



LULACnews

Spring 2015

THE JOY OF GOING
FOR WHAT YOU WANT:
YOUNG ADVOCATES
SPEAK OUT

What College Students Should
Ask from Legislators

FEMALES, FIND YOUR PASSION

LULAC WOMEN AIM TO BREAK BARRIERS IN
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION,
CHILD ABUSE PROTECTIONS,
AND MORE

The New Look
Predatory Payday Lending

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LULACnews

League of United Latin American Citizens

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2015 LULAC NATIONAL CONVENTION SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH JULY 7-11, 2015

**AS THE PREMIER HISPANIC CONVENTION,
THE LULAC NATIONAL CONVENTION DRAWS
OVER 20,000 PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS
THE COUNTRY EACH YEAR INCLUDING
TOP LEADERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT,
BUSINESS, AND THE LATINO COMMUNITY.**





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WWW.LULAC.ORG/CONVENTION

A Message From the President

Dear LULAC Family:

Welcome to the 86th Annual LULAC National Convention & Exposition in Salt Lake City Utah. At this convention, top leaders from the government, business, and the Latino community will address the more than 20,000 participants expected to attend this year's convention. With the theme, *Familia: The Building Blocks for Our Society*, this year's convention will include an agenda packed with seminars, workshops and town halls where important issues such as health, immigration, education and voting rights will be discussed.

Each year we look forward to LULAC's convention because it gathers LULAC national delegates to discuss issues, set policies, and elect the organization's national leaders. It is the only convention in which participants representing Hispanic communities from across the country determine the positions and strategies of a national Latino organization.

The convention will also include a separate track for the Youth and Young Adult LULAC members. Our emerging leaders will have the opportunity to attend workshops on community service, leadership development, career opportunities and advocacy training. LULAC understands that its future rests on the development of our young members and this convention is committed to ensuring that they have every resource needed to succeed.

In addition, the LULAC Convention will host the Federal Training Institute—an intensive and structured career development program for government employees and for job seekers looking for opportunities in the Federal Government.

Over the past year, LULAC has continued to assist the Hispanic community throughout the country by hosting the 18th Annual Legislative Conference and Awards Gala and the LULAC National Women's Conference.

During the Legislative Conference and Awards Gala, LULAC members from all over the country visited with over 100 congressional offices and agency leaders to discuss education inequalities, health disparities, voter disenfranchisement and comprehensive immigration reform. Meetings such as these help ensure that policymakers hear from our constituency on the issues that matter most and help effect needed change. In addition, LULAC members participated in panel discussions that elicited intense and insightful discussions on issues such as immigration reform, education and healthcare inequities. LULAC also hosted its Emerge Latino Conference where over 150 college students from across the country met with policy makers regarding issues important to their generation and their families.

This year's LULAC National Women's Conference included the theme "Leadership, Opportunity, Education and Family: Celebrating the Latina Spirit," and was attended by more than 400 people. Our members participated in workshops on domestic violence, child abuse, entrepreneurship, running for public office and other issues that directly impact women's lives. LULAC was proud to have hosted this event and congratulates the LULAC Women's Commission for a job well done.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended and supported these important gatherings. We hope that those who attended benefited from the information and valuable dialogue provided to bring awareness to the issues that matter to Latino communities around the country.

As we celebrate 86 years of our organization's founding, our grassroots work in advocacy and education continue to be critical components of our organization. Our LULAC members remain the backbone of the work in helping to effect positive change for Latinos throughout the country and at this LULAC convention, we celebrate their hard work and commitment to LULAC and the Hispanic community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Moran". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

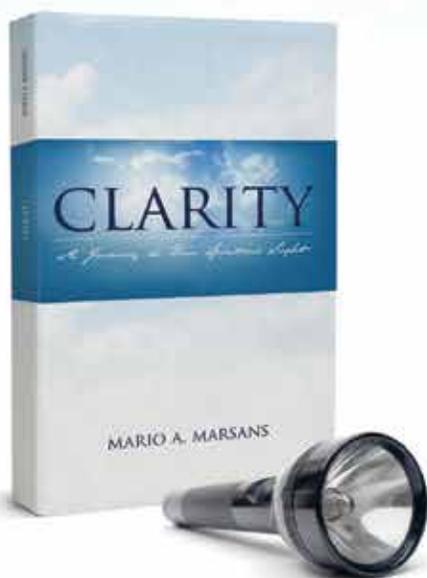
Margaret Moran
LULAC National President

MARIO A. MARSANS

CLARITY

A Journey to Your Spiritual Light

“ You find yourself lost and angry, Not
Being able to see through the darkness...
But through the darkness you will find
the light, which in turn, you will find
hope, to lead your fight”



Clarity is a book of original poems that is meant for everyone to enjoy and learn from their everyday paths.

I believe that we all have a journey to which we are ascending. Each of us may have a different end goal or belief of what we face at the end of this journey. But all of our trials and dark moments can be felt equally. As humans, we are bonded by our emotions and the strength of our mind and spirit. The drive in all of us to succeed and to give meaning to our lives is all the same. We all seem to be searching for a light; a light in which we will find some clarity to our own unique situations.

The poems found in Clarity can provide you a tool to help you find your light. Our journey to find our spiritual light can take us through some dark paths, which can test our strength both mentally and physically. During these times, is when our spirit and mind need to be strong. Our faith must lead us through these moments and help us find the light through the darkness. Allow yourself to open your mind to the possibility of a brighter path that awaits you around the turn ahead. Your strong faith and patience through hard times will result in a journey fulfilled and full of light: Clarity.

Find your Clarity
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**National Women's Conference
Domestic Violence, Child Abuse,
and Underrepresentation of
Latinas in Elected Office**



By Elsie Valdes Ramos, LULAC National Vice President for Women

The LULAC Women's Commission hosted its annual National Women's Conference in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico. With the theme, "Leadership, Opportunity, Education and Family: Celebrating the Latina Spirit," this year's conference included workshops on domestic violence, child abuse, entrepreneurship, running for public office and other issues that directly impact women's lives.

The women's conference is geared towards ensuring that women use their political and electoral power to impact policy. Traditionally, the conference has benefited from overwhelming support. Now, more than ever, women play an important role in the future of our country and we must be ready to lead. This women's conference plays a pivotal role in that effort.

The mission of the LULAC National Women's Commission is to engage women from across the country and ensure they have the necessary tools in order to become effective leaders. The educational attainment of women ages 25 to 64 in the labor force has risen substantially over the past 20 years. In 2012, 38 percent of this group held college degrees, compared with 25 percent in 1992. However, there are still critical leadership roles where women are underrepresented. Despite the number of women serving in Congress increasing steadily, women remain heavily outnumbered in both the House and the Senate. In addition, women are underrepresented in the corporate sector. Today, women make up only 5% of CEOs and 17% of the corporate board members among Fortune 500 companies.

The work of the women's commission is dedicated to remedying these disparities by providing education, training and resources to help women advance. We are very proud of the success this conference has achieved due to the commitment of the Women's Commission and the generosity of our corporate partners.

Cada año surgen temas que nos impactan y hacen que nos insertemos en el análisis, intervención y procedemos a llevarle ese mensaje a la mujer Latina. El año pasado nuestro interés fue empoderar a la Latina a alcanzar posiciones de poder en la sociedad, la política, el empresarismo, la milicia, en líderes de base de fe y en dirigentes de sus comunidades.

En una visita a White Plains, Nueva York, para un "round table" de la Comisión de Mujeres del estado, pudimos ver la presentación de como estas mujeres ya estaban recaudando información, asesorándose por expertos, participando con centros relacionados a los derechos civiles de las latinas y como las latinas de LULAC podemos tomar más acción en estos temas.

Luego en Puerto Rico, tuvimos un "round table" que abordó estos delicados temas que nos afectan a todas las mujeres, en el continente norteamericano y nuestra Isla de Puerto Rico. Asimismo, lo han hecho los capítulos de California, Florida e Illinois, y será nuestro objetivo para la conferencia de 2015, en Utah.

Recientemente, he estado leyendo sobre los datos que ha informado Nils Kastberg, Director Regional de UNICEF, para América Latina y el Caribe. Explicaba Kastberg, que a cada hora de cada día, 228 niños y principalmente, niñas son explotados sexualmente en América Latina y el Caribe y que necesitamos ejercer nuestra orientación, levantar nuestra voz para alcanzar y garantizar el derecho de las Latinas a gozar plenamente de sus derechos en un ámbito de protección.

Yo como VP Nacional, les digo que es tiempo de reconocer la magnitud de este problema y actuar en consecuencia. La información recopilada de distintos países de la región de América Latina y el Caribe muestra que entre el 70% y el 80% de las víctimas de abuso sexual son niñas, que en la mitad de los casos, los agresores viven con las víctimas y, en tres cuartas partes, son familiares directos. Cuando el abusador tiene las llaves de la casa, la sociedad no puede permanecer indiferente.

Cuando hablamos de abuso a nuestras mujeres, también tenemos que hablar del hombre que lo causa. El machismo en nuestra sociedad, sumado a la violencia de género, son a menudo antecedentes de la violencia contra las mujeres y los niños. Nosotras,



las Latinas, necesitamos formar una red, unidas a un movimiento de hombres que repudien este mal llamada masculinidad y se conviertan en un factor de protección.

¡Nuestras niñas no son juguetes sexuales de ningún adulto! Son ángeles de nuestro hogar y las mujeres son su manto de protección.

Las familias Latinas se deben constituir en el primer entorno de defensa contra el abuso, para ello es preciso otorgarles las herramientas necesarias a nuestras mujeres para proteger a sus hijos.

Son muchas las madres que aún ante la certeza de un abuso perpetrado por sus propios maridos, deciden callar ante la imposibilidad de sostener el hogar en caso de denunciarlo.

La Conferencia Nacional de Mujeres LULAC 2015, fue el viernes, 27 al sábado, 28 de marzo. Este año tuvo como sede el fenomenal estado de Nuevo Méjico. Lo más impresionante es que el tema de este año y la historia de Nuevo Méjico, van relacionados con la función de LULAC. Nuestra misión ha sido proteger la igualdad de las Latinas.

Nuevo Méjico, no vino a ser miembro de la Unión hasta 1912, año de su declaración como estado y, hasta que ellos no lograron que se hicieran respetar las lenguas de sus habitantes nativos, lucharon por sus derechos civiles de igualdad ciudadana y buscaron el fortalecimiento de un sistema educativo igual para todos, y ellos no dejaron de luchar hasta lograr su propósito. Yo aseguro que esas raíces de respeto igual, de fortaleza para su gente son la semilla y el ejemplo para que nuestra Conferencia de 2015, alcance sus objetivos, despierte el sentido a reconocer la magnitud del problema hacia la Latina y comencemos a actuar en consecuencia.

Todos los que hemos participados de actividades en Nuevo Méjico, hemos recibido una hospitalidad sin igual; hemos disfrutado de su historia y su geografía que la hacen un estado con una impresionante mezcla diferente al resto de los Estados Unidos.

En el 2015, nos espera un año lleno de retos, actividades que dejarán huellas y promoverán el empoderamiento de nuestras Latinas.

Del mismo modo, en la Comisión Nacional de Mujeres LULAC, todavía tenemos varios temas pendientes para analizar como la emigración y el anuncio del presidente de Estados Unidos quien en el 2014, acarició la idea de dar un aumento de salario a los trabajadores que menos ganan. Al aumentar de manera significativa el salario mínimo federal de \$7.25 a \$10.10 la hora, es un salto alto en un momento muy delicado, cuando la economía estadounidense comienza a dar señales de una leve recuperación. No obstante, no refleja cuanto sería el impacto cualitativo y cuantitativo para nuestras mujeres.

Veinte estados de EEUU, más el Distrito de Columbia, ya aumentaron su salario mínimo según sus nuevas leyes que entraron en vigor con el comienzo del año 2015, de modo que 29 estados de los 50 del país tiene un salario superior al mínimo federal de 7.25 dólares la hora.

Esta alza, ¿incluye a nuestras latinas recibiendo igual que los hombres? La última vez que se revisó el salario mínimo federal fue en 2007 y no dio igualdad a nuestras mujeres.

Tenemos que continuar nuestra gesta dirigida a aliviar la carga de responsabilidades familiares de las mujeres, realizar acciones de concientización que destierren los estereotipos. Debemos velar por la igualdad de oportunidades y continuar trabajando una agenda de avance para las mujeres en los Estados Unidos y Puerto Rico, a través de la Comisión de Mujeres de la Liga de Ciudadano Latinoamericanos Unidos.

The Coca-Cola Company

We are grateful to our Diamond Sponsor Coca-Cola for their generous support of the 2015 Women's Conference. With their efforts, LULAC women from across the country were able to discuss critical issues affecting Latinas and ponder viable solutions. Thank you Coca-Cola for supporting Latina women.



LULAC

MEMBERSHIP AND FISCAL OFFICE

221 NORTH KANSAS STREET, SUITE 501
EL PASO, TX 79901

Members should note that the LULAC Fiscal and Membership Office has moved to a new address: 221 North Kansas Street, Suite 501, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Members must fill out the entire application for new and re-charters. Any forms missing will cause processing delays. Applications for new and re-charters are available on the LULAC National website. Members can also call Membership Services at (915) 577-0726.

To submit the application for re-charter, members must complete the required information with the name of the person who will serve as the main point of contact. This person is usually the council president or treasurer. Members must also make sure to include their council's Employer Identification

Number (EIN). All LULAC Councils are required to have an EIN also known as a Tax ID Number. New Councils are required to get an EIN through the IRS. See www.LULAC.org/ein and the form included at the end of the application.

Each new member is required to complete a 2015 Application for New Members. Two members of a neighboring council in good standing may sign to attest to the application. If a local council is not available, two members of the organizing council may sign for the person applying for membership.



A BIG SUCCESS LULAC's 18th Annual Legislative Conference and Awards Gala

By Luis Torres, LULAC National Policy and Legislation Director

Over 800 people participated in this year's 18th Annual LULAC Legislative Conference and Awards Gala in Washington, DC.

The conference also included the second annual EmERGE Latino Conference which provided college students with public policy briefings on critical issues.

The first day of the conference included three policy briefings on health care, immigration reform, and education and provided key information to LULAC members, EMERGE Latino conference participants, and Latino advocates. Key speakers included Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell of the Department of Health and Human Services, Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham, Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, Congressman Pete Aguilar, ICE Director Sarah Saldaña, Ms. Anne Filipic, President of Enroll America, Ms. Elisa Villanueva Beard, Co-CEO of Teach for America, Ms. Lily Eskelsen Garcia, President of the National Teachers Association, Ms. Caroline Dessert, Executive Director of Immigration Equality, Marshall Fitz, Vice President

of Immigration Policy at the Center for American Progress, John King, Delegated Deputy Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education, and Mr. Roberto Rodriguez, White House Domestic Policy Council as Special Assistant to the President for Education.

As part of the legislative conference LULAC members connected with over 120 Congressional offices and agency leaders to discuss President Obama's recent immigration-related administrative actions, the reauthorization of ESEA, the importance of the Affordable Care Act, and advocated for issues dealing with Puerto Rico statehood.

At the awards gala, LULAC honored California State Assemblymember Luis Alejo, Dr. Juliet V. Garcia, the new Executive Director of the University of Texas Americas Institute, and Mr. Antonio Villaraigosa, former Mayor of Los Angeles.

Other elected and appointed officials who participated in this year's Legislative Conference and Awards Gala included: The Honorable Julian Castro, HUD Secretary; The Honorable Joaquin Castro; The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano; The Honorable

Continued on page 46.



Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



Director Sarah Saldaña, Immigration and Customs Enforcement



Congresswoman Linda Sánchez, U.S. House of Representatives



Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham, U.S. House of Representatives

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College Students Learn Advocacy and Civic Engagement at Second Annual Emerge Latino Conference

By Gabriela Vargas, Democracy and Legislative Fellow

Each hour of the Second Annual Emerge Latino Conference was packed with lessons that will last a lifetime. The 150 student participants from Iowa to Texas and everywhere in between traveled to our nation's capital to learn how to be informed and active citizens.

On the first day, students practiced civic engagement in town hall hearings, where in small groups, participants discussed and presented issues in the Latino community that they wanted addressed by policymakers. Each student's diverse background shone as they utilized their own experiences from their local communities. The students spoke on over twenty important issue topics for Latinos. The extensive list covered a wide range, including the need for financial literacy coursework, immigration application assistance, and anti-discrimination protections. The students then proceeded to vote to determine top issues that would be presented to their legislators.

The students spent the next day learning from Latino professionals that work in healthcare, education, and immigration policy, which included high-level Administration officials, Congressmen, and lawyers. The students left the panel talks motivated by the knowledge that there were people from similar backgrounds fighting for change. Afterwards, students pulled out their polished resumes and firm handshakes, to meet over twenty representatives from different government agencies and both for- and non-profit organizations. The career representatives remarked that they were pleased with the professionalism and

enthusiasm of the young adults. At the end of the day, students were transformed by formal gowns and tuxedo jackets. At the Legislative Awards Gala, the students were presented once again with leaders in the Latino community. Many of the students were in awe and stated that it was their first time at an event of that scale.

Invigorated by the gala festivities, the students came back on the final day itching to put their newly learned skills to practice. After receiving helpful advocacy training, groups went out to Capitol Hill to advocate for the issues they selected on the first day. The students visited 70 congressional offices, telling their personal stories and why they needed their representatives' support. Following their trip to the Hill, the students received more career training from Microsoft executives. Finally, after all of their hard work, the students enjoyed a VIP Reception in the Microsoft Policy and Innovation Center, where they heard remarks from LULAC's own President and the various directors that worked tirelessly to make the conference such an outstanding success.

The Second Annual Emerge Latino Conference may be over, but the lessons and memories remain. Students indicated that they're confident that they will continue to use their new skills to advocate for change nationwide. LULAC is excited for next year's new faces and new experiences.



Collegiate LULAC Policy Platform and Priorities

The Emerge Latino Conference students voted on and visited their legislators to advocate for their top policy priorities as listed below. The most solicited themes were education access, immigration reform, health access, wage equality, and equal representation in federal jobs.

Education Access

- Equitable distribution of funding
- Increase Latinos in the STEM fields
- Increase professional development opportunities for college students.
- Increase retention programs, college affordability, education programs for men of color
- Protect ethnic and cultural studies and bilingual education
- Middle school internship programs

Voter Registration and Civic Engagement

- Make election day a national holiday
- Educate public on local and national representatives and their platforms to ensure responsible voting
- Childcare assistance for parents with limited time to vote
- Workshops to educate youth on the purpose of voting and how to properly vote
- More funding for off election years
- Reform voter ID laws to reduce voter registration and election barriers
- Use technology to make voting more user friendly
- Remove voting barriers for felons
- Increase voter protection programs for underrepresented minorities

Immigration

- Comprehensive immigration reform
- Increase integration programs

- Create pathway to citizenship for DREAMers
- Financial education, and mental health education for immigrants

Health Access

- Provide healthcare for all immigrants
- Maintain health care affordability and access
- Educate the Latino community on their rights to healthcare benefits and preventative care
- Financial assistance for families with disabilities
- Sexual education to minimize HIV/AIDS and STD rates
- Increase food pantries, urban gardens, access to healthy foods to reduce obesity
- Culturally specific programs and therapy for substance abuse patients

Criminal Justice

- Increase programs for youth to curtail gang involvement
- Remove stigma from phrase “at risk”
- Decriminalize drug charges
- Strong weapon regulation to protect youth
- Police accountability legislation
- Promote safety, not intimidation
- Town halls to educate the Latino community about knowledge of their constitutional rights.

Gender Equality

- Education on contraceptive rights
- Eliminate wage gap in labor force

- Raise awareness of and reduce human trafficking
- Transgender rights and inclusion

Workplace Equality

- Increase Latinos in federal government jobs
- Better working conditions for farm workers
- Reduce discrimination for disabilities, accents, and race

Consumer Protection

- Educate the Latino community on budget, credit, and finance
- Generate payday loan reform
- Create businesses opportunities for small businesses

Environmental, Housing, and Community Development

- Create plastic bag ordinances
- Promote alternative forms of energy and aqueduct farming
- Reduce homelessness by increasing affordable housing
- Mitigate housing displacement
- Integrate Latino history in the Smithsonian Institute
- Infrastructure Development
- Expand Public Transportation
- Develop construction jobs
- Increase access to broadband



Emerge Leaders discuss the policy platforms that matter to their community.



Emerge Students enjoyed the opportunity to attend the Legislative Gala and meet leading Latino leaders from across the country.



No Longer Afraid

**DACA Makes
Young People's
Lives Better**

By Zenen Jaimes Pérez, Senior Policy Analyst, Generation Progress

August 2014 marked the two-year anniversary of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program. Apart from temporarily deferring their deportations from the United States, DACA also gives eligible undocumented youth and young adults access to renewable two-year work permits and Social Security numbers.

Two years out, we now have a clearer picture of the benefits DACA has provided many undocumented young people. It has allowed them to achieve better economic opportunity, attain higher education, enroll in health insurance, and participate more in their local communities.

As of July, 587,366 undocumented young people had received both relief from deportation and a work permit, out of the more than 680,000 undocumented young people who have so far applied for DACA. However, many more can still qualify. Around 1.2 million undocumented young people were immediately eligible for the DACA program when it began, but an additional 426,000 could apply if they met further qualifications.

Another 473,000 children, who are currently younger than 15 years old, will age into the program.

Additionally, in the coming months, hundreds of thousands of DACA beneficiaries will need to renew their DACA. Community organizations, families, and DACA beneficiaries themselves will need to make sure that they meet the renewal deadline and fees set by the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service. The stakes are high, as failure to renew properly could mean a loss of both work authorization and deferral from deportation.

Despite the challenges of renewing DACA and making sure more qualifying young people apply for it, DACA has significantly affected the lives of undocumented young people, as well as the nation. It is also worth noting that DACA has laid the groundwork for future comprehensive immigration reform by starting the process of registering undocumented young people for potential legal status.

This issue brief discusses the top benefits that DACA provides immigrant youth and takes a look at how the program has helped our economy and society.

DACA improves economic opportunities for undocumented young people

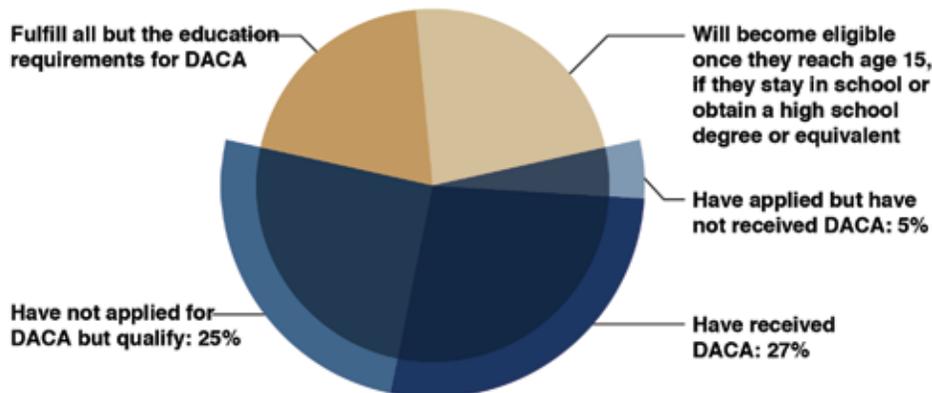
DACA has opened new doors for undocumented youth, leading to a stronger economy for everyone. Under DACA, undocumented youth are able to apply for and receive temporary work permits. For many, this means the ability to find a job for the first time. For others, it means being able to exit the informal economy and move on to better-paying jobs.

In fact, a recent survey of “DACAdmented” young people—undocumented immigrants who have benefited from DACA—indicated that 70 percent of survey respondents reported getting their first job or starting a new job. Additionally, 45 percent reported an earnings increase.

It’s not just undocumented youth who have benefited from work permits, however; the United States as a whole has. Extending work permits to DACA recipients translates into higher tax revenues as these young people get on the books, earn more, and start paying more in payroll taxes. These revenues support vital programs such as Social Security and Medicare—even as undocumented immigrants are unable to access these and other social safety net programs.

Undocumented young people have also benefited in other ways. Almost 50 percent of DACA beneficiaries surveyed have opened their first bank account, and 33 percent have obtained their first credit card. These shifts allow young people to spend their new earnings on purchases throughout their communities and to generate new jobs as businesses strive to meet the higher demand for goods and services. These benefits are especially important because many undocumented young people live in economically vulnerable positions. According to The Migration Policy Institute, an estimated 34 percent of those immediately eligible for DACA lived in families with annual incomes below 100 percent of the federal poverty line.

FIGURE 1
A significant number of people cannot qualify or have not applied for DACA
Only 27 percent have actually received it



Source: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, “Number of I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Fiscal Year, Quarter, Intake, Biometrics and Case Status: 2012–2014,” available at http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/All%20Form%20Types/DACA/DACA_fy2014_qtr3.pdf (last accessed September 2014). Jeanne Bata and others, “DACA at the Two-year Mark: A National and State Profile of Youth Eligible and Applying for Deferred Action” (Washington: Migration Policy Institute, 2014), available at <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/DACA-Report-2014-FINALWEB.pdf>.

Undocumented young people can achieve higher educational attainment

While DACA has increased the ability of undocumented young people to achieve greater economic opportunity, some evidence shows that it is also increasing educational attainment. To qualify for DACA, a young person must have graduated from high school, passed the GED exam, or be currently enrolled in and attending school. An additional 426,000 undocumented young people could qualify for the program if they meet these educational requirements. This has encouraged more undocumented young people to return to school to complete their education and potentially transition to higher education.

Additionally, DACA has helped some undocumented students complete higher education. In some states, such as Arizona, DACA recipients can enroll in some public community colleges at in-state

tuition rates. Virginia recently changed its policy to allow DACA recipients to pay in-state tuition.

Over the past 14 years, states have taken action to allow undocumented young people to pay lower and more affordable tuition fees for their states' public colleges and universities. In 2001, Texas was the first state to pass legislation that changed its residency requirements so undocumented young people could qualify for in-state tuition. Several states followed, including California in 2001, Utah and New York in 2002, Washington and Illinois in 2003; Kansas in 2004; New Mexico in 2005; and Nebraska in 2006. More recently, Maryland and Connecticut changed their requirements in 2011, followed by Colorado, Minnesota, New Jersey, and Oregon in 2013, most recently, Florida this year. Hawaii, Michigan, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, and Virginia also offer in-state tuition in many of their public colleges and universities; they do so through decisions of their state boards of higher education or advising from their state attorneys general.

DACA has also helped many undocumented students stay in

through their daily routines: Sixty-six percent of respondents to one survey agreed to the statement, "I am no longer afraid because of my immigration status." Additionally, 64 percent agreed with the statement, "I feel more like I belong in the U.S." Reduced feelings of disconnect can have enormous positive effects for individuals and their communities. It allows young people to have greater peace of mind, which translates to greater participation in the economy and in civic life.

Another survey showed that DACA has also enabled 57 percent of undocumented young people to obtain a driver's license. Forty-eight states allow DACA recipients to obtain a driver's license, with only two states—Arizona and Nebraska—prohibiting them from doing so. In these two states, DACA beneficiaries have access to in-state tuition at some public colleges and universities, but they cannot obtain a driver's license to get around campus and the surrounding area.

Access to a driver's license and identification cards means better safety for all drivers and has given undocumented young people greater job opportunities. Additionally, driver's licenses and

identification cards can have enormous effects on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender, or LGBT, undocumented young people. About 10 percent of DACA recipients surveyed also identified as LGBT. This community—and, in particular, transgender individuals—often need proper identification in order to participate fully in society. Without this, undocumented LGBT immigrants can see heightened discrimination from law enforcement or other service providers.

Indeed, the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs found that although undocumented immigrants account for less than 3 percent of the total adult LGBT population in the United States, they represent nearly 8 percent of LGBT hate violence survivors. However, LGBT and HIV-affected undocumented survivors of violence were 1.7 times more likely than the general LGBT community to report

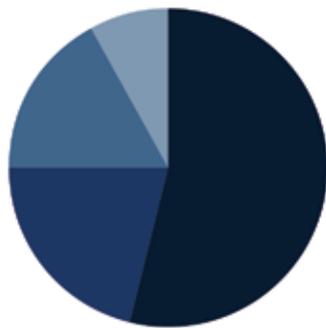
incidents to the police. This could be linked to mandatory first responder reports to the police or to greater education and outreach to LGBT undocumented survivors, who feel because of DACA that they can report violence.

Civic engagement and participation increases with DACA

While many undocumented young people were highly political prior to DACA, evidence shows that civic engagement has only continued to grow. More than 50 percent of respondents to a survey believed that their immigrant status empowered them to advocate for their community. This has led to civic participation rates that eclipse that of the general population. According to the 2012 American National Election Study, or ANES, only 6 percent of respondents participated in a political rally or demonstration, compared with 41 percent of DACA recipients. Additionally, 41 percent of DACA recipients had contacted members of Congress, compared with the 21 percent of ANES respondents.

DACA recipients also connect their families to civic life. More than 30 percent of DACA recipients reported getting most of their information regarding immigration, including immigration reform,

FIGURE 2
Most DACA beneficiaries live in states with tuition equity laws



	Number
■ DACA beneficiaries living in a state with in-state tuition and financial aid	316,847
■ DACA beneficiaries living in a state with in-state tuition	118,684
■ DACA beneficiaries living in a state with no known law allowing undocumented students to qualify for in-state tuition and access state education grants	98,252
■ DACA beneficiaries living in a state with restrictions on undocumented students in higher education	47,061

Source: Author's calculation using U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, "Number of I-821D, Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, by Fiscal Year, Quarter, Intake, Biometrics and Case Status: 2012–2014," available at http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/USCIS/Resources/Reports%20and%20Studies/Immigration%20Forms%20Data/All%20Form%20Types/DACA/DACA_fy2014_qtr3.pdf (last accessed September 2014).

school. The wider student population typically says that it leaves school due to a lack of academic preparation. Undocumented students, however, say that finances force them to leave. This phenomenon, known as "stopping out"—leaving higher education for a certain period of time but intending to come back—has been reduced by work authorization that allows undocumented students to hold higher-paying jobs in order to finance their education.

The Social Security numbers granted to DACA beneficiaries have also helped many undocumented students access financial help for higher education. Current federal law continues to prohibit all undocumented students from accessing federal financial aid, including Pell Grants and the Federal Work-Study Program. DACA beneficiaries, however, can still fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, with their Social Security numbers; this means they can receive their Estimated Family Contribution number, which allows them to petition their schools for institutional aid that is available to all students.

DACA reduces feelings of disconnect

Deferral-from-removal action and work authorization have given hundreds of thousands of undocumented young people increased peace of mind. DACA recipients can more comfortably move

from online sources. Another survey also indicated that 90 percent of DACA recipients have family that would benefit from immigration reform. Young people are a key source of information for their families on immigration policy issues, and they will be a cornerstone to advocate for the implementation of any future reforms for millions of other undocumented immigrants as well.

Undocumented youth have gained some access to health care

Although undocumented immigrants are not eligible for the Affordable Care Act, or ACA, DACA recipients have still gained more access to health care. Washington state, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, the District of Columbia, and California allow low-income DACA recipients to enroll in health insurance. By not using federal funds for the programs that help cover undocumented residents, these states were able to bypass restrictions around the ACA; the District of Columbia, for example, allows all immigrants regardless of status to enroll in health insurance. In California, as many as 127,000 DACA recipients qualify to enroll in exclusively state-funded Medi-Cal programs. The #Health4All campaign in California has engaged thousands of undocumented young people to learn if they qualify.

Additionally, many undocumented young people have enrolled in college or university health care plans or have received new employment-based plans. This has led to a 21 percent increase in the number of undocumented young people with DACA that have obtained health insurance. Greater enrollment in health insurance has enormous positive effects on public health.

However, these small fixes do not provide comprehensive care. DACA recipients are still barred from the ACA, and a recent report showed that, in California alone, 50 percent of undocumented young people delayed getting the medical care they needed. Of these people, 96 percent cited lack of insurance as the main reason.

DACA has also benefited the families of undocumented young people. Undocumented young people are often not the only undocumented person in their family. More than 80 percent of DACA recipients reported having an undocumented parent, and more than half have undocumented siblings. In families where everyone is undocumented, DACA has allowed young people to provide more services to their families. Access to driver's licenses, the ability to open bank accounts, and even things such as renting equipment from stores that they can use for employment, have allowed more undocumented families to participate in the economy.

More action is needed

DACA has provided enormous benefits to undocumented young people. However, 66 percent still report feeling anxious or angry because their families cannot qualify. About 2 million people have faced deportation during the past six years, the equivalent to wiping

out the entire combined populations of Boston, Massachusetts; Miami, Florida; Seattle, Washington; and St. Louis, Missouri. These removals devastate communities and leave broken families behind in the United States. A recent Center for American Progress report outlines some of the executive actions President Obama should consider to repair our broken immigration system, including expanding deferred action to more undocumented immigrants.

Despite its successes, DACA has been only a partial fix, largely benefitting those with the most education. This is partly due to the ability of such young people to leverage their credentials in the job market. Additionally, more outreach is needed to make sure that all qualifying young people enroll or renew on time.

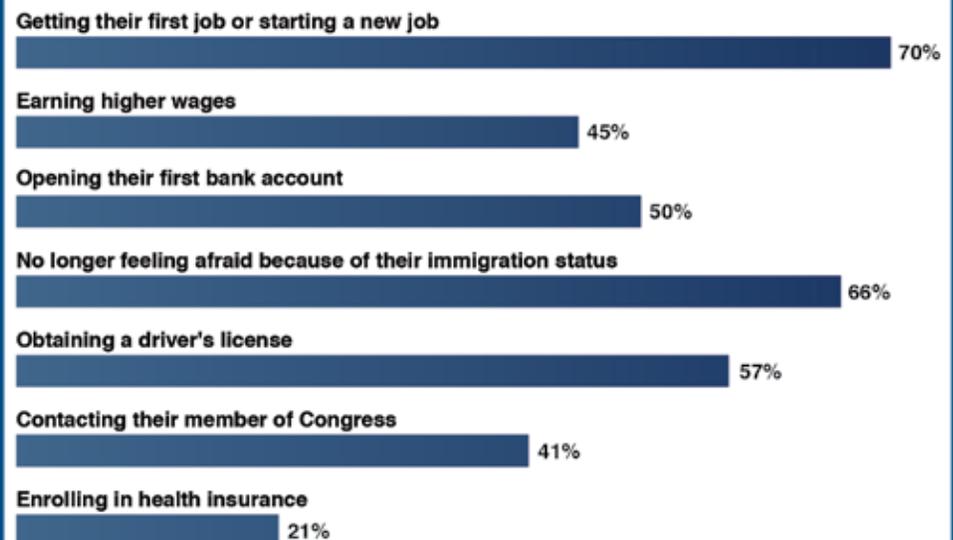
The benefits would also run much deeper and wider if Congress were to pass comprehensive immigration reform and create a pathway to citizenship for millions of undocumented immigrants. In the meantime, the president can expand the use of deferred

FIGURE 3

DACA has had enormous benefits for undocumented young people

The benefits would be more expansive and profound if Congress passed immigration reform with a path to citizenship.

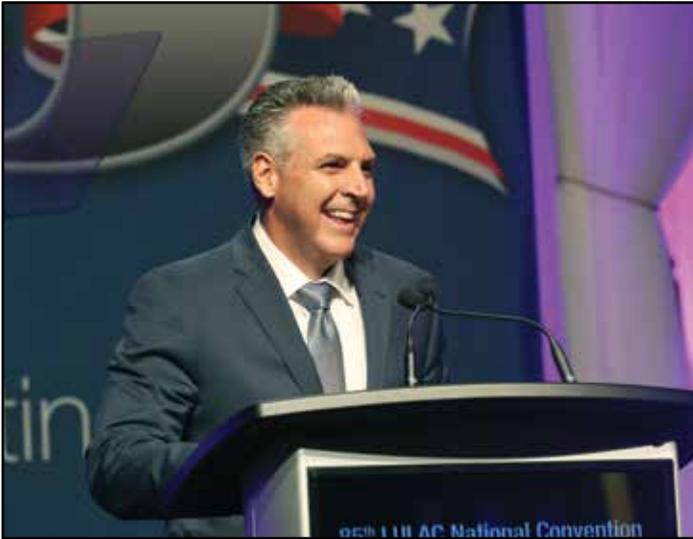
Since DACA, undocumented youth have reported:



Source: Jeanne Batalova and others, "DACA at the Two-Year Mark: A National and State Profile of Youth Eligible and Applying for Deferred Action" (Washington: Migration Policy Institute, 2014), available at <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/DACA-Report-2014-FINALWEB.pdf>; and Tom K. Wong with Carolina Valdivia, "In Their Own Words: A Nationwide Survey of Undocumented Millennials" (Washington and New York: United We Dream Network and Unbound Philanthropy, 2014), available at http://media.wix.com/ugd/bfd9f2_4ac79f01ab9f4247b580aeb3afd3da95.pdf.

action beyond DACA to other individuals who are not priorities for deportation given their length of U.S. residence, their stable employment, or the fact that they have children living with them. This expansion could help stabilize families, communities, and local economies across the country.

Zenen Jaimes Pérez is a Policy Advocate for Generation Progress, the youth division of the Center for American Progress.



Fernando Paz Executive Director, Dell Inc.



Fernando Paz, Executive Director at Dell, Inc., began his career from humble beginnings. Paz's first job was at a movie theatre that ran second-run films with Spanish subtitles. During his first day on the job, the theatre owner told Paz that he was not needed if he was just going to show up and wait to be told what to do. Rather, his job was to make himself indispensable by taking initiative and acting without being told. If there was a run on concessions, the expectation was to jump in and sell; if there was a line forming for tickets, help out at the box office; and if there was popcorn on the floor, grab a broom and sweep it up. The impact of his first boss' words instilled in him the "sweep up the popcorn" work philosophy that shaped his professional outlook. As Paz points out, "There is no shortage of popcorn in need of sweeping."

Growing up, he shared a small duplex in an urban neighborhood in Miami, Florida, along with his parents, sister, and grandmother. His parents worked in factories upon emigrating from Cuba and instilled in Paz the value of a higher education. "Knowledge is the one thing no one can take away from you, and besides, trabajar en factoria es una miseria (Factory work is misery)," his parents would say to him. "Work hard and get an education so you can decide your life's path." In his parent's eyes, a college degree would open a world of opportunities.

With his parents' blessing, and a second mortgage taken out to finance his education, Paz went to the University of Florida. It was a family affair, and a shared dream for a Paz to graduate from college; and Paz set a goal to get the best grades possible to honor his parent's sacrifice.

His first years in college were humbling. Once an honors student in high school used to getting high grades, Paz's engineering classes provided a new challenge. "It was a gut-check to know that I was no longer the smartest student in the room," said Paz. "I was outshined by other bright students."

As he watched some friends fail out of college, his hunger for success fueled his perseverance, and Paz worked tirelessly to graduate. He supplemented his education with work experience, knowing that engineering internships would not only help fund his college expenses but would also enhance his resume, improving his chances for permanent employment. The internships also provided

an unexpected benefit: that of an increased understanding in his field of study. "During the internships, as I watched the concepts in action, the theories started to click," said Paz. "As I saw how the engineering principles were applied in the real world, it helped me better understand the abstract theories I was learning in class." The work experience paid off and during his final semester Paz received all A's in his engineering classes, and he also received an offer for his dream job at Motorola.

While his love of technology led him to a career in engineering, it was his passion for people that drove him to management. He knew early on that his career path would evolve up the management ranks. Paz approached his supervisor to tell him of his intentions to become a "group leader" (the entry level management position). "My supervisor had no doubt in his mind that I would be an effective group leader," said Paz. "But he pointed out; the only problem was that there was no group for me to lead!" While disappointed, Paz learned an important lesson in career development, and that is, "to focus on what you can control, and don't worry about what you can't."

Paz took ownership of his own career development and enlisted a group of engineers to collaborate outside of the standard reporting structure. He had identified an internal productivity problem and, using the virtual group, created processes and tools to improve organizational efficiency. "I swept up the popcorn – I took the initiative to recruit two talented engineers to solve a problem, and in doing so, gained experience as a group leader, and proved my capabilities to my superior," said Paz. "Management noticed that I led this problem solving team, and when the opportunity for a group leader position presented itself, I was selected."

Now, as the Executive Director of Software Engineering at Dell, Paz has applied the lessons learned in his previous positions and integrated them into Dell's corporate culture. While he prides himself on being a motivator for his employees and attracting top talent to the company, he is the first to say that individual talent isn't everything.

Paz advocates teamwork and a cohesive group philosophy as the keys to a successful operation. "I want to know if someone is on the boat with me," he says. "A boat sails in a specific direction, and if you are not fully committed to the destination, you can imperil its course." Paz builds unity among his team and is dedicated to ensuring that everyone is on the same page when it comes to the organization's values and direction.

"First and foremost, I want everyone on my team to realize that people matter and a culture of excellence matters. The key to a good business is one whose passion is its people." In addition to serving people, Paz makes it clear that this service must be completed within a culture of excellence. He credits this to his days working in the movie theater, the idea that someone always needs to "sweep up the popcorn." A culture of excellence is built through a cohesive group philosophy, not solely the ideas of the leader.

Today, Paz is dedicated to giving back to his community as a member of the board of directors of San Juan Diego Catholic School, which provides college preparatory work study opportunities for Austin city youths. Due to his own background, Paz recognizes the transformative nature of the college experience and wants to help as many people as possible get an education to achieve their dreams.

Paz continues to demonstrate his passion for young people through Dell's support of LULAC. At the 2014 National Convention in New York City, Paz spoke to the audience of the Youth and Young Adult Awards Banquet, where he continued to inspire the next generation of LULAC leaders and advocates.

Why does Dell do what we do?

It's true, a lot has changed since Dell started in Austin, Texas, almost 30 years ago in a college dorm room. But what drives us has resolutely remained the same: Our customers. The big ones and the small ones. The captains of industry and the captains of little league. The ones across the street. And those across the hemisphere.

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Peter R. Villegas **Vice President, Latin Affairs,** **Western Region**

The Coca-Cola Company

By: Geoffrey Nolan, Communications Associate

Born the youngest of seven boys to a Mexican immigrant family, Villegas learned the value of hard work and independence from a very young age. Growing up in a tight-knit family, he inherited a disciplined work ethic from his parents, who worked tirelessly to provide the best opportunities possible for him and his siblings. In 1950, the family moved to Victorville, California, where his parents made the tough decision to leave their own Latino neighborhood and move to a predominantly white neighborhood for better opportunities for their children.

“Moving to a neighborhood where we were the minority was very difficult for us,” states Villegas. “Our neighbors didn’t know how to interact with a Mexican-American family, so it was almost like living in two different worlds, one at home and one in the community.” Villegas credits this experience with opening his mind and developing strong intercultural communication skills, a trait that he has carried with him into corporate America and incorporated into his role as Vice President of Latin Affairs for the Coca-Cola Company.

From his first job as a bank teller, Villegas saw that the key to advancement was through hard work and taking initiative. Throughout his early career he worked tirelessly to demonstrate his abilities, intelligence, and dedication to his superiors. Whenever he was told there wasn’t a solution, he found one. When his managers asked him to do something, he completed the task with a positive attitude and worked with the utmost efficiency.

After twenty years of executive experience with Washington Mutual and JPMorgan Chase & Co, Villegas accepted the opportunity to work for The Coca-Cola Company because it was a

“You should always be looking for challenges, for new opportunities, and for ways to improve the work you are currently undertaking.”

terrific opportunity to work for the most recognizable brand in the world. He also relished the opportunity to establish the Department of Latin Affairs in the Western Region of the United States, which contains some of the largest Latino populations in the country.

Villegas’ decision to continue his career at Coca-Cola reflects his mantra to never be complacent in one’s work. “A turtle doesn’t move unless it sticks its neck out,” he says, citing the popular adage. “You should always be looking for challenges, for new opportunities, and for ways to improve the work you are currently undertaking.”

Taking risks and searching for challenging opportunities has become the bedrock of Villegas’ business philosophy. When advising youth who are interested in business, he often reiterates this point, stressing hard work, patience, and developing one’s skill set. He encourages youth to bring their personalities into the workplace and incorporate their ideas into the corporate culture of the office. Villegas believes that a business is only as good as its people, and when you have a diverse group of people with diverse ideas and experiences you are ensuring that a greater variety of people have a place at the table.

Villegas holds particular interest in this last point, seeing it as fundamental to the public perception of any business. “We are more than a corporation,” he states. “We are job creators and corporate citizens.”

In addition to his accomplishments, Villegas remains dedicated to the Latino community particularly with encouraging Latino entrepreneurs and corporate leaders to pursue careers in corporate America. He especially takes pride in *Coca-Cola’s 5x20 Initiative*, which aims to create 5 million new women entrepreneurs by 2020. The Initiative partners with a variety of community partners to achieve these goals, and Villegas is proud to support this effort.

Through working with programs like the *5x20 Initiative*, serving on LULAC’s Corporate Alliance, and being a positive role model to Latino youth, Peter Villegas continues to demonstrate his commitment to the advancement of the Latino community.



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2015 LULAC Youth Pre-Convention and Convention

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Pre-Convention



Mon. July 6 - Wed. July 8



Resident hall and dining hall experience, community service projects, admissions and financial aid presentations, campus tour, and leadership training workshops on and off campus.



Registration is \$270. Deadline to register is 5:00pm ET, Monday, June 1, 2015. Package includes registration for Pre-Convention and Convention. Onsite registration is not available for this package. 80 slots available.



Convention



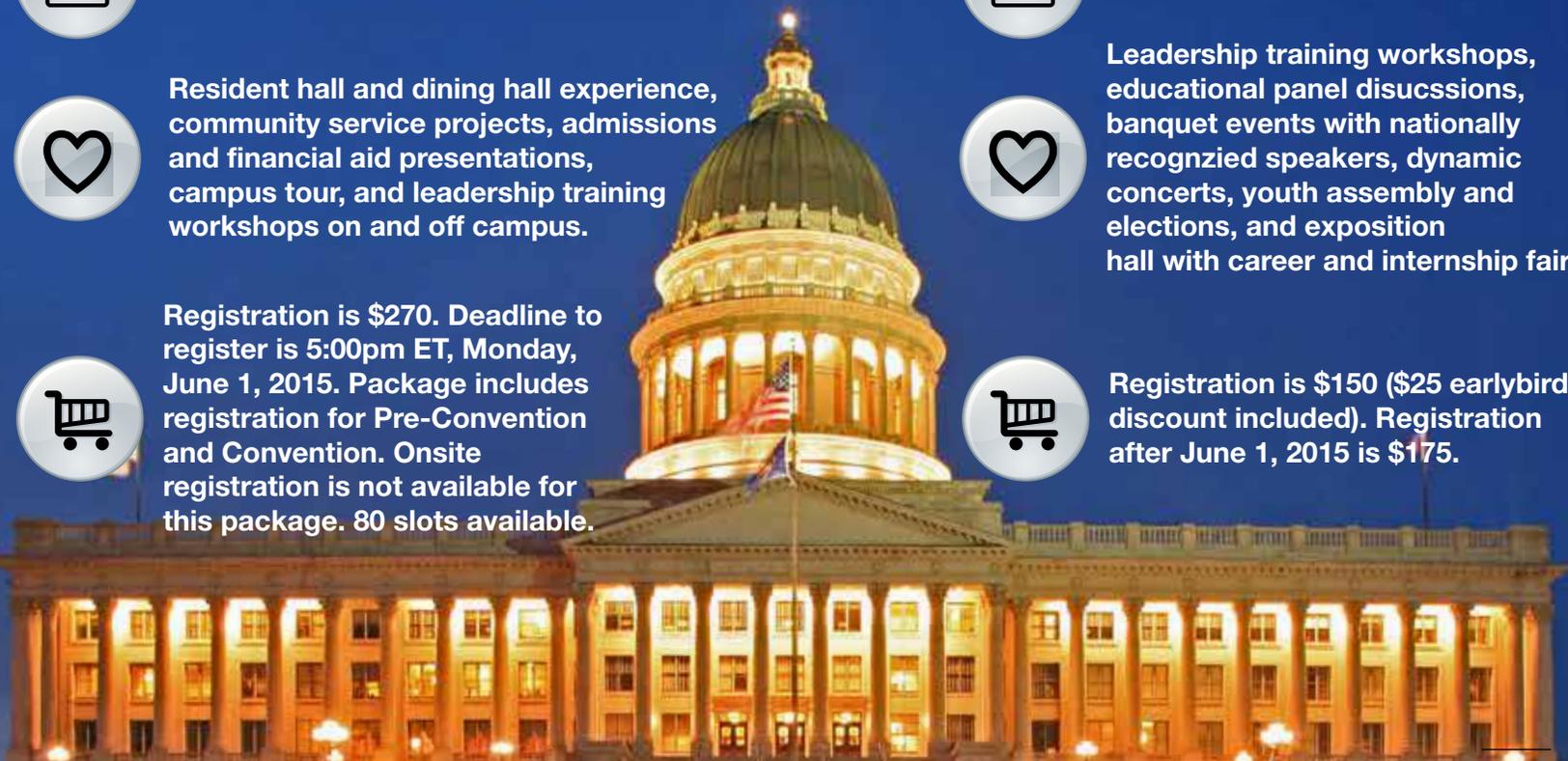
Wed. July 8 - Sat. July 11



Leadership training workshops, educational panel discussions, banquet events with nationally recognized speakers, dynamic concerts, youth assembly and elections, and exposition hall with career and internship fair



Registration is \$150 (\$25 earlybird discount included). Registration after June 1, 2015 is \$175.



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CHEVROLET





Protecting the Right to Vote

By Geoffrey Nolan, LULAC National Communications Associate

One of the hallmarks of American democracy is that all eligible citizens – regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation – have the right to vote. Unfortunately, due to the recent Supreme Court decision of *Shelby v. Holder*, our voting power is under attack, and millions of vulnerable voters have found that casting their ballot has become increasingly difficult. The 2014 midterm election cycle marked the first election cycle after the *Shelby* ruling—the first without key voter protections in fifty years. While organizations such as LULAC are implementing a variety of voter protection and empowerment programs across the country, Congress must pass voter protection legislation to ensure that suffrage remains one of the key provisions of citizen participation in American democracy. We strive for a free, fair, and accessible electoral process for all eligible voters.

While police no longer monitor polling centers to bar minorities from voting, as was seen throughout the Jim Crow era of the South, today's discrimination still manifests itself in more subtle ways. Voter ID laws, voter roll purges, early voting limitations, and same day registration cuts are modern tools that diminish the electoral power of vulnerable voters, which includes students, the elderly, low-income voters, minorities, and newly naturalized citizens. Prior to the *Shelby* decision, when states attempted to enact discriminatory voting legislation, the legal protections of the VRA impeded most partisan gerrymandering politicians. For instance, one of the most egregious attempts was with the 2012 Texas attempt to redistrict voting boundaries, which would have severely diluted minority

voting power. Federal courts used the jurisdiction awarded to them by the VRA to strike down the proposal as discriminatory, thereby protecting vulnerable Texan voters. Without Section 4 and 5, however, challenging discriminatory voting practices has become a much more difficult, cumbersome process. Without challenging voter suppression laws, they remain in place, serving as yet another barrier at the voting booth.

Despite these setbacks, LULAC members have forged ahead with the same proactive spirit that has characterized us for over 86 years. This election season, members from all over the country registered people to vote and volunteered at LULAC events aimed at ensuring that Latino voters would turn out for the 2014 election. At the national office in Washington, D.C. LULAC partnered with NALEO to host a bilingual election protection hotline wherein callers received information about their polling place, identification requirements, and electoral procedures. Election Day reminder postcard campaigns were distributed in various parts of the country, and on Election Day, LULAC and other organizations monitored polling locations in Virginia to ensure an equal application of the new Virginia voter ID law.

While these efforts are great strides in the fight against disenfranchisement, it is the responsibility of congressional leaders to draft, pass, and implement policies that embody the true spirit of American democracy. We will continue our efforts to ensure that all eligible citizens can exercise their right as is afforded by the Constitution.

Image courtesy of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum.



LULAC Court Action to Protect Suffrage

The U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* invalidated the enforcement provision of Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act (VRA). In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court held that Section 4 of the VRA was unconstitutional. Section 4 of the VRA requires eight states along with regions of seven others to get pre-approval from the U.S. Department of Justice for any new election laws or redistricting plans. The Supreme Court struck down this provision because it held that the formula for identifying districts which need pre-clearance from the U.S. Department of Justice was outdated. The Supreme Court called upon Congress to enact legislation that applies a formula that reflects today's circumstances. Throughout the year, LULAC members have met with and sent letters to their representatives advocating for election protection legislation.

- In 2004, Arizona passed a law requiring voters to bring a state-issued photo ID to the polling place. LULAC Arizona and MALDEF challenged the state, arguing that the rule would have intimidated immigrant voters, including those who may have recently become citizens, and discouraged them from going to the polls or registering. The LULAC court victory served as precedent for the 2011 case against Wisconsin.

- In 2011, Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker passed a law requiring a photo ID be shown by all voters before casting ballots. The requirement to show photo ID had been declared in violation of the Wisconsin Constitution and blocked by state and federal judges, then those decisions were overturned by the Wisconsin Supreme Court and later the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals. At the time of publication, the plaintiffs filed an emergency motion to block enforcement of the law, and the state relented, agreeing to put off the law until 2016.
- In 2012, LULAC of Iowa and the American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa filed a lawsuit successfully challenging Iowa's attempt to purge voter rolls based on citizenship. In 2015, the state of Iowa dropped the discriminatory rule.



AYOTZINAPA

y el estado de derecho en México

Por Isidro Rangel-O'Shea, LULAC National Civic Engagement and Democracy Intern

El 26 de septiembre del 2014 ocurrió uno de los hechos más lamentables en la historia del México contemporáneo: estudiantes de la Escuela Normal para Profesores de Ayotzinapa, Guerrero fueron agredidos por parte de la policía municipal de Iguala, habiendo un resultado total de 25 estudiantes lesionados y 43 desaparecidos.

Las investigaciones hechas hasta hoy día afirman que el Ex Presidente Municipal de Iguala, y su esposa, temían que los estudiantes boicotearan un evento público de María de los Ángeles Pineda, esposa del Presidente Municipal; por lo cual ordenaron a los policías municipales controlar la situación. Contrario a ello, normalistas no desaparecidos afirman que la intención de reunirse era recaudar fondos para ir a la manifestación en memoria de los estudiantes fallecidos el 2 de octubre de 1968 en la Ciudad de México.¹

Al momento de la publicación de este artículo, las principales consecuencias de la investigación son la detención del Presidente Municipal y su esposa, quienes son acusados de ser los autores intelectuales del crimen; la detención de diversos policías municipales, por participar en dichos actos, y la renuncia del Gobernador del Estado de Guerrero, por su incapacidad de respuesta ante dichos sucesos.

Sin embargo, y a pesar de lo anterior, hoy día se desconoce realmente lo sucedido. Peor es que aún no se encuentra a todos los estudiantes, o en su caso la totalidad de sus restos; lo cual permite ver la debilidad del Estado de Derecho del gobierno mexicano.

Dicha debilidad del estado de derecho, la cual se puede definir como la capacidad del gobierno de hacer cumplir la ley, o en su caso sancionar a quien la irrumpa, ha sido en México una constante

¹ <http://mexico.cnn.com/nacional/2014/11/07/43-claves-para-entender-el-caso-ayotzinapa-a-43-dias-de-su-inicio> consultado el 23 de diciembre del 2014.

desde ya algunos años. Casos: – como el incendio de la guardería ABC en Sonora durante el gobierno de Felipe Calderón; los 97 asesinatos a periodistas desde el 2010 a la fecha, según la Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos (CNDH); el caso de Florence Cassez, quien sin el debido proceso fue acusada por secuestro – han permitido ver que las instituciones encargadas de impartir justicia en México, carecen aún de estructura y legitimidad.

El caso de los estudiantes de Ayotzinapa no representa la primera vez que el gobierno mexicano ha sido rebasado por las circunstancias; pero, debido a la respuesta y a la crítica ciudadana, dicho caso ha sido objeto de dura crítica y análisis dentro y fuera de México.

Los mexicanos alzaron la voz ante dicho crimen y la aparente impunidad. Pero del cual sí se puede decir que el gobierno mexicano ha sido incapaz de dar respuestas oportunas ante el coraje de la ciudadanía, misma que se ha hecho presente a través de redes sociales y manifestaciones a lo largo de todo el país. Los hashtags como #YaMeCansé, #TodosSomosAyotzinapa, y #NosFaltan43, por ejemplo, sirven como evidencia de la respuesta débil del gobierno mexicano.

A la ciudadanía mexicana no sólo le ha molestado los escasos resultados de las investigaciones sino también ciertas acciones tomadas en relación al suceso, como lo fueron la decisión del Presidente de viajar a China a principios de Noviembre, justo cuando las manifestaciones se encontraban en gran apogeo; o la infortunada declaración del Procurador General de la República, quien en una conferencia de prensa respecto a los estudiantes de Ayotzinapa, dijo ya estar cansado, por lo cual sólo aceptaría una pregunta más.

Ante la fuerte exigencia ciudadana, el pasado 27 de noviembre el Presidente Enrique Peña anunció 10 acciones a realizar con el objetivo de fortalecer el estado de derecho y la seguridad nacional,²

² Ver decálogo completo en <http://www.animalpolitico.com>.

lo cual calmó un poco las críticas hacia su administración; sin embargo Debido a la tardanza de la respuesta, las 10 acciones no fueron muy bien recibidas por expertos, medios de comunicación y ciudadanía. Además, gran parte de esas decisiones primero deben ser aprobadas por el poder legislativo, o en su caso son actividades poco concretas, lo cual también causó gran disgusto dentro del país.

Con base en lo anterior, diversas instituciones internacionales han hecho llamados al gobierno mexicano: Amnistía Internacional ha dado 8 recomendaciones, en las cuales destaca la aceleración de las investigaciones;³ la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos pidió al gobierno mexicano acelerar las investigaciones sobre en dónde están los estudiantes, pero también sobre las causas de lo sucedido. Sin embargo no solamente han sido instituciones formales las que se han pronunciado al respecto afuera de México; diversas manifestaciones como la que tuvo lugar en Washington, D.C. fuera de la Casa Blanca, o la del joven mexicano durante el anuncio del Premio Nobel de la Paz, han permitido ver el coraje e inconformidad por la situación que atraviesa México.

Hoy a más de tres meses de la desaparición de los estudiantes (contados desde el momento de escribir), no se sabe realmente en dónde están; se desconoce quiénes fueron en su totalidad los que realizaron dicho crimen; y aún no se observa convicción y decisión, por sancionar a los culpables.

En caso de que en un corto periodo no se den respuestas y pruebas convincentes sobre las investigaciones y lo sucedido, este crimen pasará a la historia no como un crimen cualquiera, sino como un crimen que rebasó a las instituciones y gobierno mexicano, permitiendo ver la incapacidad de éste para actuar y castigar, lo que significa la debilidad de un estado de derecho. La impunidad de este acto también significaría la tragedia más grande después de 1968, año en el cual también se actuó en contra de jóvenes estudiantes.⁴

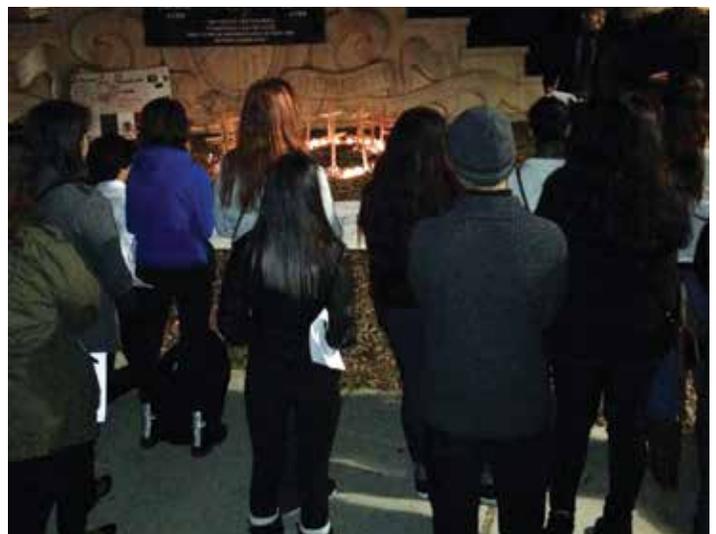
Hoy todo México tiene una gran responsabilidad: el gobierno debe continuar con las investigaciones de manera imparcial de todos los casos en los cuales se ha amenazado la seguridad de los mexicanos, asimismo de castigar a todo quien resulte responsable; las organizaciones civiles tienen la responsabilidad de seguir respaldando las peticiones ciudadanas, y ser una vía de acercamiento de los ciudadanos con las instituciones de gobierno; y en general todo mexicano, que viva fuera o dentro de México, de seguir alzando la voz, de ser empáticos con los directamente afectados, de exigir; pero también de empezar a actuar diferente, de respetar cualquier pequeña regla o ley y de fomentar el respeto hacia todo ciudadano e institución, con el objetivo de contemplar un mejor futuro para México, nuestro país vecino, un país del que todo latinoamericano, como nosotros, sentimos cariño y respeto.

Isidro Rangel OShea es estudiante de Ciencias Políticas y Administración Pública de la Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México. Gusta de la lectura y el cine, y considera que la educación es la base fundamental para el progreso de cualquier sociedad.. Hizo sus prácticas en LULAC de Septiembre a Diciembre del 2014.

Foto de Jazbeck. Cortesía de Flickr.



“Hoy todo México tiene una gran responsabilidad: el gobierno debe continuar con las investigaciones de manera imparcial de todos los casos en los cuales se ha amenazado la seguridad de los mexicanos, asimismo de castigar a todo quien resulte responsable.”



com/2014/11/pena-nieto-acuerdo-seguridad-comision-anuncio-mensaje-palacio-nacional/

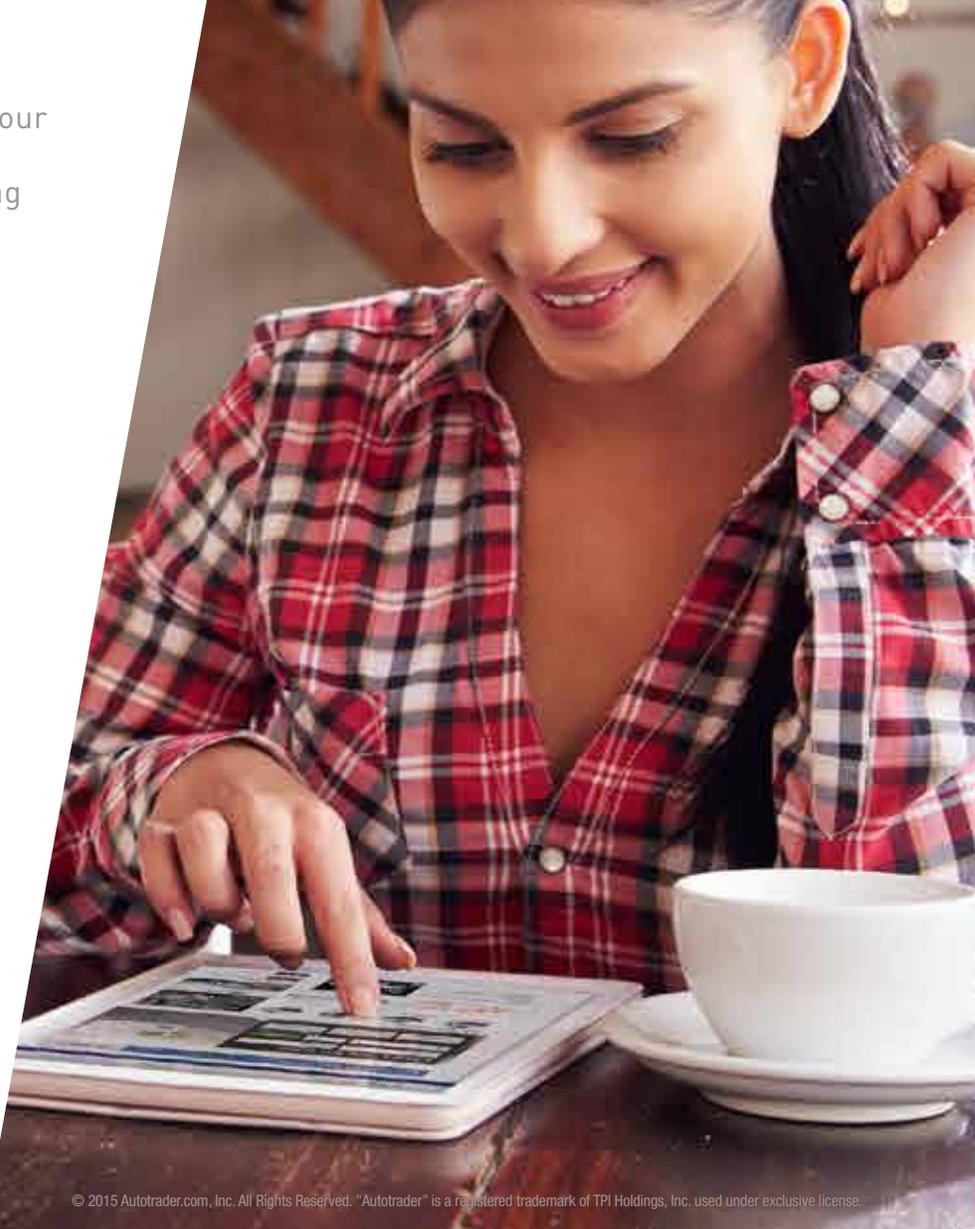
³ Ver recomendaciones de Amnistía Internacional en <http://mexico.cnn.com/nacional/2014/11/07/43-claves-para-entender-el-caso-ayotzinapa-a-43-dias-de-su-inicio>

⁴ Ver narrativas, sobre Tlletelolco 1968.



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86th LULAC National Convention & Exposition

Salt Palace Convention Center

Salt Lake City, UT | July 7 — July 11, 2015

Familia: The Building Blocks of our Society



Different by Nature.

The most exciting event in the Hispanic community!

Presented By:



Vayamos
Juntos



League of United Latin American Citizens
www.LULAC.org

President's Message

Dear Friends of LULAC,

I invite you to join LULAC in Salt Lake City, UT for the 86th National Convention and Exposition. As members of the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the country we gather every year to address the critical issues that impact our community and country. The 86th National Convention and Exposition will take place from July 7 to July 11, 2015.

As the nation's premier Latino gathering, our annual convention attracts more than 20,000 participants including top government, business, labor and community leaders for a week filled with renowned speakers, important seminars, celebrities and exciting entertainment.

The 86th Convention takes place in Salt Lake City, UT. Utah is also one of the fastest-growing Hispanic communities in the nation. At the Convention, you can expect to hear from Members of Congress, cabinet secretaries, local elected officials, academic experts, and respected business and community leaders.



Each year, the LULAC Convention generates tremendous excitement. At the Convention, LULAC delegates elect the national leadership and establish LULAC's policy priorities. In addition, during the Convention there will be seminars and workshops which will feature expert panelists to discuss many

key issues to the Latino community, including immigration reform, education, health care and civil rights. There will also be separate tracks for the youth and young adults which will provide our emerging leaders with workshops on community service, leadership development, career opportunities and advocacy training.

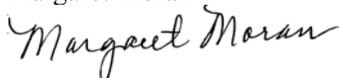
As part of the Convention, there will be the 2015 LULAC Expo and Career Fair which will feature a multitude of private and government agencies. Those groups are made up of over 300 corporate partners, government agencies, colleges and universities, labor unions, armed forces, and non-profit organizations. Each will be displaying their products and services, as well as, recruiting Latinos for employment at the LULAC Career Fair. In addition, the LULAC Convention hosts the Federal Training Institute—an intensive and structured career development program for government employees.

Families will also not want to miss the excellent free entertainment and free screenings at the health fair!

Please join us for the 86th LULAC National Convention and Exposition as we celebrate 86 years of service to the Hispanic community.

Sincerely,

Margaret Moran



Information

Summit Location

Salt Palace Convention Center
100 South West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT, 84101
TEL: +1-385-468-2222

Hotel

Hilton Salt Lake City Center

255 South West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT, 84101
TEL: +1-801-328-2000
FAX: 1-801-238-4888
www.hiltonsaltlakecity.com
Single: \$106 Double: \$106
Cutoff date: June 12, 2015

Salt Lake Marriott at City Creek

75 South West Temple
Salt Lake City UT 84101
www.marriott.com
1-888-236-2427
Single: \$149 Double \$149
Cutoff date: June 26, 2015

Air Transportation

The following airlines offer special discounts to our attendees

American Airlines
(800) 433-1790
www.aa.com

United
(800) 468-7022
www.united.com
Discount Code: ZUVQ637303

Southwest Airlines
(800) 435-9792
www.southwest.com

Expo Services

Hargrove Inc.
One Hargrove Drive
Lanham, MD 20706
Phone: 301-306-4627
Fax: 301-731-5438
customerservice@hargroveinc.com

Tuesday, July 7

1 pm to 5 pm	Registration
8 am to 5 pm	Federal Agency Pre-Conference Meeting
6 pm to 8 pm	Opening Reception*

Wednesday, July 8

7 am to 12, 2 to 5	Registration
9 am to 11:45 am	Federal Training Institute
10 am to 11 am	Ribbon-Cutting and Exposition Opening
Noon to 1:45 pm	Partnership Luncheon*
2 pm to 2:30 pm	National Assembly—Committee Assignments
2 pm to 4:30 pm	Federal Training Institute
2:30 pm to 5 pm	Concurrent Seminars
7 pm to 10 pm	Taste of Utah Celebration*

Thursday, July 9

7 to 12, 2 to 5	Registration
7 am to 9:00 am	Defenders of Freedom Breakfast*
9 am to noon	Concurrent Seminars
9 am to 2 pm	Federal Training Institute
10 am to 5 pm	Exposition and Job Fair Open

Thursday, July 9 (continued)

Noon to 2 pm	Unity Luncheon*
2 pm to 5 pm	Concurrent Seminars
6 pm to 8 pm	Youth and Young Adults Awards Banquet*
8 pm to 11 pm	Concierto: Voces Unidas por America*

Friday, July 10

7 to 12, 2 to 5	Registration
7:30 am to 9 am	LNESC Breakfast*
9 am to noon	Concurrent Seminars
9 am to 4 pm	Youth/Collegiate Career Forum
10 am to 4 pm	Exposition and Job Fair Open
Noon to 2 pm	FTI Youth Career Luncheon*
Noon to 2 pm	Women's Luncheon*
2:30 to 4:30 pm	LULAC National Assembly Reconvenes
6 pm to 7 pm	Presidential Reception* (black-tie)
7 pm to 11 pm	Presidential Awards Banquet*

Saturday, July 11

8 am to 5 pm	LULAC National Assembly & Elections
--------------	-------------------------------------

* **Bolded items denote sponsorship opportunities.**

2015 Highlights

■ **Presidential Awards Banquet & Ball** ■ **Unity Luncheon** ■ **Women's Luncheon** ■ **Concierto: Voces Unidas por America** ■ **Utah Celebration** ■ **Partnership Luncheon** ■ **Youth and Young Adults Awards Ceremony** ■ **Presidential Reception** ■ **Opening Reception** ■ **LNESC Breakfast**

LULAC Expo

Free! A three-day event showcasing products and services of major corporations, organizations, and government agencies.

Career Fair

This three-day event features great jobs from over 250 top companies and federal agencies that are ready to interview and hire on the spot.

College Fair

More than 30 representatives from top notch colleges are anxious to talk with you about postsecondary opportunities at their institutions.

Health Fair

Free screenings for diabetes, hypertension and other chronic diseases. Obtain free health services for your whole family.

Youth Conference

three-day event for Hispanic youth, featuring community service projects and workshops on youth issues and career opportunities.

Young Adult Conference

A three-day event for Latino college students, featuring leadership development and policy discussions on issues impacting college life.

Federal Training Institute

The LULAC Convention hosts the LULAC Federal Training Institute (FTI), an intensive and structured career development program for government and public sector employees. FTI offers workshops and plenary sessions that enable government employees to enhance their leadership skills and develop their Executive Core Qualifications.

A

Seminars

Free! Three days of seminars will focus on key issues facing Latinos:

- **Civic Engagement**
- **Civil Rights**
- **Diversity**
- **Education**
- **Employment**
- **Entrepreneurship**
- **Financial Management**
- **Health Care**
- **Housing**
- **Immigration**
- **Latina Empowerment**
- **Leadership**
- **Media**
- **Public Service**
- **Technology**

Registration

LULAC Fiscal Office
221 N Kansas Street, Suite 501
El Paso TX 79901
1-866-577-0726
www.LULAC.org



President Barack Obama speaks at the 2010 convention.

Tuesday, July 7

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Attendance: 600

Opening Reception: Join us to kickoff LULAC National Convention and Expo.

This event is full excitement as we provide a brief preview of the convention and expo which features important national and local speakers and elected officials, workshops, and panels.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$25,000

Wednesday, July 8

7 pm to 10 pm

Attendance: 900

Utah Celebration: Hosted by local LULAC Utah councils, This event highlights the best that Utah has to offer. It features local cuisine from around the state, music by local artist and showcases the Utah culture and traditions; join us to learn more about what Utah has to offer.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$35,000

Thursday, July 9

Noon to 2 pm

Attendance: 900

Partnership Luncheon:

Promotes unity among Hispanics and other communities in the United States. Highlights LULAC's corporate and government partnerships. This is the perfect forum to promote your initiatives with LULAC.

Speakers focus on working together to make America stronger.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$35,000

7 pm to 9 pm

Attendance: 800

Youth & Young Adults Awards Dinner: Emphasizes LULAC Youth

programs and features an elegant awards presentation for LULAC's young future leaders.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$35,000

7 pm to 11 pm

Attendance: 3,000

Concierto de la Gente:

LULAC's Concert for the People features top Latino entertainment in an event that is open to the public and free of charge.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$50,000



ABOVE: Pee Wee performs at the Concierto de la Gente in Las Vegas, NV. BELOW: Jennifer Lopez addresses the LULAC membership.

Friday, July 10

7:30 am to 9 am

Attendance: 400

LNESC Breakfast: Hosted by the LULAC National Educational Service Centers, this event celebrates LULAC's educational and STEM programs as well as our National Scholarship Fund.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$20,000

Noon to 2 pm

Attendance: 1,000

Women's Hall of Fame

Luncheon: Focuses on the contributions made by Latinas to the U.S. it also celebrates Latinas

leaders who have made a difference in their communities and the country. This event also features the induction of 5 women into the LULAC Women's Hall of Fame.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$50,000

Friday (Cont.)

6 pm to 7 pm

Attendance: 900

Presidential Reception:

Kicks off the main and best attended evening of the convention. This black tie event features Hispanic leaders from throughout the U.S.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$35,000.



ABOVE LEFT: Sand Castle
ABOVE RIGHT: National President
Margaret Moran addresses the
LULAC members in Las Vegas, NV

BELOW: The LULAC Expo features
corporate and Federal plazas, a job
fair, health fair, housing fair, college
fair and free entertainment.

Friday (Cont.)

7 pm to 10 pm

Attendance: 1,200

Presidential Awards Banquet:

This magnificent black-tie event
highlights individuals who have
given outstanding service to the
Hispanic community throughout
the year. Top national leaders
deliver keynote address.

Minimum Sponsorship: \$50,000



Sponsorship, Exhibitor & Advertising Agreement

Please print or type the requested information below as it should appear in the convention program and on name badge:

Name _____ Title _____

Corporation/Agency _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Advertising

The 2015 LULAC National Convention Program provides an excellent opportunity for placing recruitment and community relations advertisements highlighting your corporate contributions to the Hispanic community. Over 7,000 copies will be distributed. All ads are full color. Please indicate choices below (trim sizes):

- Full Color (8.5"x11") \$3,000
- Half Page (8.5"x5.5") \$1,750
- Inside Cover (8.5"x11") \$4,000
- Back Cover (8.5"x11") \$4,500

Notes:

1. 1/8" bleed area all around.
2. Preferred material: PDF digital material which can be sent to the address below or emailed to jsapunar@LULAC.org. Live area is 1/4" less than trim all around. Material returned only upon request.
3. No cancellations after 6/15/15.
4. The publisher and LULAC shall be under no liability for errors made by the advertiser.
5. This agreement, artwork and payment must be received by 6/15/15.

Exhibitor

The LULAC Convention Exposition is the premier venue for showcasing products and services to the Hispanic community and recruiting employees. Open from 10 am to 5 pm on Wed, 7/8, 10 am to 5 pm on Thur, 7/9, and 10 am to 4 pm on Fri, 7/10. Please select from your choices below:

Number of spaces requested _____

Indicate exhibit dimensions _____

Yes, I need the standard exhibitor's equipment package consisting of an 8' high backwall, 3' high side rails, one six foot table, two chairs, and an I.D. sign.

I do not need the standard exhibitor's package.

The cost per space is indicated below:

	Before 6/15/15	After 6/15/15
Corporate (10' x 10')	\$2,500	\$3,000
Government, Career Fair (10' x 10')	\$2,000	\$2,500
Non-profit or College Fair (10' x 10')	\$1,500	\$2,000

Sponsorships

Sponsoring an event or workshop at the LULAC Convention is an ideal way to reach out to national Hispanic leaders and influential community members. The following packages are offered.

Presenting \$200,000+

Convention Title Sponsor; Exclusive Exhibit Space; 4 Tables; 2 Full Page Color Ads; 30 Registrations; Signage Throughout the Convention & Expo

Diamond \$100,000+

Convention Sponsor; Exclusive Exhibit Space; 3 Tables; 2 Full Page Color Ads; 20 Registrations; Signage Throughout the Convention & Expo

Presidential \$75,000+

Convention Sponsor; Exclusive Exhibit Space; 2 Tables; 2 Color

Judicial—\$50,000+

Co-Sponsor for one event; Exclusive Exhibit space; 1 Table; 2 full page Color Ads; 10 Registrations; Signage Throughout the Convention & Expo

Senatorial—\$35,000+

4 Exhibits; 1 Table; 1 Color Ad; 5 Registrations; Signage Throughout the Convention & Expo.

Congressional—\$25,000+

2 Exhibits; Color Ad; 3 Registrations; Signage Throughout the Convention & Expo.

Patriot—\$15,000+



LULAC National Office
 1133 19th Street, NW, Suite 1000
 Washington, DC 20036
 (202) 833-6130
 FAX (202) 833-6135
 Email: sperez@LULAC.org

Signature of Authorized Representative _____ Date _____

Total _____ Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

MasterCard Visa American Express

Signature _____

Make checks payable to the 2015 LULAC National Convention and mail to the LULAC National Office. Credit card orders accepted by fax or Email: mmarsans@lulac.org for more information or visit our website at: www.LULAC.org. Federal agencies use DUNS #789553372 "LULAC Institute, Inc." DBA LULAC National Convention

2015 LULAC National Convention Pre-Registration

Please print or type the requested information below as it should appear in the convention program and on name badge:

Name _____ Title _____

Corporation/Agency/Council _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

General

- Guest
- Federal Training Institute
- Sponsor
- Exhibitor
- Media

LULAC Council

- Member
- Delegate
- Alternate
(For Members Only)

LULAC Officer†

- District Director
- State Director
- National Officer
- Past National Officer

Youth*

- Member
- Delegate
- Alternate

*Must enter Council number in Council line. †Must enter district, state, or position in Title line.

Registration Packages

- Youth Members (Wed-Sat) \$175
- LULAC Young Adults/Seniors (ID required) \$275
- LULAC Members (Wed-Sat) \$300
- Non-members (Wed-Sat) \$400
- FTI—Federal Training Institute (Mon-Sat) \$500
- Corporate Attendees (Mon-Sat) \$575

Individual Tickets

- Registration \$20
- Tuesday Opening Reception \$35
- Wednesday Partnership Luncheon \$65
- Wednesday Utah Celebration \$80
- Thursday Unity Luncheon \$65
- Youth and Young Adults Awards \$65
- Thursday Concierto Voces Unidas \$40
- Friday Women's Luncheon \$65
- Friday Presidential Reception & Banquet \$100

Early Bird Discount! Individuals purchasing full registrations will receive a \$25 discount if they pay in full by 06/1/15.

FTI and Corporate packages include registration, seminars, meals, and all events (5 days). Youth, member & nonmember packages include registration and all seminars, meals and events from Wednesday lunch through Saturday.

Packages do not include Friday Breakfast.

FTI and Corporate packages include registration, seminars, meals, and all events (6 days). Youth, member & non-member packages include registration and all seminars, meals and all events from Wednesday lunch through Saturday. Packages do not include Friday Breakfast.

Total _____ Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

MasterCard Visa American Express

Signature _____

Payment can be made by cash, check or major credit card. For preregistration, mail completed registration form along with check payable to 2015 LULAC National Convention or credit card information to the address on the right. Credit card orders accepted by fax. There is a \$25.00 handling fee for all returned checks. Federal agencies use DUNS #789553372 "LULAC Institute, Inc." DBA LULAC National Convention

LULAC Fiscal Office
221 N Kansas Street, Suite 501
El Paso TX 79901
(915) 577-0726, FAX (915) 577-0914

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Nissan North America
The Coca-Cola Company
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VME TV
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LULAC National Office

1133 19th Street, NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20036
www.LULAC.org

Latinos Build a Strong Financial Foundation with LULAC Program Pocket Smart



Bank of America 

By Cristina Sandoval, Workforce Development Programs Coordinator

The average American has a savings fund of about \$500, a meager amount considering the average American household debt of \$15,236. More astounding yet is the fact that more than half (56%) of the average Latino's income goes towards debt payments. In order to remedy the increasing amount of debt, it is important to know the reasons why Latinos accumulate debt. Poor money management, saving too little or not at all, and a poor financial background are among the top reasons.

Together with Bank of America, LULAC is expanding the Pocket Smart program to include critical information on budgeting and savings best practices. The purpose of Pocket Smart is to bring free financial resources to the Latino community that will help them build a strong financial foundation as well as their confidence,

so that they can continue to manage their money wisely. The importance of having a savings fund, using a budget and methods to pay off debts is critical to ensuring a happy and financially secure future. Together, Bank of America and LULAC have reached a total of 235 individuals in cities across the country.

"I was pleased to serve as presenter on behalf of LULAC and introduce some practical day to day savings tips. The information and examples were overwhelmingly received by the workshop attendees," said Noemi Rosa, Bank of America Assistant Vice President for a local bank in Chicago, Illinois.

To review the Pocket Smart materials on your own, please visit our webpage at PocketSmart.org. For more information on Bank of America's financial curriculum, please visit BetterMoneyHabits.com.

Saving	Budgeting	Debt & Credit Cards
<p>Create a Savings Plan</p> <p>A strong plan should include enough money to cover at least 3 months' worth of expenses.</p> <p>Keep your savings in a safe place that is relatively available and interest-earning.</p> <p>Ask your bank about options.</p> <p>Cook at home or bring your lunch to work.</p> <p>Brew your own coffee. Avid drinkers can save up \$700 per year.</p> <p>Use coupons, like from RetailMeNot.com and Groupon.com.</p> <p>Live green: use a water bottle, and turn off the lights when not in use.</p>	<p>Reasons to Have a Budget</p> <p>Helps meet monthly financial obligations.</p> <p>Make payments on time.</p> <p>Save for retirement.</p> <p>Increase savings for emergencies and debts.</p> <p>When Creating a Budget:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know your income. 2. Determine your fixed and variable expenses. 3. Prioritize. 4. Keep track. 5. Review monthly. 	<p>Can't Seem to Make Minimum Payments?</p> <p>Speak to a professional at www.NFCC.org.</p> <p>Two strategies to reduce debt are the snowball and high interest rate methods.</p> <p>Don't use your credit card for a purchase that you want. Only use it for items you need. This is a sure step towards a smart spending path and being debt-free.</p> <p>If you can't avoid using your credit card, "freeze" it instead of canceling it. Put your credit card in water and then freeze it into a block of ice.</p>
<p>For more details on any of the information provided above please visit www.PocketSmart.org/resources.</p>		

2015 LULAC National Convention Rules

1. Only delegates, or alternates replacing a delegate, wearing their certified badges, will be allowed in the voting section. All other persons shall be seated in an observation area designated by the Credentials Committee. The only exception to this rule shall be to accommodate a physically challenged delegate or alternate who desires to be seated in a special area.

2. A member in good standing has the right to ask that non-members be removed from the election area. This shall include the news media.

3. An Election Judge shall be appointed by the National President to conduct the elections.

4. The Election Judge shall appoint a Time Keeper and three Official Counters for all elections. When voting is conducted by secret ballot using electronic means, the Election Judge shall appoint three official observers for the purposes of being present at time of electronic voting system installation and testing. Testing to include a sample test vote and to report their findings to the National Assembly.

5. Elections shall be held by standing, show of hands, roll call or secret ballot. In cases of a roll call vote, the head of each delegation shall announce his/her council's vote and the Election Judge shall repeat the vote to the floor. The only exception to this rule shall be to accommodate a physically challenged delegate who desires to be seated in a special area.

6. No delegate or alternate may have more than one vote in any one election.

7. Voting in absentia shall not be allowed.

8. A candidate not previously announced, as per the LULAC National Constitution, may run from the floor provided that a written certification endorsement by the total accredited delegations of a minimum of five councils, including the candidate's home council, is made to the Election Judge prior to the time of nominations for the office in question.

9. When voting by show of hands, roll call, or secret ballot, each candidate has the right to appoint one counter for the purposes verifying the count. If voting is conducted via secret ballot utilizing electronic means, each candidate has the right to appoint an observer for the purposes of being present at time of electronic voting system installation and testing. Testing to include a sample test vote.

10. Each candidate shall have five minutes for speeches which shall follow the closure of nominations for the office in question.

11. In elections where candidates are running unopposed their elections will be combined and held by acclamation. In elections in which more than two candidates are involved, and no one receives 50 percent plus 1 majority of the certified votes, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall immediately go into a runoff. No speeches shall be allowed in runoff elections.

12. Challenges to any election must be issued to the National Legal Advisor within 5 minutes after the outcome of the election is announced. It shall take a two-thirds vote to overturn any ruling made by the National Legal Advisor.

13. First reading of all Constitutional Amendments and Resolutions will be presented immediately after the Assembly is convened.

14. The order of elections shall be as follows and will be conducted after resolutions/amendments are voted on:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. National President | 8. National VP for the Midwest |
| 2. National VP for Women | 9. National VP for the Farwest |
| 3. National VP for Youth | 10. National VP for the Southeast |
| 4. Nat'l VP for Young Adults | 11. National VP for the Northeast |
| 5. National VP for the Elderly | 12. Nat'l VP for the Northwest |
| 6. National Treasurer | 13. 2017 Convention Site |
| 7. Nat'l VP for the Southwest | 14. 2018 Convention Site |

15. The presentation of Constitutional Amendments from the floor shall not be allowed. Discussion on Constitutional Amendments shall be limited to 3 speakers for and 3 speakers against with each speaker having two minutes.

16. All resolutions must be type written and submitted in the form provided for in the LULAC website and submitted by a local council in good standing. Approved State resolutions must be submitted to the National Office within five days of passage. The Resolutions Committee shall read the resolved portion of each resolution and make its recommendation to the assembly. Discussion on each resolution shall be limited to two speakers for and two speakers against with each speaker having two minutes. A speaker must announce if he/she is speaking in favor of or against the resolution in question.

17. Resolutions from the floor shall be accepted. The resolution from the floor must be type written and submitted by using the form provided in the LULAC website and signed by the total registered delegation of the offering council. The written resolution from the floor must be presented to the Resolutions Committee and the State Director or his/her designee be notified. The Resolution Committee Chair shall read the resolution in its entirety and call for a vote. The same time limit, number of speakers, and announcement as in rule 16 shall apply to this rule.

18. Any issue not covered by these Convention Rules will be determined by the proper provisions within the LULAC National Constitution, By-Laws & Protocol, and Robert's Rules of Order (revised) in that order.

19. These adopted 2015 Convention Rules may be changed by a two-thirds vote of the assembly.

20. Delegates, Alternates and Guests must maintain proper decorum at all times. Whistling and whistles are not allowed. No photography, video, or audio recordings will be permitted. Upon violation a warning will be issued by the Election Judge, after which, if violation is repeated, rule 21 will be invoked.

21. Any individual disrupting election proceedings as determined by the Election Judge, or that uses profanity, verbally threatens or attacks another member on or near the voting floor will be removed from the voting floor and that charges to expel the member for "actions contrary to the principles of LULAC" shall be brought against the member by the presiding officer at the next National Board or Executive Committee meeting, whichever occurs first.

2015 LULAC National Awards

LULAC, within its membership, will bestow several national awards presented during the Presidential Banquet at the LULAC Conventions. These awards are the highest honor bestowed by LULAC and are given to those individuals whose achievements and community service most exemplify the ideals of the League. The recipients of these prestigious awards are selected by an awards committee which is appointed by the national president. The awards committee reviews the nominations of LULAC Councils and selects the recipients based upon established criteria.

The Awards

The following awards have been established by the awards committee and will be presented at the convention:

- Man of the Year
- Woman of the Year
- Council of the Year
- Raymond Telles Award for Education
- Felix Tijerina Award for Service to the League
- Aztec Award for Civil Rights
- J.C. Martínez Award for Membership and Expansion
- Cesar Chávez Award for Leadership and Community Service
- Dr. Anita Del Rio Award for Latina Leadership and Women's Advocacy
- Senior Award, presented by National VP for the Elderly
- John Arnold Humanitarian and Community Service Award
- Cresencio Padilla Award for Volunteerism

Criteria for Council of the Year Award

1. Council must be chartered and in good standing in the League.
2. Council must have been awarded Council of the Year at the District and State levels.
3. Council must have sponsored a LULAC Youth Council in the past year.
4. Council will receive special consideration for participation in the LNESc scholarship program.
5. Council must have participated in

humanitarian and civic causes that have made an impact on LULAC and the community.

6. Council must have proof of all LULAC and community-related awards and recognition it claims, i.e., newspaper clippings, scrapbook, award letters, etc.
7. Council must have letters from its District and State Directors certifying that it was selected at the respective conventions.
8. The period of consideration for Council of the Year shall be one year prior to the National Convention. Achievements and activities prior to the period for which the nomination is made will not be considered.

Criteria for Man of the Year Award

1. Nominee must be a member of a chartered LULAC Council in good standing in the League.
2. Nominee must be in good standing in the League.
3. Nominee must have been selected as Man of the Year at the Council, District, and State levels.
4. Nominee must have contributed talent, skills, and time to the betterment of LULAC and the community.
5. Nominee must provide proof of involvement in LULAC and the community, including newspaper clippings, award letters, etc.
6. Nominee must have letters from his Council President, District, and State Directors, certifying that he was selected at their respective conventions.
7. The period of consideration for Man of the Year shall be one year prior to the National Convention. Achievements and activities prior to the period for which the nomination is made will not be considered.

Criteria for Woman of the Year Award

1. Nominee must be a member of a chartered LULAC Council in good standing in the League.
2. Nominee must be in good standing in the League.
3. Nominee must have been selected as Woman of the Year at the

Council, District, and State levels.

4. Nominee must have contributed talents, skills and time to the betterment of LULAC and the community.
5. Nominee must provide proof of involvement in LULAC and the community and include newspaper clippings, scrapbook, award letters, etc.
6. Nominee must have letters from her Council President, District and State Directors certifying that she was selected at their respective conventions.
7. The period of consideration for Woman of the Year shall be one year prior to the National Convention. Achievements and activities prior to the period for which the nomination is made will not be considered.

Criteria for LULAC Special Awards

- Membership
 - Loyalty
 - Service
 - Achievements
 - Awards
 - Contributions
 - Leadership
 - Recognition
 - Actions
 - Projects
 - Accomplishments
 - Volunteerism
1. Any LULAC member in good standing is eligible to be nominated for a LULAC Special Award.
 2. Any member of LULAC can nominate a LULAC member for a LULAC Special Award.
 3. Nomination and questionnaire forms must be submitted to the LULAC National Office prior to the National Convention.

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The following amendments to the LULAC National Constitution have been submitted in accordance to Article XIV, Section 2 for consideration and vote at the 2015 LULAC National Convention to be held July 7-July 11, 2015 in Salt Lake City, Utah. I would like to give special thanks to Carlos Caballero for chairing the amendments committee, collecting the amendments and preparing them to be sent to the councils.

Please bring these proposed amendments to the attention of all your members.

If you have any questions please call the LULAC National Office. Thank you.

Amendment 1: Create New Veteran Affairs Positions at the National, State and District Level

Article VIII – National Officers, Section 1—Elective Officers (pg 29)

Insert f. National Vice President for Veteran Affairs;
Move the remaining officers down one letter (g-m)

Article VI – Organization Structure, Section 5—The State Executive Board, Subsection a – Definition and Composition (pg 17)

Insert (4) The Deputy State Director for Veteran Affairs;
Renumber the remaining officers (5-11)

Article IX – State Officers, Section 1—Elective Officers (pg 44)

Insert e. Deputy State Director for Veteran Affairs;
Move the remaining officers down one letter (f-h)

Article VI – Organization Structure, Section 7—The District Executive Board, Subsection a – Definition and Composition (pg 20)

Insert (4) The Deputy District Director for Veteran Affairs;
Renumber the remaining officers (5-11)

Article X – District Officers, Section 1—Elective Officers (pg 48)

Insert e. Deputy District Director for Veteran Affairs;
Move the remaining officers down one letter (f-h)

Submitted by LULAC council 4967, Houston, Texas

Amendment 2: Article VIII, Section 5—Election of National Officers, Subsection (e) (pg 32)

Current reading:

“Candidates for National Vice President for a geographical region must belong to a council within the region. The six LULAC regional areas are listed below.”

Amend to read:

“Candidates for National Vice President for a geographical region must belong to a council within the region **and are elected by a majority vote of the accredited delegates from that region only.** The six LULAC regional areas are listed below.”

Submitted by Lorenzo Patiño LULAC Council #2862, Sacramento, California

Amendment 3: Article VI, Section 8—The Local Council, Subsection b (3) (pg 21)

Delete last sentence:

“All councils chartered 30 days prior to the National Convention will be allowed to have voting privileges;”

Add Subsection b (4) and renumber the following subsections

(4) All councils chartered 365 days prior to the National Assembly meeting the following criteria will be granted voting privileges at the National Assembly. Those not meeting the criteria will not be allowed to vote in the National Assembly.

a. **Active council:** Each council must submit proof with their charter renewal that they have conducted at least two (2) fund-raising, civic, social or welfare projects in the previous calendar year;

b. **Training:** Each council must have their President, Vice President, Treasurer and Parliamentarian take and pass the LULAC 101 training administered by the LULAC National Office.

Add Subsection b (4) and renumber the following subsections

Submitted by Central Iowa Council #307, Des Moines, Iowa

Amendment 4: Article VI, Section 8—The Local Council, Subsection b (6) Charter Fees (pg 22)

Add new sentence to the end of Subsection b (6):

“Payment in the form of check, credit card or money order must be in the name of the LULAC Council applying for or renewing their charter, or that of a member of said council.”

Submitted by Central Iowa Council #307, Des Moines, Iowa

Amendment 5: Article VIII, Section 4—Qualifications, Subsection b (pg 30):

Add new sentence to the end of Subsection b

“In the case of the Treasurer, the person must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or possess an accounting degree or be currently employed in the field of accounting.”

Submitted by Central Iowa Council #307, Des Moines, Iowa

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Over the past three and a half years, thousands of partners have come together to bring home Internet to low-income families across America, creating greater access to education, healthcare, employment, and information. Internet Essentials is the nation's largest and most comprehensive broadband adoption program, **connecting more than 1.8 million low-income Americans, or more than 450,000 families, to home Internet and free digital literacy training.**

- Offered in more than 30,000 schools and 4,000 school districts in 39 states and the District of Columbia
- Partner with thousands of community-based organizations, government agencies, and federal, state, and local elected officials to spread the word

We've distributed nearly 45 million Internet Essentials brochures at no cost and nearly 38,000 computers. To help more people gain access to home Internet, we've also expanded eligibility to include families who have an outstanding bill that is more than one year old. And community partners can now sponsor approved families by purchasing Internet Essentials opportunity cards to apply to their accounts.

Participating families get home Internet service for \$9.95 per month plus tax with no credit check, the option to purchase a desktop or laptop computer at enrollment for \$149.99 plus tax and access to free digital literacy training.

Learn more about this initiative at
InternetEssentials.com




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La Inteligencia Emocional para los Niños

By Ariadna Lira Ang, LULAC Education Policy Intern

La inteligencia emocional es el **poder refrenar impulsos emocionales, interpretar los sentimientos del otro y manejar las relaciones de manera fluida**. La inteligencia emocional en niños brinda mejores habilidades sociales y académicas. Cuando psicólogos estudiaron los resultados de los programas escolares que enseñan inteligencia emocional, encontraron que hasta el 50 por ciento de los estudiantes mejoraron sus notas y hasta el 38 por ciento sus promedios generales. Además, se notó un aumento en la seguridad de la escuela: el mal comportamiento se disminuyó un 28 por ciento mientras que las suspensiones por un 44 por ciento. La formación de las aptitudes emocionales y sociales revoluciona las capacidades académicas de los niños, resultando en un futuro mejor.

Niños con una inteligencia emocional desarrollada crecen a ser adultos con habilidades de comunicación y socialización extensivas. Con buena percepción de emociones sabrán resolver problemas pacíficamente, manifestando sus emociones de manera positiva.

La inteligencia emocional no solo se puede lograr en el aula de escuela; el hogar también tiene un papel importante en su desarrollo.

Si la familia no pasa tiempo de calidad y si los hijos pasan la mayor parte del tiempo solos, no se desarrollará la inteligencia emocional, ni muchas otras habilidades.

La utilización adecuada del tiempo libre – una gratificante y significativa – proporciona armonía en el ritmo de vida. El tiempo libre de calidad mejora las expresiones emocionales, ya que la familia es la primera instancia socializadora de los niños. Cuando los niños se crían con estímulos negativos, como la soledad, pocos límites, descuido, o maltrato, ellos aprenden a tener emociones negativas y pocas habilidades sociales. Por esta causa llegan sin conocimiento del comportamiento apropiado y del auto motivación.

Los padres deben trabajar con sus niños a edades tempranas para concentrarse en actividades para hablar, compartir y trabajar en equipo. Los bebés y los niños pequeños necesitan formar lazos con los padres para crear

la semilla de empatía y compasión, la que después se convierte en inteligencia emocional. Si los padres esperan hasta que sean mayores es mucho más difícil conectarse con ellos y empeora la posibilidad de crear salud mental saludable. Actividades simples como tomarse unos minutos para leer un cuento antes de dormir cada noche tiene un gran

Si no enseñamos a nuestros pequeños a reconocer sus emociones entonces será difícil para ellos desarrollar estrategias para poderlas manejar efectivamente. Si nuestro pequeño está llorando, en vez de decirle “ya no llores” o tratar de buscar alguna distracción para que deje de llorar, es mejor hablar con él, con empatía, y ayudarlo a expresar sus sentimientos.

impacto.

- **Cocinar:** Compartan el momento, dejando que ayuden con los pasos simples y adecuadas para su edad dentro de la cocina. Mientras que cocinen el almuerzo, por ejemplo, pueden platicar acerca de las cosas que han pasado durante el día o de lo que esperan hacer el fin de semana.
- **Comer:** Tener los alimentos en familia es también una forma básica para pasar tiempo de calidad juntos. Si es que por horarios en el trabajo o actividades extracurriculares no se puede todos los días, se puede poner un día o dos a la semana dedicados a comer todos en familia.
- **Ejercicio:** Se puede realizar ejercicio en familia en vez de ir solos como padres al gimnasio; pueden andar en bicicleta en familia después de la escuela y del trabajo para disfrutar de tiempo juntos. Pasear en áreas diferentes como parques o áreas de recreación así como el vecindario o caminar por el vecindario en familia no sólo es un buen ejercicio sino que también les proporciona oportunidades para establecer conexiones y platicar mientras caminan.
- **Juegos:** Después de la cena pueden ver una película en familia o jugar un juego de mesa. De esta manera, puede disfrutar de este tiempo sin preocupaciones de la escuela o el trabajo.

Los cinco pilares de la inteligencia emocional

1. **Auto conocimiento: Conocer las propias emociones.**
2. **Auto control: Manejar las emociones.**
3. **Auto motivación: Fijarse metas y alcanzarlas.**
4. **Empatía: Reconocer las emociones de los demás.**
5. **Habilidades sociales: Manejar las relaciones.**

Actividades para ayudar a los niños identificar las emociones incluyen lo siguiente:

- **Con cuentos:** Cuando le lea a su hijo, use las imágenes del libro para demostrar las diferentes emociones de cada personaje. Por ejemplo, puede decirle al niño, “El lobo feroz está apunto de comerse la Caperucita Roja. Mira su cara; ella tiene miedo. ¿Qué haces tú cuando tienes miedo?” Otros ejemplos pueden demostrar los personajes enojados, tristes, frustrados, sorprendidos, o preocupados.
 - **Con ejemplos:** Cuando tenga la oportunidad, pregúntale al niño de cómo se siente y explícale el plan para expresarse bien (“Sé que te da miedo cuando apago las luces de tu pieza. Voy a dejar una prendida en la sala y mañana vamos a comprarte una luz pequeña para que no esté tan oscuro”). No es sugerido que le pregunte cuando esté en rabieta ya que puede empeorar la situación. Es mejor enseñar la lección cuando el niño esté más calmado y receptivo.
- **Con estrategias:** Los niños a veces demuestran sus emociones en maneras inapropiadas. Su hijo puede llorar cuando esté frustrado o tirar los juguetes cuando esté enojado, por ejemplo. Enséñale diferentes maneras de expresarse, como pidiendo ayuda, resolviendo sus problemas usando palabras, diciéndole a un adulto, aspirando profundo, describiendo lo que siente, o pidiendo un abrazo. La esperanza es que en el futuro, el niño pueda utilizar las estrategias.

Learn More about Education

As a strong supporter of education, LULAC continues to collaborate with partners like Univision and others to educate, engage, and empower parents with the information and tools they need to better prepare their students for academic success.

As states move forward with the implementation of new academic standards, LULAC applauds the work of Univision in taking the lead to produce and broadcast educational material aimed at informing and empowering the Latino community.

Univision’s latest work consists of a series of informational videos aimed at providing parents with more information on the new educational standards being implemented across the country. Videos provide useful tips on how

parents can help prepare their children for changes in the classroom.

To view the videos and other resources related to the new educational standards being implemented across the country, visit LULAC National’s Common Core Resources Webpage at www.LULAC.org/commoncore.

LULAC will be working to promote and host parent academies in communities across the country to help disseminate the videos as a valuable source of information to empower parents with practical knowledge that helps them prepare their students for the classroom. For more information on how to get involved in this campaign, contact LULAC National at (202) 833-6130.



LULAC NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE AND AWARDS GALA

Continued from page 12.

David Cicilline; The Honorable Xavier Becerra; The Honorable John Conyers; The Honorable Tony Cardenas; The Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee; The Honorable Mike Honda; The Honorable Loretta Sanchez; The Honorable Norma Torres; The Honorable Ruben Gallego; The Honorable Rosie Rios; and The Honorable Patricia Roybal Caballero.

The second day of the conference also included a Capitol Hill luncheon and press conference with congressional leaders such as The Honorable Steny Hoyer; The Honorable Tony Cardenas; The Honorable Chris Van Hollen; The Honorable Marc Veasey; The Honorable Sheila Jackson-Lee; and The Honorable Carlos Curbelo.

LULAC celebrated the end of the conference with a K street reception hosted by Microsoft at their Policy and Innovation Center. This is the second year Microsoft hosted LULAC's members in Washington, D.C.

We look forward to the ACTober Advocacy Days in October, held in Washington, D.C. and hope you can join us!



**Honoree Assemblymember
Luis Alejo**



Honoree Mr. Antonio Villaraigosa .



**Honoree
Dr. Juliet
Garcia**





Quality Education Programs at El Paso LNESCS

By Cesar Garcia, El Paso Center Director

For years, the El Paso LNESCS (LULAC National Educational Service Center) has been involved with the El Paso community in various educational and social services programs that have benefited thousands of students and adults. The El Paso LNESCS Center has developed key partnerships in the community which have made the center a huge success.

The center has become the hub of educational opportunities for everyone in town. The LULAC National Scholarship Fund program has provided area youth with the opportunities to pursue their life long goals in education. Students who have participated with LNESCS El Paso have received their degrees in various fields. Such is the case for Samantha Juarez (a LULAC youth while attending Bel Air High School and UTEP) who received her Bachelors' Degree in Criminal Justice and is now working with local law enforcement. Her efforts to seek her degree and complete her studies at UTEP within four years are truly an example of the goals LNESCS has for all participants. Furthermore, Officer Juarez is also a LULAC

speakers in various professional fields, field trips, and classroom supplies as needed. Furthermore, participants at graduation will be eligible to receive a LNSF award provided by LULAC Council #8.

Our Technology Program sponsored by Time Warner Cable has provided low income families access to computer centers. The computer centers have after-school programs in which students K – 12 are assisted with homework and are provided school supplies throughout the year. Another program aids in increasing employment search opportunities by assisting participants with their job search, including resume writing classes provided by staff. The computer literacy classes assist participants by providing classes on Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Internet browsing, and are located at the Martin Luther King Housing Community and the Julian Community Center. The computer centers have been a success throughout the past 6 years, and currently have 117 students enrolled in these classes.

LNESCS El Paso and the US Army partnership have exposed



Scholarship recipient and was our LNESCS college intern while attending school at UTEP.

Over the last 13 years, El Paso LNESCS has been involved heavily with the Talent Search Program (Department of Education Trio Programs). This program has enabled thousands of students in El Paso to continue their college studies and other educational opportunities. Currently, LNESCS El Paso's Talent Search Program has assisted over 2,400 students in sixth through twelfth grade. The success of the program has enabled participants to stay in school, graduate from high school, and over 80% of our graduating seniors have continued on with college or university studies.

In collaboration with LULAC Council #8, LNESCS El Paso has been a part of the Ford Driving Dreams Program, recruiting 80 students over the past two years. The goal of the program is to enable students to graduate from high school with the opportunity to continue on to college or other educational (technical) opportunities. The Driving Dreams program has provided our students with mentors, guest

students to local colleges and universities. LNESCS has recruited over 200 students in the last two years. LNESCS took 92 students from Bel Air High School on a field trip to the UTEP campus on November 20, 2014, where students were given the opportunity to receive information on college admissions, financial aid, and military opportunities. The UTEP U.S. Army ROTC department briefed our students on scholarships and the opportunities the military has to offer. The students participated in a campus tour given by current UTEP students and also had the opportunity to eat on campus, which many of the students enjoyed. Several students mentioned that they had a great time on the trip and were grateful to have had a firsthand experience visiting a college campus.

Cesar Garcia has been the El Paso LNESCS Director since 2001. Shane Weller has been with LNESCS El Paso since 2011 and has taken the position of LNESCS Director in Philadelphia as of January 1, 2015. Additional LNESCS El Paso Center staff includes Daisy Perez, Claudia Lopez, Crystal Martinez, and Michael Enriquez.

driving a brighter future



We are proud to continue our partnership with LULAC on the Ford Driving Dreams Through Education program and providing students with access to opportunities that will help them achieve their dreams to graduate from high school and pursue higher education.

www.community.ford.com

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10

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Nissan proudly partners with LULAC and LNE SC to inspire students to embrace the future as they become leaders and innovators. Nissan Gen I's annual commitment of \$170,000 supports the life-changing programs like the Washington Youth Leadership Seminar, LULAC National Scholarship Fund and STEM College Tours.

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LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc. (LNEESC) is a 501 (c)(3) national non-profit organization established in 1973 for the purpose of implementing education and leadership programs that narrow the opportunity gap for America's disadvantaged youth. LNEESC serves more than 14,000 students each year throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico, providing educational counseling, scholarships, mentorships, leadership development, and literacy and STEM programs through its network of 14 educational centers. LNEESC has assisted over 500,000 students, sent 350,000 on to college, and awarded over \$20 million in scholarships. As the education arm of LULAC, LNEESC has access to a wide network of LULAC councils and grassroots contacts, making activation in additional markets feasible.

LNEESC Center Locations

Colorado Springs, CO; Pueblo, CO; Miami, FL; Kansas City, MO; Philadelphia, PA; Bayamon, PR; Corpus Christi, TX; Dallas, TX; El Paso, TX; Houston TX; San Antonio, TX; Washington, DC Headquarters and other regional sites.

Core Programs & Services

Upward Bound - The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to increase the rate at which participants complete secondary education and enroll in and graduate from institutions of postsecondary education.

Upward Bound Math & Science - The program is designed to strengthen the math and science skills of participating students. The goal of the program is to help students recognize and develop their potential to excel in math and science and to encourage them to pursue postsecondary degrees in math and science, and ultimately careers in the math and science profession.

Talent Search - The program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. The program provides academic, career, and financial counseling to its participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to and complete their postsecondary education.

LNSF - A joint effort of LNEESC and LULAC councils, the LNSF matches grassroots dollars with corporate funds to finance education for high-need Latino students. LNSF awards over 900 scholarships totaling \$600,000 annually through (LNSF) partnerships with corporations to talented Latino and other underrepresented youth to complete college level studies. LNSF has awarded \$20 million.

More than a Dream (Más Que Un Sueño) - This project is a sexual health and teen pregnancy prevention program for Latino youth. The program consists of a series of interventions for youth and their parents utilizing culturally sensitive based multimedia developed by the Education Development Center (EDC) and the University of Michigan School of Nursing.

¡Adelante! America - A leadership development program that introduces middle and high school participants to leadership roles and techniques through interactive lectures with local political, civic and corporate leaders. Program also includes career exploration activities, personal development curricula, and cultural events.

Young Readers - Launched as a national initiative in 1986 to improve reading skills among kindergarten through second grade students, the Young Readers program is a highly interactive and family-oriented course designed to instill a love of reading in children at an early age. Over the years, Young Readers has evolved into a successful intervention for raising the reading levels of Latino children, while also drawing Latino parents into literacy development framework that benefits their entire family.

STEM Explorers - A high school program designed to increase student interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields by exposing them to real world STEM applications. The program provides participants hands-on, inquiry-based learning that engages and exposes them to STEM practices meant to encourage them to pursue science, engineering and/or technology in high school and college.

Science Corps - The program is an enrichment program that aims to inspire middle school female and minority students to increase their interest in the fields of science, math and engineering. The program exposes participants to real-world applications of science, math, and engineering and to role models working in those fields.

Washington Youth Leadership Seminar (WYLS) - A four-day annual event that brings student leaders from across the U.S. and Puerto Rico to Washington, DC to work on public policy issues affecting the Latino community and meet with national leaders from Congress, Corporate America, and other institutions.

College Tours - Provides high school students with the opportunity to learn about the admissions process and financial aid by exposing students firsthand to college campus life.

Learn more about LNEESC by visiting our website, Twitter, or Facebook: www.LNEESC.org - @LNEESC - www.facebook.com/LNEESC



Over 10,000 Attend Latinos Living Healthy Feria De Salud in Ponce, Puerto Rico

More than 10,000 people attended LULAC's Latinos Living Healthy: Feria de Salud where participants benefited from a variety of health related activities. In collaboration with the Autonomous Municipality of Ponce, the health fair focused on ensuring that the Latino community has access to healthy food options and understands the importance of physical activity.

The three day festival started with a donation of 35,000 pounds of protein to the Banco de Alimentos de Puerto Rico, a local area food bank. The donation was made possible through the generosity of Tyson Foods, Walmart and Sea Star Lines LLC.

The health fair activities included health services such as blood pressure, diabetes, and thyroid disease screenings. HIV testing

was also made available. In addition, the Department of Health and Wellness of Ponce distributed information about Psoriasis, Hepatitis and Crohn's disease. Well-known celebrity chef, Chef Piñeiro provided healthy cooking tips during live cooking demonstrations. Other highlights included food exhibitors, arts and crafts, and a farmers market.

"Obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure are prevalent within the Latino community primarily because there is a lack of understanding regarding healthy food choices and a lack of access to such foods," said LULAC National President Margaret Moran. "These health fairs help to ensure that the Latino community has the information they need in order to live healthy lives."

Along with health related activities, the LULAC health fair ensured there was fun for the whole family. These activities included a special presentation from Disney characters who sang along to health themed songs. The fair also included live performances throughout the day featuring Ballet Salsa Sur, Orquesta Concierto Yauco, Son Panderos, and Mariachi Nuevo



Jaliscience. Teatro Escolar of Ponce, a local theater school, presented a live theatrical performance. The day's activities closed with the crowning of the Reina de Carnaval and a special presentation by legendary salsa band, La Sonora Ponceña, which has been active for more than 55 years.

Finally, this year's festival integrated LULAC's Federal Training Institute (FTI) to address one of the most important social determinants of health; access to educational, economic, and job opportunities. Through the FTI, attendees were empowered with the knowledge and resources necessary to find and apply for employment in the federal government. More than 500 individuals participated in the three workshops entitled, "Working for Uncle Sam: Opportunities in the Federal Government." With nearly 50% of Puerto Ricans living under the poverty level, resources for job acquisition are badly needed. It is indisputable, that a family's income is directly related to what a family can afford to buy.

Since the inception of the program, the health fairs have reached over 85,000 people and have partnered with universities, sports clubs, health practices, public sector organizations, among others, in the effort to encourage Latinos to live healthy.



We are grateful to our sponsors for their support of the Latinos Living Healthy: Feria de Salud. Thank you for supporting healthy lifestyle choices.





LULAC Celebrates 25 Years in Puerto Rico with Latinos Living Healthy Kid-Friendly Zumba in Bayamón

La vicepresidente nacional de mujeres de la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC), Elsie Valdés Ramos indicó que la actividad anual de “Young Readers” y la presentación Viviendo Saludable de LULAC resultó un absoluto éxito.

Valdés Ramos, sostuvo que la actividad celebrada este año en Bayamón, cerró sus funciones con una evaluación positiva por su desarrollo y organización. Así lo expresaron los sobre 300 estudiantes y profesores que participaron de una mañana de intenso dinamismo en la actividad anual LULAC: “Jóvenes leyendo para formar una mejor comunidad y Viviendo Saludable”.

“La edición 2014, recibió entorno a sobre 300 estudiantes, muchos de ellos provenientes de la Región Educativa de Bayamón y pueblos limítrofes, una cifra mayor a la del año pasado,” indicó la ejecutiva nacional.

Asimismo, el Director Estatal, del Capítulo LULAC Puerto Rico, el Prof. Abdiel A. Martínez Barrios, Richard Roybal, Director Ejecutivo LNEC Nacional, Washington DC; Eduardo Laguerre, miembro junta directores nacional LULAC y la Hon. Jennifer González, Ex Presidenta y Representante a la Cámara de Representantes de Puerto Rico, expresaron satisfacción por la asistencia, el formato del evento, la energía, el colorido, lo musical y la sesión de ejercicios que allí se llevaron a cabo.

Por su parte, Martínez Barrios, Director Estatal LULAC- Puerto Rico indicó al público presente su agradecimiento a los colaboradores del evento, la Comisión Nacional de Mujeres LULAC y su vicepresidenta Nacional Prof. Elsie Valdés Ramos; al Capítulo LULAC de PR; a la Oficina de LULAC “National Educational Service Centers” en Washington DC; a los miembros de la Comisión de Educación de la Cámara de Representantes de Puerto Rico, al Municipio Autónomo de Bayamón; al Hon. Luís “Jr.” Pérez, Representante a la Cámara de Representantes de Puerto Rico; a David Pérez, Director de Desarrollo LULAC Nacional, Washington

DC; a Elizabeth García, Directora de Programas LULAC Nacional, Sacramento, CA; a la Hon. María Vega, Ex-Representante Cámara de Representantes y Miembro LULAC; a José E. “Quique” Meléndez, Director de Distrito LULAC Puerto Rico; a Ivonne Quiñones-Lanzó, Pasada Directora Estatal LULAC Puerto Rico; a Sobeida Laguerre, Directora Estatal de Mujeres Capitulo NYC; a Juan Carlos Lizardi, Vicepresidente Nacional LULAC Sureste y todas las voluntarias LULAC.

Valdés Ramos, indicó que, “el programa LULAC de la Comisión Nacional de mujeres junto a sus capítulos nacionales y el Capítulo de PR anualmente desarrollan actividades de relaciones comunitarias que proponen aplicar la estrategia integral de sus actividades con la “comunidad” con la finalidad de conceder apoyo en las áreas de Salud, Educación, Autogestión/ Proyectos Productivos y Equipamiento, para reforzarlas positivamente tomando en cuenta las condiciones socioculturales de la comunidad impactada”, concluyó Valdés Ramos, la vicepresidente nacional de mujeres de LULAC.





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PROTECTING Everyday People Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to Review Predatory Lending Rules



By Wendy Salas, LULAC Community Organizer

With many Americans living paycheck to paycheck there is little to no room for unexpected expenses. When an emergency strikes or income simply isn't enough, many turn to the only viable option they know – payday lending. Payday loans are small-dollar loans that borrowers can obtain at storefronts or online. These are short-term loans that borrowers must repay at the time of their next payday. Marketed as “quick and easy” money, payday loans are seen to many as an “easy” way out for those looking for a “quick” solution.

Although the initial process may be, payday loans are neither quick nor easy. Numerous borrowers find themselves stuck in a debt cycle they cannot escape, in some cases, for years. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is looking to make changes to guidelines of payday lending. In March 2015, the CFPB released a proposed set of guidelines to help regulate predatory practices.

The issues surrounding payday loans are not new. Concerns over payday lending have existed for years. In fact, payday lending is prohibited in 18 states and the Military Lending Act of 2006 protects service members from predatory payday lending. Although there are no federal guidelines protecting consumers from these high-cost loans, some states have taken initiatives to protect their citizens from predatory lending practices, proving that action on a national level is needed.

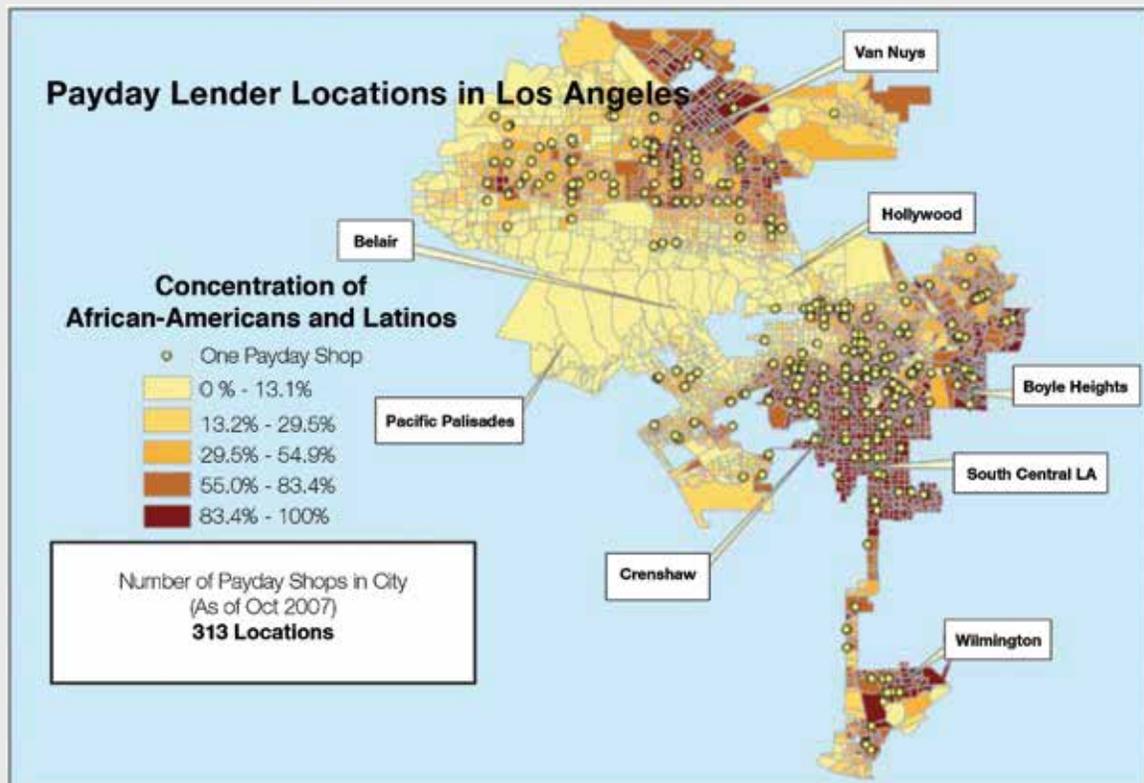
In Utah, a new law was enacted that gave borrowers a 60-day time frame after the set 10-week limit to repay their debt without lenders taking any actions. Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio proposed a program where Americans would receive cash

advances based on their upcoming tax credit rather than their next paycheck. Efforts like these are testament to the necessity of new guidelines to protect consumers from predatory payday lending and its practices.

Eddie Martinez of Huntington Park, California is one of the many Americans who find themselves in long-term debt because of payday loans. When his income was not enough to cover his overall expenses such as bills, rent, food, and car payments, Martinez searched for a way to make those payments to avoid falling behind. Martinez visited an Advance America location in Highland Park, California. Five years later, he found himself deep into the cycle of debt, having taken out 20 payday loans a year, the majority of which were repeat loans, and borrowing \$1,275. Eddie paid \$3,500 in fees alone; bringing the total he paid the lender to \$4,775.

“I would take out continuous loans to catch up and be able to pay my personal expenses. I made paying back the loans a priority that resulted in not having enough money to make everyday expenses, and I was forced to continue taking out the loans. It was a stressful situation because I never seemed to have enough money. I had to make partial payments on rent and sacrifice car and phone payments. I am now out of the cycle of debt, but I know I paid thousands,” says Martinez.

Martinez's experience is common. The average borrower stuck in the cycle of debt repeats loans eight to ten times, meaning that many cannot find financial stability in the short time given for repayment and are forced to take out loans in order to avoid fees or falling further behind on expenses. With an average 390% APR, fees accumulate to such a high cost that many find it incredibly difficult to pay their way out of the cycle of debt. According to a report presented by the CFPB, “Three out of five payday loans are made to borrowers



Payday loans are small, short-term loans secured by a borrower’s personal check. While these loans are advertised as a quick and easy way to deal with an occasional unexpected expense before payday, borrowers have a hard time paying off the debt, taking out one loan after another and becoming ensnared in a long-term debt trap. This clustering of payday lending storefronts results in the draining of nearly \$247 million in fees from African American and Latino households in California alone. The Department of Corporations reported that just over 10 million loans were made in 2006, with an average loan size of \$254. Since payday lenders can charge up to \$17.65 per \$100 borrowed, a fee of \$44.83 per loan is estimated. Overall, we estimate that over \$450 million in payday loan fees are paid annually in California. Graph courtesy of the Center for Responsible Lending.

whose fee expenses exceed amount borrowed.” Further proving the need to make changes to payday lending guidelines.

In addition, a study conducted by the Center for Responsible Lending found “Payday lenders are nearly eight times as concentrated in neighborhoods with the largest shares of African Americans and Latinos as compared to white neighborhoods.” This chart, provided by the Center for Responsible Lending, shows the correlation between the number of payday stores and the concentration of African American and Latino communities. The majority of these neighborhoods are low-income communities with residents that are more likely to fall for predatory lending and its misleading marketing. Attesting to the fact that not only are lenders trapping consumers in a cycle of debt with high interest rates, but they are also targeting

consumers who are less likely to be able to repay their debt in a reasonable amount of time.

With the CFPB focusing on payday lending, now is the time for those who have experienced the issues with payday lending first hand to speak up and become a voice on behalf of consumers. If you or anyone you know would like to submit a payday story to the CFPB, you can do so on the CFPB website. Sharing your story will ensure that both sides are heard, not only payday lenders. In order to ensure the new payday guidelines created by the CFPB are fair and truly protect consumers from predatory lending, the CFPB must know the true impact these loans have on the average consumer.

Five Councils Awarded Healthy Communities Program Grants



By Jenifer Silva, LULAC Health Programs Intern

As part of an ongoing partnership, Mars and LULAC hosted the second annual Healthy Communities Program. Through this program, five LULAC councils received five thousand dollars to address health and wellness issues in their respective communities. This program, part of the Latinos Living Healthy Initiative, was able to reach over 4,500 people of all ages and directly provide nearly 500 hours of nutrition and physical activity.



LULAC Women's Council #44040: Provo, Utah

- Hosted eight week nutrition program and subsequent Bodyworks Program with two groups.
- Zumba classes were offered to individuals of all ages in different locations of each city.



LULAC Latinas' Council #330: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

- Hosted the Purple Dress Event which highlighted dancing as a form of exercise and encouraged healthy eating.
- Family Health Night conducted breakout sessions on heart disease prevention, diabetes prevention, healthy cooking, stress reduction activities, and family communication strategies.
- "Lights, Camera, Health!" in Brookfield, Wisconsin raised awareness about cardiovascular disease and stroke and provided information on how people can reduce their risk.



Southwest Key Council #4760: Austin, Texas

- Hosted a Family Fun Night that celebrated making healthy choices and provided fun activities.
- A February Fitness Challenge was coordinated to continue healthy habits.
- Zumba Dance, Toning classes, Yoga, and Vinyasa Flow classes were offered to reach hundreds of adult participants.



LULAC Council #3190: Riverside, California

- Hosted the third annual health festival on February 21, 2015, in Riverside, CA, with free services, including dental exams and treatment; vision exams and eyeglasses; acupuncture; Affordable Care Act and public service enrollment; mammograms; nutritional services; and haircuts and manicures.



LULAC Council #682: Seguin, Texas

- Hosted a "New Year Bash" where most of the foods provided to participants were sourced from the community garden.
- Operated a LULAC Council run community teaching farm.
- Provided ongoing training on how to operate a small garden inside home or yard space. Work the community garden and donate fresh produce to the local food bank.
- Hosted a networking barbecue with presentations on basic garden information and healthy eating tips, and free plant giveaways to help guests start their own garden.



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The Most Important Question of My Life: What Would My Mom Say?

By Robert Salcido, President of LULAC 22198 Orgullo de San Antonio

At 18, after my father passed away, I decided it was time to be true to myself. I was desperate to know whether I would be accepted by the people who mattered the most to me: my mom, my brother and sisters.

I grew up in Amarillo, Texas, a city of 150,000, and there were few resources for LGBT youth. I was a confused teenager and had no one to talk it over with, no peers to compare reactions with, or models who would convince me that it would all turn out okay.

I also doubted my mom's support because I'd already been chastised for trying to reach out. When I was 13, I wrote a letter to a teen pen pal service that I found in the back of a book at the local public library. This service paired questioning teens to serve as an outlet to talk through the exchange of letters. When my first letter arrived, my older brother read it and gave it to my mom before I even had a chance to see it for myself. She confronted me about the letter and told me I was too young to even know whether I was gay, and that it was a phase. It wasn't a conversation of support or acceptance, and I was never given the letter to read.

My mom's reaction and the continuous mocking from my older brother led me to believe that I wouldn't be accepted, and delayed my coming out.

But I had to do it. Fearful of telling her in person, I picked up the phone, shaking and crying, I called her at work and uttered the words, "Mom, before you hear it from anyone else, I'm gay." The response: "Mi'jo, stop crying, I've known for a while. I love you."

That's what any child coming out wants to hear — "I love you" which means "I accept you."

However, deep down inside, I questioned if she would accept me, in part because her relationship with my father had ended because he was gay.

Years later, I stopped questioning. One day my mom called me, and she had a little bit of anger in her voice. She wanted to tell me about an incident in the checkout line at the store.

She told me how the cashier and bagger were laughing and making fun of a customer because of his sexual orientation. They were making derogatory statements about him. According to my mom, she quickly told them that was no way to speak about someone and

that man was a person just like them. The employees said, "But, ma'am, he was a fag."

My mom calmly replied, "You have no idea who the next person in line is. Did you know I have a gay son?" Knowing her, I cannot really believe she was calm; after all, I did grow up with her. She went on to tell them that they needed to educate themselves because gay individuals, including her son, were loving and caring people. This led the cashier, bagger and my mom into an amazing conversation on the importance of showing respect to one another and having a sense of awareness when it came to diversity.

She told me she didn't report the guys because she felt their actions stemmed from not knowing and because they seemed genuine when they apologized.

What my mother did in that moment is something I wish so many family members and allies would do: interrupt homophobia in their daily interactions.

I hope that, as my mom speaks up, so too will my neighbors and fellow Texas residents so that we can build communities free of discrimination that provide young people — and, really, all people — the security they need to be their true, best selves, in any place.

Laws should be passed to ensure that there are legal protections for LGBT people, especially in employment and public sectors, but those laws won't have any strength until people are challenged to give up attitudes that lead them to behave in exclusionary and hurtful ways.

There are still some people on my mother's side of the family who speak negatively about LGBT individuals, but time and time again she, along with my brother and sisters, speak out about LGBT equality and fairness.

As individuals, we are complex beings and my sexuality is only a small part of who I am today. I am an educated Latino, a friend, a brother, an uncle, a person who likes to travel, an activist, and above all else — the son of a beautiful, accepting mother.

Robert Salcido Jr. is an organizer and activist living in San Antonio. Salcido is currently a field organizer for Equality Texas and serves as an executive board member with LULAC 22198 Orgullo de San Antonio, Pride Center San Antonio, and the San Antonio LGBT Chamber of Commerce. The op-ed originally appeared in the San Antonio Express-News.



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LULAC Convenes 200+ LGBT Latinos for Bilingual Training



By David M. Pérez, LULAC & José Ramón García-Madrid, Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI)

LULAC was proud to co-chair the 3rd annual *Unión = Fuerza Latino Institute* at the National Conference on LGBT Equality: Creating Change in partnership with Lambda Legal and the National LGBTQ Task Force. Creating Change is the largest annual gathering of LGBT activists over 5 days – which took place in Denver, Colorado from February 4-8, 2015. LULAC continued its commitment to ensure Latino leaders have an annual dedicated day-long bilingual training and networking space and that Latino issues are an important part of the LGBT convening of 4,000 leaders and community members.

The *Unión “Equals” Fuerza Latino Institute at Creating Change* is one of the only national spaces organized by and for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Latinos. On February 5th, a collaborative planning committee of over 30 organizations convened 215 LGBT Latinos and allied leaders and activists from 25 states. The day-long bilingual presentations included 8 breakout workshops addressing skills such as community organizing, Spanish language media interviews, self-care for activists, and a transgender education tool kit. The issue-based sessions covered immigration, health care, religious exemptions, and family acceptance. Plenary sessions created important networking spaces, a blessing of the space by acknowledging our ancestors, a panel of the state of the LGBT Latino Movement, thoughtful words by the Latinx women’s inclusion committee, and an arts and culture showcase headlined by Portland-based singer Edna Vazquez. A new addition to

the Latino Institute was inviting the high energy, outrageously funny, queer Latina comic Sandra Valls – raised in Tamaulipas, Mexico and Laredo, Texas and featured in Showtime’s *The Latin Divas of Comedy* special. For more information, photos, and to sign-up for the 4th annual *Unión = Fuerza Latino Institute*, scheduled for January 21, 2016, in Chicago, go to www.unionfuerza.org.

This convening would not have been possible without the efforts of the Latino Institute interns, committee chairs and the 30+ members of

the planning committee representing local and national LGBT and Latino organizations such as LULAC Lambda Legal, Bienestar, CHCI, Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR), Dallas LGBT Resource Center, Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement, GALAEI, GLAAD, Immigration Equality, Latino GLBT History Project, LULAC Dallas Council #4871, San Antonio #22198, and Houston #4969, LA Gay and Lesbian Center, National Latina Institute for Reproductive

Health, National LGBTQ Task Force, One Colorado, Padres & Jóvenes Unidos, Point Foundation, Queer Undocumented Immigrant Project, Raising Women’s Voices for the Health Care We Need, Somos Familia, Sunserve, TransLatina Coalition, and United Latin@ Pride.

A special thanks to the Latino Institute sponsors: Arcus Foundation, Lambda Legal, LULAC, National LGBTQ Task Force, (Campeón), AT&T Services, Inc., David Bohnett Foundation, Gill Foundation, MillerCoors (Líder), Immigration Equality, Ben Francisco Maulbeck, Funders for LGBTQ Issues, Teach for America (Principal), Advocates for Youth, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health (Socio).

**Attend the Unión “Equals”
Fuerza: LGBT Latino Institute
on January 21, 2016**

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LULAC Houston Sends Twelve Delegates to Unión = Fuerza Latino Institute

By Adonias Samuel, LULAC Houston Council #4969

The 2015 National Conference on LGBT Equality: *Creating Change* was a unique experience that I will never forget. Each day, the diversity, the city, roommates, and friends made those four days a one time experience I will remember forever. It was a great event that brought a momentum of networking, meeting people, and the opportunity to learn more about civil rights movements at the national level. At the conference, I met people who shared my opinions – people who would become my new friends.

Most importantly, the opportunity provided me with the resources that I need to implement and structure my ideas to expand my local advocacy work in Houston. I attended important workshops that not only related to LGBT issues but also encouraged civic engagement with seminars like *Leaving Fundamentalism*, *Organizing Across Class Differences*, *Jewish Movement Building Group Meeting*, *5 ways to use email*, *People and Racial Justice*, *Stands for Beliefs*, *Income in the LGBT Community*, *LGBT Immigration Issues*, *Marketing*, and *Finding Donors for your Event or Program*. In addition, this conference offered many resources in their expo, a single-stop shop for college entry, health screening locations, and educational material.

I look forward to continue expanding my work in Houston with the collaboration and support of my colleagues and partners. I also hope to be more involved and be able to deliver a good message across the nation. I dream of becoming an advocate for social justice to keep on creating change. I have an ambition to keep making communities a place off equality and opportunity for all. I look forward to continuing working with LULAC and all of the partners!

The work of LULAC Houston could not be possible without the generous support of the Gill Foundation.



Photo Credit: Stevie Crecelius, pages 38-39
www.wonderworksstudios.com

In Memoriam

36th LULAC National President Eduardo Morga Passes Away

Eduardo Morga was a native of Los Angeles and resident of Huntington Beach, California. He attended Theodore Roosevelt High School in East Los Angeles. He received an Associate in Arts Degree from Compton College, a Bachelor of Science Degree from UCLA, and completed post-graduate work at Cal State in Los Angeles. In 1958 he began working as a certified accountant for the Department of Defense. He was married to the former Aurelia “Dee” Gonzales.

He held the following positions:

- Founder of Image, the national Hispanic organization for federal and other public employees
- Member of the Santa Ana Draft Board for two years
- Member of the Orange County Manpower Commission, a private industry council dealing with the implementation of Title 7 of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA). As a member of this group, he received an invitation to the White House for a briefing in 1978.
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Mexican American National Organization, which made news in May 1979, by publishing a full-page advertisement in the *Los Angeles Times* informing President Carter of his unfulfilled promises to Hispanics.

The highlight of his administration as LULAC President was his focus on international relations. He met with Mexico’s President, Jose Lopez Portillo four times to discuss how to improve the conditions of undocumented workers in the United States and how Chicanos and Mexicans could work together for common goals. His proclamation that Chicanos and Mexicans are natural allies made national news and triggered criticism from commentators. Tapping into an existing scholarship program, LULAC was able to augment the number of scholarships offered to U.S. Hispanics by Mexico from 50 every five years to 50 annually.

Morga also involved LULAC in the struggle to end police brutality against Hispanics. After the police beating and drowning of Jose Campos Torres of 1977 in Houston, Morga visited with the Houston police chief. The police chief agreed with Morga that a committee of citizens was needed to advise him on police relations with the Hispanic community. He was very active in seeking to improve the performance of the justice system toward Hispanics.

Morga was a LULAC member since 1969 and held the following positions:

- National Treasurer under the Administration of Pete Villa
- State Director of the California LULAC Organization
- Vice President of the Far West



President Jimmy Carter meets with LULAC National President Edward Morga at the White House, Washington, D.C., 1978. Morga Collection.

- Member of the Board of Directors of the LULAC Educational National Service Centers (LNECS)
- Member of the Board of Directors of SER - Jobs for Progress



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Closing the Gap: Identifying Effective Educational Program Strategies and Best Practices for Latino Youth*

By Luis Torres, Director of Policy and Legislation, LULAC National, and Tyler Crowe, Policy and Legislation Fellow, LULAC National.

Five years ago, LULAC National teamed up with the Ford Motor Company Fund to support Latino students in graduating from high school and attending college by launching the Ford Driving Dreams Through Education (FDD) program. This program provides LULAC councils with an opportunity to address critical education issues by implementing comprehensive education programs in their communities.

Breaking Down Barriers to Graduation

Graduation data from key states illustrate gaps in completion rates among key student groups. According to data from the Department of Education, the gap between the state graduation rate and the graduation rate of various subgroups like English Language Learners, Latinos, or students from low-income households is more than 20 points in some states – including ones where LULAC National operates FDD programs.

Disparities translate into long-term challenges. Not graduating from high school limits a person's earning potential, decreases their chances

of securing a job, and stifles their long-term economic security. Addressing this issue requires a multi-faceted approach aimed at tackling three particular gaps that underserved students face every day. These include the:

ACHIEVEMENT GAP: Perhaps the most well documented of the gaps, Latino performance on key assessments and academic indicators continues to lag. Accessing tutoring, test prep, technology, school supplies, and culturally and linguistically competent support from education professionals is key in addressing this gap.

OPPORTUNITY GAP: Underserved Latinos – and young Latinos in particular – experience a lack of academic, networking, recreational, and career opportunities. Accessing opportunities to experience a wide array of academic and non-academic interests is critical to closing opportunity gaps. In addition, accessing key resources like technology and education centers, financial resources for developmental trips, summer camps, and other structured programs is a vital component to addressing the opportunity gap.

INSPIRATION GAP: Perhaps the most challenging and critical gap to tackle is the inspiration gap. Finding ways to capture the imagination, interest, and commitment of Latino youth is critical. Providing opportunities for youth to access both experiences and

also networking opportunities where they can meet mentors, role-models, and life coaches in fields of their interest all play a major role in helping to steer young Latinos into higher education opportunities and careers.

Successful programs can make such a difference in the lives of Latino students – especially if they address these three critical areas. Through a close examination of existing FDD site data, LULAC National has identified common strategies and best practices that stand out as unique characteristics of FDD sites successfully addressing these gaps.

Mentorship: A good mentor is a person that breaks the “career counselor” mold to address a mentee’s personal needs as well. Some of the most successful FDD sites did this by pairing students up with dedicated volunteers, encouraging participation in a specific trade, and requiring that students also attend academic tutoring sessions.

Partnerships: In many ways, the personal mentorship example mirrors the larger partnership model that we advocate for FDD sites. For many students, the burden of learning is concentrated on a few actors instead of the community at large. By rethinking the paradigm of one school, one classroom, one teacher, students are given the opportunity for a richer education. Many FDD sites did this by partnering with local non-profits, community groups, and universities to stretch their resources and expertise. Affiliation with a university or community college in particular can go a long way in closing the so-called “inspiration gap.” By linking a FDD program with a “big brother” at the university, students are given the opportunity to seriously consider going to college. By exposing them to their potential, they are encouraged to succeed in a way unmatched by mere grades or test scores.

Uniqueness: Another important way to reach students is through a FDD effectively tailored to their needs. One classic example is an art program. On the whole, American parents demonstrate broad support for the arts in schools. In addition, the benefits of strong music and arts programs cannot be underestimated -- especially in how they often enrich the dialogue in other classes. Unfortunately, education funding is usually inadequate to fully implement these popular and beneficial classes. But arts aren’t the only “extra” program that faces challenges – even practical STEM and shop programs face funding hurdles in schools. When creating your program, keep these realities in mind. Ask yourself: does our school have strong “extra” programs? By stepping in to offer one, students are given a supplementary program unavailable in the classroom – furthering their educational and career goals.

Management: The most successful FDD sites were able to leverage the human capital around them: from top management and program coordinators to dedicated volunteers and community partners. By enticing these distinct groups to share responsibility for the program’s success, the program has a better chance of success. To share responsibility, we also found that systems like attendance sheets, evaluations, and a sense of “organizational memory” helped to establish a programming presence for the most successful FDD sites. Data collection can furthermore be used to examine and improve the previous year’s program.

These characteristics serve as some of the key components of successful models that can be replicated across the country.

**An excerpt from the 2015 LULAC National research paper examining successful strategies implemented by the LULAC National Ford Driving Dreams Through Education program sites. For a full copy of the paper, please visit www.lulac.org/ford.*



Austin, TX Council #4933 (2013-2016 site)



Dayton, OH Council #39000 (2011-2014 site)



San Antonio, TX Council #4619 (2013-2015 site)

LULAC Youth Raise Awareness About Hunger

By: Jaquelyn Caro-Sena, Education and Youth Leadership Intern

November marks the time of the year in which preparation begins for winter and the upcoming holiday season. Whether it's Día de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead), Veteran's Day, or Thanksgiving, these cross cultural holidays have one particular commonality- high than average food consumption. While many are able to enjoy time with their family in the comfort of their homes, feast on a big turkey or devour dozens of tamales, millions of people in the United States are not as fortunate to enjoy these luxuries. Many are unable to provide their families with a decent dinner on a daily basis- let alone provide a feast for Thanksgiving. The amount of hunger in the United States is devastating, even worse when children are taken into consideration. According to data collected by national hunger relief initiative NoKidHungry, 1 in 5 children- or 16.2 million children- live in a household that struggles to put food on the table. These appalling statistics bring to question what we can do for others, especially during the holidays.

In order to focus on this alarming issue, LULAC partnered with Denny's to create a campaign called the Youth Leadership and Hunger Relief/Awareness Campaign which was led by LULAC's Youth Councils from across the nation. LULAC youth in Dallas, TX and Milwaukee, WI participated in a formal essay contest competition and were asked to express their ideas on decreasing hunger and alleviating poverty in their respective communities. The essay contestants had unique ideas and Karla and Victoria, from Dallas, TX as well as Sergio and Laura, from Milwaukee, WI emerged victorious.

Karla noted that "When people think of hunger, they always think of Africa or developing countries" - a realization shared by the majority of the youth who participated in the campaign- but, as Sergio mentioned "Hunger is among us, in our neighborhood, in our family, and in our school. Hunger is in the faces of our children." In her essay, Laura mentioned that awareness of hunger begins with education, "I believe health and career education are important. One of my plans includes teaching children as soon as they are capable of understanding such concepts." Such efforts to educate others about hunger and poverty were catalyzed by the youth themselves.

In addition to the essay contest, young people from LULAC Councils across the nation participated in efforts throughout the month of November to not only spread awareness about hunger, but also engage their respective communities about how they can help eradicate it. Youth Council #1124 from San Antonio, TX delivered Thanksgiving food baskets to help those in their community. Other youth councils hosted film screenings and discussions of the film "A Place at the Table," hosted hunger simulation activities, volunteered at local food banks/pantries, and fundraised for local hunger relief organizations. In addition, the participating councils managed to cumulatively collect over 1,000 pledges to end hunger. Youth Council #702 from Stockton, CA hosted numerous events and was proactive in the community, including adopting a plot of land to create a community garden to feed hungry families. They also screened a film called "Left



Behind" in which the person highlighted spoke about hunger and homelessness in Stockton, CA. To top it off, they also took the crown as this year's pledge collecting champion with over 650 pledges collected alone.

The students gained both professional and personal development from participating in the Youth Leadership and Hunger Relief/Awareness Campaign. The Hunger Task Force is an organization that strives to combat hunger based on two major tactics: advocacy and food banking. In addition to fundraising to help others put food on the table, The Hunger Task Force also advocates for social policies to help ensure concrete, enduring change in their communities. Students' engagement with the Hunger Task Force included the opportunity to practice listening and oral skills, as well as to learn advocacy and fundraising techniques.

Most importantly, the students took away lessons they said were "life changing" and were ultimately inspired to make a difference in their community. These feelings of motivation and determination to create a better world were shared among the youth who participated and described the campaign as "uplifting, inspiring and motivating." The Youth Leadership and Hunger Relief/Awareness Campaign reassured that the youth of today will be the leaders of tomorrow and give us hope that with the efforts of today, we will end hunger in the future. As Victoria, contestant winner from Dallas, TX expressed, "One cannot stress the importance of community because in the end, we lift each other up, we take care of each other, and we can solve child hunger together."



We are grateful to Denny's for sponsoring this campaign. With your support, we are one step closer to eradicating hunger in our communities.

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AARP Helps Bring Zumba to LULAC

By: Declan Kingland, LULAC National Health Programs Coordinator

Last year through LULAC's partnership with AARP, we were able to reach over 450 community members of all ages through free Zumba trainings and information sessions.

Zumba is a high-intensity aerobic that combines Latin dance moves with exercise, all set to a great soundtrack. Participants in a one hour Zumba session typically burn anywhere from 400 to 600 calories an hour depending on a variety of personal physical fitness factors. You can enjoy Zumba in gyms and community centers throughout the country.

At the LULAC National Convention nearly 100 LULACers Zumba'd within New York City through a partnership with AARP and Zumba instructors from Hispanic Federation. Over 100 more individuals Zumba'd at the second annual Los Angeles Feria de Salud. A local Zumba instructor led them through four different types of Zumba. With its many variations and upbeat tempo, Zumba can be a fun way to get active for a wide range of people.

Councils in Miami, Florida; Chicago, Illinois; San Antonio, Texas and Houston, Texas held workshops that addressed health priorities in their local community. In San Antonio, council leaders were able to host free screenings, including BMI, blood pressure and blood glucose screenings. Other sites welcomed local experts to discuss topics such as suicide prevention, prostate cancer, health insurance marketplace enrollment, and local programs that seniors can utilize to increase their standard of living.



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Your safety and that of your loved ones is our number one priority. That's why, in addition to designing the safest vehicles in the industry, we partnered with Cincinnati Children's Hospital over ten years ago to co-found Buckle Up For Life (Abróchate a la Vida), a program that saves lives by teaching participants how to correctly install infant and child car seats in vehicles. To date, Toyota has provided funding for 40,000 car seats, distributed at dozens of events free of charge to families in need, and we are hopeful that our efforts are contributing to safer communities throughout the U.S.

Thank you, LULAC, for giving us the opportunity to participate as a Presenting Sponsor of your 86th Annual National Convention and Exposition and to continue raising awareness for the Buckle Up For Life program.

¡Abróchate a la Vida!

For more information go to: <http://www.buckleupforlife.org>

