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# DIRECTORS' REPORT

## OCTOBER 2010

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

### Advise

#### Legislator Briefings

PPC Director continues to send legislative briefing to legislators. The current brief focuses on Latino statistics, DHO award winners, role in Human Trafficking Advocacy Day, and a spotlight on the Scholarship Resource Center, which will be available by the end of November. The brief continues to include OCHLA's mission, offer to testify, and selected articles from the previous month.

#### Human Trafficking Advocacy

PPC Director contributed to legislative strategy for Human Trafficking Advocacy Day. Alliance members are taking part and many others are taking part in the letter-writing campaign.

#### 2010 Elections

OCHLA will be working on the ongoing project of updating legislator lists, introducing ourselves to the new members, and updating the Ohio Latino Elected Officials list.

#### Legislative Tracking

The Public Policy Center's 128<sup>th</sup> General Assembly's legislative priorities are attached.

### Connect/Build

#### Education



### ECHHO Pitch to Toledo Public Schools

Educators and Community Helping Hispanics Onward seeks to track all students it has served over the years to see what the college attendance/graduation rate has been of students, where they've attended and graduation rates. This will be accomplished through the Educational Clearinghouse.

Currently, ECHHO is in the process of collecting data on Hispanic/Latino high school graduates. ECHHO plans to target schools in Lorain, Cleveland, Toledo and Columbus to get a list of their Hispanic/Latino graduates and then run the names through the National Student Clearinghouse to track if they have enrolled in college, which postsecondary schools they have enrolled in, what academic terms they have attended and if they have graduated with a postsecondary degree.

PPC Director requested Toledo Public Schools to partake in the Clearinghouse plan. She communicated with two school board members to inquire about interest and process for such an endeavor. They are conferring with administrators over the possibility.

### Outreach to Toledo Public School

PPC Director participated in Latino Career Day with Toledo Public Schools. Career Day is an annual event geared at children who might not be considering college or would be the first in their families to attend. Speakers share information about their profession, field questions, and encourage students to pursue college study.

PPC Director shared the role and duties of OCHLA, as well as the role of government in Ohioan's lives. She brought information from many state government agencies, as well as information about OCHLA's Scholarship Resource page.

### Bullying in schools

OCHLA was contacted by the mother of a bullied child in Middletown Ohio. The child was presumed to be bullied because of his ethnicity. The child defended himself and was suspended and arrested. The mother had previously tried to get the school to intervene, but the bullying ensued. She requested help in securing a meeting with the school administration to discuss how this problem can be fixed and what type of preventive measures can be taken to ensure the safety of Huber and all other Latino youth in the school.

PPC Director connected her to LULAC and provided resources in the form of applicable statutes; school district obligations under the law to mitigate bullying; referrals to Ohio Justice and Policy Center; as well as recommendations from the Ohio Commission on Dispute Resolution, Department of Education and Ohio Poverty Law Center.

OCHLA continues to monitor the situation. LULAC continues to work with her and is working to connect her with the Legal Aid recommended.

### Scholarship Resource Center

A website has been established and content is currently being entered. PPC Director worked with several organizations to acquire content, including the Ohio Board of Regents, Cleveland Scholarship Programs and relied on general research. It will be launched by mid-November.

### Media Outreach

OCHLA periodically shares policy-related articles of interest to Latino papers in Ohio. The theme of the October article is regarding legislative advocacy. The October submission was picked up by La Prensa Toledo and Hispanic Ohio.com. An English version of the article is attached to the report.

### Workforce and Economic Development



### Workforce Investment Boards

Content continues to be developed for OLANet with each Workforce Investment Board. PPC Director has contacted each Ohio WIB for (1) vacancies and (2) process for appointment. One third of the WIBs have responded so far with the requested information.

### 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.

### Human Trafficking

#### Advocacy Day

Senator Teresa Fedor and the Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition are coordinating the Advocacy/Lobby Day to advocate for human trafficking legislation. OCHLA will participate and do outreach to OLANet subscribers. Supporters are also partaking in a letter-writing campaign if they are unable to participate.

#### Salvation Army

PPC Director met with Shannon Frasier, a representative from Salvation Army. We discussed a Spanish video conferencing initiative on Human Trafficking that Salvation Army will be conducting with Ohio Department of Job & Family Services. OCHLA will assist in publicity through OLA Net and through the Policy Brief. She was also directed Ms. Frasier toward our Alliances – so she could connect with Latino-serving agencies.

PPC Director is also undertaking the research project of discovering contacts dealing in wage theft and labor trafficking. Most of the human trafficking efforts in Central Ohio are geared toward sex trafficking.

### Meetings Attended

Latino Career Day 10/13

Ethics Training 10/05

Central Ohio Rescue and Restore – Human Trafficking - 10/06

Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) - DSCC Installation – Hispanic Heritage Month Panel 10/06

Conference Call Challenges & Choices: Higher Education and the Hispanic Community 10/07

Trafficking in Persons Study Commission 10/13

University of Cincinnati's Human Trafficking Panel 10/13

Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame 10/14

Beyond the Arizona Immigration Law: Policing Borders, Bodies, and Belonging Friday, Oct. 29, 2010

Ohio Hispanic Coalition Latina Leadership Conference 10/28



# LATINO COMMUNITY NETWORK REPORT

Lilly Cavanaugh, Acting Director-

## Strategic Initiatives

### Ohio Emerging Diversity



DISTINGUISHED  
HISPANIC  
OHIOAN AWARDS

With an attendance of over 200 guests, the Governor's Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards Gala was a success. Twenty six individuals or organizations received recognitions for their outstanding service and leadership among the Latino community in Ohio. A service recognition was presented to Mr. Henry Guzman as well during the DHO event for over 30 years of public service. Governor Ted Strickland and Department of Veteran Services Director Bill Hartnett were present to bestow the awards and support the gala. A report on the event, including photographs, awardees acceptance statements, bios, etc. is available in the Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards website page: [http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns Initiatives/dho.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiatives/dho.aspx)



### Hispanic Heritage Month—Sept 15—Oct 15th

The agency did an excellent job covering events and reporting on different activities taking place across Ohio during Hispanic Heritage Month. With more than 100 community events reported, OCHLA was able to reach out to the communities and promote their activities, while providing very useful information to state and service agencies who took advantage of the celebrations to pursue outreach activities and provide informational/educational materials to Latinos. A permanent record of the statewide activities is hosted at:

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

### Emergency Preparedness

October is National Fire Prevention Month. In collaboration with the Division of State Fire Marshal a campaign was launched designed to educate people about the importance of smoke alarms and fire safety. The Ohio Latino Affairs Commission engaged in a series of e-campaigns to promote fire safety among the Latino community, with specific guidelines on how to update and maintain home smoke alarm protection and learn about the importance of fire awareness. Bilingual educational materials, videos, flyers and handouts have been made available through our emergency preparedness webpage to ensure service agencies and community organizations have access to appropriate material to reach out and educate the community. Samples of the materials can be found at the Emergency Preparedness webpage: [http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns Initiatives/Emergencyprep.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiatives/Emergencyprep.aspx)





## Ohio Hispanic Impact Campaign

A website with resources on Latino media has been created and is hosted under the Hispanic Impact Campaign. The Latino media page is an important component of the Hispanic Impact Campaign and contains information about about 30 different media outlets catalogued by type of media (Print, TV, Radio, Web). The link to this new resource is: [http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns\\_Initiatives/Ohiolatinomedia.aspx](http://ochla.ohio.gov/Campaigns_Initiatives/Ohiolatinomedia.aspx)

## Strategic Initiatives: Workforce and Economic Development

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

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

Ohio Latino Affairs co-partnered with Emploeos and Employment for the Latino Talent & Leadership Conference. The conference was attended by close to 500 participants with representatives from across the state. Chair Mary Santiago participated as panelist in a Talent and Leadership Development session. Full details regarding the program for the day can be retrieved at:

<http://www.ee-diversityevents.com/2010conferenceprogram.html>

## 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

OCHLA coordinated one last campaign to inform the Puerto Rican community about the special procedure to handle the birth certificates issue. All special features and services have expired as of the end of October. Our agency has not been aware of any further problems or issues within the community regarding the identification of Puerto Ricans and the type of documents being accepted by the BMV.

### **Connect:**

#### Latina Leadership Summit on October 28, 2010

The Latina Leadership Summit was hosted by the Ohio Hispanic Coalition on October 28th. Director Cavanaugh participated as a panelist on the session regarding the role of Latina women in politics. Ursula Barrera-Richards was able to participate in the full event.

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:

#### Voter Registration Campaign

In collaboration with the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, the commission participated as



part of a resource team to support activities geared towards increased Latino voter registration in Ohio. This effort including launching an e-campaign with Spanish resources for voters, an explanation of the bilingual ballot, and distribution of the Voter Rights document. This information became available through the Ohio Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner and was shared with the Latino media, leadership and service organizations.

**Pertrussis [Whooping Cough] Campaign**

Ohio Latino Affairs was approached by the Columbus Health Department to request support in reaching out to the Latino community regarding Pertrussis. Increased incidences of this disease are prevalent on the Hispanic community. An outreach e-campaign and email blast was issued by our office to Latino serving organizations across the state with bilingual information that can be easily distributed to families, parents, children at school with health recommendations, safety tips and tools to identify the whooping cough, and resources from the health department.

**Build:**

**Agenda Latina**

*[NOTE: The event was originally scheduled for November; due to the busy schedule of the Race to the Top Team, it is necessary to reschedule the event until early 2011.]*

The purpose of Agenda Latina is to strengthen the connection between the Latino community leadership and the State of Ohio. We achieve this by creating an opportunity to improve communication, foster collaboration, establish coordination for specific common goals and examine/emulate best practices with a focus to develop statewide community agendas on specific subject matters.

The target audience for Agenda Latina are local leaders, partner organizations and state government. The Agenda’s approach permits state agencies to directly present their programs, challenges and needs while at the same time, listening to the priorities from the community. The core subjects for the event include:

- **Workforce and Economic Development**
  - How can we best collaborate with the Entrepreneurship & Small Business Division.
  - What other services/opportunities are there in the Department of Development that leaders should know.
  - What are Workforce Investment Boards and how can we leverage the opportunities they present in leadership and collaboration.
  
- **Education**
  - What are the implications of the recently approved Race to the Top Grant for Latinos?
  - How can Latinos help the state in moving forward efforts to increase performance levels graduation rates in the Latino community.
  
- **Social Services and Leadership Development**
  - How can community organizations partner for leadership and civic training opportunities?

**Administrative Section**

**FY 2012-2013 Budget**

A large portion of the last two weeks of October were spent in budget preparation. The complete pack-



age has been submitted per the guidelines on November 1st. A report on the budget scenario for FY12-13 will be presented at the next board meeting.

## Meetings Attended

- 14 October—Civil Rights Commission Induction (Columbus)
- 14 October—Latino Leadership Diversity Conference (Columbus)
- 14 October—DHO Gala (Columbus)
- 16 October—Convencion Hispana (Cleveland)
- 20 October—Irene Cooper, Dept of Development (Columbus)
- 26 October—Fiduciary Training (Columbus)
- 28 October—Ohio Latina Leadership Summit (Columbus)

Respectfully submitted.

