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Seneca (Part)**Charleta Tavares**
Senator
District 15th ~ Franklin (Part)

OCTOBER, 2012

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

Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

Nolan J. Stevens, J.D. - Policy Liaison

Advise

LCR - Housing

Met with staff from the Office of Senate Majority Whip Shannon Jones to further discuss the findings in the LCR. Senator Jones is interested in meeting Hispanic constituents involved in housing discrimination protection to address the issues the LCR raised.

In-District Legislator Meetings

Nothing to report - looming election.

Redistricting Process

Submitted an article on Issue 2 for publication in La Jornada Latina. Article briefly describes the mechanics of, arguments for and arguments against Issue 2 in both Spanish and English. I also wrote a much longer version for inclusion in a policy brief. You can find both versions attached.

Legislator Engagement

Met with staff from Senators Manning and Tavares in addition to Senator Jones. Invited legislators to DHO Gala, and discerned and communicated to relevant legislators constituency of DHO awardees. Coordinated drafting and delivery of awardee commendations.

Budget

Began fleshing out budget strategy. Asked certain Commissioners to serve on budget advisory committee.



Connect/Build

Outreach to Community

- Sent two weekly policy briefs to the appropriate OLANet alliance groups. In addition to myriad policy articles, the briefs covered election updates and voter resources, as well as Hispanic Heritage Month events put on both by OCHLA and our partners.
- Composed and published one article in Latino media outlet *La Jornada Latina* – it covered Issue 2 – as referenced above.
- Attended Columbus Migrant Worker Interagency Council meeting at COWIC offices in Columbus. This group shares resources available for migrant seasonal farm workers, works to both expand those services and expand consumption of them among migrant communities, and identify shortcomings in services.

Public Policy Center Website Updates

Continued to oversee the transfer of key pages from the old site to the OCHLA test site. Continued building pages for the new site, drastically altered organizational methodology behind the PPC pages. Archived much older content.

Civic Engagement

- Met with LULAC and Ohio Voice to discuss voter engagement and protection work for October and November. Helped plan and publicize final get-out-the-vote efforts, through e-campaigns which included a press release, a reminder on early voting, and an announcement regarding a bilingual voter resource hotline. All were loaded with voter resources such as boards of elections contact information, early voting hours, absentee ballot applications and registration guidelines.
- Began to plan for, train for and publicize 1-888-VE-Y-VOTA as a bilingual election-day resource.

Legislation Monitored

Continued to monitor the trickle of legislation while the General Assembly remains on break. Noted the introduction of Senate Bill 383 – which would limit employer liability for improper discriminatory practices and civil rights violations.

Workforce and Economic Development

Met at COWIC – WIA board for Franklin County. Learned about programming, methodology and services – as well as Hispanic-targeted initiatives, and brought those resources back for distribution to the community.

Human Trafficking

Covered ongoing human trafficking developments through Attorney General DeWine's trafficking commission.

Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards Gala Support

Included “register now” invitations in each policy brief. Handled legislator invitations as well as coordination of legislator commendations. Staffed the event itself and served as liaison with guest of honor Karen Kasich, Ohio's First Lady.

Constituent Inquiry

Answered three different constituent inquiries and placed community members in touch with appropriate public and private sector resources. Questions included:



- Eligibility for Ohio Department of Education's "EdChoice" program
- Repatriation for an injured-on-the-job Mexican national
- Arranging shelter for a Dayton-area Hispanic immigrant and her family following her discharge from a Dayton hospital

Meetings Attended

- 10/1/12 – Maritza Motino – LULAC, Nick Torres – Ohio Voice, Dan Trevas – Adelante
10/12/12 – Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards Gala
10/15/12 – Columbus Migrant Worker Interagency Council Meeting at COWIC
10/16/12 – Elizabeth Coulter – Legislative Aide to Senator Gayle Manning
10/17/12 – Nicole Harper – Legislative Aide to Senator Charleta Tavares
10/24/12 – Maggie Ward – Legislative Aide to Senator Shannon Jones
10/31/12 – Budget meeting – Lilly Cavanaugh
10/31/12 – Nick Torres, Ohio Voice and Ruben Herrera



Organizations Development Center (ODC) Report

Jose Cos, MPA—ODC Officer

Improved Service Delivery

Website Hosting

In October, OCHLA continued efforts to build the new website by meeting to discuss priorities and delegating responsibly among staff and interns. Top website priorities include the transition of the organizations directory, news and events feature, ecampaign lists, and reports database. OCHLA will complete the transition of the website before December 1 in order to provide users with a complete website before the closing of the current site. Once the new website is complete, Ohio OIT will publish the new content using the current OCHLA url to allow for a seamless functionality for site visitors.

- A test of the new site will be launched during the week of November 12. Until then, visitors can still access the current site to view all October updates, which include:
- Updated version of the OCHLA ESL Catalogue, featuring information on free to low-cost ESL programs in Ohio. In addition to being cost-efficient, the programs promoted by the catalogue have history and credibility with providing culturally competent services to Ohio's Hispanic and new immigrant communities. You can access the catalogue here: <http://ochla.ohio.gov/ASSETS/8E9E1C0B7F7F42FE9C13C6EB7B0038A1/ESL%202012-2013.pdf>
- Publication of the latest edition of Latino Community Reports, featuring data and analysis on the impact of housing discrimination on Latino Ohioans. Follow this link to view the latest LCRs: http://ochla.ohio.gov/ohla/LegislativeLatinoCommunityReports2012_MW.aspx.

In addition to the updates to the OCHLA website, Facebook and Twitter updates have continued to allow for an expansion of the Commission's social networking audience, with 227 members to the OCHLA Facebook page. Facebook and Twitter updates in October include:

- Promotion of the Ohio Small Business Development Center
- Flier for the Columbus International Festival
- Announcement for the Hispanic UMADAOP Substance Abuse Fair
- "Save the date" for the Veterans Employment fair
- Log-in details for the Human Trafficking Prevention webinar
- Congratulatory note for recipients of the 2012 DHO awards

Please note that these are only some of the posts to social media sites in October To view all updates, please visit <http://facebook.com/ochla> and <http://twitter.com/OhioLatinoComm>.

Capacity Building

Ohio Latino Health Summit – Follow up meetings



As a result of the conversations conducted at the health summit, and with the support of a grant from the Ohio Commission on Minority Health, OCHLA will host regional meetings across the state to continue health summit discussions and further the actions steps set forth by the Ohio Latino Health Coalitions' Local Conversations on Minority Health (2011) report.

In partnership with LULAC Ohio, these regional meetings will take place in the LULAC technical centers and will consist of 4 hour sessions in which attendees will be presented with the state of Latino health in Ohio, a brief summary of the summit, and conversations that relate to each region's action steps and how to continue developing those steps in the near future.

So far, OCHLA has scheduled the first meeting in Cincinnati on December 11, 2012. This meeting will be hosted by United Way of Greater Cincinnati, and will feature an agenda focused on interactive discussion between an anticipated 60-70 Latino health leaders. The agenda is driven specifically by the action steps developed by the group mentioned above, and tentatively includes:

1. Brief summary of Ohio Latino Health Summit and announcement of next year's summit
2. LULAC and OCHLA discuss upcoming health initiatives
3. Grant training session
4. "Good Practices, Success Stories, and Lessons Learned," a review of successful experiences in providing to Latinos (primary care services, counseling, health fairs, etc.)
5. Promotion of health fairs, Latino health events, and free services to uninsured.
6. Next action steps

Grants Search/Grants Announcement

Since the month of September, the Organizations Development center has resumed its search for grants, both for community organizations and for OCHLA. Monthly grant announcements have resumed and will continue once a month. These announcements will continue to feature links to grant information and applications from government and private funding sources. Grants will be screened to ensure eligibility for community organizations, and, of course, will be included in the announcement based on their relevance to Ohio's Latino communities.

Additionally, OCHLA is exploring several opportunities involving research oriented grants. These include doing research on the impact of HIV on Ohio's Latino communities and the implications of this on Ohio's health care system. Another opportunity involves researching how HIV and drug use are correlated within Latino communities. OCHLA has decided to pursue a research oriented grant in order to obtain funding to develop a project similar to those that have been completed with the Commission's current capacity. This way, OCHLA can establish a proven record of success with such projects and ensure that obtainment of this kind of grant will not impose an obstacle to completing other projects.

Meetings Attended

10/12/2012: 2012 Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards Gala

10/15/2012: Meeting with the Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation to network and discuss way to continue connecting Ohio employers with potential Latino employees.

10/25/2012: OCHLA website meeting to discuss main priorities and delegation of work for launch of test site in November



Latino Community Network (LCN) Report

Lilly Cavanaugh, MBA -Acting Director
Lair Marin, Constituent Services

Advise

No activity to report.

Build

Education—Community Meeting

Worked with Commissioners Gonzalez, Simms-Howell and Ortiz to brainstorm about an education meeting with community leaders/advocates for 2013. The event will focus on Education and Best Practices in the Latino Community and the possible location for the event will be in Dayton at the Wright State University (March 1, 2013). Potential partners include: OCHLA, Wright State University, Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Board of Regents, Ohio School Board Association Audience. More details on the possible event will be discussed in November and December.

Bridge Builders Forum at the Ohio State University

More than 346 students registered and attended this event at the Ohio State University. Ohio Latino Affairs, The Gates Foundation, the Hispanic Fund, ECHHO and OSU partnered to bring students from all regions of the state to participate in this event. Dr. Juan Andrade, President of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute presented the keynote for event.

Connect

Cultural Competence Strategies for Behavioral Health

Continued to participate in the taskforce led by the Multiethnic Advocates for Cultural Competence for the creation of Cultural Competence Strategies for Behavioral Health. The final report will be ready early in 2013 for distribution among state government agencies and local governments.

Emergency Preparedness

Engaged in the dissemination of emergency preparedness information, including fire safety, dealing with cold season, how to secure the home and ensure the safety of the family. Also, in response to the weather emergencies, provided bilingual information to the community through the networks on Flooding and Blackouts, Food and Water safety and recovery for uninsured losses due to weather emergencies. (At the end of October, Ohio was impacted by the Sandy storm and subsequent weather systems.)

Deferred Action

Continued to share information with community organizations and leaders regarding deferred action and the application process.

Latino Diversity Conference—October 4th

Attended the conference and moderated one of the sessions.



DHO Awards

Continued to work in the planning and staging of the Gala. We are pleased to have surpassed 300 guests for the event. The feedback received by the awardees and guests has been very positive. Our agency is very grateful to Rafi Rodriguez from the Ohio Hispanic Chambers of Commerce for securing Mr. Glenn Llopis as our keynote speaker. We also appreciate the participation of our First Lady, Karen Kasich at the gala, and the support from Jason Dominguez and his team at the Ohio Dept. of Veteran Services. Our incredible team of volunteers deserves our gratitude for the many hours they invested in helping us get ready for the gala and volunteering during the actual event.

Administrative Report

Financial:

- FY14-15 Biennial Budget

Completed the submission and technical review of the FY14-15 Biennial Budget

- Met with PPC Officer Stevens to review budget forecast and provide information to work on the budget defense strategy
- Met with Budget Analyst and DAS Financial Officer to review FY14-15 budget forecast

Fiscal Year 2013

- Completed the reconciliations for the first Quarter, FY 13
- Paid most of the invoices covered under the FY12 encumbrances
- Submitted update report to Financial Chair, Commissioner Simms-Howell

Reappointments

Forwarded information regarding the reappointment process and followed up with commissioners whose term expires in September 2012.

Others:

Prepared and submitted the Cyber Security Plan for the Agency.

Prepared and submitted the IT Planning Crosswalk for Biennial Budget FY14-15

Meetings attended by the Executive Director

- 04 October—Latino Diversity Conference
- 05 October—Biennial Budget Technical Review, L. Pearson
- 09 October—Ray Arebalo
- 09 October—Carolina Peguero
- 10 October—Jason Dominguez, Veteran Services
- 10 October—Human Trafficking Commission Meeting
- 12 October—Glenn Llopis
- 12 October—DHO Gala
- 22 October—Rafi Rodriguez, OHCC
- 23 October—Barbara A. Pratzner, Columbus Sisters Cities Intl.
- 25 October—OCPM Annual Meeting
- 27 October—Bridge Builders Forum, OSU

Respectfully submitted,

