al Carranza .
- 2 June – Call with Dr. Pujana regarding Latino Health Summit workshops and other speakers.
- 3 June – 2015 Ohio Latino Health Planning Committee Meeting
- 8 June – United Way and the Central Ohio Diversity Consortium Latino Leadership Breakfast with Ernst and Young with Keynote Mark Garcia from E&Y Detroit Office
- 8 June – 2015 Latino Health Summit Touch Base with LULAC and Update w/ Dan Almaguer & Lourdes Ribera
- 8 June – Stacey Rokoff Chief Program Officer at Evi-Base Diabetes programs and trainings to supply information on 2015 Latino Health Summit Information
- 11 June – United Way Hispanic/Latino Engagement Committee - 1st meeting to create engagement plan for the Latino community Outreach Mission
- 16 June – OCHLA June 2015 Board Meeting



- 18 June – Travel to Dayton for Dayton Latino Connection
- 19 June – Meeting with ODJFS Carolina Silva to Advise on Diversity Recruitment efforts and Collaboration Opportunities
- 19 June – Meeting with Dr. Luis Ortega-Cruz - Latino Health Summit & assistance in connecting with the community & recruit as presenter for LHS.
- 22 June – Canton / Akron visit to connect with Hispanic Organizations & build on organizations to start creating a Hispanic Collaborative in those areas
- 23 June – Greater Cincinnati Latino Coalition Meeting
- 24 June – Debriefing Meeting with Executive Director Cavanaugh on Canton/Akron Trip & Visit
- 26 June – Meeting at Columbus Zoo Offices for Donated Books pick up

Organizations Development Center (ODC) Report

Georgina Alvarez— ODC Officer

Capacity Building

June's grant announcement was sent out with five active grants, and four near future grants. The Spanish American Committee in Cleveland will be applying for the grant from the Health Department – *“Healthy Marriage, Relations Education and Economic Mobility.”* This grant if approved, would provide the opportunity for the Spanish American Committee to work in cooperation with other Hispanic serving organizations such as Nueva Luz Urban Resource, Hispanic Umadaop, El Barrio, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Nueva Luz Methodist Church, among other faith based programs for Latino Families. ODC Officer provided technical support and aided the Spanish American Committee in preparing the grant application process.

Building rapport with Hispanic grassroots and serving organizations

During the month of June, I had two working sessions with Ramonita Vargas, ED Spanish American Committee in Cleveland; the first session was to assess their needs and review their administrative structure as well as capabilities. The second session (two days) was to work on the grant writing mentioned above.

Both working sessions were very successful, as one of the oldest Hispanic serving organizations in Ohio the Spanish American Committee (SAC) has an excellent performance history, support from the community, quantity of stakeholders and supporters, which makes its renaissance quite possible in a short term. The SAC also benefits from having a team with a long history with the organization, which will be extremely valuable as the organization seeks to renew its connections to funders and expand in programming. We will continue working with the team and will reach out to its Board of Directors to solidify a plan to strengthen the organization and define the type of support that the Commission's Organizations Development Center can offer at this time.

The commission is supporting the work of the Hispanic Coalition, Adelante Toledo and El Centro de Servicios Sociales Lorain, in an effort to collaborate on issues of common interest and seek potential funding opportunities. During our second working session it was agreed to work together to pursue grant opportunities in health and workforce development. Also a tentative name was given to the group – “Conexion Latina”.



During June 11, 2015 we had the workshop “*New Approaches to Serving our Communities: Social Enterprise*” with the purpose of creating Social Ventures / Social Enterprise within Latino grassroots organizations. The workshop was conducted by the Social Enterprise Development Center, Mr. Allen J. Proctor. Previous to this event a Webinar presented also by Mr. Proctor which took place before the main workshop.

Hispanic Chambers Quarterly Meeting—June 26, 2015

Meeting will be moved due to scheduling conflicts. It is expected that the meeting will be rescheduled for August.

Meetings and Events Attended

- June 3 -Conexion Latina meeting at the Coalicion Hispana offices at the West side, Columbus
- June 11 -Social Enterprise Workshop – “New Approaches to Serving our Communities: Social Enterprise”
- June 23 -Working session with Ramonita Vargas, Executive Director, Spanish American Committee – Cleveland
- June 25 -Strategy working session as follow up to the previous working meeting on the SWOT with Pastor Magno Mejia
- June 30 - Two day working session on grant writing with Ramonita Vargas, Executive Director, Spanish American Committee – Cleveland

Respectfully submitted,

