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# DIRECTORS' REPORT

## SEPTEMBER 2010

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

## PUBLIC POLICY CENTER REPORT

### Policy Research and Information

#### Advise

#### Legislator Briefings

PPC Director sent third legislative briefing to legislators. Key information included in the brief: information about boards & commissions, Hispanic Heritage Month, recent policy articles, upcoming events, DHO information, and most recent BMV release on Puerto Rican birth certificates. PPC Director also shared general information about the Fall Latino Community Report on Childhood Obesity.

#### Latino Community Report

The fall 2010 Latino Community Report is complete. The focus is on Latino Childhood Obesity - an epidemic sweeping our nation. According to the research, 38% of Latino children are overweight or obese. Policy makers are paying attention, which is evidenced by the numerous bills targeting physical fitness, nutrition and health education in schools. PPC Director and Executive Director will be scheduling meetings with legislators to deliver the LCR and discuss policy options.



### DHO

PPC Director shared DHO winners' information with legislators whose constituents received DHO awards, so commendations could be sent to winners. Several legislators and the Secretary of State requested information in order to send commendations.

### Tracking Legislation

The legislature has been out of session for summer recess since May. They will not return until after the November elections. Accordingly, there has been no movement on legislation. The "lame duck" session begins when the legislature's session resumes in November.

The PPC Center has expanded the focus of OCHLA's legislative tracking to appropriately reflect OCHLA's legislative priorities. A legislative status report is attached at the end of this report. The legislative themes included to the PPC's legislative tracking priorities include: childhood health legislation, domestic violence, mortgage mitigation/foreclosures, school bullying, and small business incentives in under served areas --- in addition to immigration bills, human trafficking, and minority set-aside agreements. (See attachment for detailed information.)

PPC will reach out to legislators informing them of our desire to provide testimony on the upcoming bills.

## Connect / Build:

### Education

#### **Race to the Top Partnership**

- \$400 million will be given to many Ohio school districts and charter schools over four years under an education-reform plan titled Race to the Top (RtTT). While the Ohio Department of Education is the catalyst for transforming Ohio's public education system; we envision OCHLA being a clearinghouse for programs and initiatives and the tool for engagement in the Latino Community.
- The governor has a 10-year strategic vision called "OHIO'S PROMISE: Enhance Achievement, Focus on Excellence and Provide Opportunities". To access the vision document, please visit the following website: <http://education.ohio.gov/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=11&ContentID=1066&Content=81802>
- DOE and the Governor's office have several goals in their strategic plan which provide opportunity areas for OCHLA's inclusion in RtTT's roll-out throughout the state.
- OCHLA will have a meeting with State officials in late October to discuss OCHLA's role in RtTT. A PowerPoint presentation is being prepared, which PPC Director Barrera-Richards will share with Board members.

#### **Partnership for Next Generation Learning**

Next Generation Learners (NxGL) initiatives work to build the capacity of state education leaders to fully transform public education by creating personalized learning systems that prepare all students--regardless his or her circumstance--for life, meaningful work, and citizenship. Ohio won a grant to have select school districts within the state be part of the first wave of states to incorporate this initiative into their curricula. NxGL will work hand-in-hand with the RtTT initiatives.

NXGL includes personalized learning systems shift the focus from "schooling" to "learning," a bold



approach that puts the needs and interests of children-from birth through adolescence-front and center, rather than those of adults or the system. The work of the NxGL initiative is rooted in six critical attributes, or essential conditions, of an education system that is focused on the learner: · *Planning for personalized learning* · *Comprehensive systems of learning supports* · *World-class knowledge and skills* · *Performance-based learning* · *Anytime, everywhere opportunities* · *Authentic student voice*

Where OCHLA comes in-OCHLA was personally invited by Superintendent Deb Delisle because the initiative is a priority for the Governor. It complements his 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning model and when the initiative rolls out in the state, we would assist in outreach. Innovative approaches to ELL instruction, including ESL for the entire family, are a focus of NxGL to ensure academic success for the growing Latino populations.

## Workforce and Economic Development

### **Workforce Investment Boards**

Similar to the letters of support for Boards and Commissions, the PPC Center will inquire about Workforce Investment Board openings and county procedures for appointment, to increase the number of qualified Latino business and community leaders who sit on such boards. Commissioner Romero has advocated this initiative.

The role of local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) are to set policy, develop local plans, develop local area budgets to carry out the duties of the local system, and act as an independent broker of programs and other linkages in order to assist area employers to meet hiring needs and workers to find sustainable jobs. Local WIBs are mandated to be business-led and over half of the membership of the WIB must come from the business community. Many of the boards encourage first volunteering on the Board or with one of the Boards committees.

### **Workforce Content Development**

PPC Director Barrera-Richards continues to develop workforce development content for OLANet – this will include connection to Ohio Chambers, Hispanic Chambers, Department of Development, Latino SBDC, and MBE certified business deadlines for contracts through OLANet. Including public sector RFP's or links to where RFP's can be accessed, is also in the content development phase.

The page can be found at: <http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns/Initiatives/wed.aspx>

## Public Safety in Hamilton County

Community leaders approached OCHLA and expressed concern for the safety of Latinos in the Hamilton area after Samuel Baez-Rosa was bludgeoned to death at his home, which was also burglarized. Latino community leaders fear that Latinos in Butler County are being targeted because they tend to carry large amounts of cash and they tend not to report victimization because they do not trust law enforcement.

OCHLA convened a meeting with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, LULAC, and the FBI-Civil Rights Division to brainstorm and discuss the situation.

We learned that:

- o The FBI has been closely monitoring the situation in Hamilton County. They are guided by



the Shepard Act – a Hate Crimes Prevention bill. The FBI engages in fact-finding in suspicious cases and applies a Shepard Act analysis to determine the likelihood of a hate crime.

- o FBI provides CREST (community relations executive seminar training) which was created to identify law enforcement problems affecting specific communities.

Hamilton City is actively seeking bilingual staff and law enforcement officers.

### **Human Trafficking Advocacy Day 11/10**

Senator Teresa Fedor and the Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition is coordinating an Advocacy/Lobby Day to advocate for human trafficking legislation.

They have asked OCHLA to assist with outreach and to recruit citizens to lobby their legislators. This would include circulating the letters, initiating a campaign and posting on OLANet. PPC Director recommends taking part in this event given our commitment to anti-trafficking legislation.

### **Recognition of Senator Voinovich**

OCHLA and Latino community advocates honored retiring Senator George Voinovich with a Latino Community Champion Award in appreciation for his efforts to improve the lives of Hispanic Ohioans. The recognition took place September 27<sup>th</sup>. Two media outlets attended the event and over 20 community leaders. Statewide leaders who could not attend sent letters of “thank you” and support. Some of Senator Voinovich’s many legislative contributions include: his long-standing interest in promoting diversity and did so as Mayor of Cleveland, Governor of Ohio, and as a U.S. Senator. As mayor, he instituted diversity training for Cleveland’s police ranks and created the first-ever Community Relations Committee and Latino Community Liaison position. As governor, he created the “Governor’s Challenge in Diversity”, which encouraged Ohio cities to create and present their diversity plans at the state level. He opposed “English Only” legislation as governor because he believed the bill did not support Ohio’s diversity and did not encourage immigrants to learn English while still embracing their native language. Most recently, he broke party ranks to vote for the nomination of Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court of the United States – making her the first Hispanic woman to serve on the nation’s highest court.

### **Meetings Attended**

14 September -Voter Outreach Initiative

14 September—ECHHO Strategic meeting

21 September—Partnership for Next Generation Learning Conference

28 September—FBI/LULAC Public Safety

28 September—Cincinnati Latino Coalition



# LATINO COMMUNITY NETWORK REPORT

Lilly Cavanaugh, Acting Director

## Strategic Initiatives

### Ohio Emerging Diversity



DISTINGUISHED  
HISPANIC  
OHIOAN AWARDS

Our staff has been concentrating on finalizing the gala logistics and plans. Lair Marin has been assigned as the DHO Event Manager. We are pleased to have the support of important sponsors, including: Cardinal Health, Honda of America, Abercrombie & Fitch, Hispanic Chamber of Columbus, Fifth Third Bank, Grange Insurance, CAPA, Nationwide, SMT Designs, Time Warner, Emploes and Employment, La Prensa, The Spanish Journal.

Executive Director Cavanaugh has been in contact with all awardees and is coordinating their participation in the gala as well as overseeing all stages of the gala plans.



### Hispanic Heritage Month—September 15—October 15

Over 100 community events and celebrations have been included in the Commission's Statewide Hispanic Heritage Month Calendar of Events. This online resource with detailed information about the different activities has been very useful to promote the wide variety of celebrations taking place across the state. Besides being available on our website, the Calendar has been shared through the weekly Legislative News Briefs and e-campaigns. Visit:

[http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns\\_Initiatives/2010HispanicHeritageMonthEvents.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiatives/2010HispanicHeritageMonthEvents.aspx)



### National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month and along with the Department of Public Safety, OCHLA leads the effort to reach out and inform Latino communities across the state about the importance of being prepared for emergencies.

The campaign was successfully completed. Over 6 weekly email campaigns with critical bilingual material were shared with all Latino media, leadership and community outreach networks. The information shared along with additional resources will be hosted on our Emergency Preparedness webpage:

[http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns\\_Initiatives/Emergencyprep.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiatives/Emergencyprep.aspx)



## October Emergency Preparedness Campaigns:

### Fire Prevention Month:

October is Fire Prevention Month. We have made available important bilingual information on our Emergency webpage to ensure outreach efforts include bilingual information. See: [http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns Initiatives/Emergencyprep.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiativ es/Emergencyprep.aspx). Additionally, e-campaigns and email blasts will be sent throughout the month to emphasize the importance of fire education and prevention.

### 2010-2011 Flu Season—Outreach Campaign

The Ohio Department of Health has initiated an educational campaign to prepare the community for the Flu Season. Ohio Latino Affairs played a critical role during the H1N1 Emergency, serving as a link between the Health Department, local and state governments and the Hispanic community. In order to ensure access to critical information and resources during this year's Flu Season, OCHLA has created a webpage with useful bilingual information. E-Campaigns, articles and other relevant information on this important preventive campaign will be issued in the following months.

See: [http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns Initiatives/Emergencyprep.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiativ es/Emergencyprep.aspx)

## Strategic Initiatives: Workforce and Economic Development

(See PPC Director's Report for detailed information.)

### 2010 Latino Talent & Leadership Conference -Oct 14th -

OCHLA continues to collaborate closely with the planning committee for the Latino Talent Diversity Conference. Chair Santiago has been invited to be a panelist for the Track: "Latino Talent and Leadership".



## Strategic Initiatives: Education

(See PPC Director's Report for detailed information.)

A webpage has been published for the Education Initiative, go to:

[http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns Initiatives/educationinitiative.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiativ es/educationinitiative.aspx)

### ECHHO Strategic meeting

Rudolph Chavez from ECHHO met with Director Cavanaugh and PPC Director Barrera Richards to review the organization's strategic plan and assess possible opportunities for cooperation among OCHLA and ECHHO. PPC Director will follow up on proposed plan and report accordingly.

## Community Outreach (LCN)

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



## Advise:

### Puerto Rico Birth Certificates Issue

Director Cavanaugh worked closely with the Governor's Office, BMV, Puerto Rico Foreign Affairs Administration to engage with community leaders in conversations regarding the changes in the PR birth certificate regulations. Details included in the PPC's director's section of this report.

## Connect:

### Hispanic Heritage Month

Executive Director has created, populated and updated the Hispanic Heritage Month webpage. More than 100 events have been recorded on the calendar. Director and staff have participated in several events in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month as well.

### Puerto Rico Birth Certificates Issue

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### Latina Leadership Summit on October 28, 2010

The event, hosted by the Ohio Hispanic Coalition will include a panel discussion which will include Director Cavanaugh.

### Minority Health Commission

Victor Leandry has been selected to replace Sonia Troche as commissioner in the Minority Health Commission.

Director Cavanaugh has been in contact with state agencies and other organizations that are interested in reaching out to Latinos regarding information or opportunities. Among the events being promoted through our agency we include:

- USHLI—New Civic Education Program
- USHLI—2010 Student Leadership Series
- US Dept. of Health and Human Services. New Health website in Spanish
- Ohio EMA—Information for victims of natural disaster due to storms
- Ohio Secretary of State's—Voter Registration Outreach Campaign, Bilingual
- Ohio-DAS—Ohio MBE Bid Training and Opportunities
- Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission-Bilingual resources for Latinos with disabilities
- MACC Annual Conference
- Convencion Hispana, Cleveland
- Ohio Latino Cancer Summit

## Build:

Ohio Latino Health Coalition—OCHLA provided space to facilitate the planning for the Ohio Latino Health Coalition.



## Olanet

A proposal has been received from Bridgeline and a preliminary conference call was conducted to review the proposal. Revisions to the proposed plan were requested to Bridgeline and will be presented as soon as they become available.

## Staffing

Two university students from Capital University have joined our team on a volunteer basis. Sarah Wills and Courtney Winterberger have joined our team and are volunteering an average of 5 hrs a week each. Sarah has been assigned to work with Lair Marin and Courtney is working with Director Cavanaugh.

## Meetings Attended

- 01 September— Dr. John Stanford, Governor's Office
- 01 September—Dr. Juan Andrade, USHLI (Conference call)
- 02 September— Matt Colopy, Governor's Office
- 08 September— OSU Community Leaders Luncheon (Columbus)
- 08 September—C-TV Cable Show (Columbus)
- 09 September—Puerto Rico Conference call
- 10 September— Hispanic Chamber Gala (Columbus)
- 13 September—Tony P. Bridgeline (Columbus)
- 14 September—Rudolph Chavez, ECHHO (Columbus)
- 17 September—Cardinal Health (Columbus)
- 18 September—LULAC Community Awards (Cincinnati)
- 21 September—Matt Colopy, Governor's Office
- 22 September—Ohio CDC Association, Panel (Columbus)
- 24 September—MACC Conference (Columbus)
- 27 September—Senator Voinovich Recognition (Columbus)
- 29 September—Ohio Dept of Health, Panel (Columbus)
- 29 September—City of Columbus, Capacity Bldg Workshop (Columbus)

Respectfully submitted.

