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DIRECTORS' REPORT

MAY 2010

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

PUBLIC POLICY CENTER REPORT

MAY 2010

Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

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

Policy Research and Information

General Assembly

House Bill 493

On April 15, 2010, Representative Kathleen Chandler introduced House Bill 493, which would create the offense of trafficking in Ohio similar to the federal definition, in addition to containing various civil provision. The bill is currently in the HOUSE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE. It received a sponsor-testimony hearing on May 19, 2010.



Senate Bill 238

Senate Bill 238 would prohibit illegal and unauthorized aliens from receiving compensation and benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law. SB 238 was introduced by Senator Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) on March 16, 2010, was passed out of committee on May 25, 2010 and passed in the full Senate on May 27, 2010. Public Policy Center Program Director Florentina Staigers invested a lot of time in emails, e-campaigns, updating the website, and phone calls regarding the legislation. Over ten stakeholders submitted testimony.

Additionally, PPC Director Staigers requested follow up meetings with all committee members regarding the legislation (meetings had also been requested just prior to the bill's introduction in March) and gave information to the members during these meetings.

The next step in the bill process is that the bills will be assigned to a HOUSE committee where the legislation will either complete the same process as in the Senate or may be stalled. PPC Director Staigers has already begun efforts to address the House members regarding this legislation.

Advise

Latino Community Reports (LCRs)

PPC Director Staigers completed the 2nd Quarter Report, on Immigration, which consists of information on Ohio's foreign-born population, economic contributions of immigrants, a history of immigration in Ohio, FAQs, and other pertinent information. Furthermore, the Congressional Representatives' Latino Community Reports were completed and are available by request.

Legislator Briefings

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

Policy Briefs

PPC Director Staigers, with the help of intern Saniya Khan continues to publish the weekly briefs. PPC Director Staigers also continues to update the monthly briefs, available on the website in the Policy Resource Section of the Reports Database.

Increase Channels of Communication

Legislative Visit Day

The majority of PPC Director Staigers' work time in May was devoted to the Legislative Visit Day, including but not limited to tasks such as revising logo and marketing materials, legislator appointments, content for networking luncheon and workshops, and organizing and informing facilitators and speakers.

Policy Resource Database and Library

PPC Director Staigers has continued to update and expand the Commission's Resource Library on Policy. In May, PPC Director Staigers created a webpage for House Bill 493, regarding Human Trafficking.

Enhance Government Effectiveness



Human Trafficking Presentation

PPC Director Staigers created a presentation for the Commission that combines the Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition's presentation with information about smuggling. This presentation is specifically geared to the Latino community and was used for the Legislative Visit Day workshop on Human Trafficking.

Latino Government Officials

PPC Director Staigers compiled a list of Latino government officials currently serving in the State.

Civil Rights Nomination

PPC Director Staigers wrote a nomination letter and compiled all required nomination information in order to nominate Baldemar Velasquez to the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame. The entire packet was submitted on May 27, 2010.

Lorain Hispanic Leadership Conference – Human Trafficking Panel

PPC Director Staigers was asked to moderate a panel (which included developing the content and questions for the panel) of government officials, including Attorney General Richard Cordray, a U.S. Attorney, Judge and social service providers. The subject of the panel was focused on how government entities are currently responding to the issue of human trafficking and what more can be done.

Administrative/Other

Hiring of Policy Liaison Replacement

PPC Director Staigers was asked by Executive Director Lilleana Cavanaugh to participate in the review of candidates for the Policy Liaison position that PPC Director Staigers will officially resign on June 11, 2010. PPC Director Staigers reviewed resumes, writing assignments, and participated in the interviews.

Meetings Attended

- 1 May – Lorain Hispanic Leadership Conference (Lorain)
- 4 May – Council on Foreign Relations Conference Call (Columbus)
- 14 May – “Papers” Movie Screening (Westerville)
- 18 May – Senate Insurance, Commerce and Labor Committee
- 19 May – Interviews with Policy Liaison Candidates
- 25 May – Senator, Matt Gledhill, Legislative Aide to Senator Eric Kearney (D-Cincinnati) (Columbus)
- 25 May – Senator Joe Schiavoni (D-Youngstown) (Columbus)
- 25 May – Senator Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton) (Columbus)
- 25 May – Senate Insurance, Commerce and Labor Committee
- 26 May – Kris Long, Policy Director, Office of the Governor (Columbus)
- 26 May – Matt Colopy, Office of the Governor (Columbus)



LATINO COMMUNITY NETWORK REPORT

Lilly Cavanaugh, Acting Director

Strategic Initiatives

Ohio Emerging Diversity



Hispanic Impact Campaign

Jose Luna from Toledo Public Schools is the featured individual for this month. The profile is available at <http://ochla.ohio.gov>. A new webpage has been created for the Ohio Hispanic Impact Campaign. This page will include the following information:

1. Featured profiles of Hispanic individuals and organizations who are impacting Ohio in a positive way (To be launched June 2010)
2. Demographic facts— a Comprehensive source for information on Latino demographics for Ohio and the national level (To be launched June 2010)
3. Ohio Latino Elected Officials— a list of Latino elected officials and the communities where they serve (To be launched June 2010)
4. Latino Leaders Database— a long term project that seeks to include bios and information on Latinos who are interested in serving on boards and commissions (To be launched August, 2010)
5. Ohio Latino Fact Sheets— Will include facts sheets on demographics, education, economic development, the arts, and key aspects of importance about Latinos in Ohio (To be launched September 2010)
6. Latino Media Database— a continuous project to provide information about Latino Media in Ohio (To be launched October 2010)



DISTINGUISHED
HISPANIC
OHIOAN AWARDS

Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards—October 14, 2010

The 2010 DHO Awards will be held in conjunction with Empleos and Employment. This organization will host a statewide Diversity Latino Talent and Leadership Conference on October 14th. The full day conference will feature sessions for corporations on recruitment, mentorship, and advancement of Latinos and other minorities in the workplace, as well as provide practical advice to promote leadership development, cross-cultural competency, and professional networking. The Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards Gala will serve as the culmination event for the conference.

By partnering with Empleos and Employment the Commission fulfills its mission to recognize outstanding professional achievement and community service, as well as emphasize the entrepreneurial spirit and talents of Latinos. This collaboration also enables the commission to be more effective in the fundraising and promotional efforts for the gala. Furthermore, by partnering with Empleos and Employment, the logistics and management of the DHO process will be streamlined and more efficient.



Fundraising packets, save the date announcements and a general media announcement will be released in early June.



Project OPEN

A quarterly update meeting was held in May with representatives of the Columbus Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Latino SBDC and the Business Connection.

Highlights:

- The Columbus Chamber of Commerce continues to implement programs that assist the economic development of Hispanic firms, including offering dual membership to the Columbus Chamber of Commerce for Latino owned business with 15 or fewer employees; the option to offer workers compensation and health care insurance plans through a collaboration with the Columbus Chamber; and a continued partnership with the Latino SBDC to develop a full schedule of seminars and workshops to educate small business owners. The chamber also is working steadily to increase business relationships and partnerships between the corporate sector and Hispanic-owned businesses. They have also started conversations with the ODOB/SBDEC to provide training and mentorship through the MBE process.
- The Latino SBDC has offered 300 hours of client counseling as of May 10, 2010. The center has scheduled courses and seminars in business start up, Quick Books, Marketing Strategies, Access to Capital, Social Networking and Taxes. The Latino SBDC is also expanding relationships with Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and fellow SBDC's around the state resulting in increased opportunities to exchange information and support capacity building.
- The Ohio Business Connection reports that both the Columbus Chamber and Latino SBDC are on target as far as their financial reporting. The funding will be sufficient to extend the project until September 30th, 2010, instead of ending the programs on July 31, 2010. The OBC will be sending a written request to OCHLA asking for an extension of the grant for an additional 60 days.
- A new Latino SBDC has recently opened in Cleveland and is hosted by the Hispanic Business Association. Conversations are underway in Cincinnati to assess the potential of beginning a Latino SBDC there as well in the near future.

Community Outreach (LCN)

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

Advise:

Governor's Asian and Pacific Islanders Advisory Council

By invitation of Mr. Matt Colopy, Director Cavanaugh participated in the Board meeting of the Asian and Pacific Islanders Advisory Council. The purpose was to share information about Ohio Latino Affairs, the key initiatives of the commission and answer general questions they have regarding how the commission functions. Dr. Lu, President of the Board was invited to attend as an observer OCHLA's



Legislative Visit Day on May 19th. The Asian Council has the potential of becoming an important partner of our commission, as many of the same challenges and opportunities are faced by both Asian and Latinos in Ohio.

Connect:

Youngstown, WKBN

On May 5th, Director Cavanaugh granted a radio interview with this station from Youngstown. The interview featured information about the significance of Cinco de Mayo, the growth of Latino communities in Ohio and the work of the Latino Affairs Commission.

Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Mr. Rafi Rodriguez, new Chair for the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce visited the OCHLA office on May 11, 2010. Mr. Rodriguez discussed with Director Cavanaugh the projected plans of the commission for the Council on Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and Business Associations, reviewed possible cooperation projects and provided an overall orientation to the work that has been carried between OCHLA and the Hispanic Chambers in Ohio.

Multicultural Emergency Response Task Force

Participated in meeting of the taskforce on May 13th. The group continues to make progress in refining its objectives, the scope of their work and preparing for emergency situations that may require multicultural support.

Kris Long, Governor's Office

PPC Director Tina Staigers and Director Cavanaugh met with Kris Long, Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislation and Operations for the Governor. The meeting provided an opportunity to update Kris on the Commission's programs and personnel changes.

Build:

Wise Latina Conference, Northeast Ohio

OCHLA has provided a list of Latina elected officials to the organizers of the Wise Latina Conference and will continue to support as needed for the organization of this conference which will take place in August, 2010.

Ohio Department of Job & Family Services Conference

With the Title of "Cultural Diversity: A Matter of Civil Rights", the ODJFS held its yearly conference for Civil Rights Coordinators in county ODJFS agencies. Director Cavanaugh participated in a panel discussion to provide information to civil rights coordinators on different ethnic groups in Ohio, the diversity of their customer base, and their need to ensure that needs of New American communities are understood and met in the most efficient and respectful manner.

Legislative Visit Day

The Legislative Visit Day in partnership with the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, The Hispanic Roundtable and the League of United Latin American Citizens was very successful. There were 102 community participants and close to 50 legislators and aids in the event. The day's program was opened by Speaker of the House Armond Buddish, who encouraged attendants to engage in civic participation and help make Ohio a more inclusive state. His presentation was followed by a series of workshops where participants discussed and developed regional legislative agendas. Ohio Senate Minority Leader Capri Cafaro addressed the audience prior to the networking lunch and welcomed attendees on behalf of the Senate. Additionally, OCHLA presented the Legislative Advocate Award to



Senator Theresa Fedor and a certificate of recognition to Ursula Barrera Richards.

An afternoon session on the Effects of Human Trafficking was offered for community leaders who did not have legislative appointments.

A survey completed by participants after the conference reported favorable reviews. Overall, the majority of participants gave excellent reviews for the organization and communications prior and during the event. The quality of the workshops were rated as good with additional commentary by participants who felt the legislative visit helped them to become better informed about civic engagement and Latino issues. Areas of improvement mentioned included another location for the networking lunch and greater participation of legislators during the networking hour.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Lilly Cavanaugh, Executive Director -

FY 2011 Budget

Director Cavanaugh and Office Manager, Lair Marin, have been working with John Cunningham to complete documentation regarding the FY2011 budget. A draft of the budget is due during the first week of June.

Payments and end of year closing for FY2010 on June 30th continue to progress per schedule. John Cunningham has been assisting our office in this process.

Strategic Plan

The Board has approved OCHLA's strategic plan. During the month of June, implementation of the plan will begin to take place. Director Cavanaugh will be coordinating with the Board's Committees (for WED, OED and EDU) to review plans, implement actions and ensure that timetables and deliverables are accurate and reflective of the work to be performed.

Personnel Changes

OCHLA received 23 applications of highly competitive candidates to fill the position of Policy Liaison Officer. After an extensive selection process, Ms. Ursula Barrera Richards has accepted the position of Policy Liaison Officer effective June 21st. Tina Staigers' employment will end on June 11th. We are grateful to Chair Santiago, Commissioner Michael Florez and Isabel Frammer for being part of the search committee. We are also very thankful to Tina for her years of service at the commission and wish her well in her future endeavors.

A transition plan is in place for the new Policy Liaison. Ms. Staigers is in the process of preparing an PPC Orientation Binder to include all the main processes of this office. An orientation plan will be scheduled for Ursula Barrera Richards during the month of June.

Process and Procedures

Legislative Tactical Plan for the Commission - Accepted by the Board in the May meeting and to be implemented by the Public Policy Center and included in the commissioners procedures manual.

Rules for Accessing Personal Information—Procedure approved by the Board in the May meeting. To be included in the General Office Policies and Procedures Manual.



Meetings Attended

- 03 May—Asian Pacific Islander Council (Columbus)
- 11 May—Rafi Rodriguez , OHCC Chair(Columbus)
- 11 May—Legislative Aid to Senator Tom Sawyer (D-NE Ohio)(Columbus)
- 13 May—MERT Emergency Preparedness (Columbus)
- 19 May - Interviews with Policy Liaison Candidates
- 21 May—Cristina Farr (Columbus)
- 25 May - Senator, Matt Gledhill, Legislative Aide to Senator Eric Kearney (D-Cincinnati) (Columbus)
- 25 May - Senator Joe Schiavoni (D-Youngstown) (Columbus)
- 25 May - Senator Fred Strahorn (D-Dayton) (Columbus)
- 26 May - Kris Long, Policy Director, Office of the Governor (Columbus)
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Respectfully submitted.

