



# LULACnews

Spring 2014



## Salud a Cinco de Mayo Celebrating Good Health on Cinco de Mayo

Immigrant Integration Program Provides Path to Citizenship  
Collegiate LULAC Activates for Emerge Latino Conference  
National Women's Conference Engages Wisconsin  
Delving into Education Policy and Programs





# CONTENTS

Spring 2014: *Latinos Living Healthy Edition*

- 3 President's Message: LULAC in Health Reform
- 3 National Cinco de Mayo Festival Returns to D.C.
- 4 Opportunity is Knocking - Open the Door and Come Outside!
- 5 Journey to Embolden Future Latinas for Public Office
- 6 2014 Legislative Conference Recap
- 8 Emerge Latino Conference: First for College Students
- 9 Awards Gala Honors Leaders for Latinos
- 11 Are you an ACA Expert? Health Reform Quiz
- 12 Councils Take Charge of Major Civil Rights Battles
- 14 Professional Resiliency in the Face of a Changing Economy
- 16 National Women's Conference Recap
- 18 Latinas en Acción: Young Women Leaders
- 20 LULAC's Education Policy Priorities
- 21 LULAC's Education Programs at a Glance
- 22 LNES: Steps to Achieving Academic Success
- 24 Center for American Progress: Immigration Reform
- 26 Pocketsmart Program Runs Fiscal Security Workshops
- 27 Don't Get Caught in a Debt Trap with Payday Loans
- 28 Immigrant Integration Program to Benefit 4,000
- 30 LULAC Oregon Expands
- 32 Newest LGBT San Antonio Council Pledges Action
- 33 Latino Iowans Recognized in Des Moines Banquet
- 36 2,000 Uninsured Benefit from California Health Fair
- 37 E-Rate Program Due for Expansion and Modernization
- 39 Internship Program Affects 100 Emerging Leaders
- 40 Register for Youth Conference in July
- 41 La Convención Nacional de LULAC en Nueva York
- 42 LULAC National Convention Rules and Registration
- 43 Health Reform Quiz Answers

Scan the QR Code with your smart phone to ask a question about magazine content, advertising, or subscription. Email the editor directly at JSapunar@LULAC.org or call at (202) 833-6130. Access past issues of the *LULAC News* at [www.LULAC.org/ln](http://www.LULAC.org/ln).



# LULACnews

League of United Latin American Citizens

1133 19th Street NW, Suite 1000 TEL: (202) 833-6130  
 Washington, D.C. 20036 FAX: (202) 833-6135

## National President

Margaret Moran

## Executive Director

Brent A. Wilkes

## Editor-in-Chief

Jossie Flor Sapunar

## Director of Communications

Paloma Zuleta

## Printing Support

Luis Nuño Briones

## NATIONAL OFFICERS

Margaret Moran

*National President*

Rosa Rosales

*Immediate Past President*

Maggie Rivera

*National Treasurer*

Roman Rodriguez

*National Youth President*

Frank Urteaga, P.E.

*VP for the Elderly*

Elsie Valdes

*VP for Women*

Ana Valenzuela Estrada

*VP for Youth*

Manuel Rendon

*VP for Young Adults*

Mickie Solorio Luna

*VP for Far West*

Darryl D. Morin

*VP for Midwest*

Ralina Cardona

*VP for Northeast*

Juan Carlos Lizardi

*VP for Southeast*

Baldomero Garza

*VP for Southwest*

Manuel Escobar, Esq.

*National Legal Advisor*

## STATE DIRECTORS

Rev. John Mireles

*Arizona*

Terry Treviño-Richard

*Arkansas*

Benny Diaz

*California*

Alfredo Haro

*Colorado*

Thomas Higgins

*District of Columbia*

Lydia Medrano

*Florida*

Brandie Bedard

*Georgia*

Rose Mary Bombela-Tobias

*Illinois*

Wanda Gordils

*Indiana*

Joseph Enriquez Henry

*Iowa*

Michelle Cuevas-Stubblefield

*Kansas*

Dr. Yvette Butler, MD

*Maryland*

Esther Degraives-Aguiñaga

*Massachusetts*

Priscilla Rocha

*Nevada*

James Fukuda

*New Jersey*

Ralph Arellanes

*New Mexico*

Eduardo LaGuerre

*New York*

Lourdes Ribera

*Ohio*

Ivonne Quiñones Lanzo

*Puerto Rico*

Elia Mendoza

*Texas*

Salvador Lazalde

*Utah*

Bob Garcia

*Virginia*

Arturo Martinez, Ph.D.

*Wisconsin*



© LULAC National Office. The LULAC News is published quarterly by the national office of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

## A MESSAGE *from the President*

Health disparities are a real concern in the Hispanic community. That is why LULAC, with the help of Walmart, launched the *Latinos Living Healthy* initiative. As part of that commitment, LULAC is celebrating this Cinco de Mayo with a FERIA de Salud that includes healthy food, health clinics, and sports drills that the family can enjoy.

In support of our effort to reduce health disparities, this issue of the *LULAC News* is dedicated to bringing awareness to the importance of living a healthy lifestyle! The issue also includes information on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and a discussion on the reasons why having access to preventative care is critical to living healthy lives.

With regard to preventative care, research has shown that Hispanics suffer from high rates of chronic illnesses which can be prevented or minimized through proper treatment. Those illnesses include diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, breast and cervical cancer. It is our hope that chronic illness among Hispanics will be reduced with the benefits afforded by the ACA. Specifically, under the ACA, more Hispanics will be able to take advantage of regular checkups and get timely treatment for existing illnesses. In addition, cancer will be detected earlier through screenings made available through coverage for breast, cervical, prostate and colon cancer. And of course, it's beyond dispute that early detection results in better health outcomes.

The ACA also provides other protections such as preventing insurance companies from dropping beneficiaries and mandates longer coverage for children. Before 2010, insurance companies could drop your coverage if you got sick, deny your application if you or a family member had a preexisting condition, or drop your child from his/her parents plan at age 19. The ACA makes these practices illegal. As a result, people no longer have to fear being dropped by their insurance company simply because they got sick and hundreds of thousands of young people can now stay on their parents' plan until the age of 26, bringing relief to recent graduates who are having a hard time finding steady employment. Finally, the ACA, provides that mixed status families can now have access to health coverage without fear of deportation.

While the ACA will have an immediate impact, it is important to remember that it will play an even greater role in reversing these health issues in the coming years. Part of addressing Hispanic health disparities is ensuring coverage for our younger generations. This is a key step in preventing the development of chronic illnesses as they grow older.

The ACA is a wonderful opportunity, but the benefits and peace of mind coming from having health coverage will only be realized if you enroll. Those that fail to enroll will be left to deal with a high rate of chronic illness and will only receive treatment as a last resort through emergency room care. Of course, the problem with this approach is that emergency room care is the most expensive treatment option, and thus, those that don't enroll may be left having to choose between going bankrupt or treating an illness or injury.

We all know that the ACA had a bumpy roll-out, but those problems have been fixed and it is now on its way to becoming a critical resource for working poor and middle class Americans. As the President recently announced, over 8 million previously uninsured Americans now have access to affordable, quality health care. Let's work together to ensure that we get health coverage so that access to preventative care is part of our effort to remain healthy!

Sincerely,



Margaret Moran  
LULAC National President



## FEATURE STORY

### THE RETURN TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL

#### The National Cinco de Mayo Festival Slated to Help Thousands

By: Declan Kingland, LULAC Health Programs Coordinator

Thanks to the ongoing support from the Walmart Foundation, LULAC is once again bringing the National Cinco de Mayo Festival to the District of Columbia. Previously held in Los Angeles, California; and San Juan, Puerto Rico, this festival is set to once again bring health resources and raise awareness about the importance of incorporating healthy nutrition and physical fitness into everyday routines.

#### Startling Contrasts in the City's Health Profile

Washington, D.C. can serve as the nation's role model for healthy living. The city ranks first in the nation for the highest percent of residents who eat five or more fruits and vegetables a day. The district also ranks among states, boasting the best record for several measures of preventative care. D.C. leads the nation in the percentage of inhabitants who have had a recent cholesterol screening and ranks among states with the highest percentages of residents that have had a recent routine check-up or other preventative screening.

Though the city has a positive track record on some fronts, there are other, equally critical health needs. Residents in D.C. have among the highest death rates due to heart disease, diabetes, and colorectal cancer in the nation, for example. In fact, statistics worsen when comparing minority health to non-minority. The rates of these illnesses are especially concerning for the Latino community because they fall within the top ten causes of Latino deaths – with heart disease as leading cause, followed by cancer.

Although diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death for the Latino community, according to a recent Robert Wood Johnson Foundation survey, it is the biggest health concern for the Latino community nationwide. Preventable risk factors that are heavily associated with these diseases, including high blood pressure, physical inactivity, and obesity, occur at rates that are approximately two, three, and four times higher respectively in the minority population in comparison to the white population.

*Continued on page 36.*

# Opportunity is Knocking – Open the Door and Come Outside!

*By: Dan Ashe, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

America has always been known as the Land of Opportunity. Regardless of when or where our ancestors came from, they arrived here in search of a better life for themselves and their families. Successive waves of immigrants enriched our culture with their own traditions and contributed to its prosperity with their work ethic and innovation.

Most of all, they understood that America was a place of equal opportunity, with responsibilities and benefits open to everyone. Among those benefits has always been the unparalleled beauty of the American landscape and the wildlife it supports. Among our duties as citizens has always been the responsibility to care for the natural world and ensure that future generations have the same opportunity to experience its wonder.

Today, America's public lands provide amazing recreational opportunities and access to some of North America's most treasured landscapes and wildlife. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages a network of 562 national wildlife refuges encompassing more than 150 million acres from the Caribbean to the remote Pacific, as well as 70 national fish hatcheries and other protected areas.

One of the agency's priorities is welcoming citizens of all backgrounds and helping families experience the benefits of nature – regardless of where they live. And those benefits are enormous. Many of these public resources are within 25 miles of a metropolitan area.

Growing urbanization is making it harder for people to experience the outdoors, and as a result, to feel a personal connection with nature. This has profound implications for the health of our children and the environment. We're working to engage all Americans and show them the beauty and opportunities provided by their public lands.

Studies have shown that children who regularly spend time in nature are physically healthier, more cognitively advanced, and suffer from fewer emotional and behavioral problems than children who don't have the same access. And the landscape that supports healthy populations of wildlife also provides clean air, clean water, jobs and economic development for millions of people nationwide.

The Service is working to create new partnerships with organizations like LULAC to help Latinos and other diverse audiences experience and enjoy nature. The agency is also exploring new ways to interest children in careers in wildlife management and biology.

More than 60 percent of the agency's employees are scheduled to retire in the next decade. As a result, there is an urgent need to train the next generation of biologists, wildlife managers and other professionals to pick up where they leave off. And this new generation needs to reflect the strength found in America's growing diversity.

We are living at a pivotal time in conservation history. The choices we make here, and now, will affect the world that our descendants experience for generations to come. The Latino community has a key role to play in shaping this future, and we are excited to work with LULAC and others to make it happen.



*Dan Ashe with his hunting dog. Dan is the 16th Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

## The Fish and Wildlife Service offers:

- 562 national wildlife refuges encompassing more than 150 million acres from the Caribbean to the remote Pacific
- 70 national fish hatcheries and other protected areas
- Many of these public resources are within 25 miles of a metropolitan area, which means you can enjoy the beauty of nature almost anywhere.
- Visit [www.fws.gov/](http://www.fws.gov/) to find a refuge near you.

# The Journey to Embolden Future Latinas for Public Office



## Underrepresentation of Latinas in Office Urges Launch of *Latinas Represent*

25,000,000 Latinas live in the United States. Of the 8,236 seats in state and national political office, only 109 are held by Latinas. There are only nine Latinas in Congress, and three in statewide executive office. There has never been a Latina senator.

Women's political representation in this country has long lagged behind that of men. Even with women's representation in Congress at an all-time high, the U.S. House of Representatives has only 79 women of 435 members; the Senate, 20 women of 100 members. This is far from equal, given that women make up 50% of the nation's population and more than half of regular voters. While progress is being made, with more and more women running for and winning higher office, LULAC is keenly aware that more must break through. As members of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, we urge you to support the Latinas Represent campaign at [www.LatinasRepresent.org](http://www.LatinasRepresent.org).



*By: Leticia Van de Putte, Texas State Senator*

For more than 85 years, LULAC has dedicated itself to building a better America for Latinos across the country, to helping us fulfill *la promesa* – the promise of the American dream.

We turn to LULAC because LULAC fights for us. They led the historic movement to desegregate schools

so that we could be educated as equals. They fought for our right to be represented in the census, to be counted, to say with one voice, “*estamos presente*.”

We have come a long way. But we know *la promesa* is still not within the grasp of so many in our community. Those who live in the shadows and fear being torn from their families, or who cannot access quality public schools and find college beyond their financial means. The millions in my home state of Texas and across the country who know that one illness could bankrupt their family. And our sisters, the Latinas across the country, who still only earn 54 cents for every dollar a man makes.

In so many of our homes, it is women who are at the decision-making table. And they know firsthand that making 54 cents on the dollar doesn't mean that groceries, or gas, or tuition is 46 cents cheaper. But that perspective is missing from elected office – the decision-making tables that affect not just one family, but all our families.

As a sixth generation Tejana, mother, and grandmother, I understand the struggles our community has faced, and continues to face. That's why I have worked every single day to be a voice for Texas families in the State Senate, and why I am running for Lieutenant Governor. **But I am one of only 97 Latina state legislators currently serving in office nationwide. There are only nine Latinas in Congress, and three in statewide executive office. And there has never been a Latina elected to the United States Senate.**

Latinas have shaped the nation for generations. We have served in the military and led civil rights movements. We do not suffer from a shortage of patriotism or leadership. But we are still missing from the halls of power.

If we want laws that work for all of us, then everyone needs a voice and a seat at the table. If we are to make *la promesa* a reality, we must fulfill *nuestra promesa* – our potential, to lead.

We can start by supporting fantastic Latina candidates who are already running for office – women like Lucy Flores in Nevada; Nellie Gorbea in Rhode Island; and Amanda Renteria, Norma Torres, and Eloise Gomez Reyes in California.

But the real work begins at home. We must look to our schools and churches, and to our mothers, sisters, and friends, to find leaders who just haven't been asked to run yet. These are the Latinas who are already shaping our lives and inspiring us, who may have never realized their experience qualifies them to run.

I was one of those Latinas. Twenty-three years ago I sat at our kitchen table and vented to my husband that the candidates running for my neighborhood's House seat weren't talking about the issues important to our community, and he replied, “Well then, why don't you run?” The light bulb came on over my head – the qualified candidate had been me all along, but I didn't realize it until asked.

But now we don't have to hope that our family or friends will ask the right questions. Today we also have organizations like Latinas Represent that actively seek female candidates and give them the tools they need to run for office and win.

I know that we can achieve progress if we elect leaders who share our values and understand where we come from – leaders who believe in their power to do good, and who are inspired by love for our country and its citizens. This is our call to action. This is how we finally make *la promesa* a reality.

*Leticia Van de Putte is a Texas State Senator, and candidate for Lieutenant Governor. You can learn more about her at [www.leticiavandeputte.com](http://www.leticiavandeputte.com), on Twitter at @leticiavdp or at [facebook.com/leticiavandeputte](https://www.facebook.com/leticiavandeputte). To learn more about running for office, visit [www.latinasrepresent.org](http://www.latinasrepresent.org) or [www.emilyslist.org](http://www.emilyslist.org).*



# Celebrating 85 Years of Service to the Latino Community

## The 17th Annual Legislative Conference and Awards Gala Unites National Advocates

By: Luis Torres, LULAC Director of Policy and Legislation

Eight Members of Congress and 12 issue experts participated in LULAC's policy briefings as part of the 17th Annual Legislative Conference and Awards Gala which took place in late February. Three policy briefings covering the topics of health care, immigration reform, and education provided over 100 LULAC members key information on these critical topics.

The conference was followed by advocacy hill visits where LULAC members met with 55 Congressional offices, as well as, with agency leaders. These advocacy visits provided LULAC members the opportunity to brief key Members of the House of Representatives, and their staff, on the top priorities of LULAC.

At the technology policy luncheon, Congressman George Miller received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his dedication to technology policy and for his legislative service. Texas Senator Wendy Davis was recognized with the Presidential Award for her commitment to strengthen the public school system in Texas by blocking legislation that would cut education spending by \$4 billion.



Photo by Luis Niño Briones

*With little under 100 days in the Congressional calendar for the second session of the 113th Congress, LULAC will continue to identify impact points to advance critical immigration, education, health, and civil rights policy of importance to the Latino community as we continue into 2014.*



Photo by Luis Niño Briones

*Minority Whip Steny Hoyer touched on the importance of continuing the progress that minority technology access has faced. Supporting and cultivating the Latino online community through innovative programming and growing the online Latino community through strategic initiatives aimed at increasing access and affordability of Internet adoption is a top priority for LULAC.*



## Spotlight on the Legislative Conference Making Healthy, Affordable Food a Reality for Every Family

By: Joseph Quinn, Senior Director of Food Policy, Walmart

At Walmart, we talk to our customers all the time, listening to their concerns and the challenges they face. We know it's a tough time for families right now across the country.

Many families worry about how they will pay for everything from housing and health care... to gas and groceries. Factors like the recent cuts to SNAP – a \$36 decrease from the current maximum monthly benefit for a family of four – mean they're stretching their hard-earned dollars even further.

They are living the new normal. And the dinner table is where the issues of health, the economy and raising a family come together each night.

Walmart's healthier food work is an effort to make these times a little easier for those families. It's rooted in a simple, but powerful idea. **We believe that no family should to choose between food that is good for them and food they can afford**, regardless of where they are from, where they live or how much they have in their bank accounts.

When we launched this initiative more than three years ago alongside the First Lady, we heard from a lot of people.

Nutritionists told us – make sure your criteria for evaluating more nutritious foods can stand up under scrutiny.

Educators told us – make it easy to use. Confusion over food labels is one of the major barriers to healthy eating in this country.

And *everyone* told us – put it within reach of everyday people. Make sure there's a



At the education policy briefing, panelists discussed strategies for meaningful educational impact at the federal and state level. Learn more at [www.LULAC.org/educationissues](http://www.LULAC.org/educationissues).



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

After 40 years in Congress, the Honorable George Miller, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, will retire at the end of the 113th Session of Congress. At the technology luncheon, LULAC thanked him for his service.



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

The Honorable Wendy Davis, Texas State Senator, said that LULAC members "stand for people, they stand for principle, and I am proud today to stand with them and to receive the President's Award."



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

At the immigration reform panel, audience members asked the panel for strategies to maximize action in Congress that would prompt the passage of immigration legislation.



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

convenient store in the neighborhood; keep the prices affordable; and provide education about cooking and nutrition.

Today, we're proud of the progress we've achieved. Specifically, Walmart:

- Developed and launched the Great For You™ icon as a simple, easy-to-use shopping tool to help customers quickly identify healthier food choices in our stores.
- Since making this commitment, we have saved our customers \$3.5 billion on fresh produce.
- By the end of FY2014, we opened 224 stores serving food deserts across the country.
- Over that same time, we reduced sodium in products by 13 percent.

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation continue to honor our commitment to increase charitable support for nutrition programming, donating more than \$15.4 million in 2013 and more than \$41 million since 2011.

Throughout this work, we have been proud to work with organizations like LULAC to find fun, easy ways for people to learn more about how to eat more healthfully. There is more work to be done. Too many families are facing the threat of obesity and related issues like heart disease and diabetes. We want to change the idea that healthy living is a luxury. By working together, we can create a culture of health, simplify healthy eating, improve access to the options and resources to make better choices, and put more nutritious, affordable foods within reach for every family.

Don't forget to check out some of our Great for You™ recipes! I love the Quick Asparagus and Brown Rice Risotto!



# 85th Anniversary Inaugurates the Emerge Latino Conference

## Collegiate Conference Focuses on Advocacy and Academic Development

By: Eliana Hernandez, Civic Engagement and Mobilization Intern

On February 25 - 27, 2014, Collegiate LULAC welcomed 83 participants from all over the nation to take part in the inaugural Emerge Latino Conference. With the support of McDonald's, American Federation of Teachers, Denny's, Walmart, Yum! Brands, Human Rights Campaign, El Rey Network, Microsoft, Teach For America, and Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Collegiate LULAC held the very first multi-day leadership conference that provided college students with health, education, and immigration public policy briefings; civic engagement and advocacy trainings; and congressional visits on Capitol Hill. The goal of the Emerge Latino Conference was to teach students the advocacy and public speaking skills that could be used in local advocacy efforts and to illustrate different career paths that might be overlooked.

On the first day of the conference collegiate students set the policy platform that would serve as the foundation for their advocacy efforts throughout the three-day event. The Emerge Latino Conference allowed the collegiate participants to select their policy priorities, which prompted them to critically evaluate the issues that most affect them as Latino college students and to rank them in order of personal and national urgency.

The conference then offered public health, immigration, and education briefings that illustrated the effect of each issue on the Latino population. Members of Congress and issue experts provided the supporting evidence that would be presented to members of Congress in their advocacy visits. Thanks to the support of El Rey Network, the Emerge Latino Conference participants attended that evening's Awards Gala.

The following day, participants met with public and private sector representatives to explore unconventional career options, like the Peace Corps, and high-tier positions at McDonald's and Yum! Brands, Inc. A topic of hot discussion, the United Latino Job Bank advertises additional career opportunities for students as they enter the post-graduation world. Job seekers can search open employment opportunities at [www.HireLatinos.org](http://www.HireLatinos.org). At the next workshop, students explored public speaking best practices from top-level orators from communications agencies and members of Congress.

After taking part in workshops, the students went through advocacy training and were given the opportunity to practice learned skills on Capitol Hill where students met with the staff of 30 congressional representatives. By leading a congressional meeting, students took ownership of their advocacy development.

For a population that is growing tremendously each year it is important that Latinos monitor their representatives' stances on key issues and, as needed, petition for change in these areas. **With the Emerge Latino Conference, college-aged Latinos experienced civic engagement and issue-focused advocacy so that they can grow comfortable in adopting the role.** We need leaders that will voice the needs of our population, that will stand up, and make a difference for all of us. For next year's conference information, visit [www.LULAC.org/emerge](http://www.LULAC.org/emerge).



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

*The students created the conference's policy agenda, using their personal ranking system that prioritized family and community needs.*



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

*LULAC Vice President for Young Adults Manuel Rendón underscored the importance of community mobilizing in times of stress.*



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

*The college students tested out their advocacy skills at congressional meetings on Capitol Hill. For many, it was a first time meeting with their representative.*



# LULAC Awards Gala Honors Trailblazers for Latino Community



1

Photo by Luis Nuno Briones

## Photo Captions

1 - At the 2014 Awards Gala, LULAC recognized key leaders who have served the Hispanic community. We also celebrated the 85th anniversary of LULAC, which was formed on February 29, 1929.

2 - Eliseo Medina, immigration reform advocate, poses with the LULAC Youth Board. The Long Standing Service Award was bestowed upon Medina. As part of the awardee's introduction, LULAC Executive Director Brent Wilkes recounted Medina's self-sacrificing dedication to immigration reform, detailing his hospitalization after a long bout of fasting for immigration reform earlier in 2013. Medina has been an advocate for the Latino community since 1965, launching his community service with the Service Employees International Union where he was formerly International Secretary. Making a passionate call for immigration reform in his remarks, Medina made the compelling point that the cost of doing nothing on immigration reform is more deaths; more children being torn from their families; and allowing a status quo that is making a mockery out of a country of immigrants. In particular, he encouraged students, like those on the LULAC Youth Board and in LULAC youth and collegiate councils, to continue mobilizing for reform.

3 - At the Awards Gala, the National Service Award was presented to the Honorable Thomas E. Perez, Secretary of Labor. The Secretary issued a call to action seeking support for fair wages; comprehensive immigration reform; redoubling the efforts to sign people up for the Affordable Care Act; and calling on our fellow Latinos to register and vote in upcoming elections.

4 - The National Presidential Award was presented to the Honorable Leticia Van de Putte, Texas State Senator. She highlighted the significant power of the Latino vote and called upon those in attendance to press politicians to support the issues that improve the quality of life for our community.



2

Photo by Luis Nuno Briones



3

Photo by Luis Nuno Briones



4

Photo by Luis Nuno Briones



# More than Eight Million Enroll in Health Care

## LULAC's Championing for Coverage Still in Progress

By Declan Kingland, LULAC National Health Programs Coordinator

On Tuesday, April 1, 2014, after six tumultuous months of open enrollment, President Obama stood in the Rose Garden to proudly announce that 7.1 million Americans had enrolled in coverage through the State and Federally-facilitated Marketplaces. As of April 22, 2014, however, the number stands at eight million enrollees, which includes registrants that signed up in the special enrollment period that closed on April 15, 2014. The figure implicitly reaffirms that the program is sustainable and will provide a solid benefit, as it shatters the Congressional Budget Office's enrollment target of six million. It is safe to say that the first enrollment period for this landmark bill ended by exceeding expectations.

As a Champion for Coverage, LULAC has worked together with Health and Human Services and other stakeholders to ensure that the Latino community has the information and resources necessary to not only get connected with the marketplace but to also choose a plan that meets needs and financial situation. As a Champion for Coverage, LULAC has engaged with its membership through a series of webinars and conference calls tailored to directly address the concerns of the Latino community. In the first few weeks of Open Enrollment, LULAC held a Bilingual Health Town Hall that convened national leaders to discuss the benefits that Affordable Care Act implementation provides to the Latino community. LULAC livestreamed the event at [www.LULAC.org/live](http://www.LULAC.org/live) to maximize the national reach. In the following months, the video was viewed thousands of times. When coupled with our *Health Care Reform: Latinos Living Healthy and the Affordable Care Act* manual and several fact sheets – that were not only distributed to our membership in paper form but also hosted online – LULAC grew to be one of the primary sources for information about the ACA for the Latino community.

### Members Steer Local Outreach

LULAC prides itself on its ability to raise issue-focused grassroots awareness to directly impact communities through events hosted by our trained Health Ambassadors and other interested community leaders.

In late 2013, select Councils from across the country took part in the soft launch of [www.CuidadoDeSalud.gov](http://www.CuidadoDeSalud.gov). As they participated in the enrollment process, members provided feedback, which proved integral to a smoother user experience when the page was officially launched.

To add to this grassroots activation component of our campaign, LULAC together with our partners, set out to host a series of *Latino Enrollment Summits* in states with high rates of Latino uninsurance. Through these summits, uninsured Latinos and other community members were directly connected with Spanish-language assistance. By the end of Open Enrollment on March 31, 2014, LULAC and partners held **65 summits**, at which thousands of Latinos enrolled in affordable coverage options.

LULAC's commitment to these summits began at the start of the outreach process, when we hosted the partnership's pilot enrollment summit at our LNES Technology Center in Dallas, Texas. During that six hour period alone, nearly 50 family members came in to sit with trained in-person assistors to start the process. People that had never had health insurance were excited by the prospect, which made word spread faster. Gaining traction as the deadline neared, the enrollment summits grew in attendance as hundreds met with Navigators or Certified Application Counselors to undergo the application process.

In Texas, LULAC hosted enrollment assistors in the local LULAC Houston Council office during the weeks leading up the enrollment deadline and also hosted weekly Enrollment Summits on Saturdays. Office of Personnel Management Director Katherine Archuleta, the first Latina to hold the position, joined LULAC's Houston Council on March 15, 2014, and held a candid discussion at a community roundtable of Latina members who were able to understand first-hand the enrollment process.

"People are confused, but they are getting the information," said Agnes Rivera Garza, LULAC Deputy Director of Women. "When people hear about the process directly from a leader like this, it makes the information more official. The fact that she took the time to come to our center makes the process more personal."

Cecilia Muñoz, Assistant to the President and Director of the Domestic Policy Council, also met with Houston LULACers in the following weeks to continue to address community concerns of individuals looking to enroll.

### Post-Enrollment Period Next Steps for LULAC

Despite these efforts, LULAC is concerned that far too many Latinos remain without coverage.

"Our work has not concluded even though open enrollment for 2014 has ended," said LULAC National Director Brent Wilkes.



*In the photo: Vice President for the Southwest Baldomero Garza III, OPM Director Archuleta, and Texas Deputy Director for Women Agnes Rivera Garza.*



*Cecilia Muñoz, Assistant to the President and Director of the Domestic Policy Council, made a special journey to meet with Houston LULAC members to address community concerns of individuals looking to enroll.*

# More than Eight Million Enroll in Health Care

## LULAC's Championing for Coverage Still in Progress



“The Latino community has a track record of being slow to adopt new government programs, and we fear that the Affordable Care Act may have been negatively impacted by this tendency. Our members will continue connecting with individuals who were unable to take advantage of the 2014 Enrollment Period, so that they have ample opportunity to do so next year.”

Late March 2014, LULAC sent a letter to President Obama and then Secretary Kathleen Sebelius of the Department of Health and Human Services, urging each to demonstrate flexibility

with the implementation of the tax fines associated with individual mandate. In the letter, LULAC encouraged the Administration to address the Latino population that remains uninsured – by extending the open enrollment period and/or by waiving the individual mandate for individuals who were unable to apply due to a good cause or refunding it for those who apply for coverage in 2015.

LULAC was glad to see that our first suggestion was taken into consideration when the Special Enrollment Period from April 1, 2014 - April 15, 2014, was announced, allowing individuals who had a variety of hardships, including technical difficulties with the enrollment process, to continue to access the enrollment website to gain coverage.

This extra time is expected to have helped Americans find coverage in the states that are not expanding Medicaid. In some states, governors have explicitly refused to expand the Medicaid coverage that is granted under the ACA, which leaves over one million Latinos uninsured. In fact, 80% of Latinos who fall into the coverage gap reside in Texas and Florida, states in which many LULAC members are active. As states can opt in at any time, LULAC is redoubling efforts to emphasize and implement the Medicaid expansion program. Because the federal government will cover 100% of additional costs of expansion for the first three years and 95% of additional costs after that point, hundreds of thousands of Latinos could receive the health insurance coverage that they need at little or no cost to the applicant or to the state.

### Upcoming Legislative Action

LULAC also supports a bill that would remove barriers to health coverage, access that is currently denied under the ACA. Titled the *Health Equity and Access Under the Law (HEAL) Immigrant Women and Families Act*, the bill was introduced by Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico, a guest speaker at the LULAC Legislative Conference health panel in February at the

### Are you an ACA Expert?

Answer each statement with true or false to test your knowledge of the new health care law. Answers on page 43.

1. The health reform law will require nearly all Americans to have health insurance starting in 2014 or else pay a fine.
2. States have to pay to expand their existing Medicaid program to cover more low-income, uninsured adults.
3. The health reform law allows undocumented immigrants to receive financial help from the government to buy health insurance.
4. Information provided in the application for marketplace insurance will not be shared with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and may not affect any pending applications for work permits, student visas, naturalization, etc.
5. The health reform law cut benefits for people in the traditional Medicare program.
6. Medicaid and CHIP enrollment only occurs during the Open Enrollment Period.
7. The health reform law will create a new government-run insurance plan to be offered along with private plans.
8. 2015 Open Enrollment Period begins on October 1, 2014 and ends on March 31, 2015.

nation's capital.

Under the *HEAL Immigrant Women and Families Act*, lawfully present immigrants would be given access to Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) by eliminating the current five-year bar on enrollment and the outdated and restrictive list of “qualified” immigrants. Removing these barriers can help both mother and child as lawfully present immigrants will have access to care and their own doctor, instead of relying on emergency room for care. Latinas are disproportionately affected by cervical cancer, an illness that, through regular preventative care visits, can be screened and treated before developing into a serious illness. In addition, Latino children are more than 50% more likely to have an unmet medical need and almost twice as likely to have that unmet medical need due to cost; CHIP could mitigate these effects. The passage of the bill can go a long way towards addressing the health disparities that exist in the Latino community.

### Take Full Advantage of New Coverage

During the coming months, LULAC will continue to advocate for increased access to care while also working to ensure that everyone takes full advantage of their available coverage. Through the Enrollment Summits we have seen that, in some communities, there is still a considerable amount of misinformation and apprehension when it comes to the Affordable Care Act.

For individuals who are gaining coverage for the first time or have more extensive coverage options now than they had before, it is important that they not only know the full extent of the preventative care but that they take full advantage of it.

“Having coverage is just the first step; the important part is utilizing that coverage to improve your health,” said LULAC Director of Policy and Legislation Luis Torres. “Let's work together to ensure that all uninsured Latinos gain access to care so that we can remove *disparity* from the end of *Latino health*.”



# LULAC Councils Take Charge of Major Civil Rights Battles

## Voter Suppression Rule Thwarted in Iowa

By: Melissa Walker, Director of Publicity of Iowa LULAC

This year marked a huge success in an almost two-year court battle that Iowa LULAC has been involved with to stop the intimidation and suppression of Latino voters.

In March, Judge Scott D. Rosenberg, the district court judge for the Fifth Judicial District of Iowa, ruled that Iowa Secretary of State, Matt Schultz, exceeded his authority in adopting new voter rules that created a process for identifying and removing voters by screening them against a federal database.

Rosenberg's decision invalidated the rule, which identified and removed non-citizens from the voter rolls by screening registered voters against state and national lists of non-citizens and then running suspected foreign nationals through a federal database called the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE). The database is known to have faulty information.

"This was a huge victory in that it protected the integrity of the right to vote in Iowa," said Joe Enriquez Henry, State Director of Iowa LULAC. "We have believed all along these rules were unnecessary and could lead to legal voters being denied their constitutional right to vote, as well as intimidating others from registering to vote."

Iowa LULAC had joined the American Civil Liberties Union of Iowa in a lawsuit in 2012 to stop Schultz from enacting such rules. The lawsuit argued that state law only allows Schultz to cancel a voter's registration under limited circumstances that do not include questions about citizenship. Both advocacy groups believed the new rules would unnecessarily intimidate and suppress Latino voters and others from exercising their right to vote on Election Day.

Rosenberg ruled that Schultz acted outside of his authority in creating the voter removal rule. Iowa law provides six reasons for allowing cancellation of voter registration: if a voter dies, registers in another jurisdiction, requests a cancellation in writing, is convicted for a felony, is declared incompetent, or has been inactive for two successive general elections.

Photo by Luis Nunez Briones



## Access to Health Care Denied for Texas Latinas

By: Agnes Rivera Garza, LULAC Texas Deputy for Women

LULAC Council #4696 has mobilized in response to major women's health policy changes that disproportionately affect Latinas living in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. In solidarity with these women, LULAC women joined the launch of the Nuestro Texas human rights campaign and urged Texas LULAC leadership to join the online campaign that would support Latinas in the Rio Grande Valley and women across Texas.

With the Center for Reproductive Rights and the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, LULAC Council #4696 highlighted the results of the human rights investigation, which were published in the Nuestro Texas report. Major health policy

changes that were enacted in 2011 have shredded the women's health safety net, disproportionately affecting Latinas living in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, one of the poorest regions in the U.S. and home to a large population of immigrants and Latinas.

"It's a human rights violation," explained Agnes Rivera Garza, LULAC Texas Deputy for Women. "The barriers to reproductive health care impact not only the health of the women that live in the

Valley but also, as the lack of health care access takes its toll, their families."

The report finds that women face key barriers when accessing health care. High demand and short supply of low-cost female health care has led women to rely on other sources of care that may jeopardize their health and safety.

"We encourage LULAC members everywhere to spread awareness of the health care climate in Texas," continued Rivera Garza. "Latinas in Texas are galvanized and, by sharing these women's stories, we can shift the landscape for women's wellness in Texas."

To read the full report, go to <http://www.nuestrotexas.org/pdf/NT-spread.pdf>.

# DOMINA LAS GASOLINERAS.



**FIND NEW ROADS™**

## **CHEVROLET CRUZE ECO DEL 2014**

Con 42 MPG en carretera según la EPA, ocúpate menos del indicador de combustible y más en lo que realmente importa: impulsar tus sueños. Porque hay mejores cosas por hacer que echar gasolina. Esto es el nuevo Cruze Eco. Esto es **#THENEW EFFICIENT**

**CHEVROLET**



1 MPG según la EPA: 28 en ciudad/42 en carretera con motor ECOTEC turbo, disponible de 1.4L de 4 cilindros con transmisión manual de 6 velocidades y equipo Eco Overdrive Gear.

## Professional Resiliency in the Face of a Changing Market

Noemi Lujan Perez, Nontraditional Stakeholders & Media Director, Division of Partner & Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

By: Jossie Flor Sapunar, LULAC News Editor



After 13 years as a public relations professional, Noemi Lujan Perez thought she had her career figured out. Having worked for Hispanic community organizations and large corporations for years, she had finally narrowed down her specialty. Most notably, she handled public relations for Fortune 500 companies like Microsoft and MGM Mirage, improving their image with community. She quickly climbed the ranks as a mid-career communications professional, gaining confidence in her abilities as her expertise in her field grew.

In 2008 the recession threw her off track. In the worst recession since 1929, the economy shrank, lopping off more than 8.4 million jobs. Perez's position included.

Without a stable income, Perez slowly watched the large majority of her personal assets disappear. After her home went under water, she was left with nothing but her car and her determination. Not giving up, Perez moved in with her family while she continued to look for job opportunities.

Just like millions of other Americans, Perez struggled to find work that fit her level of skill in her field. Closing in on one year of unemployment, she came to terms with the fact that the industry she had worked in for years wasn't hiring. Refocusing, Perez decided to explore options that she had previously disregarded since they didn't

immediately fall into her realm of expertise.

She sought out and met with a recruiter, who told her about an entry-level writing position with the federal government.

She had never worked for the federal government, so she was hesitant to take the position. Perez was confident, however, that her new supervisors would recognize her abilities, and that she would be able to move up the ladder quickly. Although this wasn't her dream position, she applied for the job.

Perez waited nine months to hear back, and luckily after nearly 2 years of unemployment, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requested an interview with her in their Washington, D.C. office. Perez could not believe the blessing that this opportunity presented – she literally cried with joy. Pinning her hopes on a position that wasn't yet confirmed, she packed all her belongings into her car and traveled cross-country to her interview. With only \$233 in the bank she lived off of water and peanut butter sandwiches so that she could afford the three months stay that constitute the federal interview process.

Desperate for a job, Perez was frank with her interviewer, the Chief of Communications for the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and told him that she would be willing to work at any level – even doing easy tasks such as filing papers, or collecting media clips – work she had delegated to others since she left college. The chief was impressed by her enthusiasm, team-oriented mindset, and her resume. He was so impressed that he formed a new deputy chief position so that he could place her at a level that fit her mid-career professional skill set. Perez couldn't believe it.

Perez encourages everyone to learn from her story. "When jobs are tough to come by, you have to be flexible," she said to the LULAC News Interviewer. "Are you willing to be homeless because you are holding out for the salary that you want, or are you astute enough to gauge where the market is going?" Never lose hope – if you have the ability, you will excel wherever you go.

Center for American Progress

Read the full report by Judith Warner on the Center for American Progress website at <http://bit.ly/CAPwomen>.

### The Women's Leadership Gap



Women are **50.8 percent** of the U.S. population.



They earn almost **60 percent** of undergraduate degrees, and **60 percent** of all master's degrees.

They earn **47 percent** of all law degrees, and **48 percent** of all medical degrees.

They earn more than **44 percent** of master's degrees in business and management, including **37 percent** of MBAs.

They are **47 percent** of the U.S. labor force, and **59 percent** of the college-educated, entry-level workforce.

Although they hold almost 52 percent of all professional-level jobs, American women lag substantially behind men when it comes to their representation in leadership positions:

- They are only 14.6 percent of executive officers, 8.1 percent of top earners, and 4.6 percent of Fortune 500 CEOs.
- They hold just 16.9 percent of Fortune 500 board seats.
- In the financial services industry, they make up 54.2 percent of the labor force, but are only 12.4 percent of executive officers, and 18.3 percent of board directors. None are CEOs.
- They account for 78.4 percent of the labor force in health care and social assistance but only 14.6 percent of executive officers and 12.4 percent of board directors. None, again, are CEOs.



# Recruiting Talented Latinos for Professional Careers



## UNITED LATINO JOB BANK

W W W . H I R E L A T I N O S . O R G

**JOB SEEKERS:** Look for a job in LULAC's United Latino Job Bank! Create a United Latino Job Bank account, upload your resume, and apply for job! Get important updates on government jobs, corporate jobs, internships, and education resources.

**EMPLOYERS:** Post jobs for free of charge and promote employment opportunities in the United Latino Job Bank. Become a supporting "Diversity Champion" sponsor and LULAC will (1) feature your agency's jobs in the United Latino Job Bank search engine, (2) publish your organization logo in a banner in the front page of the United Latino Job Bank, and (3) send direct messages to the recruitment database.

To participate or have any question please contact Senior Community Development Manager Ulises A. Gonzalez at [UGonzalez@LULAC.org](mailto:UGonzalez@LULAC.org) or (916) 551-1330.

**[www.HireLatinos.org](http://www.HireLatinos.org)**

## From the Desk of the Vice President for Women

The 2014 National Conference of Women in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was the rewarding realization of the hard work, teamwork, and support of many people. At the same time, our Commissioners had the opportunity to meet and to reflect on past achievements. We focused on new areas to develop, grow, and maintain the advancement agenda for Latinas in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

I know, by heart, that the role of LULAC's National Women's Commission is to continue increasing awareness among Latinas by expanding their leadership capacities in their communities. As the National VP for Women, I am reaffirming that, "the Women's Commission will continue to and firmly encourages Congress to increase the national minimum wage. According to *Time* magazine, 21 states have approved an increase in state minimum wages for 2014."

Thirty-five non-Latinas are holding top jobs in Fortune 1,000 companies as of 2012. About 73% of Fortune 500 Companies now have at least one female executive officer. Although women comprise only 14% of all the executive officers, this represents the pipeline of the future but not one with Latinas. *¡Qué pasa con las mujeres!*

This illustrates what is troubling our economic inefficiency and the inflexibility created by the job market, which undermines the social and economic status of Latinas and has perpetuated inequality from one generation to another.

It would be a paramount political and civil rights action if we aimed to act now and ease the Latina family burden, create awareness and banish stereotypes, and ensure equal opportunities among Latinas. That's the LULAC Women's



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

Commission's list of action items that will guide us as we plan this year's events at the national convention - our now traditional Women's High Tea and Hall of Fame, the annual Women's Luncheon and the Latina empowerment workshops.

Let's start the journey to the Big Apple with the same passion and hard work that has characterized 85 years of LULAC history. Let's continue with high spirits and hit New York City with a storm of advocacy and empowerment for the new age Latina.



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones



## LULAC Celebrates Women's History Month with National Women's Conference

"This year's conference focused on bringing awareness to key issues which impact women's lives," said Elsie Valdes Ramos, National VP for Women and Chairwoman of the Conference. "The conference includes workshops and seminars that cover issues such as retirement, the Affordable Care Act, domestic violence, human trafficking, and women in government."

Women continue to face a variety of challenges that limit their ability to realize their dreams. According to the Pew Research Center, in 2012 women earned 84 cents for every \$1 made by men. Women also face health challenges. Although women make up a little over half of the world's population, they are more likely to go hungry than men. In addition, domestic violence continues to pose a real threat to women. In the U.S., nearly 3 in 10 women (29%) have been victims of rape, physical violence and/or stalking. However, women understand the power of civic participation for effecting change. During the 2012 Presidential elections, 63.7% of women voted to change the social conditions that impact their lives.

"The women's conference is a critical component of LULAC which offers a woman's perspective on critical issues," said LULAC National President Margaret Moran. "As women continue their growth in the economic, social, and political sectors, LULAC Women will, in turn, renew their dedication as trailblazers for gender equality."

Another important issue for women is affordable health insurance. As of April 10, 2014, 11.7 million Americans have enrolled in quality affordable health insurance. LULAC wants to help the Latino community continue to take advantage of this great opportunity. At the exposition hall of the Women's Conference, Milwaukee area residents had their questions answered and started the application process with the help of a navigator. Particularly for the Latino community, navigators have been an important part of the enrollment process because they provide personalized assistance.

Finally, as part of the 2014 LULAC National Women's Conference, LULAC and Sherwin Williams brightened up the community by painting the UMOs Latina Resource Center. Sherwin Williams has donated its time, manpower, and supplies to help restore a critical asset to the Milwaukee community which brings important resources for victims of domestic violence.

LULAC is grateful for the support of its Ruby and Pearl sponsors which include the Ford Motor Company, Sherwin Williams, P&G/Orgullosa, Clear Channel, McDonald's, the National Education Association, Southwest Airlines, and Walmart. Their assistance and support are critical to making this conference a success.

"I look forward to seeing our advocates in New York in July," said Valdes Ramos.



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

LULAC and Sherwin-Williams work together to improve the community.



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

LULAC women receive their acknowledgements.



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones



Photo by Luis Nuño Briones

LULAC and Tyson Foods donate almost 32,000 pounds of meat.



# Latinas en Acción

*Latinas en Acción dedicate their time to improve the Hispanic community, advocating for issues that make a difference in their lives.*

## Daniela Velasquez Silver Spring, Maryland

- Participant of the *Ford Driving Dreams through Education* program
- Certified HIV/AIDS Peer Educator
- Aspires to receive medical degree from Stanford University

*By: Daniela Velasquez, President of Maryland Youth Council*

With vapid skin color, the feeble body defensively swallowing the 18-20 treatment pills per day, the attempt to live a normal life is strenuous. In sixth grade I joined a non-profit called GapBuster and after a year of leadership workshops, public speaking events, and HIV/AIDS Prevention and Awareness training, I became a certified HIV/AIDS peer educator. In seventh grade, I eagerly boarded a plane to South Africa to share my new knowledge with my

peers. To participate in service learning is one thing, but to change the trajectory of someone's life is truly amazing. I returned with a new sense of pride and respect for other cultures, as well as a known responsibility to inform society about HIV/AIDS. I am determined to become an active change agent throughout my community as I aspire to become a physician.

**In 2010 the CDC reported that youth aged 13 to 24 accounted for an estimated 26% of all new HIV infections in the United States, and minorities are disproportionately affected.** All studies show a propensity for social and economic marginalization; no biological correlation is the cause for disproportionate HIV/AIDS rates among minorities. While in college I plan to develop a community oriented HIV/AIDS Peer Education program. I also plan to work amongst other passionate professionals to further HIV prevention research in hope of lowering new incidents of HIV.

I began to research the demographics and found that Hispanics were disproportionately struggling in academics, with the attainment of a college degree being very sparse. As a proud Latina I have to change the statistics for my family and community because we are all fully capable of becoming who we aspire to be, as long as we are willing to challenge ourselves. I will work towards helping increase the number of Latinos who obtain advanced graduate degrees.

In 9th grade I was introduced to LULAC. I attended my first annual conference and absolutely loved it. I was surrounded by leaders that felt just as passionate about the educational, political, and socioeconomic attainment of Latinos as I did. **I am proud to say that I started a LULAC Council at my school, a school of three-thousand students, a school where the minorities are the majority, a school where LULAC changes lives.** Our LULAC council has received nothing but positive feedback and rapid recruitment. Five members recently traveled to LULAC's first Emerge Latino Conference at which we spoke to Congressmen and -women on Capitol Hill about major disparities in the Latino community such as education, health, and immigration.

Ultimately, I strive to be the ambitious person that influences others to feel as passionate about the sciences and livelihood of others as I do. My educational goals are to complete undergraduate



**Ford Driving<sup>u</sup>Dreams  
Through Education**

college successfully and obtain my medical degree from Stanford University School of Medicine within 8 years. My career goal is to become a physician who will give back to communities in need of medical care.

# Latinas en Acción



*Latinas en Acción dedicate their time to improve the Hispanic community, advocating for issues that make a difference in their lives.*

## Melissa Castellanos Martinez

### Mexico City, Mexico

- Título de Ingeniería en Gestión Empresarial de la Universidad Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Coacalco
- Practicante de participación y movilización cívica LULAC

Por: Melissa Castellanos Martinez

Una de las características más importantes para que exista democracia en un país es la participación de su gente. Es de suma importancia que como ciudadanos, estemos interesados por defender nuestros derechos pero que también tengamos en cuenta el cumplimiento de todas nuestras obligaciones, de participar e involucrarnos en las decisiones tanto en un contexto político como en un contexto social.

La participación ciudadana convierte a la sociedad en una que muestra un mayor interés por mantenerse informada y

cercana a los asuntos políticos, mostrando atención por cooperar con las decisiones que toman nuestros representantes. Como sociedad tenemos la obligación de involucrarnos y colaborar con las autoridades, de luchar junto a ellos proporcionando toda la información que conduzca a un trabajo en conjunto para el logro de un mismo objetivo. El gobierno posee una gran necesidad de la presencia del ciudadano común en la toma de decisiones de los más versátiles aspectos de la realidad diaria.

## México

Participación ciudadana	41,791,322	58.55 %
Abstención	28,588,051	41.45 %
Lista Nominal	71,374,373	

## Estados Unidos

Participación ciudadana	130,292,355	58.7 %
Abstención	91,633,465	41.3 %
Lista Nominal	221,925,820	

Aumentar la participación ciudadana es un elemento crucial para el desarrollo de los países. Las redes sociales han dado lugar a un crecimiento formidable en la participación ciudadana, aunque sean plataformas virtuales y las discusiones se den en la red, grandes ideas son las que se generan en estos espacios y esas ideas son las que llegan a mover masas e influir en las decisiones principalmente de la gente joven.

## ¿Qué puedes hacer para formar parte de la participación ciudadana?

Acércate a tus representantes en el congreso, participa en el proceso democrático, mantente informado y se analítico con las decisiones que se toman en tu comunidad, estado y país. Participa en decisiones que finalmente te beneficiarán y, por último, si puedes nunca dejes de votar.

LULAC crea interés en cada uno de sus miembros, motivándolos



para que participen voluntariamente y responsablemente en la democracia de su país y para que conozca a fondo e investigue acerca de sus candidatos, partidos políticos y decisiones en las cuales los ciudadanos se ven involucrados directamente; ya que, como es bien sabido, toda decisión que se toma debe de estar sustentada para crear políticas inteligentes como ventaja competitiva del país.

Un claro ejemplo de este empuje que se le da a la sociedad fue la conferencia Emerge Latino Conference en el cual LULAC facilitó a que estudiantes universitarios de diversos estados acudieran a mantener una charla con sus congresistas para externar sus inquietudes acerca de diferentes temas de suma importancia como por ejemplo, inmigración, educación y salud, motivándolos así a seguir participando en este mismo proceso.

Como ciudadana mexicana, LULAC me ha abierto las puertas y brindado la motivación de participar y acercarme a mis representantes, hacer escuchar mi voz y mis ideas ya que todos somos parte de las decisiones que nuestros representantes toman y por lo tanto también todos tenemos la obligación de hacer llegar a ellos nuestras peticiones y sugerencias, pero sobre todo ideas frescas mediante las cuales ellos puedan trabajar y apoyarse de nosotros para generar nuevas reformas que impulsen el desarrollo del país.



# Latinos in Education

## LULAC's Education Policy Priorities

By: Luis Torres, LULAC Director of Policy and Legislation

As 2014 progresses, we must tread forward with plans to improve the academic performance of our students. Progress has been positive, but there are still many disparities which plague the educational attainment of Latinos.

LULAC works to advance the educational attainment of Latinos by engaging the community in advocacy and policy efforts at the local, state, and federal level. Read the policy initiatives below.

**Head Start Program** - Officially launched in 1965 as a program under the Department of Health and Human Services, the Head Start Program provides comprehensive education, health, and nutrition services to low-income pre-school aged children across the United States. Expanding Head Start to more children and expanding parent education and support programs are a priority to LULAC.

**Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)** - First signed into law in 1965 under the Lyndon Baines Johnson Administration and known most recently as No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the ESEA is the landmark and most far-reaching federal legislation passed by Congress. ESEA authorizes primary and secondary education programs which include teacher development, assistance for underserved populations, support for migrant and seasonal students, English Language Learners, and much more.

**Higher Education Act (HEA)** - First signed into law in 1965 under the Lyndon Baines Johnson Administration, the HEA is the signature higher education legislation authorizing higher education financial aid and support programs under TRIO-GEAR UP, Talent Search, Upward Bound, and others. Strengthening the Pell grant, lowering interest rates on student loans, and expanding work study are some of the priorities for LULAC.

**Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**- Originally signed into law in 1975 under a different name, this primary law authorizes resources and support services for children with learning disabilities.

**Elementary and Secondary Education Act Waivers (ESEA Waivers)**- The U.S. Department of Education has granted waivers to states exempting them from specific requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 in exchange for rigorous and comprehensive State-developed plans designed to improve educational outcomes

for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity, and improve the quality of instruction. LULAC is particularly focused on ensuring that states who receive waivers implement strong accountability plans that require interventions and support for struggling students.

**Common Core State Standards (CCSS)** - The CCSS are a single set of clear educational standards for kindergarten through 12th grade in English language arts and mathematics. The standards are designed to ensure that high school graduates are prepared for college programs and the workforce. Educational standards help teachers ensure their students have the skills and knowledge

they need to be successful by providing clear goals for student learning. LULAC is engaged in various education campaigns across states like New Mexico and Florida to ensure that the Latino community is informed about the CCSS and to provide feedback and recommendations to better improve the implementation of the new standards and corresponding assessments.

**E-Rate** - E-Rate is a federal program that provides telecommunication services to schools, school districts, and libraries through discounts which range from 20-90 percent and are based on urban/rural location, as well as percentage of students in poverty measured by eligibility for free or reduced lunches.

According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office,

approximately 83 percent of public schools, 14 percent of private schools, and 51 percent of libraries participate in E-Rate. In 1996, only 14 percent of classrooms had internet service; today, 94 percent do! Today, E-Rate needs to be modernized and expanded in order to keep up with demand and serve more students. E-Rate needs to be simplified, so schools are not discouraged and turned away by a complex application process. It needs to be upgraded to focus on more modern technology. And, the funding available for E-Rate must be increased to bring America's classrooms into the digital age. E-rate is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company under the oversight of the Federal Communications Commission.

To learn more about the other issues that LULAC focuses on, like graduation, financial aid, employment training, STEM education and careers, and vocational and technical training go to [www.LULAC.org/educationissues](http://www.LULAC.org/educationissues).

### Latino Students at a Glance

- 69% of Hispanics who graduated high school in 2012 enrolled in college; this number was higher than that of their white counterparts. (Source: Pew Research Hispanic Center)
- 88% of Latinos ages 16 and older agreed that a college degree is necessary to get ahead in life today (Source: Pew Research Hispanic Center)
- In 2010, the graduation rate for Hispanics grew more than for any other subgroup; 78% in 2010, an increase of 14% points since 2000. (Source: Pew Research Hispanic Center)
- Latinos are the 2nd largest ethnic/racial group in postsecondary education after whites. (Source: Excelencia in Education)
- Only 14% of Hispanic 16- to 24-year-olds in 2011 were high school dropouts, half the level in 2000 (28%). (Source: Pew Research Hispanic Center)

# Latinos in Education

## LULAC's Education Programs at a Glance



### ¡Adelante! America Leadership Program

By: Elizabeth Garcia, Director of National Programs

The network of the ¡Adelante! America program seeks to develop and enhance the effectiveness of future Latino and Latina leaders by focusing on education as preparation for the workplace. The central mission of the ¡Adelante! America Program is to foster and support a network of interdependent programs aimed at improving the quality of life for Latinos in the United States. Each ¡Adelante! America program is structured to accommodate the diversity prevalent at all levels of the Latino community. Our goal is to continue the tradition of strengthening ethically and socially responsible leaders with a demonstrated commitment to those communities from which they emerge.



### Ford Driving Dreams through Education Program

By: Karina Castellanos, LULAC Program Coordinator

The Ford Driving Dreams through Education program has been positively affecting the lives of Latino middle and



Ford Driving Dreams Through Education

high school students since 2010. This innovative program awards grants to LULAC Councils to implement creative programs that aim to reduce the disparity in the high school dropout rate among Latino youth. For the past four years, Ford Motor Company Fund and LULAC National have supported LULAC Councils and the communities they serve by designing and implementing localized solutions that address a critical need. Unique to the program, this element gives LULAC Councils the flexibility to design programs or curricula that take into account their community's respective education issues, resources, and support systems. LULAC Councils create top notch programs that help stimulate academic achievement and high school completion in the United States and Puerto Rico.

The different components of each particular program offer the enrolled students greater access to support systems that provide resources and motivate them to reach high school completion and to continue onto institutions of higher education. Many LULAC Councils have demonstrated their support for the students by incorporating a mentoring and guidance component that exposes students to the positive and successful experiences of local leaders in their respective communities.

For the past three years, the LNESK Kansas City (KC) College Coach program, **LNESC KC and LULAC Council #9607 have worked collaboratively to change the 45% high school graduation rate of Latinos in their community.** LNESK employees have worked 9-12th grade urban core students attending East, Alta Vista and J.C. Harmon High Schools to help them identify and apply for college scholarships targeted at minority or undeserved students. The leaders of the program have also helped students pursue higher education by helping with them navigate through the college application process. LULAC Council #9607 members have served as mentors to the students and continue to guide them as they prepare to enter college. The LNESK KC College Coach has also encouraged students to be involved in community improvement projects and local events to foster the student's sense of citizenship and pride in the community.

Due to the success of programs like Kansas City, Ford Driving Dreams has impacted more than 700 students since its launch in 2010. **To date, 36 grant recipients in 15 states have worked around the year to keep students on the road to high school graduation.** In 2014, the Ford Driving Dreams initiative will welcome eight new sites and continue the fantastic work of two sites from the 2012 winning LULAC Councils.



**The ¡Adelante America! leadership program has served 6000 at-risk youth.**



**60,000 students have participated in the ¡Adelante America! leadership conferences.**



**With career opportunity field trips and STEM-field mentors, students learn that STEM fields are appealing and within their reach.**



**Program participants undergo digital literacy training to maximize high school graduation and the online college application process.**

# Latinos in Education

## Steps to Achieving Academic Success

# LNESC

LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc.

programs fall under five pillars: Academic Counseling; College Access; Leadership; Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM); Health/Wellness.

*By: Sara Melton and Marianna Morón*

LNESC's program model services high-need Latino students at all stages of educational development. LNESC develops and delivers a range of services at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Additionally, we provide scholarship assistance to college students in undergraduate, graduate, and doctorate programs. The



## COLLEGE

77% of Latinos say that the cost of education is a key reason for why they do not go to college or fail to finish once they are enrolled, according to Pew Hispanic Center & Kaiser Family Foundation.

## HIGH

The 2011 high school drop out rate for the Latino population in the U.S. stood at 14%, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

## MIDDLE

Latinos make up only 5.3% of the STEM workforce in the country, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics

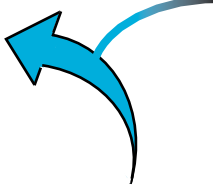
## ELEMENTARY

81% of Latino fourth graders were reading below proficient levels in 2013, according to the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress.

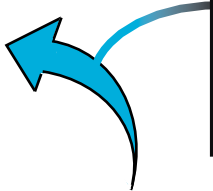
# Latinos in Education

## Steps to Achieving Academic Success

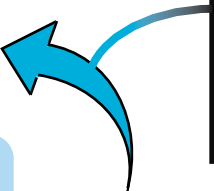
We partner with local schools, universities and industries to help provide college and career opportunities and resources. LNESc has served over 500,000 students, sent 150,000 students to college, and awarded \$20 million in scholarships. Our results are made possible by a network of dedicated field staff, top-notch educators, over 90 school partners, and the support of LULAC. LNESc works to change lives and build Latino communities, one student at a time.



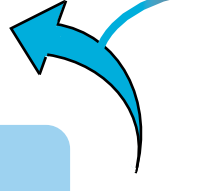
More than **\$20 million** in scholarships have been awarded to first generation college students from high-need communities across the U. S. through the LULAC National Scholarship Fund (LNSF) and other specialized scholarships, including the GE Foundation/LNESc Scholarship program. In fact, **100%** of GE Foundation/LNESc scholars complete their post-secondary education in business or engineering.



Students that participate in extracurricular activities and wraparound programs are more likely to graduate from high school. **98%** of *Adelante America!* program participants achieved on-time grade promotion.



LNESC's science-oriented programs expose students to over **100 hours** of STEM-focused curriculum, including STEM education, career exploration, and access to technology, to help pique their interest in STEM fields.



**99%** of *Young Readers* students show improvement between their first and last reading evaluation. *Young Readers* students are exposed to 90 hours of literacy development.





# How Citizenship Helps the Economy

Allowing unauthorized immigrants to become citizens brings a whole host of economic benefits, from greater wages for workers, to increased economic growth and tax revenue collected. Citizenship would also help to improve the finances of the Social Security and Medicare systems. And as a part of immigration reform, it would significantly decrease the federal budget deficit. Inaction on immigration reform — including the pathway to citizenship—carries a heavy cost. Here are the economic benefits of citizenship:

**A** Citizenship enables undocumented immigrants to earn significantly more.



Citizenship raises the wages of the undocumented because it:



Provides legal protections



Grants access to better jobs



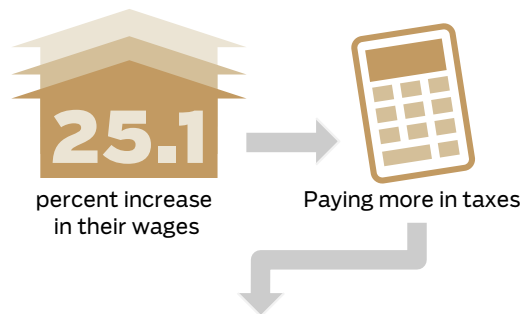
Promotes investment in education and training



Fosters entrepreneurship

**B** Naturalized workers earn higher wages, consume more goods and services, and pay more in taxes, which in turn create economic growth and American jobs.

If we provide legal status to **11.7 million** undocumented immigrants today and citizenship in five years, it would mean...



Extra money in the economy would lead to a cumulative increase in GDP over 10 years of

**\$1.1 trillion**

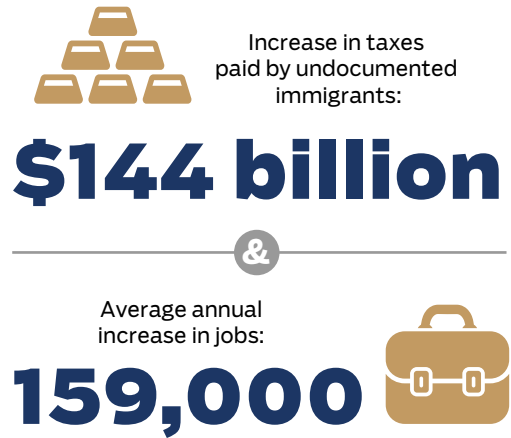
Source: Robert Lynch and Patrick Oakford, "The Economic Effects of Granting Legal Status and Citizenship to Undocumented Immigrants" (Washington: Center for American Progress, 2013).

Source: Robert Lynch and Patrick Oakford, "The Economic Effects of Granting Legal Status and Citizenship to Undocumented Immigrants" (Washington: Center for American Progress, 2013).



**C** Granting citizenship to the unauthorized will bring about significant gains in terms of tax revenue and jobs.

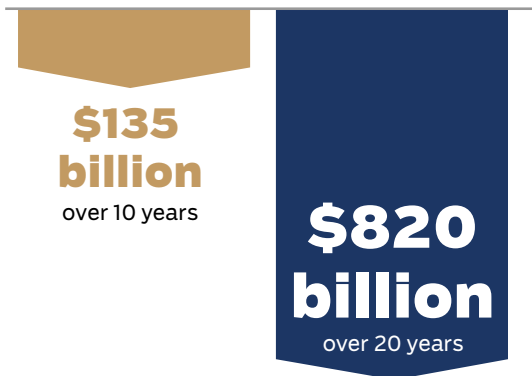
**Economic gains over 10 years**



Source: Robert Lynch and Patrick Oakford, "The Economic Effects of Granting Legal Status and Citizenship to Undocumented Immigrants" (Washington: Center for American Progress, 2013).

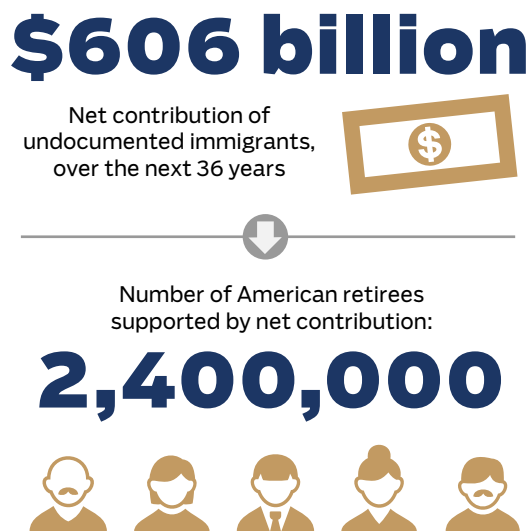
**D** Immigration reform as envisioned by the Senate in S. 744 translates into a significant decrease in the federal budget deficit, with the largest reductions occurring in the same decade that most undocumented immigrants would be eligible for citizenship.

**Reduction in the federal budget deficit due to immigration reform**



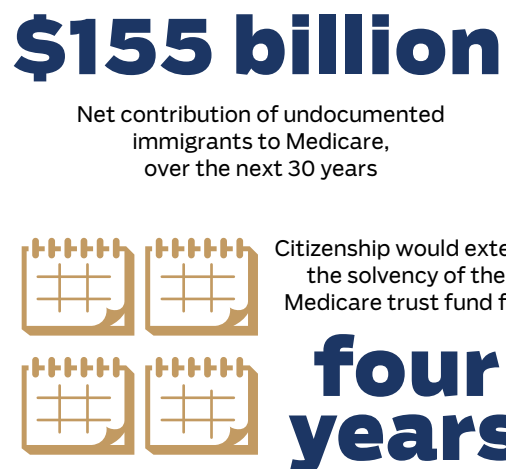
Source: Congressional Budget Office, "Cost Estimate: S.744—Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act" (2013).

**E** Citizenship would allow millions of undocumented immigrants to work on the books and contribute to Social Security.



Source: Adriana Kugler, Robert Lynch, and Patrick Oakford, "Improving Lives, Strengthening Finances: The Benefits of Immigration Reform to Social Security" (Washington: Center for American Progress, 2013).

**F** Providing legal status and citizenship to undocumented immigrants would extend the solvency of the Medicare trust fund by four years and provide a net contribution to the trust fund for the next three decades.



Source: Patrick Oakford and Robert Lynch, "How Will Immigration Reform Impact the Medicare Trust Fund?" (Washington: Center for American Progress, 2014).



# LULAC Partners with Jackson Hewitt® to Educate Latino Consumers on U.S. Tax Topics

By: Karina Castellanos, LULAC Program Coordinator

Filing your taxes can be a very overwhelming and confusing process for many individuals across the United States. In addition to the intimidating filing process, the Latino community often faces a language barrier and is susceptible to refund fraud and identity theft. In order to overcome such obstacles and to build a better understanding of financial management, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) partnered with Jackson Hewitt®, an industry-leading provider of full service tax preparation, to help educate the Latino community on important tax topics such as fraud prevention, including identity theft; and, how the Affordable Care Act can impact one's taxes.

As part of the partnership, Jackson Hewitt and LULAC reached nearly 500 Latinos during the tax season by co-hosting tax-related workshops in Los Angeles, Sacramento and Houston as part of LULAC's 'Pocket Smart, Managing Your Money Wisely' Program. Pocket Smart aims to provide Latino communities with the financial knowledge necessary to better manage their money and make informed decisions regarding day-to-day transactions, investments, and even business opportunities.

"We are excited to partner with Jackson Hewitt in order to bring important resources to our community, such as access to bilingual tax experts, and workshops where attendees will be educated on refund fraud detection and prevention," said LULAC National President Margaret Moran. "The Latino community faces many challenges in these areas. The partnership helps to overcome such obstacles and builds a better understanding of financial management which ultimately will impact an individual's quality of life."

LULAC Councils in each city, along with Jackson Hewitt tax professionals, co-hosted the workshops with the goal of discussing tax topics as they relate to personal finance, immigration reform, health care, money management and fraud prevention.

"We are excited about the opportunity to partner with LULAC in order to provide tax and financial best practices to Latino families in California and Texas," said Mark Steber, Chief Tax Officer of Jackson Hewitt. "We want to help Latinos and taxpayers everywhere understand the importance of filing their taxes, getting all of the tax benefits available, and the advantages of establishing a tax history in the U.S., while at the same time helping them through tax challenges and providing guidance on how to avoid becoming a tax crimes victim in order to position them for long-term financial success."

For more information about Pocket Smart, please visit [www.pocketSMART.org](http://www.pocketSMART.org) or contact Karina Castellanos at [KCastellanos@LULAC.org](mailto:KCastellanos@LULAC.org). For more information about Jackson Hewitt and their services, please visit [www.JacksonHewitt.com](http://www.JacksonHewitt.com).



**POCKET SMART**  
Managing Your Money Wisely



**JACKSON HEWITT**  
TAX SERVICE

## Tax Tips

- Prepare in advance if you plan on preparing your taxes yourself. Use trusted software, and make sure you understand the laws and rules.
- Consider going to a reputable tax professional that can help you: avoid mistakes on your returns, assist with both State and Federal returns, ensure you get the best refund allowed, and charge a fair price.
- To minimize mistakes: file electronically, verify Social Security numbers using your Social Security Card, confirm filing status, check calculations and entries, file early, sign and date your tax return, and keep copies securely.
- Make sure you have enrolled in health insurance. Not having health insurance in 2014 may lead to tax penalties when filing taxes in 2015. Avoid falling prey to phishing scams. Do not: answer phone calls from those claiming to be from the IRS, reply to unsolicited e-mail, open attachments, respond to e-mails requesting your password or click on any financial "software download."
- If you're a victim of phishing, forward the phishing e-mail to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov) or call the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 800-366-4484 and provide as much information about the caller as possible.

# Don't Get Caught in a Debt Trap

## LULAC Unveils Payday Loan Research Study



By: *Ulises Gonzalez, Senior Community Development Manager*

Borrowers facing unexpected emergencies with sizeable expenses find that payday loans are an enticing and instantaneous revenue source, yet they too often pay a steep price for the convenience of cash now.

### What are payday loans?

One “easy” way to get fast cash are payday loans. However, high-cost payday lending is prohibited in eighteen states and there are strict federal rules that protect service members from abusive payday lending. Why? Well a payday loan is a small-dollar loan with an average of 390% APR, that an individual is able to borrow in a store front business or on-line (which in some cases are illegal in California).

Many payday loan store fronts are located in ethnic enclaves and low-income neighborhoods and prey upon these vulnerable populations. Borrowers qualify for a payday loan as long as they show proof of income and sign a post-dated check that gives the payday lenders access to their bank account in case they default. The payday lenders do not check to see if the borrower has other bills and obligations that may make this loan unaffordable for them. If the borrower is unable to pay the loan back within two weeks, the payday lender has access to the client’s bank account and can use the blank check to collect money owed. Sounds easy, but what if you have another unexpected emergency or if you can’t pay it back in full because you have more bills to cover in a two week period?

Families’ checking accounts are often left in the red or they are forced to get another payday loan to pay for their first pay loan and get trapped in debt (paying only the fees and as payday loans have very high interest rates, borrowers have a hard time paying into the principle debt). In fact, the average payday borrower is stuck in the debt-cycle, repeating loans, for a total of 8-10 times. For a payday loan of \$255 with a \$45 fee (the norm in California), this means that a borrower ends up paying \$450 in fees for a \$255 loan!

### LULAC’s Payday Loan Research

LULAC in conjunction with the Center of Responsible Lending conducted a research study this February and March (2014) to better understand how payday loans function, and what the impact is for borrowers. The results demonstrated the cyclical nature of the lending process, with borrowers often caught in a debt trap.

In the Los Angeles area, five LULAC field organizers interviewed 35 payday loan borrowers, of which 25 were Latina/o with low socio-economic



*LULAC field organizers surveyed people to understand the use of payday loans and their effect on the Latino consumer.*

backgrounds. Interview results found that while some borrowers were able to repay the loan quickly, many borrowers experienced difficulty clearing the balance.

Twenty-one research participants mentioned that they were “hurt” by the payday loan. Participants were asked if they had “... ever taken out a new payday loan because of an inability to pay back an existing payday loan?” and thirteen study participants said “yes.” Five study participants took eight or more loans to help cover the cost of an old payday loan within a year.

LULAC collected a story from Cassandra in Sacramento, California. She shared:

*“My experience with a payday loan trapped me in a debt cycle. I took out loans to pay my taxes, health bills, and basic necessities as I was in between jobs. I was living in the San Francisco Bay and I took out a loan in Oakland, but I was not able to pay it off, so then I went to another store in San Francisco to pay off my original payday loan. Eventually, I borrowed at least 10 payday loans and owed over \$2,500 dollars. I was never offered a repayment plan to help me pay back these loans. Instead, the payday loan business took all of my money from my bank account and my bank account was eventually closed out. I also had to pay bank overdraft fees because my account was negative. Years later, I was not able to open a checking account and I was handling money via saving account which was not convenient. It brings back too many memories as I was in turmoil. Don't do it. It's not worth it. It's a trap!”*

### Get Involved

In April 2014, LULAC, the Center of Responsible Lending, the California Reinvestment Coalition, Dolores Street Community Services, and Mission SF Financial Community Center, and payday loan borrowers met with Director Richard Cordray of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to share payday loan stories. The CFPB will be issuing a federal rule this year to regulate payday lending. If you have a payday loan story or know of someone who would like to submit one to the CFPB please do so. Submit a payday loan complaint to the CFPB here: <http://www.consumerfinance.gov/complaint/>. Your voice will help ensure that the CFPB issues a strong rule to protect borrowers from abusive payday loans.



*LULAC and the Center for Responsible Lending met with CFPB Director Cordray in early April to discuss payday loans.*

If you have any questions please contact Senior Community Development Manager Ulises A. Gonzalez for the League of United Latin American Citizens at (916) 551-1330 or [UGonzalez@LULAC.org](mailto:UGonzalez@LULAC.org).



# Connecting Latinos with the American Dream

## Project Slated to Provide Key Services for 4,000 Aspiring Americans

By: *Sindy M. Benavides, Director of Civic Engagement & Community Mobilization*

With the support of the Walmart Foundation, LULAC and Hispanic Federation created the Hispanic Immigrant Integration Project (HIIP), pledging to serve over 4,000 immigrants across the country. Through HIIP, LULAC strengthens communities with civics classes, application assistance for citizenship, assistance with applications for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and assistance with family petitions.

The project seeks to reduce the social and economic barriers immigrants face every day and ultimately enables families to participate fully in the civic and economic life of our great country. HIIP helps immigrants apply for citizenship and pass the naturalization exam, opening new pathways for participation in the American Dream. With citizenship, families come out of the shadow of fear cast by deportation and family separation. Citizenship provides access to federal programs, financial aid, and higher-paying employment. With a HIIP agency, eligible students can apply for DACA, which allows them to apply for jobs, get driver's licenses, and ultimately improve their entire future in America. The project also allows eligible applicants to file for family petitions, thereby unifying families that have been separated due to political insecurity,

economic hardship, and violence abroad. Over time, our hope is that families who have gone through one of the HIIP agencies will become involved and engaged citizens that take action and lead in their communities.

In addition, immigrants with access to HIIP agencies avoid fraudulent immigration service providers, commonly referred to as *notarios*, which often take advantage of immigrants by charging high fees for low-quality and often careless application assistance. Immigrants trust notarios because, in many Latin American countries, public notaries are allowed to practice law (and are thus called *abogado-notarios*, or lawyer-notaries). Many immigrants are unaware that notaries cannot provide legal immigration advice in the U.S. HIIP agencies provide high-quality and trustworthy legal assistance within the Latino community.

Through the support systems and valuable services that comprise HIIP, we can work together to reduce the social and economic barriers that immigrants face every day. Our ability to empower immigrants working to become U.S. citizens is an important factor in the growth and prosperity of our nation. By enabling families to fully participate in civic and economic life, we renew our belief in our country's potential for greatness.



*Thank you, Walmart, for supporting LULAC's efforts to reduce the social and economic barriers that hinder the citizenship process. In the photo, Vice President for the Southwest, Baldomero Garza III, Esq., helps an eligible student apply for DACA.*

# Connecting Latinos with the American Dream Project Slated to Provide Key Services for 4,000 Aspiring Americans



*Designed to reduce social and economic barriers of the citizenship process, LULAC Arkansas planned their sessions early.*

## Hispanic Immigrant Integration Program Sites

*With the support of the Walmart Foundation, LULAC and Hispanic Federation created the Hispanic Immigrant Integration Project (HIIP), pledging to serve over 4,000 immigrants across the country. Through HIIP, LULAC strengthens communities with civics classes, application assistance for citizenship, assistance with applications for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), and assistance with family petitions.*



*An immigration lawyer reviews these students' eligibility for the DACA program in Illinois.*



*The program is geared to help families maximize their full rights as American citizens, which includes the right to vote.*



*An ACLU Lawyer meets with LULAC to plan for the HIIP program applications.*



## In its 85th Year of Service, Nation's Premier Latino Organization Expands Efforts in Oregon

By: Juan Carlos Valle, LULAC Council 40001 President in Eugene, Oregon

LULAC's legacy is expanding to Oregon. In Lane County, there's a significant gap in the quality of life for people of color — including their civil and human rights. We face racial profiling issues, education disparities and inadequate access to health care.

A new vision is needed, with communities working together to improve our economic condition and to engage educators in how to educate our children. In this new millennium, the education system must reflect the changing demographics. Academic enrichment programs must take root and flourish at all levels. Good people are working hard on issues of inclusion and minority rights, but changing course requires a lot more of them.

Lane County needs to aim to create an environment where Latinos and all individuals feel safe and engaged, where opportunities to participate are open at all levels, and where people are visibly committed to addressing racial inequality, economic disparities and discrepancies in civic participation head-on, with less emphasis on self-promotion or personal agendas.

In January of last year, LULAC's national leadership responded to calls for support in addressing issues that have plagued our community, and held an organizational meeting in Eugene. It was full of hope and interest, bringing to the surface issues such as discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and national origin; racial profiling; disparities in health and education; opportunities for Latino youth and a need to reduce dropout rates in prominent school districts; the need for a Latino needs assessment; immigrant rights; job opportunities; immigration reform and, of course, civil rights violations.

The issues are not new, and many before us have laid a foundation we must not only honor but also build upon. The backing of a national presence such as LULAC gives us a better chance to fill the gap. Our community is ready to embrace the goal of eliminating prejudice against Latinos.

LULAC was founded to address the needs of Latinos — needs that are parallel to but distinct from the concerns of other minorities.

Our members and allies are now working side by side. LULAC of Lane County's efforts will lead to job training events, health fairs, and efforts to reduce dropout rates among Latino youth. We will provide both feedback and perspective on racial profiling practices biased policing policies, and will establish a mentoring program and business training initiatives.

The Latino community is multifaceted, multilingual, multilayered, and multicultural — a community with pride, with a strong but flexible bond. It is an integral part of Lane County. The Latino community is in grave need of securing their civil rights as well as human rights.

An upcoming youth council — another historic moment for LULAC in Oregon — will draw from school districts and colleges across the state, engaging them in projects to help develop and enhance their leadership skills and abilities.

Equally important is the strong support, investment and development of Latinas in our country. On June 7th, LULAC of Lane County is co-hosting the first-ever LULAC Regional Women's Summit Pacific Northwest in Vancouver, Washington. This summit will be attended by hundreds of Latina leaders.

It is time for a civil, civic and honest action to protect civil rights in our community, and Latino youth will lead the way. The opportunities await — not only for Latinos, but for all other entities that are similar, different or complementary. LULAC members are ready for political participation, and sponsorship of voter registration drives and citizenship education programs will take place often. LULAC letter-writing and lobbying efforts to bring key Latino issues to the attention of leaders at all levels of government will be common. Collaboration with other entities will bring communities together.

LULAC commemorated its historic council installation in Oregon by marking another historic step: For the first time in Oregon, it marched alongside brothers and sisters of the NAACP in January at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. March. Join history in the making by getting involved. This civil rights conversation is needed, and it's about time it includes Latinos in our state.



*From left to right: LULAC Lane County hosted an immigration reform forum with General Counsel and President of MALDEF Thomas Saenz; LULAC Oregon participates in the 2014 Martin Luther King, Jr. March; In acknowledgement of their community service and legislative advocacy, Kitty Piercy, Mayor of the City of Eugene, Oregon proclaimed July 8, 2013 as League of United Latin American Citizens Recognition Day.*

# driving a brighter future

Ford Motor Company



Ford is proud to celebrate our 5th anniversary of partnering with LULAC on the Ford Driving Dreams Through Education grants program.

Thank you for helping us drive a brighter future in the Latino community!

[www.community.ford.com](http://www.community.ford.com)



## Mobilizando la comunidad LGBT de Tejas Newest San Antonio Council Pledges to Fight for LGBT Equality

*By: Samuel Aguilera, President of San Antonio LGBT Council in Texas*

On the evening before the Texas LULAC board meeting, a special reception was held in the tropical courtyard of the Doubletree Hotel in downtown San Antonio. The reception was the launch of a new LGBT LULAC council in San Antonio in which the newly elected board members were introduced to the audience.

The momentum for this council was set in motion at a networking event in December 2013 in which founding board members Sam Aguilera, Richard Salcido, Esmeralda Zuniga, Sylvia Garza, Maria Salazar and Mike Rodriguez met with the founding members from the Dallas Rainbow Council #4871. The purpose of December's networking event was to increase interest in the Latino Institute, the largest national convening of Latino LGBT advocates at the Creating Change Conference and to share best practices for Latino LGBT outreach.

It was there that founding members Sam Aguilera, Robert Salcido, and Julius Lorenzi drew further inspiration and support. The Latino Institute demonstrated the need to mobilize the LGBT Latino community of San Antonio in ways that have been overlooked, particularly community education on LGBT issues for Spanish-speaking LGBT individuals and families.

Ambitious projects are in store for the budding council in 2014. On April 3, 2014, the council held a presentation on LGBT immigration equality in which Immigration Equality Staff Attorney Clement Kai Lee, Esq., addressed an audience of local immigration lawyers and members of the LGBT community. For the San Antonio Gay Pride Festival in July, plans are underway in which the council has been collaborating with Freedom To Marry, Equality Texas, San Antonio Pride Center to develop a family acceptance project and a citywide employment non-discrimination ordinance campaign. Lastly, San Antonio group is seeking to help other LGBT Latino communities in El Paso, Corpus Christi, and the Rio Grande Valley start their own LULAC councils.



*San Antonio LGBT LULAC Council members include President Sam Aguilera, Vice President Robert Salcido, Treasurer Mike Rodriguez, Secretary Esmeralda Zuniga, Parliamentarian Maria Salazar, Sargent-At-Arms Sylvia Garza, Vice President of Youth Julius Lorenzi, and Chaplain Andrez Y'Barbo.*



*Row one from left to right: Vice President of Youth Julius Lorenzi, Secretary Esmeralda Zuniga, Sargent-At-Arms Sylvia Garza, Vice President Robert Salcido, LULAC Director of Development David Perez. Row two from left to right: Immediate Past President Rosa Rosales, National President Margaret Moran, and Texas State Director Elia Mendoza.*



# Latino Iowans Recognized in Des Moines Awards Banquet

By: Melissa Walker, Iowa LULAC Director of Publicity

Iowa LULAC recognized five individuals who made key differences to the Latino community, including a promising young Latino who was awarded a scholarship, at the inaugural Iowa Latino Leadership Banquet on Nov. 1, 2013, in Des Moines, Iowa.

“This was an opportunity to celebrate the successes of the past year, and to honor and support those who work on a daily basis to make Iowa a better place for Latinos to live, work, attend school and raise a family,” said Joe Enriquez Henry, State Director of LULAC of Iowa.

The event drew current and past national LULAC leaders including LULAC National President Margaret Moran; National Vice President of the Midwest Darryl Morin, National Vice President of Elderly

immigration lawyer and Co-Executive Director of ASISTA Immigrant Assistance. Konrad is an activist, attorney and educator on domestic violence issues and legal remedies for immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. She has spoken nationally and internationally about women’s rights.

- **Emerging Latino Leader Scholarship Award** – Hector Salamanca, Youth Services Organizer for the American Friends Service Committee and a Dreamer. Salamanca has worked in support of the DREAM Act and in-state tuition on behalf of immigrants who came to the United States illegally as children with their parents.



Hector Salamanca was presented with the Emerging Latino Leader Scholarship Award for his work with the DREAM Act and the Iowa in-state tuition bill at the Iowa Latino Leadership Awards Banquet, hosted in Des Moines, Iowa.

Affairs Frank Urteaga and LULAC Executive Director Brent Wilkes. Several Iowa senators and representatives also were in attendance at the sold-out event, which drew more than 300 people.

Awardees included the following:

- **LULAC Builder Award** – Mike Reyes, President of Council 10 in eastern Iowa for the past three years. He has been involved since the mid-1980s, has helped revitalize the council, and has raised public awareness of the role LULAC has played in the area.
- **Latino Business Person of the Year Award** – Antonia Mosqueda, restaurant entrepreneur. Mosqueda and her husband, Richard, opened their first Tasty Tacos restaurant on the city’s east side with a \$500 loan. They now have five restaurants.
- **Latino Hero Award** – Des Moines Police Lt. Joe Gonzalez, a 42-year veteran of the police department. He joined as a teenage cadet, and has been in charge of the department’s neighborhood-based service delivery unit and is a vital liaison in outreach to the Hispanic/Latino community.
- **Iowa Latino Leadership Award** – Sonia Parras Konrad,

## Special Assistant for Diversity and Inclusion for the VP of the Southwest Appointed



Baldomero Garza III, LULAC National VP for the Southwest and local attorney, appointed Steven Vargas as Special Assistant of Diversity and Inclusion. Because of his strong record of community involvement and dedication to LGBT equality, Vargas will serve as an asset to LULAC in protecting the underserved portion of the Latino community.

Vargas currently works for the Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans and has also served on the Houston Area Ryan White Planning Council. Vargas has received numerous awards and recognitions throughout his advocacy, including being selected as a participant in the 2012 Dennis DeLeon Sustainable Leadership Institute, as well as being a two time Community Leadership Award recipient. In 2012, Steven was selected for the “HIV Leaders Profile” section as part of the 2012 Houston Area Comprehensive HIV Prevention and Care Services Plan.

Vargas attributes his success to his multicultural upbringing and compassionate family. Encouraged by his mother and by witnessing the disease spread throughout the straight and gay community, Steven decided to dedicate his professional career to HIV education and advocacy.



# 2,000 People Closer to a Healthier Community

By: Gilberto Esquivel, LULAC of Riverside Council # 3190 President



In partnership with Mars, Inc. and the Healthy Communities Program, the 3rd Annual LULAC Free Community Health Fair provided \$450,000 in community services to curb the growing endemic health care crisis in Riverside, California. Held on February 22, 2014, at the Cesar Chavez Community Center, over 1,400 community members attended this health fair where nearly 90% were seen for medical examinations, preventative/restorative dental treatment and/or vision

screenings with prescription eye-wear. Event participants were also provided with a variety of clinical/non-clinical services including health education, manicures, haircuts, zumba sessions, tai-chi, child entertainment, HIV/STI screenings, phlebotomy, ear exams, mammograms, mental health consulting and eligibility/enrollment workshops for Covered California and other public assistance health programs.

According to the Riverside County Department of Public Health, the medically indigent health status of the region is afflicted by multiple components. Because the region's unemployment rate more than doubled from 6% to 15% since 2006, more residents lost employer benefit programs, which forced them to seek community services for basic health needs. In addition, poverty in the region has been increasing since 2007, further limiting access to resources, healthier foods, and safer environments for residents. With the rate of medically uninsured at 19% and the rapid increase in growth for the population, the delivery of care becomes arduous for the limited physicians and health professionals in the Inland Empire. The combination of socioeconomic health disparities, poor state budgeting, increased poverty and the dearth of the area's medical infrastructure, result in the growing endemic health care crisis.

An overwhelming response for the 2nd LULAC Free Community Health Fair in 2013 underscored the health need in Riverside and the surrounding communities. Unfortunately, large turnouts from the community forced us to deny hundreds of medical services. For this

year's 3rd community health fair, the planning committee was ready for the high turnout and took greater measures to accommodate larger numbers of community members.

Dental, vision, and medical examinations were the most needed services we provided. In new partnerships, the Buddhist Medical Tzu-Chi Foundation worked with Los Médicos Voladores to provide dental equipment, chairs, and a total of 26 dentists at the event. The Lions Club "Friends in Sight" also provided optometrists and ophthalmologists who prescribed recycled eye-glasses for community members. Nearly 200 patients were seen for cleaning/restorative dental care including x-ray examinations, deep cleaning, fillings, extractions and root canal procedures. An additional 455 patients received vision screenings and recycled prescription glasses.

The Family Medicine Residency Program from Riverside County Regional Medical Center provided 5 primary care physicians and 2 residents to perform medical examinations, physicals, and prescribe medication for event participants. More than 120 patients were seen for primary/preventative medical care; uncontrolled diabetes and hypertension were the most reported diagnosis. In addition, a total of 300 Riverside County HealthCare applications were disseminated to the community as a result of their partnership.

Our local newspaper, The Press Enterprise, gave front page coverage before and after the event emphasizing the issue at hand. Other local news agencies assisted us with our outreach efforts and helped underline the importance of health for our community with their continuous coverage of the event and their ongoing efforts to educate our community about the socio-economic health disparities that exist.

All of us at LULAC of Riverside Council # 3190 are extremely proud and committed to continuing these health fairs/clinics. **However, health fairs/clinics are not solutions for poor health conditions of the region, but a temporary response to the growing healthcare crisis that is facing our community.** Our long-term goal is to help influence health care reform and bring consistent free to low-cost health care to our people.

**There was a woman who had pulled out her own tooth because the pain was that intense. The dentists at the health fair removed the remaining piece of the tooth and prescribed pain medicine and antibiotics.**

**Unemployment in Riverside doubled since 2006, leaving thousands of residents without employer-based health care.**



# connect

At Cox Enterprises, we believe our differences – whether ethnicity, age, gender or sexual orientation – actually make us stronger. By linking each person’s unique characteristics and thoughts to our common goals, Cox is building a stronger company and connecting our community. We’re proud to support LULAC’s mission to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of the Hispanic population of the United States. We’re all connected.

[coxinc.com](http://coxinc.com)

## The National Cinco de Mayo Festival Returns to the Nation's Capital

Continued from page 3.

### Worst Rate of Food Insecurity in the Country

Nearly 13% of all households in the District were found to be food insecure between 2009 and 2011, with 4% having “very low food security,” meaning they are experiencing intense hunger and consistently have to cut back or skip meal. Worse, nearly 40% of households with children in the District of Columbia said they were unable to afford enough food. This is the worst rate in the country.

D.C.’s 4th, 7th and 8th Wards are overwhelmingly comprised of minorities, which have the District’s highest poverty rates and the highest obesity rates. These obesity rates are influenced by the fact that these two wards have the largest food desert, areas with little or no access to the foods needed to maintain a healthy diet. People living in food deserts often have to rely on fast food, which are inexpensive, as meals. Of the District’s 43 full-service grocery stores, only two are located in Ward 4, four in Ward 7, and three in Ward 8. Ward 3 however, D.C.’s highest-income Ward, has eleven full-service grocery stores.

**These food deserts are especially concerning for the Latino community as more than 40% of Latino children and adolescents are overweight and nearly 23 percent are obese.** The dangers of childhood obesity extend far into adult life. Excess body weight in children dramatically increases the risk of developing heart disease in adulthood and leads to excess fat in their livers, which can contribute to the development of many chronic illnesses.

Bringing full-service grocery stores to food deserts is not enough; steps must be taken to address the years, and sometimes even generations, of poor nutritional habits. An alarming amount of people in low-income communities cannot afford healthier food options and lack knowledge about nutritious foods and nutritious eating habits, and what’s worse: those bad eating habits are shared with and cemented in the minds of the next generation with every meal.

### About the Feria

LULAC’s Ferias de Salud seek to draw attention to these health disparities and provide the information and resources necessary to reverse the trends. Through the Latinos Living Healthy Ferias de Salud, LULAC motivates families to become more physically active and make healthier life choices in an effort to fight the obesity epidemic and address other health disparities faced by Latinos nationwide. The free mobile clinics on site that provide health screenings and other health services such as flu vaccinations, diabetes testing, cholesterol screenings and blood donations help address the needs of individuals who don’t have health insurance, even after the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Exhibitors explore nontraditional options for obtaining healthy foods in food deserts, including community supported agriculture and farm-share delivery service. Informational resources – such as healthy cooking recipes, and enrollment requirements for assistance programs such as Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) also known as Food Stamps

– empower families to make healthier food choices, and help provide the resources to make those choices sustainable. Furthermore, performances by the Maru Montero Dance Company will help provide the fun and festive atmosphere that makes our health festivals the talk of the Latino community.

Our message is simple: it is important for everyone to take the steps necessary to lead a healthier life, and there are many small changes you can take every day that will add up to big changes overall. Come to this year’s National Cinco de Mayo Feria de Salud to help share in our rich Latino heritage and help spread our message that taking command of your health is not only important but also easy.



*We are grateful to Walmart for sponsoring the Latinos Living Healthy program. With your support, we provide Latinos with easier access to nutritious food and healthy lives.*

## State Health Profile

**How does the District of Columbia rank in comparison to other states?**

- #1** Eats 5+ fruits and vegetables a day
- #1** Cholesterol screening in past 5 years (2011)
- #2** Health insurance coverage (2011) (ages 18–64)
- #3** Routine check-up in past 2 yrs. (2011)
- #43** Diabetes-related as major cause of death
- #49** Heart disease as major cause of death

# Fractured by Slow Internet Connectivity Speeds and Inefficiency, E-Rate Program Due for Goal Reevaluation



By: Jossie Flor Sapunar, LULAC News Editor

From early on, LULAC identified the disparities that would arise from the lack of Internet connectivity, making it a priority in the national platform. In 2005, LULAC launched the Empower Hispanic America with Technology (EHAT) program, which empowers those without access to the Internet by providing access and training. Today, the program has grown to include a network of 60 technology centers where students, parents, and low income individuals use Internet-connected computers to complete school work, college and financial aid searches, job training, job-searches, managing money, English language courses, and citizenship preparation courses.

Though LULAC has the most expansive free technology center network in the country, there are still more opportunities for growth in broadband access among the low-income population. E-Rate is a federal program that provides telecommunication services to schools, school districts, and libraries through discounts which range from 20-90 percent and are based on urban/rural location, as well as percentage of students in poverty measured by eligibility for free or reduced lunches. According to the U.S. Government Accountability

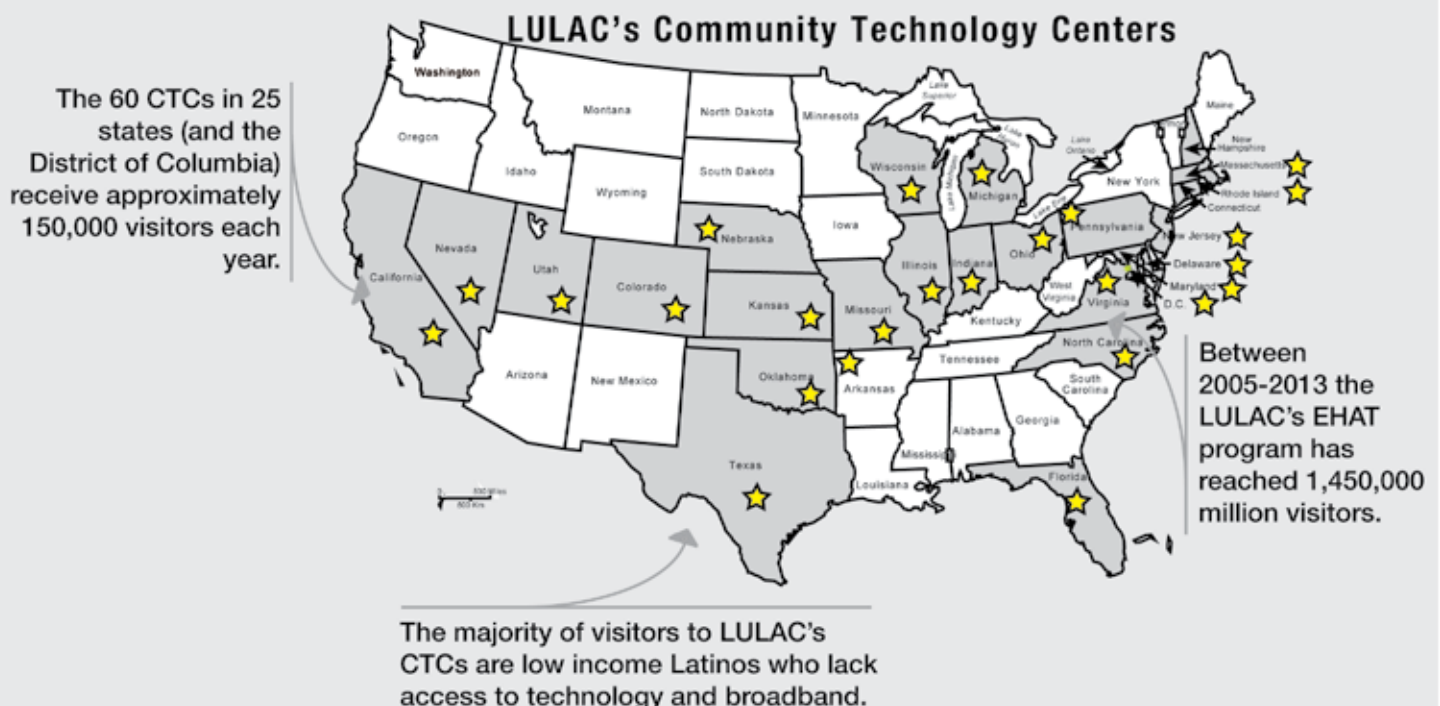
Office, approximately 83 percent of public schools, 14 percent of private schools, and 51 percent of libraries participate in E-Rate. In 1996, only 14 percent of classrooms had Internet service; today, 94 percent do!

Though the program has initially been successful, E-Rate must be modernized to meet schools' and libraries' broadband connectivity needs. To date, 80 percent of schools have reported to the Federal Communications Commission that they do not have the really high-speed Internet access that they need to teach in the digital age. The program goals must be reevaluated to meet demand and to serve more students. The program must also develop a streamlined, efficient application process so that schools are not discouraged to apply.

Ultimately, E-Rate must connect students with the broadband capacity needed to provide help with school work, college and financial aid application, and other projects that make students succeed in the 21st century workforce. To help LULAC push for the expansion and modernization of E-Rate, visit [www.LULAC.org/advocacy](http://www.LULAC.org/advocacy).

## About LULAC's Technology Centers

Each Community Technology Center (CTC) is equipped with at least 10 networked computers, DSL high-speed Internet access, a wireless access point, a laser printer, a video conferencing unit and an LCD projector for the instructor.





# LULAC Provides Enriching Professional Experience to 100 Emerging Young Leaders

By: *Karina Castellanos, LULAC Program Coordinator*

Launching as the natural extension to LULAC’s dedication to higher education access, the National Internship Program provides the necessary resources for the next generation of Latino leaders to succeed. Since 2007, LULAC has developed one-on-one relationships with 100 interns, delivering the practical experience required for today’s demanding job market. Students are immersed in the inner-workings of the organization and apply their academic knowledge to gain hands-on experience. Staff mentors unveil the dynamics of the non-profit industry and its relationship with the private and public sectors, granting access to agents of Fortune 500 companies, the Federal Government, Congress, communications agencies, and other advocacy organizations. The professional and interpersonal skills they build are directly transferable to a variety of fields.

Starting with their first day on the job, LULAC interns are an important part of the team, each receiving direct mentorship and guidance from a LULAC staff member. The mentorship component of the internship program gives students the opportunity to develop professional connections and relationships with their direct supervisor, the LULAC staff member that grows familiar with their work, and representatives from other organizations.

Interns have the opportunity to plan and execute national events, schedule and attend Capitol Hill visits, develop communications and outreach strategies, maintain and support national programs, assist in national resource development, and contribute to the local, state, and national field organizing of the organization.

Every student who has the opportunity to intern for LULAC leaves the program not only with professional skills but also with greater understanding of the importance of serving the Latino community and the skills to do so.

To receive information or to apply, please contact LULAC’s Internship Coordinator, Karina Castellanos at [KCastellanos@LULAC.org](mailto:KCastellanos@LULAC.org).

## Highlight on Excellence

- After completing her education policy fellowship *Amanda Skeen*, J.D. became the Legislative Assistant for Office of Representative Ed Pastor (AZ), U.S. House of the Representatives.
- Former immigration policy intern *Christopher Galeano* now works with the California Immigrant Policy Center and volunteers for DREAMS at UCI, working alongside undocumented students to advocate for immigration reform.
- Former education programs intern *Jose Torres* is now completing the 2013-2014 Capital Senate Fellowship in the California State Capitol.
- After completing her health advocacy fellowship, *Vidushani Jayalal* now serves as Fellowship Associate for the People of the American Way.



**Riamny Méndez**

University of Maryland, College Park Fulbright Scholar

After graduation, she returned to the Dominican Republic to serve as a journalist specializing in immigrant women.



**Ryann Roberts**

The George Washington University MPH Candidate ‘14

She started her own non-profit and serves as Director of Policy at Common Sense Action



**Alfredo M. Ballón**

University of Maryland, Baltimore County B.S. Political Science ‘13

He now serves as the LULAC Health Programs Fellow and has been integral to executing the National Cinco de Mayo Festival.



Space is Limited. Register Online or By Emailing Us Now!

# 2014 LULAC YOUTH CONFERENCE

## PRE-CONVENTION

Sun. July 6, 2014 – Wed. July 9, 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Resident Hall Experience at Princeton University
- Community Service Project
- Admissions Presentation and Campus Tour
- Museum Visits
- Leadership trainings on and off campus

Registration \$225 - Deadline to register is June 1, 2014. Onsite Registration is not available.

The LULAC National Youth Pre-Convention takes place during the three days prior to the LULAC National Convention and is an annual gathering hosted for LULAC Youth by a local university.

This year LULAC has partnered with Princeton University; package includes housing for Sunday through Tuesday night. Registration covers all seminars, meals and events from Sunday Dinner through Wednesday Breakfast.

## CONVENTION

Wed. July 9, 2014 – Sat. July 12, 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Convention in NYC
- Workshops and Educational Panel Discussions
- Exposition Hall that includes a free health pavilion, career fair & college resource fair
- Banquet Events Featuring Nationally Recognized Speakers
- Federal Career Training Symposium
- Dynamic Concert Presenting Top Headliners
- National Youth Assembly and Elections

Registration \$175 - \$25 Early Bird Discount, before June 1, 2014.

The LULAC National Convention also hosts the LULAC Youth Convention—a four-day event for Hispanic youth. Youth package includes registration and all seminars, meals and events from Wednesday lunch through Saturday.

The following meals are on your own: Wednesday Dinner, Thursday Breakfast, Friday Breakfast, and Saturday Dinner. Youth Packages are only available to LULAC members who qualify for this group.



# La Convención Nacional de LULAC en Nueva York

## LULAC National Convention to Empower Latino Community in New York

Por: Alejandro Tristan, Education Policy Intern

LULAC le invita a la Convención y Exposición Nacional del 2014. Esta Convención y Exposición se llevarán a cabo del 8 al 12 de julio en New York, NY. Siguiendo con los 85 años de servicio a la comunidad hispana, esta convención va a proveer talleres y entrenamientos educativos para fomentar una mejor educación, salud, y registro al voto. La convención está diseñada para escuchar a la comunidad hispana al igual que ayudar a resolver los problemas que más les afectan a nivel local, como educación, salud y desempleo.

Mediante estos talleres y seminarios educativos, LULAC busca fomentar un mejor desarrollo en el ámbito laboral y educativo en la comunidad hispana. Como organización, LULAC está comprometida a encontrar estrategias y a proveer el acceso y entrenamiento requerido para obtener una educación y carrera exitosa. En estados como Nueva York, la abogacía de LULAC es significativa. El Instituto Federal de Entrenamiento de LULAC crea el aumento de los conocimientos y habilidades del personal a través de oportunidades educativas contribuirán al avance de la realización humana. Por lo tanto, una fuerza de trabajo diversa, bien educada e informada será capaz de adaptarse y responder a los retos del futuro de sus agencias de una mejor manera. De esta misma forma, LULAC pondrá en práctica la feria universitaria y seminarios de liderazgo, derechos civiles, reafirmación de las mujeres, educación y compromiso cívico para así desarrollar liderazgo y calificaciones básicas de ejecutivos, al igual que empoderar a los latinos en este estado.


Por otra parte, en el estado de Nueva York hay un índice muy alto de personas sin seguro médico del cual los hispanos constituyen el índice más alto en comparación con cualquier grupo étnico en los Estados Unidos. El porcentaje de personas sin seguro médico constituye a un 21 por ciento en la comunidad latina, este porcentaje no refleja las registraciones en el mercado estatal de seguro médico (U.S Census Bureau, 2012). Por este motivo, LULAC busca respaldar a la comunidad latina ofreciendo la feria de salud donde las familias pueden obtener exámenes gratuitos de diabetes, hipertensión, y otras enfermedades crónicas. LULAC busca fomentar, y conquistar una vida más saludable, igual que motivar a la comunidad para conseguir un seguro médico.

Por otro lado, el porcentaje aproximado de hispanos elegibles para votar en el estado de Nueva York es de un 48 por ciento. Esto constituye aproximadamente 1.7 millones de votantes elegibles en este estado (Pew Hispanic Center). Aunque durante las elecciones nacionales del 2012 hubo un record de 11.2 millones de votantes latinos, todavía hay un índice de aproximadamente 12.1 millones votantes elegibles que no fueron a votar (Pew Hispanic Center) Durante la conferencia, LULAC inscribirá ciudadanos elegibles para votar, para así participar en el proceso democrático.


Con los objetivos de proveer orientación, información y servicios dirigidos a la comunidad hispana, LULAC invita a toda la comunidad a la Convención y Exposición Nacional del 2014, que se llevará a cabo del 8 al 12 de julio en el New York Hilton Midtown, New York, NY.

En colaboración con Univision, LULAC se ha comprometido a capacitar a los padres y a los que abogan por la educación para asegurarse que estudiantes Latinos estén preparados para la vida, la universidad y la fuerza laboral. Visite a nuestro sitio de web para aprender mas sobre los nuevos estándares académicos en nuestras escuelas:

[www.lulac.org/commoncore](http://www.lulac.org/commoncore).




Si interactúas por lo menos 15 minutos al día con tus hijos, les ayudarás a ser más exitosos en la escuela y en su futuro. Comprométete hoy mismo y recibirás nuestros consejos mensuales.

Tu Email:  

Aceptar términos de uso

Soy mayor de 13 años



Ayuda a tu hijo a prepararse para la escuela desde que nace

**Toma acción**





The League of United Latin American Citizens presents

- ★ 20,000 Attendees!
- ★ 300 Exhibits!
- ★ Entertainment!
- ★ Raffles & Giveaways!

family fun!



# community showcase

¡Feria de la Gente!

**Expo Hours: Thursday 10am-5pm**  
**Friday 10am-5pm • Saturday 10am-4pm**  
**New York Hilton Midtown**  
**July 10-12, 2014**



## Special Attractions

- ★ College Fair
- ★ Job Fair
- ★ Health Fair
- ★ Voces Unidas Concierto
- ★ Workshops
- ★ Celebrity Autographs!

[www.LULAC.org/convention](http://www.LULAC.org/convention)

# 2014 LULAC National Convention Rules

## Proposed for Review by the National Board of Directors

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.
5. Elections shall be by standing show of hands or roll call vote. In case 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.
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. Each candidate has the right to appoint one counter. However, the only official count for any election shall be that recorded by the three Official Counters.
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 one 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 immediately after the outcome is announced and before another election has begun. It shall take a two-thirds vote to overturn any ruling made by the National Legal Advisor.
13. The order of elections shall be as follows and will be conducted after resolutions/amendments are voted on.
  - National President
  - National Vice President for Women
  - National Vice President for Youth
  - National Vice President for Young Adults
  - National Vice President for the Elderly
  - National Treasurer
  - National Vice President for the Southwest
  - National Vice President for the Midwest
  - National Vice President for the Farwest
  - National Vice President for the Southeast
  - National Vice President for the Northwest
  - National Vice President for the Northeast
  - National Vice President for the Northwest
  - 2017 Convention Site
14. First reading of all Constitutional Amendments and Resolutions will be presented immediately after the Assembly is convened.
15. The presentation of Constitutional Amendments from the floor shall not be allowed. Discussion on Constitutional Amendments shall be limited to three speakers for and three 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 2014 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. Individuals intentionally disrupting election proceedings as determined by the Convention Chair will be expelled from the floor. No photography, video and audio recordings will be permitted. Violators will be removed.
21. Any individual that uses profanity, verbally threatens or attacks another member on or near the voting floor be removed from the voting floor and that charges to expel the member for "actions contrary to the principles of LULAC" be brought against the member by the presiding officer at the next National or Executive Board meeting.

# 2014 LULAC National Convention

## Registration Guidelines

We encourage everyone to pre-register either by mail, fax, email or online to expedite the registration process. We want to eliminate the use of multiple lines to produce a smooth, fast, and enjoyable one-stop process for all of our attendees so you can have more time to enjoy New York!

Do not try to register on site by using “pre-registration” forms from flyers and *LULAC News*. These are not acceptable, and you will be sent back to do the appropriate form in duplicate.

Be sure that when you enter the line to proceed with registration, you have the registration form already filled out in duplicate. Do not wait until you get to the counter to complete, as this causes delays and disrupts the lines. We will have tables around the area specifically for you to fill out forms or ask any questions that you may have from staff in the information booth.

If you are a delegate and you are also the recipient of a fully paid registration (from, for example, a sponsor or LULAC program) you still have to pay the \$20.00 registration fee in order to be eligible to vote. This registration fee can also be paid ahead of time so that when you get there you can proceed directly to the camera-ready computer for your badge with your picture, as is required for all delegates. Be sure that your council is in good standing and that you have with you a credentials letter certifying you as a delegate. You will be directed from the registration area to where the credentials committee will be set up to receive your credentials.

If registering multiple delegates, it is recommended that you mail a check with registration forms for each delegate to the Fiscal Office in El Paso, Texas, to reach this office no later than June 13, 2014.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Fiscal Office in El Paso, Texas, at 916-577-0726.

Register online at  
[www.LULAC.org/registration](http://www.LULAC.org/registration)

---

## Answers to the “Are you an ACA Expert?” Health Care Reform Quiz

*Questions found on page 11.*

1. **True:** Starting in 2014, most U.S. citizens and legal residents will be required to obtain health coverage, or pay a penalty of \$95 or 1% of their yearly income, whichever is greater. Some exemptions will be granted, for example, for those with religious objections or for certain hardships including where insurance would cost more than 8% of the applicant’s income.
2. **False:** Under the ACA, the federal government will pay 100% of costs incurred to expand Medicaid for the first three years and 95% of costs after that. So far about half of states in the US have chosen to expand Medicaid. 80% of Latinos not covered under the expansion live in Texas and Florida.
3. **False:** Under the ACA, undocumented immigrants will remain ineligible for Medicaid and will be ineligible for the premium tax credits. They also will be prohibited from purchasing coverage through an exchange even at full cost. Furthermore, there is currently a wait time of five years for lawfully present immigrants to access coverage through programs such as Medicaid and CHIP.
4. **True:** Information gathered from enrollment will not be shared to verify immigration status.
5. **False:** The law does not cut benefits for people in the traditional Medicare program. In fact, it improves certain benefits, such as coverage of preventive services, and closes the Medicare drug coverage gap known as the “doughnut hole.”
6. **False:** You can apply for Medicaid or CHIP year-round.
7. **False:** The law does not create a new government-run health insurance plan. The existing Medicaid program will be expanded to cover more low-income people, government regulation of the health insurance industry will be increased, and tax credits will be provided to make private health insurance more affordable for people.
8. **True:** Currently, open enrollment for 2015 is scheduled to run from November 15, 2014 through February 15, 2015, about 2/3 of the time the 2014 enrollment period lasted.



# When good ideas are shared, great things can happen.

Toyota is proud to support LULAC and its mission to better serve the Hispanic community.



©2014

