

**STATE OF LATINO AMERICA
AGENDA**

**Wednesday, February 17, 2021
1:00-3:30 PM ET**

1:00 pm Welcome: David Cruz, LULAC Communications Director

Domingo Garcia, LULAC National President
Sindy Benavides, LULAC Chief Executive Officer

U.S. Representative Richie Torres (D-NY)

1:11 pm Plenary (LIVE): **Fulfilling a progressive vision for America**

On the heels of a historic election where latino voters turned out in unprecedented numbers, it is our time to push through a bold progressive agenda that brings relief to the challenges our communities face. Join us in conversation with national leaders to hear about the outlook for progress on key issues important to the Latino community.

- Jamie Margolin, Founder, Zero Hour
- Teresa Romero, Executive Director, United Farm Workers
- Mariaelena Hincapié, Executive Director, National Immigration Law Center
- Marcella Nunez-Smith, Chair of the Biden-Harris COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force
- **Moderator:** Sindy Benavides, Chief Executive Officer, LULAC

2:00 pm Remarks by DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas

2:05 pm **Breakout Groups Sessions Begin** (Pre-recorded)

- **Education in the time of COVID-19**
- COVID 19 has had a debilitating impact on our students' education, further widening the achievement gaps between students of color and their counterparts. In this session, we will discuss the action we need from the Biden administration and our Congressional leaders to immediately address these gaps.

- Steven Almazan, K12 Education Program Analyst, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
 - David Hinojosa, Director of Educational Opportunities Project, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
 - Melissa Lazarín, Senior Advisor for K-12 Policy, Migration Policy Institute
 - **Moderator:** Candelario Cervantez, National Senior Managing Director, Teach For America
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- **Is Immigration Reform Finally Attainable?**
 - After decades of fighting for meaningful relief for the 11 million undocumented immigrants, we now have the best opportunity to realize the dream of immigration reform. Democrats are in control of Congress, and advocates have the opportunity to push through a generous legislative package. In this session, you will learn about what you can do to help make legalization a reality.
 - Monica Sarmiento, Executive Director, VA Immigrant Rights Coalition
 - Darcy Gallego, Legislative Associate, Immigration Hub
 - Claudia Flores, Immigration Campaign Manager, CAP
 - **Moderator:** Vanessa Cárdenas, LULAC Senior Advisor
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- **The impact of COVID-19 and efforts to vaccinate our communities**
 - COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on communities of color, and Latinos have been hit particularly hard. In this session you will hear from leading medical professionals who will dispel myths about the vaccine, and from advocates who are working to ensure communities of color receive the relief they desperately need to recover from the pandemic's impact.
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 - Melissa L. Pluguez-Moldavskiy, DNP, FNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, National Association of Hispanic Nurses
 - Dr. Ilan Shapiro, Co-Chair of Southern CA chapter, National Hispanic Medical Association
 - Aracely Panameño, Director of Latino Affairs, Center for Responsible Lending
 - Rodolfo Galindo, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Emory University

- **Moderator:** David Cruz, Communications Director, LULAC

- **The time is now for Environmental Justice!**

- The impacts of climate change, pollution, and environmental degradation continue to harm, displace, and create instability in our communities. Now with a Senate and House in Democratic hands and the Biden-Harris Administration, there is an opportunity to go bold on legislation on climate and environmental justice issues. This panel will provide an update on opportunities for community leaders to engage in advocacy efforts.

- José T. Bravo, Executive Director, Just Transition Alliance
- Esther Sosa, Project Manager, Environmental Defense Fund
- Felipe Benítez, Executive Director, Corazón Latino
- **Moderator:** Cintia Ortiz, Environmental Justice Fellow, LULAC

- **Ensuring Broadband Access to the Latino Community**

- Latinx communities continue facing real barriers that hinder their access to broadband technology, particularly in rural communities. Internet access is essential for finding resources, economic opportunities, and information during the COVID-19 pandemic. This panel will discuss the importance of driving solutions to ensure our communities have access to high speed internet access.

- Laura Berrocal, Vice President of Policy and External Affairs, Charter Communications
- Joanna Diaz Soffer, Senior Manager of Government & External Affairs, T-mobile
- Jessica J. González, Co-CEO, Free Press
- Jackie Puente, Executive Director for External Affairs, Comcast Corporations
- **Moderator:** Alejandro Roark, Executive Director, Hispanic Technology & Telecommunications Partnership (HTTP)

3:00 pm Policy Fireside Chat with the Federal Communications Committee

- Jessica Rosenworcel, Acting Chairwoman, Federal Communications Committee
- Sindy Benavides, National CEO, LULAC

3:22 pm Closing remarks by HHS Secretary-Nominee Xavier Becerra (Invited)

3:30 pm

End of Summit