

# OHIO LATINO HEALTH SUMMIT

2018

Emerging and Converging Latino Health Issues in  
Ohio: Demographics, Epidemiology and Access



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH**

**Ohio** | Latino Affairs  
Commission

The University of Akron Jean Hower Taber  
Student Union Ballroom

303 CARROLL STREET AKRON, OH



## Our Commitment to Inclusive Excellence Promotes Student Success for All

The University of Akron is proud to be hosting the **Latino Health Summit** – now in its 7th year. The Office of Inclusion and Equity has enjoyed great success and growth in community outreach programs, like Rethinking Race, the Black Male Summit, and now the Latino Health Summit. It is our honor to be collaborating with the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission to bring the conference to Northeast Ohio. The Latino Health Summit is bringing together concerned individuals to address the challenges facing Latinos as well as many underrepresented citizens throughout our state and work together to provide comprehensive analysis and solutions to some of the significant healthcare concerns facing latinoamericanos today.

The University of Akron is the region's most influential public research university, contributing to the resurgence of the local economy, providing a workforce highly trained in diverse disciplines, and known for an innovative approach to higher education. We offer our 22,000 students a wide variety of in-demand associate, bachelor's and master's, doctorate and law degree programs – each one career-focused to help students get ahead in the job market. We proudly bring together diverse disciplines designed for diverse groups of learners including full-time, part-time and online students, veterans, and adults returning to the classroom.

OFFICE OF INCLUSION AND EQUITY  
JOLENE A. LANE, Ed.D.  
*Vice President for Inclusion and Equity,  
Chief Diversity Officer, Title IX Coordinator*

**The  
University  
of Akron**

**2018 Ohio Latino Health Summit**  
**Emerging and Converging Latino Health Issues in Ohio:**  
**Demographics, Epidemiology and Access**

University of Akron

**October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

8:00am – 4:00pm

**AGENDA**

**8:00am** Breakfast – Networking - Exhibitors

**8:30am** WELCOME by UA & OCHLA

**8:45am – 9:30am** **The Impact of Cultural Microaggressions on people of color: Understanding implications for Health and Education**

- Jolene Lane, University of Akron VP for Inclusion & Equity CDO, Title IX Coordinator
- Neudy Carolina Nuñez, Program Director, Academic Initiatives & Living Learning communities, University of South Florida

**9:45am – 11:50pm** **Workshop Breakout Sessions**

	<b>BLOCK A</b> <u>Behavioral Health &amp; Chronic Health Issues</u>	<b>BLOCK B</b> <u>Serving Our Community's Health Needs</u>	<b>BLOCK C</b> <u>Student &amp; Academic Track</u>
Session 1 9:45am - 10:45am	<b>Mental Health Service Accessibility</b> - Evelyn Rivera, Psy.D - Edna Fuentes Casiano, MSSA, LSW, Case Western University *Trauma and Immigration's impact on Latino mental health * Cultural considerations when dealing with Latino health issues and access	<b>Puerto Rico Relief and Diaspora PANEL</b> * Who are they and what are the critical health issues? *Dealing with trauma and PTSD Moderator: Ramonita Vargas /The Spanish American Committee - Victor Leandry, El Centro - Magda Gómez, <i>Cuyahoga Community College</i> - Yesenia Velez, The Spanish American Committee	<b>Connecting Students and Community-Developing Future Hispanic/Latino Physicians and Pharmacist</b> Facilitator: Andre Burton, J.D. Panelists: - Gina Weisblat, Ph.D.- MACHS-NEOMED - Anita Johnson - NEOMED - Aviva Aquilar – NEOMED - Ernesto Solorzano Zepeda - NEOMED
Session 2 10:50am -11:50am	<b>Cervical &amp; Breast Cancer Impact on Latinas' Health</b> - Iracema Arevalo, MD. MSc, ProMedica  *The role of culture, language, access in preventive cancer care for Latinas	<b>Serving Migrant Labor: Health &amp; Job Safety Issues PANEL</b> Moderator: Dan Almaguer, LULAC-Ohio Panelists: - Dr. Lora Wyss, NEOMED & Malone University - Veronica Dalhberg, HOLA - Jeff Stewart, Centro San José—WP *Where are they & type of work *Know their rights & Legislation * Safety and Injury prevention in the workplace	<b>Choosing &amp; Building a Career in Medical and Health Sciences</b> * Preparing a diverse student body to meet the needs of underserved populations. <i>Wellness Wednesdays</i> and <i>AHEC Scholars</i> Facilitator: Greta Lax, UA * <i>Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions</i> at the University of Akron Facilitator: Parizad Dejbord-Sawan, Ph.D, University of Akron

**12:00pm – 1:00pm** Lunch - Exhibitors - Networking

**12:40pm—12:55pm** 2017 Mini Grants Summary

**1:00pm – 2:00pm** **Keynote Speaker:** Kenneth L. Dominguez, MD, MPH, CAPT / U.S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention

“Leading Causes of Death, Prevalence of Diseases and Risk Factors, and Use of Health Services Among Hispanics in the United States”

**2:00pm – 2:45pm** **Cultural Competence & Language Access: Best Practices (Panel Discussion)**

Moderator: Natasha Curtis, MA Ass Director of Education Training Lab, Kent State University

- Panelists:**
- Jessica Zavala / Aultman Hospital
  - Parizad Dejbord-Sawan / AU
  - Richard Biering / Akron Children's
  - Dr. Sladjana Courson DO / Akron Children's

**2:45pm – 3:30pm** **Immigrant Health and Wellbeing (Panel Discussion)**

**Moderator:** Fedearia A. Nicholson, Dean of Student Success at Stark State College

- Panelists:**
- Dana Weber, Stark County ESC
  - Brian Hoffman, Esq. The International Institute of Akron
  - Isaac Báez, MPH, *Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery*

**3:30pm – 3:45pm** Summary Dialogue: - What did we learn? / Where are we at? / What's next?  
Rafaela Reyes, CEO Talent Innovations

**3:55pm – 4:00pm** **CLOSING:** UA & OCHLA



Office of the Vice President for Inclusion and Equity  
Chief Diversity Officer  
Title IX Coordinator

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***Greetings!***

A very warm welcome to The University of Akron and the 2018 Latino Health Summit! On behalf of the University of Akron, the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, LULAC, The Ohio Commission on Minority Health, Stark State College, NEOMED and our local supporting organizations, we are proud to present the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. The Latino Health Summit has become very important event in Ohio, and we are proud that this scholarly conference has come to Northeast Ohio bringing together educators, medical professionals, scholars, civic leaders, students, activists, mentors, and friends to address the challenges facing Latinos as well as many underrepresented citizens throughout our state. Through this conference we will continue the valuable practice of providing comprehensive analysis and solutions to some of the significant healthcare concerns facing latinoamericanos today. From health and job safety issues impacting Latinos, to mental health services accessibility, to the unique challenges in accessing healthcare for specific populations of migrants and immigrants, this conference will bring together like-minded individuals to strategize around best practices and celebrate the successes in our community. Likewise, it is our privilege and duty to mentor and support our Latinx students interested and seeking careers in healthcare fields. They are truly our future. Xavier Becerra, California's Attorney General, history-making as the first Latino to hold the office in state history, is a foresighted leader who said, "Shame on me if I don't try to do more with what I have. It would be a terrible thing to waste this opportunity to try to make a difference."

The Office of Inclusion and Equity at the University of Akron remains committed to increasing the access to educational opportunities for underrepresented groups, on our campus and beyond, through enhancing enrollment, persistence and graduation rates. This is just one of the ways that we have taken remarkable steps to implement strategies aimed at correcting disparities through targeted initiatives and outreach to the community. We strive to build bridges and continue to build a pipeline to higher education working with middle, high school and college students hopefully introducing them to the long-term structured support offered at the University. A healthy body and mind are integral to these efforts.

The theme of this year's Summit, "*Emerging and Converging Latino Health Issues in Ohio: Demographics, Epidemiology and Access,*" speaks to the University's mission, particularly within the College of Health Professions. Our education and training of health professionals supply a very valuable resource in Northeast Ohio. We strive to help our students succeed in becoming compassionate care providers so that their patients can overcome their health concerns.

We encourage you to take full advantage of the learning opportunities that we promise to provide at the Latino Health Summit – and we hope you appreciate the unique opportunities provided to integrate education, health care career paths, patient care, and the health and well-being of the local and global community – for college and graduate students, educators, community, political, and religious leaders and concerned citizens to come together to share knowledge and best practices. Please be open and engaged in the array of educational, inspirational and motivational workshops and conversations. As the host institution, we are proud of the continuing tradition that this Conference represents – and hope we are contributing to the legacy that connects us, weaving us together as a beautiful mosaic.

We are grateful and delighted for your participation in this statewide event. Let us connect and collaborate to build community partnerships and forge new ideas, solutions and networks to prepare more Latinos/as along the continuum of aspiration, access, healthiness, well-being and success.

Kindest regards,

Jolene A. Lane

Vice President for Inclusion and Equity, Chief Diversity Officer, Title IX Coordinator



# Latino Affairs Commission

John Kasich, Governor  
Lilleana Cavanaugh, MBA, Director

2017-2018  
41st Board of Commissioners

October 10, 2018

Distinguished Guests,

On behalf of the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our seventh annual Ohio Latino Health Summit. As we explore the emerging and converging Latino health issues affecting our community, we will explore demographic changes impacting the make-up of our communities, we will discuss the epidemiology of health challenges and seek alternatives to improve access and health care services for Hispanic Ohioans.

Today, we are honored to have a select cadre of health experts, service providers, public officials and community leaders who are committed to long term solutions and health equity. We are very appreciative of our long-time partnerships with the League of United Latin American United Citizens (LULAC) and The Ohio Commission on Minority Health, and are grateful to this year's hosts: The University of Akron, Stark State College and the Northeast Ohio Medical University, who along with our many partners help carry out our mission.

The planning committee has worked with input from the community to build a robust program that answers to the growing needs of all Latinos placing emphasis on suburban and rural communities. We are honored to host Dr. Kenneth Dominguez, from the Center for Disease Control, (CDC) a national expert on Latino health to bring perspective to our deliberations. Critical subjects of interest to Latinos will be examined, including immigrant health and wellbeing, the impact of immigration on behavioral and mental health, Hurricane Maria's effects on the Puerto Rican Diaspora now living in Ohio and the role of culture in preventive care for Latinas.

Finally, we are proud to include a full track on this year's summit dedicated to building the health sciences careers and professions. The Student and Academic track will provide critical information and tools for those considering a career or already practicing to better understand and meet the needs of the growing Hispanic/Latino community.

On behalf of our Board of Commissioners, I am honored to present to you this summit and hope your day will be engaging and productive. Thank you for partnering with us for this critical mission!

Sincerely,

L. Tony Ortiz  
Chairman of the Board

**Luis "Tony" Ortiz**  
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Dayton

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Vice Chair  
Cincinnati

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**Rev. Juan Rivera**  
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**V. Anthony Simms-Howell**  
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**Rick Perales**  
State Representative  
District 73 ~ Greene County

**Dan Ramos**  
State Representative  
District 56 ~ Lorain County

**Gayle Manning**  
Senator  
District 13 ~ Huron & Lorain Counties

**Charleta Tavares**  
Senator  
District 15 ~ Franklin County



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<http://ochla.ohio.gov>

LULAC Ohio is a  
Proud Supporter  
of the  
Latino Health  
Summit 2018



*The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), founded in 1929, is the oldest and most widely respected Hispanic civil rights organization in the United States of America. LULAC was created at a time in our country's history when Hispanics were denied basic civil and human rights, despite contributions to American society. The founders of LULAC created an organization that empowers its members to create and develop opportunities where they are needed most.*

*The Mission of LULAC is to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of the Hispanic population of the United States.*

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**CONFERENCE VIDEO/PHOTOGRAPHY CONSENT:**

By participating in the conference, you agree to allow images or voice recording created through photography, videography or electronic means in which you appear, to be edited, reproduced and distributed for unlimited use, in whole or in part, by the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, at their sole discretion.



## *League of United Latin American Citizens*



**LAURA MOESE**

**LULAC OHIO STATE DIRECTOR**

Welcome to the 2018 Seventh Annual Ohio Latino Health Summit! The theme of our event this year is “**Emerging and Converging Latino Health Issues in Ohio: Demographics, Epidemiology and Access**”. This Health Summit provides a great forum for community leaders in academics, government, and public service to work together to increase Health awareness and close existing health gaps in our Ohio communities. We continue to support the efforts to influence public health policies in the Ohio legislature that seek to identify and take corrective action to reduce health disparities in Ohio’s vulnerable communities, especially Latino and underserved communities.

We encourage you to share best practices, engage each other in networking opportunities, and increase outreach focused on training the next generation healthcare workforce, navigating what can be the complex health care system, and how to encourage behavioral and mental health. Taken together these, encourage growth where the community needs it while supporting the needs of providers for skilled people in their workforce. The Latino and other underserved communities in Ohio are much more than statistics – they face increasing health challenges that without sufficient access and resources will shorten lives unnecessarily.

It is our hope that every attendee, health care provider and healthcare organization feel empowered with the knowledge and tools from today’s health summit to **ACT NOW** to engage our Latino community and enable access to the care they need. Everyone in attendance today can engage our elected officials to promote successful implementation of effective public health policies aimed at reducing health disparities. It is our responsibility to provide access to resources, services, and opportunities to our community. It is also our responsibility to serve as advocates and challenge our leaders regarding systemic problems related to the health care of Latinos in our state.

On behalf of LULAC Ohio, we want to thank the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission and the University of Akron, for hosting the event, as well as the Ohio Commission on Minority Health, Stark State College and Target for their partnership and support in putting together the seventh annual Ohio Latino Health Summit. We commend all those organizations and individuals who advocate for the health of Ohio’s Latino communities and thank them for their continued commitment.

Sincerely,

Laura Moese

State Director – LULAC Ohio

# 2018 Distinguished Hispanic Ohioans Awards Gala

*Unlocking Latino*  *Student Success*

**Saturday, October 27th, 2018**

Reaser Grand Room located in the Spitzer Conference Center at  
Lorain County Community College  
1005 N. Abbe Rd., Elyria, OH 44035  
6:00pm – 10:00pm



**Tickets available at:**

**<https://2018dho.eventbrite.com>**

\*For more information: [Lair.marin@ohio.gov](mailto:Lair.marin@ohio.gov) / 614-728-8344



Lorain County  
Community College



Latino Affairs  
Commission

**For Gala sponsorships & information:**

Lorain County Community College Foundation — Lisa Brown  
[lbrown@lorainccc.edu](mailto:lbrown@lorainccc.edu) | 440-366-7559

OCHLA—Lair Marin-Marcum  
[lair.marin@ohio.gov](mailto:lair.marin@ohio.gov) | 614-728-8344

# WHAT IS OCHLA?

The Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs (OCHLA) serves as a liaison between government and the Hispanic/Latino community in Ohio. OCHLA advocates for the development and implementation of policies and programs to address the needs of Hispanic/Latino Ohioans, especially in the areas of education, employment, economic development, health and housing.

## OUR PURPOSE



### TO ADVISE

State government on issues affecting Hispanic Ohioans



### TO CONNECT

The diverse Latino communities across the state



### TO BUILD

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

## WHO ARE OHIO'S HISPANIC AMERICANS?



RESIDING IN OHIO



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



INCREASE IN POPULATION SINCE 2000



ARE OF MEXICAN HERITAGE



ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



HISPANIC-OWNED BUSINESSES

## WHAT WE CAN DO

OCHLA is eager to help connect you with your Latino constituents. We can assist in your efforts with:



SPANISH-SPEAKING CONSTITUENT INQUIRIES



STRATEGIC LATINO COMMUNITY OUTREACH



PROOFREADING TRANSLATED DOCUMENTS

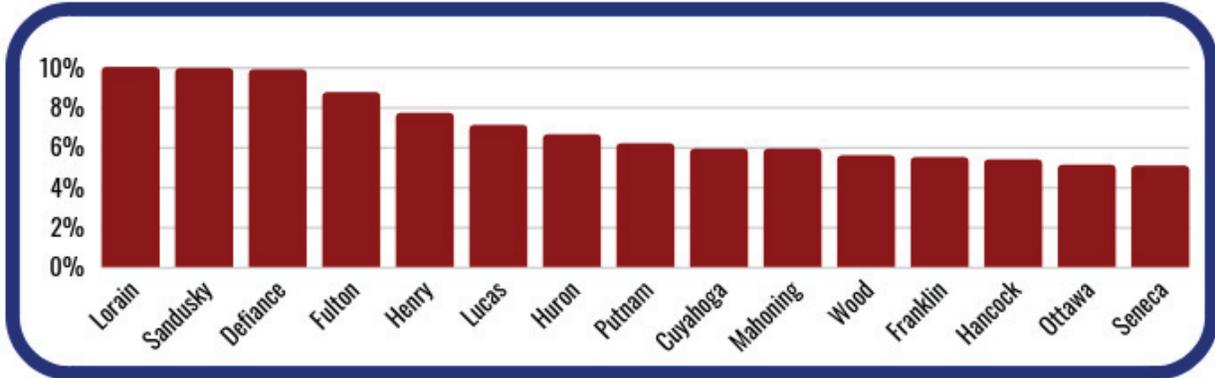


CONNECTION TO LOCAL LATINO ORGANIZATIONS



INFORMATION & RESOURCES ON MATTERS REGARDING OHIO'S LATINO POPULATION

## TOP 15 OHIO COUNTIES BY % OF HISPANIC POPULATION



## OUR ANNUAL EVENTS

	
OHIO HISPANIC LEGISLATIVE VISIT DAY	OHIO LATINO HEALTH SUMMIT
	
OHIO LATINO EDUCATION SUMMIT	DHO AWARDS GALA
	
AGENDA LATINA	MINORITY HEALTH MONTH WORKSHOPS

## OUR REPORTS & DIRECTORIES

Directory of Hispanic Service Providers (OLAnet)

Catalogue of Latino Outreach Initiatives (of State Agencies)

Latino Community Reports

Legislative Updates

Central Ohio Health & Social Services Directory

English (ESOL) Course Catalogue

Hispanic Serving Churches Faith Directory

Grant Foundations Database

State Agency Grant Directory

OCHLA Annual Report

## HOW TO REACH US



OCHLA.OHIO.GOV



@OCHLA



YouTube.com/OhioLatino  
AffairsCommission



@OCHLA\_OH



@OCHLA\_OH



+OhioLatino  
AffairsCommission

QUESTIONS?

¿PREGUNTAS?

(614) 466-8333

**Keynote Speaker : CAPT Kenneth L. Dominguez, M.D., M.P.H. (USPHS) –  
Medical Epidemiologist (CDC)**

*National expert on HIV in pregnant women, infants, children and Latinos*

“Leading Causes of Death, Prevalence of Diseases and Risk Factors, and Use of Health Services Among  
Hispanics in the United States”

Summary of key findings from CDC report on the health of Hispanics/Latinos in the U.S. including data on mortality, disease prevalence and associated risk factors, and use of health services. The presentation will summarize key health messages to share with Hispanics/Latinos and key action steps we can all take to improve the health of our community as well as training opportunities at CDC for students and postgraduates.

**1:00pm – 2:00pm**



Dr. Dominguez completed a B.A. from Harvard University, and an M.D./M.P.H. from Columbia University. He also completed residency training in both Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, California and at the CDC in Atlanta, respectively and trained as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (E.I.S.) Officer through CDC at the Puerto Rico Department of Health. In 1991, he became a Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Public Health Service and serves at the rank of Captain. He has worked as a CDC medical epidemiologist in the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention since 1993 describing the neonatal, pediatric, and adolescent HIV/AIDS epidemic and now works in the area of biomedical interventions to prevent HIV transmission. He is co-project officer for the THRIVE project, a demonstration project which funds 7 health departments in the United States to increase access to HIV prevention, care, and wrap-around services for men who have sex with men of color. He serves as CDC co-lead on guidelines related to the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections in children and adolescents and guidelines for nonoccupational HIV prophylaxis.

Dr. Dominguez is an Advisory Committee member for the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry providing information about the risk for congenital birth effects associated with antiretroviral exposure and is a federal liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Pediatric AIDS. He is CDC spokesperson for the One Test-Two Lives HIV testing campaign for pregnant women and their providers, the HIV Treatment Linked to Care (TLC) campaign, and We Can Stop HIV One Conversation at a Time. He mentors junior scientists and student interns through CDC training programs. He co-organized CDC's first Hispanic/Latino Health Workgroup, a scientific workgroup focused on improving Hispanic health in the U.S. and is currently its co-chairperson. He recently coauthored a CDC *Vital Signs* article describing the health status of Hispanics in the U.S.

# The Impact of Cultural Microaggressions on people of color: Understanding implications for Health and Education

**Jolene Lane**

University of Akron VP for Inclusion & Equity CDO, Title IX Coordinator

**Neudy Carolina Nuñez**

Program Director, Academic Initiatives & Living Learning communities, University of South Florida

8:45am – 9:30am



**Jolene A. Lane** has built a career in education promoting diversity, equity and inclusion. Ms. Lane began working at the University of Akron in April 2017 and is Vice President for Inclusion and Equity, Chief Diversity Officer and Title IX Coordinator. A seasoned educator, she has worked in higher education, elementary and secondary education, and in the non-profit sector. Previous to the University of Akron, she held the positions of Senior Director for Diversity and Community Affairs at Teachers College, Columbia University and Executive Director at Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America (LEDA), an educational non-profit organization. Ms. Lane is especially interested in providing access for students at every academic level to an excellent education and to the cultural capital necessary for success.



**Neudy Carolina Nuñez**, MEd currently serves as Program Director for Academic Initiatives & Living Learning Communities and leads assessment efforts for Residential Education at the University of South Florida. In her role, she provides strategic visioning to the Living Learning Community program, developing strategies to leverage academic success for residential students via faculty partnerships, case management, and assessment of the residential experience as it relates to retention and persistence goals at the university. These initiatives and programs have been deemed a best practice nationally through the Association for College and University Housing-International (ACUHO-I) and the Institute for the Curricular Approach (ICA). Neudy has been working in higher education for 10 years and she's served in residential education roles at Boston College, Berkeley College, Nova Southeastern University, and most recently at Old Dominion University where she served as the Assistant Director for Academic Initiatives, led the Diversity Education committee, and where she received the Excellence in Diversity Award. Needy is passionate about social justice education, first-generation college student trends, assessment, and college preparation and retention within the Latina/o/x college student population. She has actively participated in the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) in American Higher Education and the NASPA Latino/a Knowledge Community. Through her leadership in these organizations, she has served as a Social Justice facilitator for conversations around Microaggressions and Equity & Access for Latinx Students. Neudy is an alum of Florida International University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in English Language and Literature, Masters Degree in Higher Education, and a Graduate Certificate in African New World Studies.

Block A | Behavioral Health & Chronic Health | Session 1 | 9:45am—10:45am  
***Mental Health Issues in two vulnerable Latino Populations: Hurricane Maria Survivors & Unauthorized Immigrants***

Presenters:

Evelyn Rivera, Psy.D, M.P.A., M.A.

Edna Fuentes-Casiano, MSSA, LSW

- \* Trauma and Immigration's impact on Latino mental health
- \* Cultural considerations when dealing with Latino health issues and access
- \* Mental Health Service Accessibility



**Evelyn Teresa Rivera, Ph.D., M.P.A., M.A.** is a bilingual clinical psychologist licensed to practice in Ohio since 2009. She was born to a Puerto Rican family in Cleveland, Ohio and graduated from the Cleveland Public Schools. She currently own and operates I AM WHO I AM WELLNESS, LLC In Cleveland.

Evelyn conducts social security disability mental health evaluations as well as does therapy and consultation work. She is the proud mother of a freshman at Hiram College. She has worked with the Latino communities in various parts of the state including the Akron/Canton area over the past thirty years. She was the former Director of the Hispanic Senior Center in Cleveland and the founder of Proyecto RAICES in Akron.

**Edna Fuentes-Casiano, MSSA, LSW**, was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. She is a Licensed Social Worker, fully bilingual in Spanish and has master's degree from Mandel School of Social Administration. Fuentes-Casiano currently works at Case Western Reserve University/School of Medicine in the department of Psychiatry as a Research Assistant/Interventionist. She has been doing research in mental health for the past 13 years on medication adherence with Dr. Martha Sajatovic. Fuentes-Casiano was Program Director of the Hispanic Senior Center where she developed intergenerational programs, diabetes health education programs, cultural events, and established an intergenerational computer lab for the Hispanic seniors and youth in the community. Fuentes-Casiano is on the board of NAMI and is on the advisory board of finance for La Sagrada Familia Church. Fuentes-Casiano is married to Bruno Casiano contemporary artist and is a mother of three children. She is active in the Hispanic Community and is a great supporter of the arts.

Block A | Behavioral Health & Chronic Health | Session 2 | 10:50am—11:50am

***Cervical & Breast Cancer Impact on Latinas' Health***

Presenter: Iracema Arevalo, MD. MSc / ProMedica

HPV infection, cervical cancer in Latino community and prevention of HPV infection with vaccination. Conversation on the social determinants of health that influence cervical cancer in the Latino community.



**Dr. Iracema Arevalo** is a Pediatrician and Infectious Disease specialist. She received the medical doctor degree from The Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia in Lima, Peru. Pursued a Master in Parasitology, Tropical Infectious Diseases at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She did her Pediatric training at the Lincoln Medical Center affiliated to Cornell University in New York City. Subsequently, did Dr. Arevalo did her specialty training in Infectious Diseases at the New York University. Dr. Arevalo lives in Fremont, Ohio with her husband and daughter for the past 11 years. She works at the ProMedica Memorial Hospital and is an Associate Professor at the University of Toledo School of Medicine. On her spare time, she organizes a volunteer medical mission to her hometown, Iquitos, located in the rainforest of Peru where people don't have access to medical care. Her dream is to create a pilot medical center that serve her Peruvian patients.

Block B | Serving Our Community's Health Needs | Session 1 | 9:45am—10:45am

***Puerto Rico Relief and Diaspora PANEL***

Moderator: Ramonita Vargas /The Spanish American Committee

\* Who are they and what are the critical health issues?

\* Dealing with trauma and PTSD

**MODERATOR:**



**Ramonita Vargas**, started working for the Spanish American Committee over 30 years ago. She served as the agency's Fiscal Manager for 26 years before being asked to take on the role of Executive Director in 2010. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a focus on Nonprofit Management .

**PANELISTS:**



**Victor Leandry** is currently the Executive Director of El Centro de Servicios Sociales, Inc. in Lorain, Ohio.

El Centro is a bilingual/bicultural, non-profit, social service agency and celebrating thirty-nine years of serving the Hispanic/Latino community. Victor received his Master's degree in Social Work from Cleveland State University and is a Licensed Social Worker in the state of Ohio. Victor started his career as a Community Social Worker in Ponce, Puerto Rico and moved to Lorain in 1991. Since then he has been providing direct clinical services to adults, children, couples and families. His job experience includes Mental Health Therapist, Team leader of the Bilingual Team at The Nord Center (Mental Health Agency in Lorain County), Minority Services Coordinator at Lincoln Counseling Center and Coordinator of The Lorain

School Based Mental Health Team (RALLY). Victor is also honored to have served as the Midwest Affiliate Representative for the National Council of La Raza. NCLR is the largest Latino civil rights advocacy organization in the United States and was the Midwest Affiliate Representative from 2007 to 2014. He was one of twelve regional representatives that composed an Affiliate Council and served as the Chair of the Council and a Board member for National Council of La Raza from 2011-2014. In 1988, Mr. Leandry was one of five youth that received recognition from the Governor of Puerto Rico as a youth who had improved the quality of life of his community. In 2008, Mr. Leandry was recognized by the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs as a Distinguished



**Magda Gómez** serves as Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) where she works on multiple initiatives related to inclusivity, diversity training and awareness of national diversity-related issues, with a special focus on valuing employees by encouraging mutual respect and honoring the unique perspectives each person brings to the table regardless of age, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability. Gómez is on the board of the Hispanic Roundtable of Cleveland, serves on the Early Childhood Compact Team for PRE4CLE, and a member of the Basic Needs Impact Committee for United Way of Greater Cleveland. Gómez has also served on the boards of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, and has served as Co-chair of the Spanish Advisory Board for the Electorate, Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. She is one of the founding members of LATINA, Inc. Gómez holds a Master of Science in Social Administration (MSSA) Degree from Case Western Reserve University, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from John Carroll University. Gomez started her education at Tri-C where she earned an Associate of Arts Degree. She is currently working on a Doctoral Program in Community College Leadership from the National American University.



**Jessenia Velez Matias** work at Spanish American Committee. Sra. Velez is graduated from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao with a bachelor in Social Work. She has a Master's Degree Social Work with emphasis in Family, Youth and Children's. Sra. Velez have been leaving in Cleveland for a year now and is currently working helping the Latin community.

***Serving Migrant Labor: Health & Job Safety Issues PANEL***

Moderator: Dan Almaguer, LULAC, Ohio Director of Health

\*Where are they & What type of work do they do

\*Know their rights & Legislation

\* Safety and Injury prevention in the workplace

**MODERATOR:**



**Dan Almaguer** received a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Chemistry in 1976, and a Master of Science in Industrial Hygiene from the University of Central Missouri in 1980. Currently, Dan volunteers with the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). During 2011, he worked with the Cincinnati LULAC Chapter to prepare for the 82nd National LULAC Convention which was held in Cincinnati in June 2011. In October 2011, he was appointed to the Cincinnati LUAC Board of Directors to serve as LULAC Cincinnati, Director of Health. In November 2011 he was appointed to the State of Ohio LULAC Board of Director to serve as the LULAC Ohio, Director of Health. As the Ohio Director of Health, he has worked with the Ohio Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs (OCHLA) to convene the first Ohio Statewide Latino Health Summit which was held in Columbus on Friday August 3, 2012. Dan continues to work with OCHLA coordinating this annual gathering of Ohio's Latino healthcare leaders and works with several organizations in the Cincinnati area to coordinate local health fairs for Cincinnati's Latino community.

**PANELISTS:**



**Veronica Isabel Dahlberg** was born in Canton, Ohio, the daughter of Mexican and Hungarian immigrants. She has been an advocate in northeast Ohio's Latino immigrant community for over 20 years. She is the founder and executive director of HOLA Ohio, a grassroots organization that works to empower Latinos through community organizing, leadership development, civic engagement and advocacy. HOLA Ohio is based in Painesville, with additional chapters in Lorain, Norwalk, and Akron. HOLA's advocacy work on behalf of immigrants is widely recognized on the local, state and national level, particularly their work on detention and deportation issues and keeping families together. Their work has been featured in the Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Cleveland Plain Dealer and a three-part series on Telemundo. Currently, a film crew from PBS Frontline is filming HOLA as part of a three-year project for a documentary about the immigration issue as seen through HOLA's work. Veronica was also a Commissioner for the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs, appointed by Governor George Voinovich, in 1999-2001. In 2014, HOLA won the Torchlight Prize, a national award recognizing its work in empowering the Latino community. Veronica Dahlberg was the 2013 keynote speaker for Hispanic Heritage Month hosted by the Department of Defense (DFAS) at the Cleveland Federal Building for federal employees, receiving recognition during a presentation entitled, "Hispanics Leading and Serving our Nation with Pride & Honor." She received the 2013 Community Advocate of the Year from the Hispanic Roundtable, in Cleveland.



**Jeff Stewart, Director of the Immigrant Worker Project** – Centro San Jose, teamed up with researchers to discover the number of immigrants in Ohio in 1998. Studies estimated that there was a population of about 15,000 to 18,000 immigrants. After finding more rural and farm-working immigrants, Stewart and the researchers found the actual number was 63,500 to 70,300, and he began working towards making them aware of the services his organization provides. Stewart spoke about how IWP, a nonprofit based in Canton, advocates for the workplace rights of immigrants at Fok Hall on April 3. He said the organization has seen over three workers die on the job, and countless others abused. Aside from handling workplace rights complaints, IWP also teaches leadership skills, English and economic literacy. There are also programs for children who are coming to the United States alone to escape the violence in their home country, Stewart said. Many of the immigrants who live in rural areas of Ohio came from rural areas of Mexico and Guatemala, Stewart said. “Naturally we’ve seen this over hundreds of years of immigration patterns in the



Lora Wyss earned Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from George Mason University in Fairfax VA, a school nurse certification from Ashland University as well as a PhD from the University of Akron. Previously, she has held a variety of clinical, managerial, and teaching positions in Akron, Canton, and Washington DC. Beyond her teaching responsibilities, Lora is the President of the Hartville Migrant Ministries as well as the nursing director of the medical clinic at the Hartville Migrant Ministries Center. Latino migrant farm workers who seek treatment at the center were the subject of her doctoral dissertation and her outgoing research. Lora has studied the impacts of culture, economic hardship, gender, isolation, and status as barriers to medical treatment. As a result of her research, she has published articles on topics such as gender issues in Hispanic migrant populations, tuberculosis medication compliance and nursing community health simulations.

Block C | Student & Academic Track | Session 1 9:45am—10:45am  
*Connecting Students and Community—The NEOMED Experience*

Facilitator: Andre Burton, J.D.

Hear from a panel of Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) Faculty, Staff and Students on northeast Ohio community and NEOMED's diversity pipeline efforts to create a healthcare workforce through middle school, high school and university initiatives. Also, hear from Hispanic healthcare students regarding their journey to healthcare education and how their advice on how to get more potential Hispanic students to see healthcare practice as a career and a way to serve our communities.



Andre Burton, J.D. serves as NEOMED's Interim Vice President of Human Resources and as the University's Chief Diversity Officer providing diversity leadership to administrators, faculty, staff and students, including leading strategic diversity planning efforts, diversity recruitment and retention, setting institutional goals for diversity, equity and inclusion and assessing progress against those goals. Burton leads diversity efforts with university executive leadership and Council of Deans, as well as, serve as a senior advisor and implementer on matters related to further developing and enhancing an inclusive campus environment. He has over 20 years' experience in diversity affairs including the development and implementation of policies, programs, practices and resources needed to foster inclusiveness, diversity, and a welcoming community for students, faculty, and staff. Andre collaborates with faculty in the strategic development and assessment of diversity curriculum related to incorporating learning goals and outcomes. Andre received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Kent State University and a Juris Doctorate degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (CSU).



Dr. Gina Weisblat, Ph.D. is an assistant professor on the tenure track and Director of the Office of Community Impact, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at University Hospitals and Case Western University Medical School. Gina is also the Co-Director of the Center for Health Disparities Research and Education at Baldwin Wallace. She is a National Kresge Scholar and a National Scholar for Innovation and Academic Excellence for the Sullivan Alliance. Her research includes Citizenship Health, Public Health Policy, the Social Disparities of Health that impact life success, and understanding and advancing the talents and skills of underrepresented and underserved populations. She is the PI and Co-PI and multiple grants related to community health, community engagement, community development and health citizenship. Dr. Weisblat is the principal investigator of two major state initiatives including a large state community health worker (CHW) MEDTAPP grant. Secondly, an AmeriCorps grant, contributing a 40-person health citizenship and education corps for youth to become navigators of their own educational and health success. She is the co-creator and developer of the Health Professions Affinity Community (HPAC) program and co-principal investigator. Nationally, she is the PI on a HRSA HCOP grant exploring health disparities from the lens of the community and on a Co-PI on the NIH (NIMH) Urban Serving Universities award; a grant for building an urban primary care curriculum design and evaluation with the goal of supporting an educational pathway from the Baccalaureate level at Cleveland State University to and through the Medical Degree. Her teaching includes: Course Director of the M4 Quality Improvement class (NEOMED), Co-course Director (NEOMED) of the Interprofessional Community Health Education class, Graduate Quantitative



Anita Johnson was born in Cleveland, Ohio. Anita graduated from John F. Kennedy High School and received her bachelor's degree from Case Western Reserve University in Accounting, & minor in Spanish. She has a Master's degree from Cleveland State University in Adult Learning & Development. Anita is extremely passionate about building up the next generation and inspiring them to reach their full potential. Acting on that vision, Anita started a non-profit organization: Anita's Gift Foundation in 2011. It's motto is: "Where We Make Dreams Come True," because it aims towards empowering youth to take the necessary steps towards doing just that! Anita currently works at Baldwin Wallace University as the Pipeline Program

Manager. She has worked with over 2,000 students throughout Cuyahoga County exposing them to various STEM professions. Anita works tirelessly to nurture her students to be change agents within their communities. Anita recognizes her gift is to positively influence youth and commits to it daily. Anita has been married for 9 years to Demetrius Johnson, and has 4 children: Demetrius Jr., Aniyah, Naudia & Noah.



Aviva Aguilar is a second year medical student at Northeast Ohio Medical University. Aviva was born in Venezuela and raised in Chicago. She saw and experienced many health disparities her family faced in Venezuela and Chicago, growing up. From a young age, she developed an interest in alleviating people's difficult circumstances and pains. Aviva's life changed when she was accepted into the Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA), for high school. She was exposed to a career in medicine while at IMSA, and this guided her decision to attend college at Case Western Reserve University.

Block C | Student & Academic Track | Session 2 | 10:50am—11:50am

***Part A) Preparing a diverse student body to meet the needs of underserved populations.  
Wellness Wednesdays and AHEC Scholars.***

***Part B) Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions at the University of  
Akron***

Part A. Moderator: Greta Lax, MS. Center Director, College of Health Professions,  
The University of Akron

Part B. Moderator: Dr. Parizad Dejbord Sawan, Department of Modern Languages

**Part A) Preparing a diverse student body to meet the needs of underserved populations. Wellness Wednesdays and AHEC Scholars.**

The Akron-Region Interprofessional Area Health Education Center (ARI-AHEC), College of Health Professions at the University of Akron serves to build a more diverse pipeline of students into careers in healthcare, support current health professions students from diverse backgrounds, and better prepare health professions students and professionals to meet the needs of medically underserved populations and communities. Wellness Wednesday and the AHEC Scholars program are two ways in which ARI-AHEC engages and connects students with the community and career development opportunities. Presenters will discuss their experiences with these programs and their impact.

**MODERATOR:**



Greta Lax, MS is Center Director for the Akron-Region Interprofessional Area Health Education Center (ARI-AHEC), with the College of Health Professions Dean's Office at the University of Akron. Part of her work through the federal AHEC program, funded through the Health Resources and Services Administration, is to develop a more diverse pipeline of students into health careers: introducing students from underserved communities and populations to health careers and to connecting them with the resources they need to be successful. Her work also focuses on providing education and community based experiences to help prepare health professions students and practitioners to better meet the needs of underserved patients and clients. Greta has been involved in many community organizations and initiatives focused on social determinants of health, including work around infant mortality, minority and refugee health, health in all policies, and racial and economic equity. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from St. Norbert College and a Master of Science in Industrial Organizational Psychology from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

**PANELISTS:**



Judith Juvancic-Heltzel, PhD, Wellness Wednesday faculty, Interim School Director, Sports Science and Wellness Education, College of Health Professions. Dr. Juvancic-Heltzel has a PhD in Exercise Physiology and is currently the Interim School Director for the School of Sport Science and Wellness Education at The University of Akron. She has been an allied health professional for over forty years working as a registered medical technologist and then in cardiac rehabilitation as an exercise physiologist. Additionally, she has been a group fitness instructor teaching a variety of classes over the past thirty-five years. Currently, her research efforts are focused on behavior modification and how to empower individuals to take control of their personal health and wellness. Dr. Juvancic-Heltzel is a strong advocate for providing experiential learning opportunities for students targeting underserved populations.



Alaina Gent, Wellness Wednesday Student Coordinator. Alaina Gent is a senior at The University of Akron studying Exercise Science Pre-Physical Therapy. She will graduate in the spring and hopes to attend graduate school for Physician Assistant Studies. Alaina has been involved with the ARI-AHEC Wellness Wednesday program for the past three years. She spent the first two years presenting with the exercise science students and this year is the Student Coordinator. This program has taught Alaina a lot about health education, the community of Akron, and the interprofessional teamwork with other University of Akron students. From helping residents get active and educating everyone on how exercise impacts health to coordinating the program, she has had the most rewarding experience. The residents are the light of her Wednesdays, and every week she can't wait to get back and see the progress that has been made. Alaina will use her experience from Wellness Wednesday throughout her medical career to help her patients feel confident and comfortable with their plan of care. She is grateful for all she has learned and is excited for the rest of the year with the 2018-2019 Wellness Wednesday Program.



Kaitlyn Meece, AHEC Scholar. Kaitlyn Meece is a 4th year biochemistry major. After she graduates, she intends to attend medical school with plans to work in the primary care sector. She is the vice president of Phi Delta Epsilon International Medical Fraternity OH Epsilon Chapter and Active Minds. She is also currently an AHEC Scholar and has previously been involved with Health Professions Affinity Community.

### **Part B) Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions at the University of Akron Experiential learning and civic engagement with the local Hispanic community**

The Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions in the Modern Languages Department at the University of Akron allows students in the health professions to further develop their oral proficiency and cultural competence in Spanish within a clinical context. It also positions them to be future civic leaders in the fields of health care by engaging and connecting them with underserved patients of the Hispanic community who have limited proficiency in English. Presenters will discuss the experiential learning component of this certificate and the impact of their engagement with the Hispanic community through their volunteer work with Hartville Clinic, St Bernard's Health Fair, Faithful Servants Care Center, and AxessPointe Community Health Centers.

#### **MODERATOR:**



Parizad Dejbord Sawan, Ph.D. Department of Modern Languages, Spanish. The University of Akron. Parizad is an Associate Professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Akron and the Director of the Certificate of Beginning Medical Spanish. The classes for this certificate are taught on site at Akron Children's Hospital for hospital staff and health care providers and are designed to teach hospital employees relation-building communicative skills so that they can have meaningful linguistic and cultural interactions with their, limited English, Hispanic patients. Parizad is also the Director of the Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions and First Responders designed for health professions majors on campus with advanced knowledge of Spanish who wish to develop their linguistic proficiency in Spanish and cultural competence within a clinical framework. She also teaches one of the three core classes of the certificate: Conversation for the Health Professions.

The courses for this certificate have a strong hands-on experiential learning component and offer the students many opportunities to connect with medically underserved members of the Hispanic community that have limited English proficiency at a number of local clinics that serve this population. Parizad has a Ph.D in Latin American literature from the University of Michigan.

## PRESENTERS:



Cortney Benjamin, Ph.D. Department of Modern Languages, Spanish. The University of Akron. Cortney Benjamin completed her Ph.D. at the University of Iowa in 2016. She is trained to teach courses on Spanish language as well as Hispanic cultures and literatures. This is her third year as a faculty member at the University of Akron and her second year working with students in the *Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions and First Responders* in the Modern Languages Department. Her experiential learning classes teach future health care professionals to improve their proficiency and cultural competence in Spanish while helping them connect and better serve Spanish-speaking patients from the local Hispanic community.



Christine Rizkala. NEOMED student and graduate from the University of Akron. Class of 2018. Christine Rizkala is a first-year medical student at the Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED). She graduated from The University of Akron through the NEOMED BS/MD program in the summer of 2018, and she completed a Spanish Minor and the Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions and First Responders. Through the certificate program, she has volunteered with Hartville Migrant Ministries, Faithful Servants Care Center, St. Bernard's Church, and AxessPointe Community Health Centers. She is passionate about increasing healthcare access to underserved populations and believes in the importance of developing cultural competency in the health professions. Christine plans to continue learning Spanish in the hopes of communicating with future Spanish-speaking patients.



Corinne Plas. Student at the University of Akron. Corinne is studying psychology, social work, and Spanish at the University of Akron and completed the Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions and First Responders in Spring 2018. As a social work student with developed oral and cultural proficiency in Spanish, she understands the importance of connecting and serving the local Hispanic community of Akron. During her studies in the certificate program, she volunteered at the St. Bernard's Health Fair, greeting participants, coordinating intake forms and answering questions about the services provided. Under the direction of Dr. Benjamin, she and her Composition for the Health Professions classmates also prepared information and resources in Spanish on topics of women's health, which were available to the Spanish-speaking health fair attendees. Corinne will graduate in the fall of 2019.

## Cultural Competence & Language Access: Best Practices | 2:00pm – 2:45pm

Moderator: Natasha Curtis,

MA Associate Director of Education Training Lab, Kent State University

### Cultural Competence & Language Access: Best Practices - Panel

Language access and cultural competency continue to remain the most significant barriers to accessing and receiving quality health care for Hispanic LEP and ESL patients. Studies have shown that individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English are more likely to not seek medical health treatment. This panel will engage in a discussion on how language access occurs widely at Akron Children's Hospital and at the Aultman Health Foundation. We will highlight Akron Children's Hospital as one local example of best practices in breaking these linguistic and cultural barriers. The hospital collaborates with the Modern Languages department at the University of Akron to bring relationship-building Spanish conversation skills to their staff and professionals through the Certificate of Beginning Medical Spanish. Health care providers will find this discussion useful for the implementation of similar programs or certificates at their institutions.



#### **MODERATOR:**

Natasha Curtis, Born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Natasha Curtis is a nationally certified Spanish Health Care Interpreter (CHIÔ), Translator, Trainer and Language Access Specialist. She holds a BA, MA, and has completed some doctoral coursework in Translation & Interpreting Studies. Natasha is a thought leader in the field of language access, and her passion for quality has fueled significant advancement within her circle of influence. Ms. Curtis partners with health care institutions and professionals to maximize their impact as they serve diverse communities.

Moreover, she works directly with community groups and organizations to design a 360-experience around diverse patient engagement. Her cross-cultural experience includes program design and development, education and inclusive leadership. She developed the first pediatric hospital-based Language Access Program in the Akron area, OH, and has an unwavering commitment to the promotion of quality in language access services as a pivotal strategy to positively impact access, effectiveness, safety and cost of health care for diverse populations. Currently, Natasha serves as the Associate Director of the Education and Training Lab, an extension of the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Kent State University. Her work in this capacity involves equipping the leaders of today and building the foundations of tomorrow by providing learning experiences designed to empower individuals to successfully navigate cross-cultural interactions.

## PANELISTS:



Richard Biering, MBA. Senior Deployment Leader, Organizations Effectiveness and Transformation, Akron Children's Hospital, Human Resources Division. Richard joined Akron Children's Hospital in 2005 as Manager, Training and Development. Responsibilities in that role included oversight of the hospital's Educational Assistance program and development and delivery of new employee orientation, supervisor training, customer service training, and interpersonal skills training programs. He was promoted to Director, Training and Development in 2007. With the creation of the Organizational Effectiveness and Transformation department in 2013, Richard became the department's Senior Deployment Leader. In this role he continues responsibility for many of the programs developed prior to 2013. Newer assignments include acting as a participant coach for members of the Akron Children's Leadership Academy and administration of the Beginning Medical Spanish certification course in partnership with the University of Akron. Prior to joining Akron Children's Hospital, Richard worked for ten years for the University Hospitals Health System in Cleveland, Ohio, primarily in staff training and development roles. Richard joined University Hospitals following a ten-year engagement with American Greetings Corporation, where he held several Human Resource positions in the areas of recruiting, leave administration, and employee development. Richard's education includes both a Bachelor's Degree and Master's Degree in Business Administration from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He attained the highest level of certification in Human Resources, the Senior Professional in Human Resources designation, in 2007.



Sladjana Courson, Ph.D. Pediatrician and Associate Director for the Pediatric Residency, Akron Children's Hospital. I was born and raised in Cleveland as a child of European immigrants, and I did not speak English until I started kindergarten. I went to college at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio and also completed medical school there at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. I moved to the Akron-Canton area for my pediatric residency at Akron Children's Hospital where I have spent the majority of my career. I am a pediatrician at Akron Children's Akron East office and I am also involved in medical education as an Associate Program Director for the Pediatric Residency. I was a member of the inaugural class in Beginning Medical Spanish at Akron Children's in 2014-2015. I also enjoy serving my community as Board Chairperson of Girls on the Run of East Central Ohio.



Parizad Dejbord Sawan, Ph.D. Department of Modern Languages, Spanish. Director/Advisor of the Certificate of Beginning Medical Spanish. The University of Akron. Parizad is an Associate Professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Akron and the Director of the Certificate of Beginning Medical Spanish. The classes for this certificate are taught on site at Akron Children's Hospital for hospital staff and health care providers and are designed to teach hospital employees relation-building communicative skills so that they can have meaningful linguistic and cultural interactions with their, limited English, Hispanic patients. Parizad is also the Director of the Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions and First Responders designed for health professions majors on campus with advanced knowledge of Spanish who wish to develop their linguistic proficiency in Spanish and cultural competence within a clinical

framework. She also teaches one of the three core classes of the certificate: Conversation for the Health Professions. The courses for this certificate have a strong hands-on experiential learning component and offer the students many opportunities to connect with medically underserved members of the Hispanic community that have limited English proficiency at a number



Jessica Zavala Jessica Zavala. B.S. Language Access Coordinator at Aultman Health Foundation. Jessica joined Aultman Health Foundation in April 2018, as the Language Access Coordinator. In Jessica's role as the Language Access Coordinator, she educates staff and coordinates services for Aultman's patient populations who have diverse service needs. Those services may expand the range of English as a second language, Limited English Proficiency, Deaf or Hard at Hearing (ASL), and Limited Visual Acuity services. Part of that role also includes accessing communication and language assistance via translation of written materials or signage, as well as braille materials. Finally, Jessica develops and updates hospital policies and guidelines and trains multidisciplinary staff on device usage. In all, as the Language Access Coordinator Jessica assists to facilitate equitable access to health services and to advance health equity.

Jessica has served the Stark County community as an Engagement Consultant providing training and technical assistance in the areas of Cultural & Linguistic Competence, Equity & Inclusion, and the National C.L.A.S. Standards in Healthcare. Jessica has trained at the Cross-Cultural Health Care Program (CCHCP) in Seattle, Washington, and has a Bachelor's in Sociology from the University of Akron, she is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Public Administration Management and Leadership.

## Immigrant Health and Wellbeing

2:45pm—3:30-pm

**Moderator: Fedearia A. Nicholson / Dean of Student Success at Stark State College**

\*Serving DACA and Unaccompanied Children

\* Impact of Immigration Reform on Latino Health

### MODERATOR:



Fedearia A. Nicholson earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in public administration from The University of Akron. Where she is currently completing her doctorate in urban studies and public affairs. She began her professional career in higher education administration more than a decade ago at Cuyahoga Community College. Moving on to Ursuline College, she established the Office of Multicultural Affairs and served as the college's first director for five years. During her tenure, she increased awareness and understanding of diversity by working from every level to make students feel welcome. For nearly five years, Fedearia served as Director of the Office of Multicultural Development at The University of Akron where she directed programs related to the retention of multicultural students. She spearheaded initiatives targeting the retention and graduation of African American Males. She had the responsibility for leading diverse programming. She served as Assistant Vice President for Student Success at The University of Akron where she had responsibility for the Offices of Student Financial Aid, the Registrar, and Adult Focus. Additionally, she led the Student Success Center, which consisted many programs

geared towards preparing students for the future. As Dean of Student Success at Stark State College, Ms. Nicholson works with the campus community to increase retention and completion through various programs and initiatives. In her role as Dean, she leads a diverse set of programs that allows her to work directly with students. She has received numerous awards denoting her tremendous work.

### PANELISTS:



Dana Weber is an English Learner (EL) consultant for the Stark County Educational Service Center and State Support Team 9. Her role as an EL consultant includes developing, coordinating and delivering professional development and technical assistance to districts in the areas of identification, assessment, service models, program development, teaching strategies, family outreach & compliancy regarding English Learners in the schools. She coordinates a Title III consortium consisting of 27 districts who meet regularly to collaborate and support each other in ensuring English learners develop the linguistic, cognitive, cultural and self-concept skills necessary for success in the schools and beyond.



Isaac Báez joined Stark County Mental Health and Addiction Recovery under the System of Care team as the Engagement and Inclusion Coordinator in January 2018. Isaac previously worked at the Battered Women’s Shelter (BWS) of Summit and Medina Counties, as the Specialized Outreach Advocate serving marginalized survivors of Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence such as refugees, immigrants, and the LGBTQ+ communities, as well as, any other population throughout Summit and Medina Counties. Isaac graduated from medical school in 2008 in the Dominican Republic. He volunteered in helping both Dominican Republic and Haiti as a general physician and Interpreter for physicians and nurses. Isaac obtained a Master in Public Health (MPH) at Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) and graduated August 2017 completing his MPH by working on a capstone project, with BWS and Hartville Migrant Ministry, titled “Intimate Partner Violence Assessment for Female and Male Latino Migrant Workers in Hartville Ohio”. His passion to work with those in need has been the reason why he pursued a career in Public Health. This has given him the opportunity to work with different groups such as: The Akron Non-Discrimination Steering Committee, Akron Pride Steering Committee and March Chair, Summit County Ohio Minority Health, Co-chair of Summit County Refugee Task Force, and board member of Coming Together Stark County. Isaac resides in Akron,



Brian Hoffman is the AILA/AIC Immigration Justice Campaign Fellow at The International Institute of Akron, coordinating pro bono representation for detainees at the Northeast Ohio Correctional Center in Youngstown, Ohio. He previously served as the inaugural Lead Attorney for the CARA Pro Bono Project in Dilley, Texas, and as the first Lead Attorney for the Southern Poverty Law Center’s Southeast Immigrant Freedom Initiative launched at the Stewart Detention Center in 2017.

## Summit Summary Dialogue

3:30pm—3:45pm

**Facilitator: Rafaela Reyes/Talent Innovations**



Rafaela Reyes is a performance catalyst, specializing in boosting organizational outcomes through culture transformation, organizational change management, and leadership development. With seven years' experience in healthcare and 15 years' experience in Fortune 500 companies, she is known as a trusted advisor, partnering with leaders to achieve breakthrough performance. A graduate from Case Western Reserve University's Master of Science in Positive Organization Development & Change, Rafaela has a great passion for setting people up for success, empowering them to thrive personally and professionally. She recently moved back to the Cleveland area and can often be found biking, playing tennis or participating in the community.

# 2018 Ohio Latino Health Summit

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Vice President for Inclusion and Equity, Chief Diversity Officer, Title IX Coordinator

**Lilly Cavanaugh**, Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, Executive Director

**Laura Moese**, LULAC, Ohio Director

**Lourdes Ribera**, LULAC, State Deputy Director

**Elizabeth Gúzman-Bowman**, Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, Commissioner

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**John Alvarez-Turner, M.A.Ed.**, The University of Akron  
Associate Director, The Multicultural Center Office of Inclusion and Equity

**Andre Burton, J.D.**, Northeast Ohio Medical University  
Office of the President, Executive Director, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

**Parizad Dejbord, Ph.D.**, The University of Akron - Department of Modern Languages, Associate Professor of Spanish, Dir. of Certificate of Beginning Medical Spanish,  
Dir. of Certificate of Advanced Spanish for the Health Professions

**Greta A. Lax, M.S.**, The University of Akron - College of Health Professions  
Center Director, Akron-Region Interprofessional Area Health Education Center

**Fedearia Nicholson-Sweval**, Stark State College  
Dean of Student Success

**Isa Rodríguez-Soto, PhD**, University of Akron, Assistant Professor,  
Department of Anthropology

**Rafaela Reyes**, MS Positive Organizational Development & Change

**Dan Almaguer**, LULAC Ohio Health Director

**Lair Marin-Marcum**, Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, Community Liaison



# OHIO LATINO EDUCATION SUMMIT

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The Ohio State University  
November 9, 2018

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