



Ohio

Latino Affairs
Commission

2019 Annual Report

Fellow Ohioans,

As we approach the end of another decade in the new millennium, we want to thank you for supporting the work of our Latino Affairs Commission. Indeed, this last year has been filled with change, challenges and opportunities. It has been rewarding to build relationships with Governor DeWine's administration and the 133rd General Assembly. Our focus has been on executing strategies that build empowerment, sustainability and progress with a strong emphasis on representation, inclusion, cultural sensitivity and language access for Hispanic Ohioans. In 2019, we launched our Census 2020 efforts, supported Latino grassroots organizations and their leaders, strengthened newly created Latino Networks in the lower Northeast including Akron, Canton and Youngstown. The Latino Leaders Collaboratives in Cincinnati and Toledo met regularly with their elected officials and our team continued to strengthen connections in Dayton, Fremont, Painesville, Springfield and all major metro areas across Ohio. Our feature Education and Health Summits attracted hundreds of experts, academics, leaders and government leaders to continue to build synergies and understanding about challenges as well as best practices and successful models that result in quality education and health equity for our communities.

The population growth among ethnic minorities, migrants, refugees and new Americans in Ohio has provided a unique opportunity to showcase the versatility of the Latino Affairs Commission. Our experienced team is regularly sought by state and federal agencies to provide expertise and insight on outreach strategies, diversity and inclusion efforts. In 2019, we worked closely with statewide programs including the Office of New Americans, Recovery Ohio's community conversations, Trauma Informed Care Initiatives hosted by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Ohio's Secretary of State's outreach efforts, and Ohio Department of Education to name a few. Furthermore, by growing our social media footprint, we have diligently connected directly with the public and continue to increase access to information, resources and government to New Americans across Ohio.

We welcome 2020 with enthusiasm, commitment and drive as we continue to build capacity, advise state government on issues affecting Latinos and connect our communities.

On behalf of our Board of Commissioners and team,



Mary Santiago
Chair



Lilleana Cavanaugh, MBA, CPM
Executive Director

Our Team

Commissioners



Chair
Mary Santiago



Vice Chair
Manuel Lopez



Secretary
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Jose. C Feliciano Jr.



Dr. Elena Foulis



Michael Florez



Gregory Guzmán, PhD



Dan Molina



Rev. Juan Rivera



Emanuel Torres



Anthony Simms-Howell

Staff



Executive Director
Lilly Cavanaugh



Public Policy Officer
Carly McCain



Community Liason
Lair-Marin Marcum



Administrative Professional
Annette Reyes



Social Media and Outreach
Caeli Barnes



Organizational Development
Mary Grace Sanchez

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Our Mission

To Advise State Government on issues affecting Hispanic Ohioans

To Build the diverse Latino communities across the state

To Connect the capacity of community organizations so they may better serve the fast growing population of Ohio

Core Values

BUILD cooperation and understanding between Hispanic Ohioans and government by providing resources and informing state leaders on issues impacting Hispanic Ohioans

COLLABORATE with the community to promote engagement, education, and inclusion to ensure Latinos are part of the fabric of this state

PARTNER with state agencies to ensure equity and access to culturally relevant programs and services for Latinos

IDENTIFY matters impacting the Latino community through policy analysis and data driven research to form the foundation for systematic change in state government

ENGAGE with the national Latino agenda and align our initiatives with efforts that seek to empower and integrate Latinos in the United States

PLAN the work of the commission based upon the outlined strategic priorities that meet the needs of the Latino community

ENCOURAGE new ideas and support acceptance of differing ideas and beliefs

Public Policy Officer: Carly McCain

Introducing our new Public Policy Officer!

Carly was born in Cali, Colombia and raised in Milford, Ohio. She attended Miami University, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and German in 2017. Following graduation, she worked at the Ohio House of Representatives as a Legislative Aide for two years. In May, she started serving as the Public Policy Officer at the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/ Latino Affairs, a role in which she is responsible for advising the Governor, General Assembly and state agencies on challenges and opportunities regarding Hispanic Ohioans. Carly also participates in policy shaping task forces and committees that concern and affect the Latino community. She works closely with leaders and commission members to build civic engagement, increase Latino participation in government and build rapport between elected officials and the community.



“As Public Policy Officer, one of my favorite aspects of the role is to interact with the state legislature, and state agencies on opportunities and challenges facing Hispanic/Latino Ohioans. In doing so, I am able to work with mentors and colleagues from previous jobs on sharing my community’s perspective on issues and ensuring that our voice is heard and considered.”

Our Mission...

ADVISE

COMMUNICATE
BUILT

EL GRAN IMPACTO/ THE BIG IMPACT

The purpose of the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission is to **ADVISE** government on issues affecting Hispanic Ohioans, to **CONNECT** diverse Latino Communities across the state, and to **BUILD** capacity of community organizations so they may better serve the fast growing population of Ohio.

Community Visits

160

ADVISE

1,246

OCHLA Latino
Event Attendees

291

Constituents Helped

CONNECT

\$61,650

In Partnership
Investments

Social Media Followers

Facebook: 2313

Instagram: 440

Twitter: 909

Community Speaking
Engagements

36

56

Number of Partnerships
This Year

5,778

Intern/VISTA Volunteer
Hours

BUILD

224

Agency Collaborations

[Committees and Councils]



Our team of professionals often provide expert guidance about Latinos and other ethnic minorities. Our knowledge in government and community relations, outreach, leadership development and cross cultural communications makes a difference as we support government entities to become more inclusive and assertive in their service to all communities across Ohio. The Commission plays an advisory role in the following groups:





VISTA
Volunteers in Service to America

Ohio

Latino Affairs
Commission

In January 2019, the Latino Affairs Commission became an AmeriCorp Vista Program site. The Vista Program not only provides the commission invaluable services, but it also gives us the opportunity to impact the experience of those selected to serve in our team.



Mary Grace Sanchez

My name is Mary Grace Sanchez and I am a 2019 Otterbein University graduate. I have a Bachelor's in Global Studies with concentration in Latin America, as well as a minor in Political Science and Race and Ethnic Studies. I became an AmeriCorp VISTA to gain exposure and experience in a professional field. In addition, I want to volunteer and share my knowledge and talents in a program that builds the Latino community. I am the Organizations Development Coordinator and I assist in building the capacity of community organizations to decrease poverty and improve the quality of life for Latinos. A large focus of my work involves searching for grant opportunities, promoting training opportunities, creating newsletters to share resources and assisting Latino serving organizations. Since my start at the Commission, I have been able to gain perspective into the needs of Ohio non-profits. On a regular basis, I interact with Ohio's Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, the three new Northeast Ohio Latino networking groups and the Latino Connection. Since beginning my service year, the Commission has not only given me work skills, but they have taken the time to develop and coach me so that I can be ready for whatever my next step may be.



Caeli Barnes

My name is Caeli Barnes and I graduated from The Ohio State University in May 2019. I have a Bachelor's in English with a concentration on Writing, Rhetoric and Literacy, and a minor in studio art. I became an Americorp Vista to develop a professional portfolio, but also to give back to the community. While I am not a Latina, I am a minority woman and understand the importance of encouraging the prosperity of minority communities. At OCHLA, I am the Social Media and Outreach Coordinator. I create daily posts for the Commission's social media to promote its work with and for the Ohio community. My role is to help connect various Ohio Latino communities and to promote resources available for the Latino community. So far, my portfolio has grown significantly and my graphic design skills have been refined. I have also learned so much about Latino culture and the needs of this unique community. I am grateful for this experience and excited for the opportunities to which it will lead.

AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) members bring passion and perseverance where the need is greatest: to organizations that help eradicate poverty. AmeriCorps VISTA members serve as a catalyst for change, living and working alongside community members to meet our nation's most pressing challenges and advance local solutions.

"Our Americorp Vista Members add versatility to our team; they bring new perspectives, ideas and enthusiasm. It is rewarding to see them deepen their cross cultural and language skills, while learning the importance of public service."

-Lilleana Cavanaugh, OCHLA Executive Director



Preparing for Census 2020



Census 2020 will take place from March through July of 2020.

United States
**Census
2020**

The Latino population in Ohio has more than doubled since the year 2000. Our Commission proactively engaged in 2019 to lead efforts, build collaborations and create partnership opportunities to ensure that all people are counted. Through community events, social media and our networks, we work steadfast to ensure our communities understand the importance of the Census 2020 and actively participate in the count.

“This census will probably be the most important, most critical in the history of the count”

You matter.
Be counted.

OHIO CENSUS
ADVOCACY COALITION



“The Census matters to me because it allows me to represent my community for the next 10 years. By participating in the 2020 Census, I know that I am supporting my county and state. An accurate count for the growing population means stronger support for our schools, hospitals, public transportation, and so much more. I am participating in the 2020 census to make sure my voice is heard and that our Latino population continues to have access to the services that are tied to an accurate count in 2020.”

- Pedro David Mejia,
Community Relations Coordinator
Columbus, OH

Latinos Count in the 2020 Census

The 2020 Census matters to the Latino community. Census data is used to allocate seats and draw district lines for the U.S. House of Representatives; state legislatures and local governing boards. The Census also dictates how much federal assistance reaches states, localities and families. In short, the Census count will impact all of us, affecting schools, housing, health care services, business investments and much more.

Census 2020 Kick Off: 2019 Festival Latino



Census 2020 Kick Off: 2019 Festival Latino

August 9 & 10, 2019: Columbus, Ohio

Festival Latino began as a five-hour pilot project by the City of Columbus in 1996. After an overwhelming response, it expanded to a two-day event a year later in 1997. This annual event offers lively music, dancing in the streets, cultural and arts workshops for children and adults, Latin- American cuisine, and community information tents. Over the years, Festival Latino has continued to flourish and grow in number of performing artists, workshops, vendors, participating community groups, and audience. As Census 2020 approaches, OCHLA participated in the Festival Latino as an opportunity to inform the Latino Community about the importance of this count.



Alongside its partners which included

NALEO, Census 2020, City of Columbus Complete Count Committee, The Children's Defense Fund, Ohio's Census Coalition, Proyecto Mariposas, La Mega and its volunteers, the Commission staged an engaging booth for Latinos and their families. Bilingual, easy to understand materials were made available, questions were answered and the Census was explained. Sample forms were shared and children in particular were engaged. Proyecto Mariposas did an amazing job working with the kids and building our "All Children Count" banner where children placed a signed hand demonstrating their families' pledge to be counted in 2020.



Census 2020: Educating and Building Momentum The Big Table Conversation



Census 2020: Educating and Building Momentum| The Big Table Conversation

August 28, 2019: Martin de Porres Center

The Big Table is a day of community building through conversations designed to connect and inspire central Ohio. Through open, thoughtful conversations, participants spark new relationships and new ways of working together by deepening our understanding of each other and what the community needs. Like hundreds of hosts around central Ohio, OCHLA partnered with The Columbus Foundation, The Children's Defense Fund, Proyecto Mariposas, The Dominican Sisters of Peace, and Common Spirit to host a Big Table Conversation. The guided conversation included civic leaders, advocates, members of the faith community, youth leaders, and students and focused on understanding the Latino community's perception about the Census, their concerns

and challenges. The conversation

focused specifically on the need to count

children, the elderly, those with special needs and those who do not speak, read or write English. Topics regarding the use of technology, access to the internet and support services to complete the Census form were covered. The value of this interaction is the opportunity to hear first-hand from the community and their leaders. Furthermore, representatives from the various groups offered programs their organizations could establish to reach the Latino community and discussed informational resources that could be provided to increase participation on the Census 2020.



Community Engagement Capacity Building



**Building the capacity of community so we may
serve the fast growing population of Ohio**



CHIP Lorain Leadership Conference

The Commission is honored to support the longest standing leadership conference for Latinos in Ohio through CHIP in Lorain. This event seeks to build leaders and promote Latino participation in the greater community by increasing their involvement in civic life. The conference focuses on women and youth development with a robust array of workshops, nationally renowned speakers and local partners who work to establish long term relationships to create leadership pipelines.



NHCC 2019 Conference

The Latino Affairs Commission partnered with the National Hispanic Corporate Council to bring their first summit to Columbus, Ohio. The event focused on the latest corporate best practices in talent, supplier diversity, marketing, community relations, and executive leadership within the Hispanic, diversity and inclusion space.

Midwest Regional Hearing for Census 2020

Columbus hosted the National Latino Commission on the Census Midwest Region meeting, an event that attracted over 50 representatives from Ohio and bordering states to provide testimony about the Census 2020 implementation. The findings from five national regional conversations culminated in a national report presented in Washington DC to federal entities and members of Congress during May 2019.



Census 2020 Faith Leaders Meet- Up

Executive Director, Lilly Cavanaugh, met with Latino/Hispanic Faith based leaders to engage in a discussion to formulate plans to prepare for the 2020 Census at the United Way of Central Ohio.



International Women's Conference

On March 7th, 2019 The Ohio Latino Affairs Commission partnered with Maryan Abbi Dualle, Executive Director of Global Health Education & Development to celebrate the 2019 International Women's Day "IWD" at the Ohio Statehouse. Senator Tina Maharath presented a very inspirational Keynote Speech. Franklin County Commissioner Kevin L. Boyce emphasized the importance of the 2020 Census.



2019 Ohio Latino Health Summit



**“We are no longer passing by,
we ARE Ohio”**

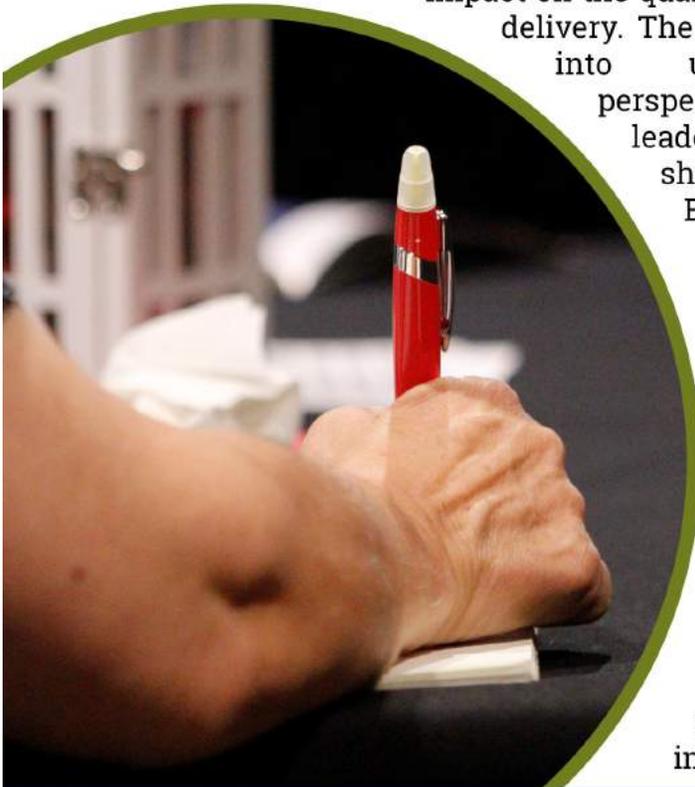
2019 Ohio Latino Health Summit

October 8, 2019: The Ohio State University

"We are no longer passing by, we ARE Ohio" These remarks from Executive Director Lilly Cavanaugh set the tone for this year's 2019 Ohio Latino Health Summit, as she encouraged attendees to celebrate the Latino presence in Ohio: a place no longer the bridge to a new destination, but home and a destination itself. As Ohio's Hispanic population has more than tripled since 1980, the dynamics of the community have changed. Latinos are a robust, well established and growing community woven into the fabric of the state. The Latino Health Summit was held at The Ohio State University's Fawcett Center and attracted health care providers, administrators, non-profits, government entities and community representatives to learn about the transition from cultural competency to cultural humility and its impact on the quality of health care delivery. The summit thrust deeply into understanding patients'

perspective on services, the critical importance of faith leaders in healthcare and how service providers should demystify the use of interpreting services. Experts explained disparities and barriers to equitable care for Latino patients and shared strategies to build pipelines that encourage ethnic minorities to pursue health careers. Keynote Speaker Lisa Stewart. Senior Engagement Officer at the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) spoke about research's engagement of stakeholders as partners in study design, implementation and analysis. Kim Kehl, M.S, Trauma Informed Coordinator at the OhioMHAS covered the landscape of trauma informed care and how recent demographic changes are creating a new set of challenges as we work across race/ethnicities, special populations, new immigrants and refugees.

Keynote Speaker:
Lisa Stewart



Recognizing Our Contributions to Ohio: 2019 Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards Gala



2019 Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards Gala

October 26, 2019: Sheraton Columbus

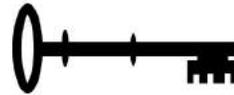
October 26, 2019 marked the 39th year of the Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards Gala. Each year, the commission presents three award types to acknowledge Latino leaders, those who support Latino empowerment, and men and women who serve or have served in the military. In 2019, twenty one such recognitions were made to outstanding community members. The Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan awardees were recognized for working steadfastly to ensure their communities become a better place for Latinos. Military Service of Distinction awardees are Latinos in uniform who have served our country honorably and continue to contribute to their community, state and country in an exemplary manner. Finally, Nuestra Familia awardees are non-Hispanic individuals or organizations that encourage the inclusion of Latinos in Ohio and are committed to making Ohio a welcoming place to all.

This year's Keynote Speaker was Judge Marilyn Zayas who is the first Latina elected to any Ohio Court of Appeals, the highest ranking Latina judge in Ohio and the first Latina Judge to sit on any Ohio Supreme Court case. She delivered a moving speech about her humble beginnings and how the fundamental people along the way who encouraged her with the Spanish phrase "Si se puede" helped contribute to her success today. She also presented about the work she does with community youth to pass on the "Si se puede" mentality and drive forward our future generations.



GRANT FUNDING

La Llave Award



Through the 2018 DHO Gala, the Commission was able to provide funding to establish an endowed scholarship fund to benefit students at Lorain County Community College. The scholarship fund, named La Llave or “The Key” in Spanish, will be awarded to a Lorain County Community College Student during the upcoming 2020 Spring Semester. This award can be utilized for the entire cost of education: including books and transportation. Non-traditional students of Hispanic origin with a GPA of 2.4 are strongly encouraged to apply for this scholarship. To-date 13 students have applied. The College looks forward to sharing more information on the first La Llave recipient and their success in the future!



*Lorain County
Community College*

Engagement & Collaboration Advancing the Latino Agenda



**Offering a hub of information for and about
Hispanic/Latinos with a specific focus on
connecting the diverse Latino communities
of Ohio**



Hispanic Heritage Month Discussion Panel

Executive Director, Lilly Cavanaugh participated in the Hispanic Heritage Month Panel at the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation. She and Franklin County Coroner, Dr. Anahi Ortiz, discussed the importance of cultural competency, debunked common stereotypes about the Latino community and explained what makes the Ohio Latino population so unique.



Cincinnati Latino Leader Collaborative

The Latino Leaders collaborative met with representatives from local, state and federal government to focus on issues affecting the Latino community in their areas. This group focused on projects dealing with bullying prevention, unaccompanied children, education and health equity.

Hispanic/Latino Collaborative

OCHLA connected with the community at the Hispanic/Latino Collaborative of Franklin County meeting at Mount Carmel. Look at all the amazing programs our community has to offer!



Akron Latino Networking Group

Akron Latino continues to build relationships with local partners as OCHLA worked with them to plan and prepare for the Census2020 and tackle other important local issues and opportunities impacting Latinos.

Canton Latino Networking Group

OCHLA convened with Canton leaders to network, update and strategize on 2020 work plans. At a recent meeting, the special guest was Vantage Aging Workforce Solutions which offers training opportunities for older adults with 38 counties.





Toledo Latino Leaders Collaborative

The Toledo Leaders Collaborative brings together government representatives and Latino leaders to work on issues affecting Hispanics and projects that increase opportunities. In 2019, the collaborative implemented its ECHO (Exposing Careers to Hispanic Ohioans) Initiative, a program to expose younger Hispanic Ohioans to in-demand careers. They also hosted Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz to strategize about city priorities and collaborations.

National Latino Commission on Census 2020

Executive Director Cavanaugh was selected to represent the Midwest Region in the National Latino Commission on the Census. The purpose of this commission was to compile crucial information about the impact of the challenges facing Census 2020 on achieving a fair and accurate count of the Latino community and all of our nation's residents.



Youngstown Latino Networking Group

Launched in 2019, this network is working with local leaders and nonprofits to gather information and resources on initiatives geared for the community. Of interest is the work underway to support families resettled from Puerto Rico, Central and South America, and focusing on increasing support systems for Spanish speakers in their communities.



19th Annual Dayton Hispanic Heritage Festival

Newly appointed Commissioner Manuel Lopez supported this year's Dayton Hispanic Heritage Festival. The event allows communities to learn about different countries, traditions, art and culture. Likewise, the festival presents a great opportunity to share information and resources about Latino serving organizations in the area.



OCHLA PUBLICATIONS

Part of our mandate as a state commission is highlighting Latino leadership in Ohio. Through our Hispanic Impact Campaign and Latino Community Highlight publications, we bring the stories of individuals who through their daily activities reflect the values, commitment and dedicated service that build community and impact positively our society.

Among those leaders highlighted in 2019, we have Dr. Anahi Ortiz, Franklin County Coroner and Jaclyn Rohaly, a first-generation Cuban who was recently elected to serve in Pickerington City Council.



HISPANIC IMPACT

HIGHLIGHTING LATINOS IN OHIO

Ohio | Latino Affairs
Commission

Dr. Anahi Ortiz
Franklin County Coroner

November 19, 2019

27

Get to Know the Doctor That Studies the Dead to Save the Living

What if the secret to longevity was located in the tombs? While this question might conjure imagery of an Indiana Jones adventure, the reality lies within the walls of the Franklin County Coroner's Office. Dr. Anahi Ortiz is a coroner and she researches the causes of patterned deaths. By studying the deceased she hopes to save the living. I had the pleasure of interviewing Dr. Ortiz where she provided insight into her role as the Franklin County coroner. While we discussed her career, we also delved into her journey as a Latina woman accessing an otherwise esoteric field. To read the full interview please visit ochla.ohio.gov/About-Us/Hispanic-Impact



"Through my career as a physician, I worked hard, and I hope I've helped a few of my patients to make their lives a little bit better than what their lives were before."

"I grew up in an underserved community with terrible healthcare and I really didn't want that happening to everyone."

A portrait of Jaclyn Rohaly, a woman with long dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a maroon blazer over a black top and a pearl necklace. The portrait is set against a dark blue background with three overlapping circles in teal, lime green, and yellow-green.

Latino Community Highlight

Ohio | Latino Affairs
Commission

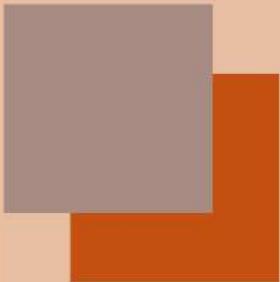
Jaclyn Rohaly

December 5, 2019

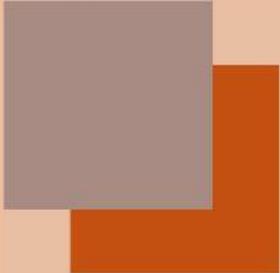
[Jaclyn Rohaly is taking action]



Meet Jaclyn Rohaly, a first generation Cuban who was recently appointed to the Pickerington City Council. Because this is such a great accomplishment for Latina women and the Latino community as a whole, we decided to conduct a brief interview with Jaclyn to discuss her new role and to learn about her goals for this position. To read the full interview please visit ochla.ohio.gov/About-Us/Hispanic-Impact.

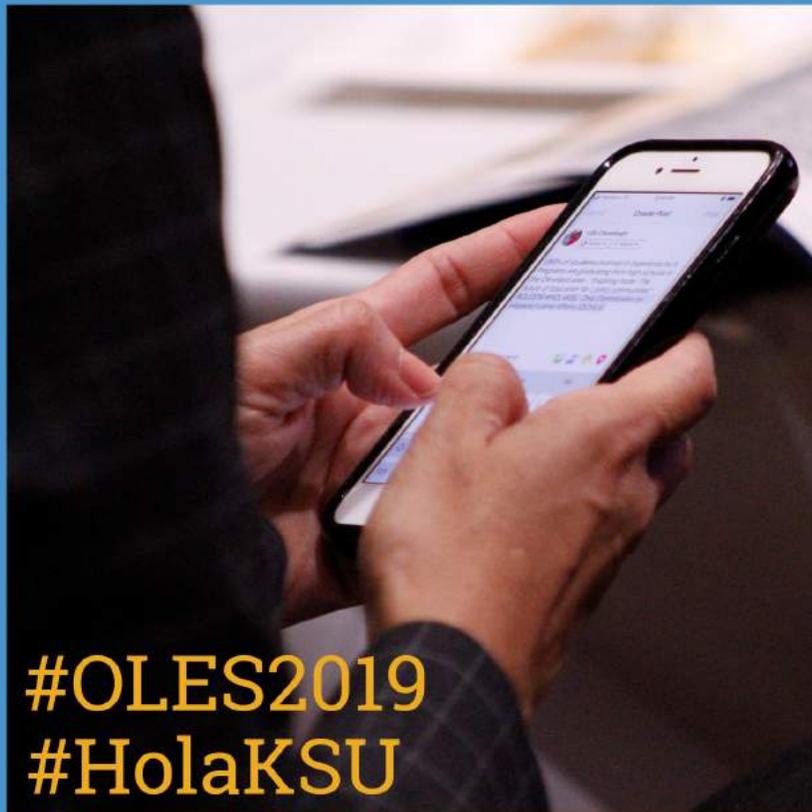


“I wanted to be the person not just behind the scenes, but to be the person out front actually being able to do the work to help those who need it and to serve my community.”



“Don't give up. If it's something you're passionate about and want to do, I would say pursue it.”

2019 Ohio Latino Education Summit



#OLEs2019
#HolaKSU

2019 Ohio Latino Education Summit

November 8, 2019: Kent State University

This year's 2019 Ohio Latino Education Summit was held on November 8th at Kent State University. The theme was "Inspiring Resilience: Equity Partnerships, and Quality Schools." Educators, administrators and policy makers from around the state congregated to participate in a day focused on bettering the education of not only Latinos but all students. Our Executive Director Lilly Cavanaugh stated: "Today we aren't focused on what is broken, but we are concentrated on how far we have come, and where we will be in the near future." The enthusiastic audience of over 500 participants – many of them high school and college students – who along with academics, leaders, advocates, teachers, counselors and administrators tackled important topics on how to build resilience and build equity, partnerships and quality schools. The summit was a combination of lectures, panels, group discussions and networking opportunities. Practitioners presented their programs, including Germaine Pena

and Yasin Cuevas, from Esperanza Inc., in Cleveland, who presented on the

importance of mentorship programs for educational success.

Ohio Department of Education's Superintendent Paolo de Maria addressed participants and presented the department's vision as they implement their strategic plan "Each Child Our Future" to ensure that each student is challenged, prepared and empowered for his or her future by way of an excellent prekindergarten through grade 12 (preK-12) education. Keynote Speaker Mary Jean Gallagher, former Chief Student Achievement Officer and assistant Deputy Minister of the Ontario Ministry of Education in Canada spoke about education improvement and the search for excellence and equity in systems that serve a broad range of ethnic minority students. Finally, Pastor Luis Vizcarrondo, a local transformational man and mentor was presented the "La Cumbre" (The Summit) Award, to recognize his work and investment in educational endeavors that lift up the Latino community.



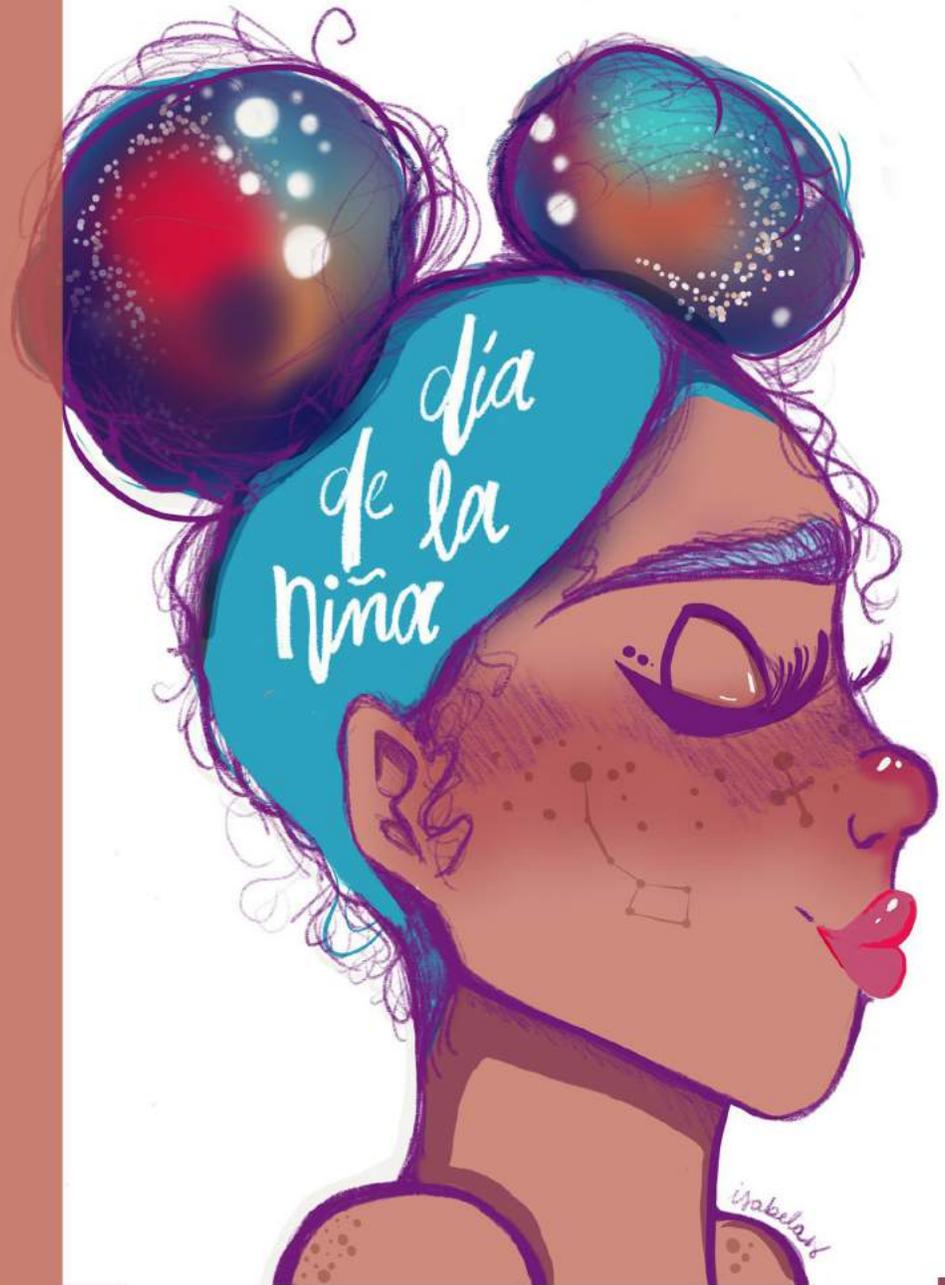
Keynote Speaker
Mary Jean
Gallagher



La Cumbre
Awardee:
Pastor Luis
Vizcarrondo

FEATURED

COMMUNITY EVENT



Yahaira Rose

"The Ohio Commission of Hispanic and Latino Affairs has been a key partner to Proyecto Mariposas and Dominican Sisters of Peace (Martin de Porres Center). Because of OCHLA, we are able to provide resources and tools to the community we serve. This partnership is helping us become stronger, more informed and connected."



Proyecto Mariposas

valiente y fuerte
Latinas

Día de la Niña (Day of the Girl)

At Proyecto Mariposas, we believe that every woman and girl can live a life that is healthy if she has the support, tools, resources and mentors to empower and encourage her. The 7th annual Day of the Girl (Día de la Niña) offered a space for girls and their families to share community, culture and resources. This year with the help of ADAMH, Dominican Sisters of Peace and OCHLA, the day of the girl provided resources on 2020 Census, cultural dances and featured our 2nd annual Brave and Strong Awards of girls representing leadership in their schools and community.



UPCOMING IN 2020

Connected through regional collaboratives, our board of commissioners, staff and social media networks, we strive to actively listen and respond to the changing needs of the growing Latino community in Ohio. In 2020, the commission will continue featuring some of its key events. Please follow us in social media and visit our website to learn more about opportunities to partner and cultivate relationships with Hispanic Ohioans.



@OCHLA



@ochla_oh



@OCHLA_OH



Agenda Latina

The purpose of Agenda Latina is to strengthen the connections between the Latino community leadership and organizations with the state of Ohio. This event is designed to help build capacity for Latino Serving Organizations of Ohio by offering information on topics such as, effective governance, preservation of culture, etc. OCHLA's aim is to help improve communication within organizations, foster collaboration between entities, establish coordination, examine and emulate best practices, and to develop a statewide community agenda on specific subject matters. The Organizations Development Center works to procure experts in non-profit instruction in order to provide these organizations with tools and resources to help them become more sustainable and effective within their communities.

The Ohio Hispanic Legislative Visit Day is a major part of the Commission's strategy to engage our constituents, and expand their ability to make well-informed decisions in regards to civic engagement. Nonprofit leaders, community advocates, and Hispanic business leaders come together for a day filled with meetings with Ohio legislators, and practical instruction on state government and the means to access it. There is also an opportunity during the lunch hour for exhibitors, legislators, community leaders, and constituents to network and establish constructive connections across the state of Ohio. OCHLA's Legislative Visit Day typically takes place at the Ohio Statehouse and Hispanic media outlets from all over the state cover the event each year.



Hispanic Legislative Visit Day

Our Partners and Collaborators

Census 2020



Community Organizations



Corporations



Our Partners and Collaborators

Government Agencies



Education



Health



Community Testimonials



"I wanted to let you know that we received 501 (c) 3 non-profit status and will begin serving in Fremont in 2020. Thank you for all your support and contribution in giving us direction and guidance. I cannot overstate how valuable the Latino Affairs Commission is to our Latino communities in Ohio! "

-Lydia Alejandro, La Voz de la Comunidad, Inc.

"I would like to thank you again for all the help on planning and execution of last Saturday's event (The Dark World of Human Trafficking). It is a great honor to know you and receive such valuable logistics information. We know that we will grow professionally with your help, but even more as human beings."

- Norma Cruz, Alianza614



"Thank you for all the support and guidance you provided to me in preparation for my keynote address. The event was wonderful. All the honorees were very inspirational. You did an amazing job."

- Judge Marilyn Zayas

**Ohio Latino Affairs Commission
Riffe Center- 18th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

**Office: (614) 466-8333
Fax: (614) 995-0896**

**Homepage:
<http://ochla.ohio.gov/>**

