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MARCH 2011

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

Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

Ursula Barrera-Richards, Director

Advise

Ex-Officio Member Appointment

Executive Director and PPC Director sent correspondence to Leader Batchelder and President Neihaus requesting appointment of ex-officio legislative members to the Commission. The President and Leader appoint two members each, from both parties. Last General Assembly the House appointed two, while the Senate appointed none.

Follow up phone calls were made at the end of March to the leaders' offices inquiring about progress. The aides did not have specific deadlines to report, but would check in first week of April. PPC Director will follow up the offices in the second week of April. Representative Ramos is following up from the House as he is interested in the appointment.

Census Updates to Legislators

Correspondence and preliminary Latino Census data has been sent to all legislators and caucus staff, along with a cover describing data and outlining services and resources available to the Legislature through Ohio Latino Affairs. The data demonstrated the increasing population number in almost all districts.

Latino Community Reports will also be sent to legislators with more in depth census data during the month of April. The LCR's will be sent to House members with over 1,500 Latino constituents and Senate members with 5,000 constituents. The Public Policy Center is in the process of data entering the census data in almost 120 reports for legislators. Target completion is for the 3rd week of April.



Page 2

Providing Information to Legislators

Minority Leader Budish's office requested information from OCHLA about the Puerto Rican birth certificate situation from 2010. Director Cavanaugh prepared the information and it was forwarded to the office.

Budget Process

- Monitored budget introduction on March 15th. Analyzed budget information and disseminated to Commissioners and the public. Also, prepared messaging for Latino media, Policy Brief, and constituencies through OLANet.
- Continued to compile signatures for Community Leaders sign on letter throughout March.
- Assisted with budget testimony preparation, incorporating data from Hispanic Chambers and Latino SBDC's in Cleveland and Columbus.
- Press messaging sent to Latino media about Director Cavanaugh's testimony, including a link to the testimony through OLANet. Testimony press release was featured on El Sol de Cleveland and La Prensa.
- Composed letters and compiled community leaders names for budget letters to legislators. Letters sent to all House members.

Connect/Build

Tactical Brief

Generated a new tactical brief on the budget process, which was sent to policy brief subscribers. The same update was uploaded to OLANet as a new tactical brief under the Legislative Process tactical brief generated in February. The tactical brief is being turned into a Spanish/English media brief and is available online at: <http://ochla.ohio.gov/ohla/tpb-legis101.budget.aspx>

Public Policy Center Updates

Many updates in March to the Public Policy Center.

- Senate Bill 98 – was introduced and the bill was added to reflect the movement of the 129th General Assembly.

Workforce and Economic Development

- Updated W & ED page to reflect change in leadership to Dayton and Columbus Chambers. An additional document was uploaded to the Economic Impact Studies from Northeast Ohio.
- The Cuyahoga County Latino SBDC provided data to OCHLA on their progress for the first year. The data was used in budget testimony and will be part of an April update to the PP Center.

Human Trafficking

PP Center Director was approached by Lorain CHIP Organization to find a speaker for their annual conference, which will have a Human Trafficking component. Successfully connected them to renown speaker – Celia Williamson.

Temporary Contract for PPC Manager

- Organized and disseminated PPC temp description to various graduate school programs. Set deadlines for early April – for interviews and writing samples.

Meetings Attended

- 3/16 – Diabetes Alliance
- 3/18 – Immigration Roundtable Discussion
- 3/23 – Meeting with Senator Charleta Tavares' Office
- 3/25 – Community Leaders event with Senator Portman in Dayton



LATINO COMMUNITY NETWORK REPORT

Lilly Cavanaugh, Acting Director

Strategic Initiatives



Project's OPEN quarter ended on March. The Quarterly Report is due by April 30th. Regular programming activities continue as scheduled and will be described in the May Report. On March 13th, Director Cavanaugh participated in a meeting with Columbus Community College and Department of Development SBDC representatives to review the possibility of transferring the Latino SBDC to be hosted at Columbus State. Further information on these discussions will be provided as they develop.

Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards, October 7, 2011

Conversations are underway with the DHO Chair, regarding possible themes for this year's event. Office Manager and Executive Director have been making contact with potential sponsors for the gala and have started securing sponsorships for the event.

Community Outreach (LCN)

Advise:

Race to the Top State Reform Steering Team

On March 3, 2011, Director Cavanaugh represented OCHLA in the Race to the Top State Reform Steering Team meeting. This team engages high level public and private leadership in providing oversight and ensuring that Ohio meets its Race to the Top commitments.

Connect:

LULAC 2011 Convention

Director Cavanaugh met with Lynn Stevens to update request for Governor's participation in the LULAC 2011 Convention. Information on the conference is also being forwarded to contacts in Indiana and Kentucky, as part of our tri-state outreach for the conference. Ohio Latino Affairs will be promoting the conference as the date gets closer through e-campaigns and networks as well.

Governor's Office

Director Cavanaugh continues to maintain regular news feeds of Governor's Office and Lieut. Governor's Office information with all Latino networks; in particular, Latino media. Depending on the subject matters, e-campaigns are launched to cover a greater audience. This information network is part of the service from Ohio Latino Affairs to the Governor's Office to ensure the community is promptly informed on matters of relevance.

On March 8th, Governor Kasich pronounced his State of the State Address. Ohio Latino Affairs was charged with translating the address and making it available to the Latino media and public. This task was completed and the bilingual address was forwarded to the Governor's Office and their Communications Office as well.

Minority Health Kick Off Event

Director Cavanaugh attended the Minority Health Kick Off Event at the Riffe Tower. The full month event is being promoted on our home page as well as in the newly created Health Resources webpage in OLANet: http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns/Initiatives/Health_MinorityHealth.aspx



Ohio Civil Rights Commission Hall of Fame

As in 2010, OCHLA is promoting the submission of candidates to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission Hall of Fame. The opportunity is being advertised through the Latino Networks and leadership email lists as well as Latino media. The form and details about this nomination can be found at: <http://crc.ohio.gov/HallofFame2010.htm>

CHIP Conference, April 16th

Our office has been promoting heavily the C.H.I.P. Leadership conference which will take place in Lorain, Oh on April 16th & 17th. Director Cavanaugh will be attending the conference on behalf of the commission. For more details about the conference, go to: <http://www.chiplorain.org/>

2011 Latino Conference Planning Committee

The Latino Talent and Leadership Conference will take place on September 20, 2011. Ohio Latino Affairs will support the event through outreach and promotion. It is expected to reach a 600+ number of attendants in this year's conference; more details to be shared as planning of the event progresses.

Diabetes Alert Day—March 22nd

The American Diabetes Association, Columbus Chapter requested our support to reach out the community regarding the importance of understanding the risk for developing diabetes, in particular among the Latino community. Several e-campaigns and email alerts were sent with bilingual resources being made available to the community regarding prevention and treatment of diabetes.

March is National Nutrition Month

The Columbus Department of Public Health requested our support to promote activities leading to the celebration of Nutrition month. Information has been shared with networks emphasizing the importance of rating healthy and with variety of foods. Details on the campaign can be found at: <http://www.eatright.org/Public/content.aspx?id=6442462682>

Build:

Census 2010

Information about redistricting and Census 2010 facts has been distributed through the Latino networks. Information is coming to the public via the Latino Community Network and the Public Policy Center. Information on the Demographics page in OLANet has been updated: <http://ochla.ohio.gov/ohla/cib.demographics.aspx> with new links created for 2011 Resources.

Agenda Latina 2011

As a follow up to the Agenda Latina Summit in February, a webpage has been built and made available to participants which includes all key documents from the summit, resources and additional information. A regular e-campaign with specific updates of interest to Agenda Latina participants has been launched and will be triggered when issues of interest dealing with education, workforce and economic development require the information exchange. Also, an evaluation of the event has been shared with commissioners during this month.

Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Expo 2011, October 13, 2011

Director Cavanaugh had brief discussion with OHCC Chair, Rafi Rodriguez, regarding their Business Expo 2011. OCHLA will partner and support the expo which will seek to bring together Hispanic companies in Ohio wishing to expand their markets and promote their services. More details to be made available as planning for this event takes place.



U.S. Department of Labor requests assistance

Ken Benneth, Regional Representative for the U.S. Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis requested our assistance to reach out to leaders and business owners to participate in a Midwest conference call. The purpose of the call was to increase communications and find ways how the Department of Labor Agencies can assist Latino organizations in the Region. The Department of Labor's mission is to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights. Director Cavanaugh participated in the conference call on March 31st on behalf of Ohio Latino Affairs, along with other state and regional leaders.

OSU Latino Bridge Builders Forum

Director Cavanaugh met with Dr. Zepeda, to discuss the possibility of OCHLA partnering with Ohio State University and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund for a Latino Bridge Builders Forum. Through a grant from the Gates Millennium Scholars Foundation, HSF partners with universities to bring in motivational speakers and host concurrent sessions in English and Spanish for parents to learn about the college admission system and to find different ways to support students as they apply for college. The Bridge Builders Forum is an interactive event designed to provide Latino males with the tools and motivation needed to succeed in high school and move on to college. This event is targeted for September. More information will be available as negotiations or the partnership progress.

OLANET:

- New webpage created for Health Resources and Minority Health Month
- The Emergency Preparedness webpage has been updated with bilingual information regarding the Spring Outlook and Flooding Guidelines
- The Workforce and Economic Development page has been updated with information about Project OPEN
- The Ohio Latino Demographics page has been updated with Census2011 information
- The Reports Database has been updated with Policy Information

Administrative Report

Budget Hearings

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Director Cavanaugh has been working with OCHLA's assigned specialist to provide additional information necessary for the Redbook.

LSC Redbook Published

The Ohio Legislative Service Commission published the "Redbook" which includes the budget recommendations for the next biennium as introduced. The Redbook can be accessed at: <http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/fiscal/redbooks129/default.htm>

Testimony

Major emphasis was dedicated by Director Cavanaugh to contact community leaders and inform them about the budget process for the next biennium. This task included launching specific campaigns to inform about hearings, working on strategic planning regarding the approach and involvement of community leadership and organizations, as well as preparation of different reports, information and testimony with the assistance of PPC Director Barrera-Richards.



On March 29th, 2011, Director Cavanaugh presented testimony before the House Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee. The testimony has been shared with Commissioners electronically.

2010-Financial Disclosure Statement Form

Office Manager and Director continue to update and inform Chair Santiago regarding the status of financial disclosure filings.

Biennium Audit Underway

Director Cavanaugh met with Laura Swank from the Auditors Office for a preliminary audit meeting. The audit will cover the period from July 2009—June 2011. Office Manager Marin and Director Cavanaugh will be working closely with the auditor assigned to our commission to ensure a satisfactory completion of the audit. The review will begin on March 29th at our office location. It is expected that the final audit report will be ready in early Fall.

Changes in DAS are announced—John Cunningham

John Cunningham, who has served as DAS Director for the last nine years, announced his resignation from DAS and transfer to the E-Tech Commission. As a result, work is underway to ensure a smooth transition. A conference call has been scheduled for April between Finance Chair, Tony Simms-Howell, Director Cavanaugh and Mr. Cunningham for a final update of the budget and financial status prior to his departure from DAS.

Personnel Evaluations

As required by procedure, all personnel received their performance evaluations for 2010. The reports have been forwarded to the HR office.

Search underway for PPC assistant

Due to PPC Director's maternity leave, we will be contracting a temporary person to cover key aspects of the PPC Center. It is expected that a hire will be made before the third week of April.

Meetings attended

- 03 March— Race to the Top Steering Team (Columbus)
- 04 March - Minority Health Director Dawson (Columbus)
- 11 March—LULAC 2011 Convention Meeting (Cincinnati)
- 12 March—Latinas in Ohio Meeting (Columbus)
- 15 March—Governor's Budget Roll out Town Hall meeting (Columbus)
- 16 March—Columbus State Com. College (Columbus)
- 16 March—Latino Conference Planning Meeting (Columbus)
- 17 March—Lynn Stevens, Minority Affairs Director (Columbus)
- 17 March—Dr. Yolanda Zepada, OSU (Columbus)
- 21 March—Nino Torres, Fronteras de la Noticia (Columbus)
- 22 March—Census Webinar on Race and Hispanic Data (online)
- 23 March - Laura Swank—Ohio Auditors Office (Columbus)
- 23 March—Senator Charleta Tavares (Columbus)
- 24 March - Boards and Commissions Monthly Meeting (Columbus)
- 30 March—Rafi Rodriguez, OHCC Conference call (Columbus)
- 30 March—Special Education Event, Governor's Office (Columbus)
- 31 March—Department of Labor Midwest Conference Call (Columbus)

Respectfully submitted,

