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MARCH, 2013

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's – Health, Voting, Education

- Compiled research and created graphs for an LCR on the Hispanic voting turnout in the November 2012 election. Oversaw the drafting of the LCR by OCHLA intern. LCR will issue first in time for April 9 board meeting.
- Began research on education LCR regarding Governor's proposed "Achievement Everywhere plan" which will also feature an update on Ohio's Race to the Top Implementation and its effects on Latino students. We will draft this LCR in the Spring and issue it in the Summer.

Legislator Engagement

- Worked with legislators on both the budget and on federal Deferred Action issues as they interact with state law. See below.

Biennial Budget

Solicited, and submitted testimony from 11 organizations and community leaders on behalf of OCHLA's budget and requested additional appropriation. They included (live testimony denoted with *):

- LULAC Ohio, via Director Lourdes Ribera
- City of Columbus, via Guadalupe Velasquez
- Nick Torres, of Ohio Voice and DREAM Activist Ohio
- Jessica Ramos, Attorney at ABLE*
- Dr. Yung-Chen Lu, of the Asian and Pacific Islanders Advisory Council*



- Ken Ramos, of the Columbus Police and Columbus Hispanic Chamber
- Mike Ferrer, of the coalition for Hispanic Issues and Progress*
- Arian Ulloa-Olavarrieta, of the Latino SBDC*
- Jose Cos, of Molina Health Care
- Rafi Rodriguez, of the Ohio Center for Hispanic Leadership*
- Lorena Mora-Mowry, founder of Mujer Latina Today*
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- Emailed the House Finance Committee, the Primary and Secondary Education Subcommittee and the Commission's legislators to inform them of our request and ask them to support our budget
- Met with the Governor's personnel and boards and commissions staff regarding our additional request. Continued to work with the Governor's office on obtaining their approval for our request.
- Per the suggestion of Commissioner Romero, worked with an intern to research OCHLA's entire budget history, adjusted those figures for inflation into 2012 dollars, and researched/estimated Ohio's Hispanic population all the way back to fiscal year 1977. Graphed the results (attached).
- Updated Commissioners and the community on our budget efforts and where the Commission sits in the process.
- Began planning testimony for the Senate side of the budget process.

Deferred Action and Ohio law and policy

Worked with Ohio officials and community advocates to bring both to a better understanding of the interaction between Ohio law and the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. The chief interactions regard driver's licenses and tuition equity. Specifically:

- Met with and informed state administration officials to discuss DACA and driver's licenses and in-state tuition. They included the Governor's Director of Minority Affairs, the Attorney General's State Director and the Attorney General himself.
- Submitted letters from Ohio attorneys and advocates, from LULAC Ohio, from the Cincinnati Arch-Diocese, from Senator Nina Turner, and from Representatives Reese, Driehaus and Ramos to the Governor, Attorney General and the BMV.
- Met with community advocates on both issues, and helped connect them to administrators and policy-makers in positions of influence. Attended meetings with Karen Scheid, formerly of the Ohio Board of Regents, helped to set up meetings between community leaders and administrators at Wright State University, Columbus State Community College, Ohio State and others.
- Attended some of these meetings, serving as a resource for both the law and for contacts in state government and, vice versa, in our community.
- Updated the community and commissioners on updates to these policies
- Fielded dozens of constituent inquiries on driver's licenses



Attorney General—Hispanic Outreach

Met with staffers at Attorney General DeWine’s office to plan and begin executing a plan to expand their office’s engagement with their Hispanic constituents. Will draft a plan to share with Commissioners at the April 9th meeting.

Connect/ Build

Outreach to Community

Publicized updates on DACA to the community. Worked to update the community and ask for their support on the budget process. Planned an article on the Governor’s Achievement Everywhere education plan for inclusion in our new policy briefs. Planned and outlined new policy briefs, which I plan to resume issuing in the first week of April.

Public Policy Center Website Updates

- Met with several Kenyon volunteers regarding the OCHLA website and the unfinished PPC portion of it. Drafted an outline of the PPC issue and bill pages, and created a timeline for the update of the PPC section. Will work with interns, and present an example to Commissioners on April 9th.

Civic Engagement

- Helped community advocates to gain access to state government officials and legislators regarding advocacy on OCHLA’s budget, driver’s licenses and tuition equity.

Legislation Monitored

- Combed through all legislation thus far introduced in the 130th General Assembly, and began drafting an update to the community regarding those bills. This will issue with that first new policy brief, the first week of April.

Education Summit

OCHLA’s Latino Education Summit was a very practical, impactful event. The event helped to execute all three of the Commission’s mandates. First, the event’s primary goal was to *connect* Ohio Hispanics in education, and those at institutions that serve them, to each other. We had around 135 attendees from very disparate backgrounds and organizations. They represented school districts with major Latino populations, including Dayton, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Springfield. We also have representatives from institutions of higher education – Ohio State, Sinclair, Terra Community College, Cuyahoga Community College, Wright State and NKU, just to name several. Leaders of private non-profit groups dedicated to improving the education of Ohio Hispanics, such as ECCHO and El Puente, for example, were also present. Last, the event drew community leaders and those that work with Ohio’s Hispanic students and advocate on their behalf.

All of these people came together, learned about each other, networked; and they shared best practices, resources and data. The impact will be a leap in the capacity of the attendant organizations to serve their Hispanic students. Put another way, the event *built* capacity for organizations that serve Ohio Hispanics to serve them more competently. It was also important for policy reasons. Many attendees



had a chance to network with the Chairwoman of the Senate Education Committee – Peggy Lehner. Senator Lehner also attended presentations and learned much about the achievement gaps facing Ohio’s Hispanic students and the most effective current means to close them. Participants also met and spoke with Senator Charleta Tavares, who authored last year’s tuition equity bill in the Senate. In both cases, OCHLA brought community advocates and legislators together to *advise* them on the issues facing their Hispanic students – just in an education context. Advocates also spoke with representatives from community colleges about extending in-state tuition to DACA recipients, and I made my services available for connecting attendees with legislators and state government resources. The result will hopefully be a more aware, politically engaged community focused on educating Ohio Hispanics, and key decision-makers becoming aware of the opportunities and challenges for Ohio’s Hispanic students.

Constituent Inquiries

- Handled dozens of constituent inquiries regarding DACA and Driver’s Licenses. Helped one in particular – Jose Mendez of Cleveland – to obtain his license.

Meetings Attended

- 3/1/13 – Latino Education Summit, Wright State University
- 3/4/13 – Press conference from Senator Tavares on tuition equity, Ohio Statehouse
- 3/5/13 – Nick Torres of Ohio Voice and Jessica Ramos of ABLE
- 3/6/13 – Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine
- 3/11/13 – Lynn Stevens, Director of Minority Affairs for Governor Kasich
- 3/12/13 – Commissioner conference call update on meeting with Attorney General
- 3/12/13 – Conference call on 2013 Health Summit
- 3/14/13 – Meeting with Governor’s Staff on OCHLA Budget
- 3/19/13 – House Finance Committee public testimony on biennial budget
- 3/19/13 – Latino scholarship dinner at Ohio State
- 3/20/13 – House Finance Committee public testimony on biennial budget
- 3/20/13 – Breakfast with national racial profiling expert David Harris at the Ohio ACLU
- 3/20/13 – Conference call with Cristina Farr regarding presentation on DACA
- 3/21/13 – House Finance Committee public testimony on biennial budget
- 3/22/13 – Meeting with AG DeWine’s staff regarding Hispanic outreach initiative
- 3/25/13 – Coffee update with Nick Torres, Jessica Ramos



Organizations Development Center (ODC) Report & Latino Community Network (LCN) Report

Lilly Cavanaugh-Acting Officer

Improved Service Delivery-

Website:

- New layout design implemented on home page to better display information
- Added Public Records Policy hyperlink to homepage
- Created new items for the “Latest News Section” of the homepage
- New page created and resources added for the [Civil Rights Summit](#) on April 23, 2013
- New page created and documentation added for the [Hispanic Education Summit](#) 2013
- Added videos and Best Practices to the Education Summit Page
- Updated the [Latino Community Network](#) Resource pages and Media List
- Update the [Monthly Reports](#) and Minutes pages

Facebook and Twitter—Regularly post and update information to Social Media Networks. The commission has now more than 300 followers in Facebook.

Capacity Building

The LCN and ODC are tasked to implement and support the following events:

Latino Education Summit—March 1st, 2013

The Education Summit had close to 135 participants and was very successful. A full report on the impact of the Latino Education summit is included in the Public Policy Section. Partners for the event include Wright State University, El Puente, Springfield City Schools, Sinclair Community College, the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission and its Education Chair, Mr. Tony Ortiz. The event was co-chaired by Senator Peggy Lehner of Kettering – Chair of the Ohio Senate Education Committee - and Senator Charleta B. Tavares – Commissioner on the board of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs.

Best practices presented on the event have been documented and are available on the [Hispanic Education Summit](#) website. The [recommendations from conversations](#) have been distributed to the summit participants and follow up steps will be implemented in the following months.

Civil Rights Town Hall Meeting—April 23rd, 2013

Planning is underway for the first multicultural Civil Rights Town Hall Meeting, in initiative spear-headed by Ohio Latino Affairs with support from Vice Chair Isabel Framer and in collaboration with the US Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio.

A webpage has been created for this event and includes biographical information for all presenters as well as the [agenda](#) for the event. We are expecting between 50-75 participants for this event.



EDUCATION

USHLI Student Leadership Series 2013

Initiated work with the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute for the Student Leadership Series in 2013. These events are coordinated with colleges, universities and/or community groups to enhance the opportunities for students to learn about college and leadership opportunities. OCHLA is a partner of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute for these events in Ohio. For 2013, we expect to host events in at least 5 locations across Ohio, reaching approximately 1500 students. The first Student Leadership Series event for this year took place at Miami University on March 21st during the [Cesar Chavez Celebration](#).

Bridge Builders Forum 2013—September 14, 2013

The first planning meeting for this event was held on March 22nd at the Ohio State University. OCHLA will be partnering with OSU to host this event. The purpose of the Bridge Builders Forum is to expose Latino youth to the opportunities of higher education. The event aims to attract young males as a priority and engages parents. Last year’s event brought together more than 350 students from all across Ohio.

Hispanic Education Summit 2014

Met with Yolanda Zepeda to discuss a possible partnership for the Ohio State University to host the 2014 Summit. Provided her with a report on this year’s results, logistics and budget for the event.

HEALTH

Potential Latino Child Health Project, Cincinnati

A follow up meeting took place to work on the concept development for this project. On March 19th, Director Cavanaugh and Lair Marin met with Lisa Vaughn and Farrah Jacquez and other community leaders to brainstorm about this project and facilitate a planning session.

The project aims to partner directly with the Latino community to develop a pilot intervention effort that focuses on a community-identified and prioritized child health disease/condition to significantly improve Latino child health outcomes.

Minority Health Month— March 28th, 2013

Participated in the Kick Off Event and promoted the monthly activities through our networks. The Minority Health Month was designed to be a 30-day inclusive, high-visibility wellness campaign. The first Ohio celebration in 1989 featured 81 community-initiated events. The month has grown to hundreds of events planned and executed by community-based agencies and organizations. Our agency is participating by promoting the Statewide calendar via home page, e-campaigns and social media. We are encouraging the community to be involved in the events. Director Cavanaugh also participated in the Minority Health Month Kick Off Event.



The calendar is found at: <http://www.mih.ohio.gov/Portals/0/MHM/2013%20Calendar%20Layout.pdf>.

Latino Health Summit—Cleveland Meeting

Met with Jasmin Santana and Jessica Cartagena, Hispanic Health Committee to discuss the regional Latino Health Summit Meeting in Cleveland. Also participated in an outreach event hosted by Cleveland Metro Health to show “The Waiting Room,” an independently-produced documentary which takes place in Highland Hospital in Oakland, CA. Following the stories of several patients seeking care in a very busy emergency room, this documentary seeks to draw attention to the issues, triumphs and future questions for the public hospital safety net of care in the United States. A panel discussion to discuss local health issues followed the documentary. By participating in this activity, Director Cavanaugh was able to interact with key leaders engaged in health care and also learn about key issues impacting the delivery and access to health services in the Cleveland metro area.

Latino Health Summit, Regional Meetings—Cleveland

Met with Jasmin Santana and Jessica Cartagena, Hispanic Health Committee to discuss the regional Latino Health Summit Meeting in Cleveland. Also participated in an outreach event hosted by Cleveland Metro Health to show “The Waiting Room,” an independently-produced documentary which takes place in Highland Hospital in Oakland, CA. Following the stories of several patients seeking care in a very busy emergency room, this documentary seeks to draw attention to the issues, triumphs and future questions for the public hospital safety net of care in the United States. A panel discussion to discuss local health issues followed the documentary. By participating in this activity, Director Cavanaugh was able to interact with key leaders engaged in health care and also learn about key issues impacting the delivery and access to health services in the Cleveland metro area.

Statewide Latino Health Summit— August 9, 2014

Conversations are underway with LULAC to plan the 2014 Latino Health Summit. The event will be hosted in Columbus at the ODJFS facility. Preliminary work is now being conducted to define the theme, topics and agenda for the day.

CHIP Conference—Lorain, April 19 and 20th, 2013

The 2013 theme for the Lorain CHIP Conference will be: “The Health of the Individual and the Community” and will address topics including the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Immigrants and the Affordable Care Act, Protecting Vulnerable Populations and Breaking the Barriers that lead to Health Disparities among others. Our agency will be presenting a session on the Latino Health Summit findings.

Furthermore, Director Cavanaugh has been working with Mr. Ferrer to connect them with the office of the Lt. Governor Taylor and Jose Velasco from Health and Human Services in Washington, DC to try to secure speakers for the event.



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Ohio Hospital Association/ Ohio Department of Health Disaster Emergency Preparedness

Continue to work with Jackie Shaffer to promote the Hispanic community participation on a public forum. The program seeks to develop a strategic plan on how the state of Ohio would respond in case of catastrophic disaster preparedness.

WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Workforce and Economic Development Summit—November 7, 2013

Our agency will be partnering with Rafi Rodriguez and the Center for Hispanic Leadership, Ohio Chapter to host a Hispanic Workforce and Economic Development Summit in Columbus this year. The Summit aims to provide Hispanic Entrepreneurs and Business Owners with the tools and resources they need to successfully benefit from the economic development opportunities that exist throughout the State of Ohio – both in the public and private sectors.

The Workforce & Economic Development Summit expands on the idea of the business summit hosted in the past couple of years by the Hispanic Chambers (an event where OCHLA participated as a supporter.) The Workforce and Economic Development Summit is more than a business to business meeting and networking opportunity. Although the networking is one of the components, we take it a step further by actually engaging in capacity building through the workforce component, and economic development by engaging government and established initiatives that assist minority owned companies to succeed in economic development. Furthermore, the summit includes components where we highlight actual "Best Practices and Successful Models" (ie: Lunch hour: "The Faces of Success") Finally, we bring it all together through a lively networking hour "Speedy Gonzalez Networking" it activity that follows the model of "Speed-dating" to engage all groups in quick face to face interactions.

The robust program we envision can create an outstanding opportunity for Hispanics to engage with each other and state government, to access knowledge and possible resources, and to hear about success programs that are already underway. Most importantly, this summit covers key items from the Latino Workforce and Economic Development Agenda created as a result of our meeting with Governor Kasich in 2011, and the meetings with Mr. Rich Frederick and Lynn Stevens along with business leaders. (See attachment: Latino Workforce and Economic Development Agenda.)



North East Ohio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development

On March 29th, Director Cavanaugh met to discuss economic development opportunities in the Toledo area with Mr. Robert Torres. Further discussions will take place to find out how our agency can support the economic development efforts in the NW region of the state.

The Ohio Business Opportunity Fair—May 13-15, 2013

Promoted and distributed information among Hispanic business and media circles for the Business Opportunity Fair, to be hosted in Columbus. This fair seeks to bring together minority suppliers to learn about certification, to develop and seek business opportunities, and to advocate for Ohio’s minority businesses. The event is sponsored by the South Central Ohio Minority Supplier Development Council and is considered to be one of Ohio’s largest matchmaking events for MBE’s.

EMERGING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

MALCS [Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social] Conference 2013— July 18-20, 2013

The Ohio State University will be hosting the 2013 Summer Institute titled “*Aquí Estamos!/We Are Here!: Movements, Migrations, Pilgrimage and Belonging*” MALCS (Women Active in Letters and Social Change). Our agency has been invited to work with the Ohio State University for the community outreach and participation component of this conference.

MALCS is an organization of Chicanas, Latinas and Native American women, trans and gender non-conforming people dedicated to recruiting, supporting and retaining our numbers in higher education and to creating knowledge for our and other communities. With lectures, workshops, seminars, and various social activities, the Institute is designed to challenge women intellectually by sharing work and ideas; it creates an informal space for socializing and networking, and offers a safe space to present early work for discussion and development. The institute is a unique and creative space from which we emerge energized and ready to engage the world again.

MALCS is open to all Chicana, Latina, Afro-Latina, Asian-Latina and Indigenous women and gender non-conforming people working toward the support, education and dissemination of Chicana/Latina & Native American women’s issues. This includes faculty, staff, graduate students, undergraduates, and community members.

Latinas Making a Difference, Panel (OSU)

On March 8th, Director Cavanaugh presented as a panelist in the event “Latinas Making a Difference”. This event was sponsored by the Ohio State University to highlight the influences and participation of Hispanic women in Ohio. Other panelists included representatives from Cincinnati, Dayton, Kentucky and Oxford, Oh.

Red Cross Hispanic Heritage Month Blood Drive—Sept 15-Oct 15, 2013

OCHLA will be partnering with a group of community leaders lead by Mr. Henry Guzman, and the Red Cross on a statewide campaign to be launch in 2013 to increase the participation of Hispanics in blood donation to contribute as a positive impact to our communities. Hispanics have a higher number of type O blood types than other populations, creating a unique opportunity for giving. Although



all blood types are important, O-negative blood is especially valued. It is the universal red blood cell, which means a patient of any blood type can receive type O-negative red blood cells in an emergency situation.

The goal of the campaign is to launch a statewide campaign to donate blood during Hispanic Heritage Month.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

NALEO [National Association of Latino Elected Officials] Conference —Chicago June 27-30, 2013

Director Cavanaugh has been asked to serve on the NALEO's 30th Annual Conference Honorary Host Committee. NALEO is the leadership organization of the nation's more than 6,000 Latino elected and appointed officials. The Annual Conference will bring together policy makers from all levels of office, corporate leaders, industry experts and community advocates to discuss the Hispanic Agenda. For more details on the event, please visit: <http://www.naleo.org/annualconference.html>

Administrative Report

Organizations Development Center

Director Cavanaugh is overseeing the responsibilities of the ODC Center. Outreach, services and activities are dialed down to basic constituent services.

Biennial Budget Hearings

Provided guidance and support to PPC Officer for the preparation of Budget Hearings.

VoIP—Voice-Over-Internet Protocol - New Telephone System

Met with Connie Alexander to assess telephone needs for VoIP. and completed the technical workbook. It is expected that the new phones will be in place by the end of June 2013.

Mandatory Asset Management Seminar

Each year, agencies are required to certify their annual asset inventory activity. This year, it is mandatory that each asset certifying manager/designee attend the special Asset Management Policy webinar. Lair Marin and Lilly Cavanaugh completed the required seminar on March 12th.

Incident Response Webinar

The mandatory webinar was hosted by the state's technology office provided guidelines on how to respond in the case of an incident where critical information may have been compromised. Lair Marin and Lilly Cavanaugh attended the webinar.

OCHLA Retreat Planning

Met with Charlie Hauser, retreat facilitator and Chair Florez to plan outline for the 2013 Board Retreat.



Biennial Audit FY12/FY13

Met with Michael Schmidt and Andrew Bowman to stage the FY12/FY13 Biennial Audit. The auditing process will begin on April 1st and we expect it should be completed before the end of the fiscal year.

Human Resources

Worked with DAS-HR to process the position descriptions of the Organizations Development Center (from a part time to a full time position), and create a position description for an administrative clerk (intermittent appointment). The processing and approval of these positions is necessary prior to any changes in personnel in the office.

Meetings Attended by Executive Director

- March 4—Marlene Torres (Columbus)
- March 5—Rafi Rodriguez (Columbus)
- March 6—Attorney General Mike DeWine & Community Leaders (Columbus)
- March 6—Jasmin Santana & Jessica Cartagena, Cleveland (Conf Call)
- March 8—NALEO Planning Meeting (Lansing, MI)
- March 8—Latinas Making a Difference, OSU (Columbus)
- March 13—Rafi Rodriguez (Columbus)
- March 13—Dr. Yung Lu, APIAC
- March 13—Jasmin Santana (Cleveland)
- March 13—MetroHealth Event (Cleveland)
- March 13—Jose Velasco, HHS Washington (Conference Call)
- March 14—Incident Response Webinar
- March 14—Meeting with Governor’s Staff on OCHLA Budget
- March 14—Latina Mentoring Academy Kick Off Session
- March 19—Latino Child Health Concept Meeting (Cincinnati)
- March 19—Charles Hauser, Retreat Planning Meeting
- March 20—Conference call, Cristina Farr
- March 22—Meeting with AG DeWine’s staff regarding Hispanic outreach initiative
- March 22—Maria Sanchez, OSU, Bridge Builders Forum
- March 26—Red Cross Hispanic Heritage Month Blood Drive Meeting
- March 27—Jasmin Santana- Cleveland Health Summit (Conference Call)
- March 27—Michael Schmidt, Andrew Bowman, Biennial Audit Meeting
- March 28—Yolanda Zepeda, OSU, MALCS Conference
- March 28—Minority Health Month Kick Off Event
- March 29—Robert Torres, Toledo (Conference Call)
- March 29—Martha Villegas, USHLI (Conference Call)

Respectfully submitted,

April 2, 2013.

