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SEPTEMBER 2015

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

Our team is prepared for the increased activity during Hispanic Heritage Month. We will engage with the community by attending events, making presentations, keynotes and actively promoting activities through social media. As in the past, the Commission will be issuing the [State of Ohio Hispanic Heritage Month Calendar](#). We are delighted to report that the Governor and Lt. Governor issued a Hispanic Heritage Month Resolution, as well as the House of Representatives, thanks to the initiative of Legislative Commissioners Dan Ramos and Rick Perales.

There are several important initiatives underway. In the area of workforce and economic development, we are pleased to have hosted the Quarterly Hispanic Chambers Meeting where a strategic planning process was completed for the group. Our most recent [LCR on Hispanic Business Impact](#) was presented to the Chambers and has been distributed widely, turning the report into a very timely piece in particular during Hispanic Heritage Month. Additionally, the production and release of our [cultural competence video](#) provided additional relevant information not only for the general public, but also for state agencies working with multicultural communities. We also worked with Secretary of State John Husted's office to promote among Latino businesses the rollout of two major initiatives – the Google partnership to help new businesses get off the ground and achieve success in Ohio, and the 21 percent cut in new business filing fees. We expect that these incentives will assist in increasing Latino business participation in the state.

The Latino Business League in Canton successfully conducted its first Latino Health Fair and Outreach event, with Director Cavanaugh as the keynote speaker. This event is significant as we build stronger relationships with the Hispanic community in the Canton/Akron and Youngstown areas.

Education initiatives are well underway with preparation for the 2016 Latino Education Summit, our participation in the Bridge Builders Forum, an initiative where our commission part-



ners with the Ohio State University to bring Latino youth, focusing on young males, to the university for a full day of workshops and immersion on the university experience. It is expected that close to 300 youth will be attending this year's event. Additionally, Director Cavanaugh has been invited to be a speaker for the L.A.S.E.R Symposium (Latin American Symposium on Education and Research), to take place in the month of October.

Director Cavanaugh joined the Ohio Build team for the September 16-18 meeting in Pittsburgh on "Building Supportive Communities and State/Local partnerships for Young Children and Families." The event hosted by [Build Initiatives](#), focuses on helping state leaders create and sustain comprehensive, equitable statewide systems change, and their efforts to develop effective local-level approaches to early childhood systems building.

The commission is also pleased to partner with language access leaders to organize the 2016 Health Care Interpreter and Stakeholder Conference. This event is part of our action plan as a result of our Language Access in Healthcare Report presented to the board earlier this year. The conference will be hosted at the Ohio State University and will take place in June, 2016.

As we build relationships and connections, Director Cavanaugh met with First Lady Kasich's team to discuss a possible Infant Mortality event for Hispanic constituents and initiated work to promote the MLK Day Event.

We are also very pleased to welcome our newest board member, Commissioner Juan Rivera from Campbell (Youngstown area) who joined our board this month.

Meetings Attended by Executive Director

01 Sept—Ethics Training
01 Sept—Nishma Sangha, IT Training
01 Sept—Mahdi Taakilo, New African Commission
01 Sept—Lourdes Ribera, Dan Almaguer, Lair Marin, LULAC/Health Summit
01 Sept—Natasha Curtis, Interpretation Conference 2016
02 Sept—Hispanic Chambers, Quarterly Meeting
03 Sept—Walter McNamara, AG
03-07 Sept—Vacation
10 Sept—Diamante Awards (Toledo)
11 Sept—Walter McNamara, AG
13 Sept—Latino Health Fair, Latino Business League (Canton)
14 Sept—Denise Ali, Hispanic Heritage Month Conference Call
14 Sept—Allison Glasgow, Governor's Office
15 Sept—Angie Dawson, Minority Health Commission
16—18 Sept—Build Initiative Conference (Pittsburg, PA)
19 Sept—LULAC's Annual Awards Gala (Cincinnati)
22 Sept—Natasha Curtis & Committee, Interpretation Conference 2016
24 Sept—Latino Connection, Capacity Building (Columbus)
25 Sept—2015 Leadership Forum, Glenn College
26 Sept—Latino Townhall, Rep. Kevin Boyce (Columbus)
28 Sept—Leila Kubesch
29 Sept—Natasha Curtis & Committee, Interpretation Conference 2016
29 Sept—Rep. Sears



Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

Andrea M. Lewis, Public Policy Officer

- Advise

Cultural Competence Presentation

Our 25 minute presentation [“Latinos in Ohio– Transcending Barriers Through Cultural Competence”](#) was finalized and distributed to the Governor’s Office, Ohio Senate, Ohio House of Representatives, as well as a list-serve of 400+ individuals. Throughout the month we have encouraged organizations to utilize our video for cultural competence training; this topic is especially timely as it is Hispanic Heritage Month. A number of organizations have stated that they will be sharing this video with their employees. We’ve also had the chance to play this presentation at speaking events around the state.

The Ohio State University Partnerships

This year, OCHLA will partner again with The [Ohio State University for the Bridge Builders Forum](#), which is designed to provide Latino students in Ohio with the tools and motivation to complete school and enroll in college. OCHLA is in charge of coordinating two sessions for the forum. The first session will be titled “Latina Empowerment– The Road to Success.” I have contacted a number of successful Latina professionals in Ohio, and have confirmed three women for our panel, which will focus on personal journey, leadership development and Latina empowerment. The second session is for parents and will be titled “What Teachers Wish Parents Knew”. We have coordinated this session as well, which will be presented by ESL teacher Leila Kubesch, who is both a successful educator and an immigrant parent. Also, I reached out to the NW Catholic Diocese to promote the forum in the parochial school network. There seemed to be large interest in the event from this network. We will continue to assist OSU with preparation as needed.

During September I had the opportunity to present at Ohio State for a session titled “Learning From Your Community”. I presented a portion of our “Latinos in Ohio” video, discussed the role of the commission and issues impacting the community, and dialogued with students about engaging the Latino community.

Legislative Relations:

- Meet and Greet with Senator John Eklund
- Meet and Greet with Senator Frank LaRose. As a follow-up to our conversation I introduced Sen. LaRose to HOLA Executive Director Veronica Dahlberg.
- Meet and Greet with Minority Leader Joe Schiavoni
- Meeting with Representative Sears
- Meet and Greet with Senator Jim Hughes
- Latino Town Hall with Rep. Kevin Boyce. The Latino Town Hall was promoted heavily on social media and personal invitations were sent to board members living in the Columbus area.
- Invited Rep. Greta Johnson to an HOLA meeting in Akron
- Attended two hearings for Senate Bill 33 and sent information out to our ListServe regarding the opportunity to present testimony on the legislation. Throughout the month I kept our network



- apprised of latest actions on SB 33, and will be meeting with the bill's sponsor, Senator Tavares, in October to discuss next steps.
- Drafted and sent a Community Update to ListServe of 400+ members on the topic of Hispanic Heritage Month. I found relevant news articles, Hispanic Heritage Month events, and sent out the "Latinos in Ohio" presentation with it.
 - Updated legislative tracking.
 - Spoke with Senator Sherrod Brown's office to coordinate a congratulatory video message for this year's DHO awardees.
 - I had the opportunity to help draft and distribute a press release that highlights Rep. Dan Ramos as the longest-serving state officeholder in Ohio history. The press release was sent to numerous media outlets, and shared on social media and OCHLA's website.
 - Drafted and sent a Legislative Update to ListServe of 400+ members on HB 268, HB 281, SB 87 and SB 127.

• Connect

Constituent Outreach

- Assisted constituent with searching for scholarship opportunities and financial aid assistance. Discussed the process to enroll in college and offered further assistance as necessary.
- Sent job postings to constituent who requested opportunities in the medical field.
- Provided contact information for State Senator and State Representatives offices to a constituent who is interested in advocating on behalf of foster youth.
- As a follow-up to a meeting with the Rotary Club, I provided information on an initiative to promote cultural competence in the classroom.
- At our previous meeting, constituents requested that we support an initiative to recognize Cesar Chavez Day in the state of Ohio. I am in the process of drafting a resolution regarding the initiative that board members will vote on during our next meeting.

Event Preparation

—Traveled to the University of Toledo to discuss logistics for the Education Summit. I toured the facility and was able to see the venues.

—Contacted various individuals in an effort to create a DACA student panel and Latina Executive panel for October's Bridge Builders Forum at The Ohio State University.

• Build

Addressing Grant Disparities

This month I continued working with the Latino Connection to provide writing assistance with their document of intent. I made further modifications to the document and will continue to assist as needed. During our monthly Latino Connection meeting, I arranged for Lynn Burks from *Your Management Team* to present on an opportunity that has become available to businesses and non-profits. The [Entrepreneur Exchange Program is an SBA ScaleUp America](#) initiative designed to help 2nd-stage small busi-



nesses and non-profits grow to have a greater economic impact, both locally and nationally. I've also introduced Lynn to a Hispanic media outlet for an interview to promote the program to Latinos.

Hispanic Chambers Meeting

I had the opportunity to present OCHLA's latest LCR on Ohio Hispanic Business Owners to the chamber presidents. During the presentation I discussed statistics and important findings highlighted in the report. As a follow-up to our meeting, I created a PowerPoint presentation and a one page fact sheet, which summarizes the report. Both the PowerPoint and the fact sheet were distributed to the chamber presidents. I also sent information about the Entrepreneur Exchange Program to the chamber presidents and commissioners, and have asked them to promote within their networks.

At the moment, I am coordinating a session with SBA and PTAC for the chamber to learn more about the certification and procurement process.

Meetings Attended:

9/1—Sen. John Eklund
9/2—Mayor's Small Business Conference and Expo
9/2 — Hispanic Chambers of Ohio Meeting
9/3—Assistant AG McNamara
9/3— Conference Call with Eugenio Mollo, ABLE
9/4 — Emerald Hernandez, City of Columbus
9/8- University of Toledo
9/10- Webinar: Immigration, Homelessness & Housing Learning Series
9/11— LIRA Meeting
9/11— Jamoya Cox, MHAS
9/14— Sen. Frank LaRose
9/15- Minority Leader Joe Schiavoni
9/15- Minority Health Commission
9/16- Maylin Sambois, Latino SBDC
9/16- Closing the Achievement Gap Event
9/16- Carolina Silva, ODJFS
9/21- Kent State Interns Meeting
9/22- Lynn Burks, Your Management Team
9/23- Senate Bill 33 Hearing
9/23- Conference Call with John Ramos, LULAC
9/24- Latino Connection Meeting
9/25- Ohio State University "Learning From Your Community"
9/26- Latino Town Hall with Rep. Kevin Boyce
9/28- Leila Kubesch
9/29- Rep. Barbara Sears
9/30- Senate Bill 33 Hearing
9/30- Sen. Jim Hughes



Latino Community Network (LCN) Report

Lair Marin-Marcum, Community Liaison

September's highlight was the final preparations for our gala, the 35th Anniversary of Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards, including final logistics, program booklet, awardees, partners, confirmations and all venue logistics.

We are also working on uploading the 2015 OLANet Latino Serving Organizations update to the website. Additionally, the Hispanic Heritage Month Calendar compiled all the Ohio events and was successfully shared through our website and social media outlets. Finally, four educational and informational campaigns were issued during September for [National Preparedness Month](#).

- **Advise**

- Call w/ Natalie Bouyett a Master Student from the University of Georgia. - They are building a database similar to our OLANet Latino Serving Organizations Directory & our link for demographics. They had some questions and wanted some advice.

- **Connect**

- Meeting between Ohio Department of Transportation, COWIC and OCHLA in regards to connecting with the community, organization and how to build partnerships.

Connecting the Community: Information and Resources

OUTLET	DESCRIPTION	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
Website Calendar	Community Events	50	66
Facebook	Number of "Likes" to date	860	916
Facebook & Twitter	Postings of news, resources, events	210	215
Website (Job Opportunities Page) Facebook & Twitter	Job Openings Promoted	58	84

September constituent inquiries processed:	32
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Meetings Attended:

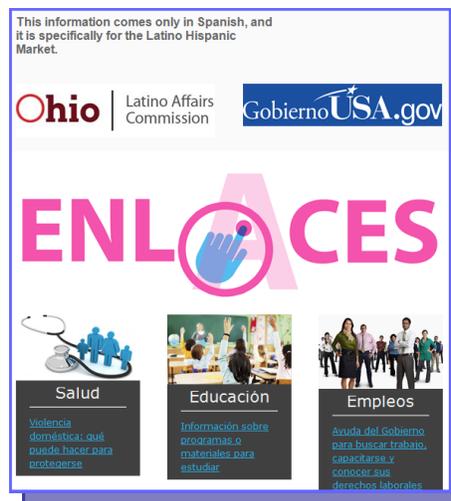
- 1 September – Call w/ Natalie Bouyett from University of Georgia. OLANet Directory
- 1 September – Training with Nishma Sangha - OCHLA Website
- 1 September – Latino Health Summit Steering Committee Debriefing Conference Call
- 2 September – Mt. Carmel Hispanic/ Latino Collaboration Quarterly Meeting
- 2 September – Angela Josebeck - Latino Market Orientation Inquiry
- 3 September – Meeting with YMCA - Sierra Austin– Assistance with creating a HHM event
- 3 September – Mtg w/ Libre Org / Ezra Escudero - DHO Partnership with LEON
- 8 September – Ohio Minority Health Advisory Committee September Meeting
- 10 September – Call with Vice Chair Santiago - DHO STATUS
- 11 September – ODT/COWIC/OCHLA Latino Jobs Meeting
- 16 September – Call with Lourdes, Vice Chair Santiago for DHO Keynote
- 22 September – September Greater Cincinnati Latino Coalition Meeting
- 24 September – Meeting with LEON DHO Logistics Final Details
- 25 September – Evan Carfagno Intern/Volunteer Candidate Interview
- 29 September – Meeting with Alexandra Ramos Ins. Agency Partnership for DHO Keynote
- 29 September – Conference Call 2016 Health Care Interpreter & Stakeholder Conference
- 30 September – Conf Call w/ Alexandra Ramos Ins. Agency Confirmed DHO Keynote Sponsor
- 30 September – Hunger Action Month - Latino Community Lecture - Lady of Guadalupe Ctr.

Organizations Development Center (ODC) Report

Georgina Alvarez— ODC Officer

In September, the ODC launched its first “Enlaces” (Connections) Campaign. This new resource will provide Latino serving organizations with direct links to federal government resources covering important subjects including health, education, employment resources, financial assistance, consumer safety, immigration, housing, etc. The information on Enlaces will be updated on a regular basis to ensure that Hispanic serving organizations have access to accurate and timely information to effectively serve their constituents.

The regular e-campaigns with information on potential grant opportunities was issued with follow up for organizations that might benefit from specific grant opportunities.



Building rapport with Hispanic grassroots and serving organizations

The work continues with the Spanish American Committee in regards to different grants applications that are underway. Additionally, we are exploring potential opportunities for a social enterprise pilot project on employment and continue on regular communication and coaching to support their work.

The workforce development potential partnership between El Barrio and Adelante continues to move forward with assessments and analysis. ODC Officer stays in regular contact with both organizations to provide continuity to this potential project.

Meetings Attended

- September 8 - Follow up meeting with Pastor Magno Mejia
- September 17 - Attended City of Columbus Hispanic Month Celebration
- September 17 - Attended Focus Group on OHIO PCMH - Patients and Advocates Focus Group
- September 18 - Attended the Spanish American Committee Gala Event in Cleveland
- September 24 - Participated in the Ohio Latino Connection Meeting
- September 24 - Conference call with Guisselle Mendoza and Ingrid Angel as follow up to their workforce development project
- September 29 - Met with Jorge Galvez and Davidione Pearl from Xclusive Staffing

Respectfully submitted,

