Hispanic Impact
Highlighting Latinos in Ohio

Ohio | Latino Affairs Commission

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ROSA BELTRE: EMPOWERING WOMEN AND FAMILIES

MEET
ROSA BELTRÉ

Social justice promotes fairness and equity across many aspects of society, in particular the safety and security of individuals and communities. In Ohio, we have committed leaders, who are focused on working to increase advocacy, educating our communities, and providing support systems that improve the quality of life for Latinos in Ohio.

Rosa Beltre currently serves as the President and CEO of The Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence and has served in her role for 4.5 years. As head of this Nonprofit Social Justice Organization, she serves as a community leader, spokesperson and coalition builder. She also works with a wide range of constituencies across the region and beyond to further OAESV's mission, while deconstructing cultural norms of sexual violence. It is her responsibility to oversee daily operations and financial stability of OAESV as well as ensure compliance with all federal, state and local laws and regulations, advising the board on matters of policy and providing timely and accurate information to the board on organization operations.

One of Rosa's most important goals is to educate people to understand the facts about sexual violence and how it impacts families and communities. This work goes beyond awareness and requires the creation of systems to provide supports for victims. "I would like to ensure that all counties in Ohio have a rape crisis program within a 30 mile radius. We still have a long way to go in developing a movement around the prevention of sexual violence."

Motivation and passion are strong drivers for Rosa's work. She is led by the "conviction and desire that our future generations do not experience this type of victimization."

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"I have many accomplishments to celebrate in this career, but one that I am honored is to be the first LatinX Executive Director in Ohio and in the nation of a sexual violence prevention organization. A second accomplishment is the increase of funding for Rape Crisis Programs in Ohio."

OBSTACLES

"Leading with a spirit of collaboration and being service centered is [a] very difficult [obstacle] in this state. There is a lack of trust, transparency and accountability when doing this work. So many historical power dynamics and competition, that makes it difficult to sit at tables and be seen."

A servant leader is an individual committed to the idea that serving the greater good is their priority. Through their efforts, they work to build a culture of trust and encourage diversity of thought, empathy and humility.

Rosa's involvement with the nonprofit sector began while working in the corporate world and on mission trips, but the crossover to the nonprofit sector in 2004 was very intentional.

"I wanted to make a difference, not related with money and power. I started working in the nonprofit sector in workforce development, helping others come out of cycles and believe in themselves, but I am a minister and a missionary— so I have always served."

LIFE EXPERIENCES AND PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION

It is often said that life experiences build character and indeed, this has been the case for Rosa. She shows constant dedication and passion for her work and is equipped to deal daily with family discord, trauma and sexual violence which are emotionally taxing. In Rosa's case, she has been able to channel lessons learned to transform herself and become a change agent that builds our community and empowers women, families and children to reach their potential and grow together.

You can learn more about the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence and Rosa's work at:

www.oaesv.org

"I am a survivor; and I am healthy and strong enough to impact others without having to always share that fact. I had to evolve and change my views from victim to survivor."

-Rosa Beltre