

OREGON COMMISSION ON HISPANIC AFFAIRS

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



February 15, 2010

OREGON COMMISSION ON HISPANIC AFFAIRS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs is to work toward economic, social, political and legal equality for Oregon's Hispanic population.

The Commission is steadfast in its commitment to its mission to work toward economic, social and legal equality for Oregon's Hispanic population.

We serve as advocates for Latino youth, children, and adults. We want them to have the same opportunities to succeed in school, receive equal health and social services, and we want them to be treated equally through the judicial system.

The Commission is authorized by Oregon Revised Statute 185.310 - 185.330 to:

1. Monitor existing programs and legislation designed to meet the needs of Oregon's Hispanic population.
2. Identify and research problem areas and issues affecting the Hispanic community and recommend actions to the Governor and the Legislative Assembly, including recommendations on legislative programs.
3. Maintain a liaison between the Hispanic community and government entities.
4. Encourage Hispanic representation on state boards and commissions.
5. Hold meetings to conduct its business.

The Commission monitors existing programs and legislation to ensure that the needs of Hispanics in Oregon are met. The Commission researches problems and issues and recommends appropriate action, maintains a liaison between the Hispanic community and government entities, and encourages Hispanic representation on state boards and commissions.

In addition, the commission:

- Focuses on the bigger statewide picture—what gaps exist in services, programs, Latino representation, etc., for the Latino community
- Refers customers to professionals—putting seekers of service together with the individual or organization most capable of serving their needs
- Facilitates youth programs and efforts that help Latino youth appreciate education, business, and community involvement

- Monitors existing programs that affect the Latino community within state government and the private sector
- Develops and monitors legislation which affects the Latino community in Oregon
- Encourages Oregon residents to resolve their own local issues in a positive, productive manner, with the appropriate community stakeholder
- Promotes positive aspects of the Hispanic community.

PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE OREGON COMMISSION ON HISPANIC AFFAIRS

The Commission holds public hearings to offer a public dialogue about the Commissions goals and priorities. The Commission also invites key organizational decision-makers, public officials, and stake-holders to learn about work in progress and the State of Oregonian Latinos in order to identify the most important issues and questions to bring before the Governor and State Legislators.

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OCHA COMMISSIONERS

Chair Jose Ibarra, Woodburn

Mr. Ibarra is an active community organizer and civic leader; he has served on the Commission since 2002 and was elected Chair, effective July 1, 2008. Mr. Ibarra was recently reappointed by Governor Ted Kulongoski to serve another 3-year term on the Commission.

Vice Chair Raymond C. Caballero, Portland

Mr. Caballero is a resident of Northeast Portland and active in community affairs. Mr. Caballero served on the Oregon Progress Board, the Environmental Justice Task Force, and has served on the Commission since July 2008.

Professor Steven Bender, Eugene [Partial Term]

Professor Bender spent five years practicing real estate law at the Phoenix-based business law firm of Lewis and Roca. He is the coauthor of a casebook on real estate transactions, a national treatise on real estate financing, and a book on Latino stereotypes titled *Greasers and Gringos: Latinos, Law, and the American Imagination* (NYU Press 2003) and a book on politics titled *One Night in America: Robert Kennedy, Cesar Chavez, and the Dream of Dignity* (Paradigm Publishers 2008). Bender previously served as co-director of the law school's Center for Law and Entrepreneurship. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute and the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. Professor Bender's term started in September 2009.

Professor Gilbert P. Carrasco, Salem [Partial Term]

Professor Carrasco is an expert in civil rights law, immigration law and constitutional law. He is the author of three national casebooks on these subjects and numerous law review articles. He has taught as a visiting professor at Lewis & Clark, Oregon, San Diego, Seton Hall and Willamette. He also studied for extended periods at Oxford, Stanford, Hastings and George Washington. Professor Carrasco teaches Civil Rights, Constitutional Law and Employment Discrimination. In 2008, he joined the board of directors of the Oregon chapter of the American Constitution Society. In July 2009, he was appointed to the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs by Gov. Ted Kulongoski.

Verenice Gutierrez, Ph.D., Happy Valley

Dr. Gutierrez is an Assistant Principal at Hosford Middle School in the Portland Public Schools, and an adjunct faculty member at the University of Phoenix. As the first in her family to attend college, and product of the bilingual program of the El Paso Independent School District, she is passionate about serving students. Dr. Gutierrez has served on the Commission since July 2008.

Michael Boyer, Waldport [Partial Term]

Mr. Boyer is a bilingual educator who brings both geographic diversity and professional perspectives to the commission. He resigned to the Commission in 2009.

Professor Erlinda Gonzalez-Berry, Corvallis [Partial Term]

Dr. Gonzalez-Berry is Professor Emerita, Oregon State University Chair, where she served as professor and chair in the Department of Ethnic Studies Department. She is currently Executive Director of Casa Latinos Unidos de Benton County. She authored many books and scholarly publications, and participated in a large number Latino organizations in New Mexico and Oregon. Dr. Gonzalez-Berry's term expired in July, 2009.

Lily Cáceres, Lake Oswego [Partial Term]

Ms Cáceres term expired in November 2009

Nina Sobotta, Stanfield [Partial Term]

Ms Sobotta term expired in July 2009

Professor Marcela Mendoza, Eugene [Partial Term]

Dr. Mendoza is the Interim Executive Director of Centro LatinoAmericano, a community-based organization in Eugene. She is also an adjunct professor and researcher at the University of Oregon. She brings to the Commission her strong commitment to collaborative research and community service partnerships, and the lessons learned during her previous research and advocacy work with Latino immigrants in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. Mendoza's term started in July.

David Molina, Fairview

Mr. Molina was appointed Commissioner on April 10, 2006 and was reappointed a second 3-year term in 2009. Commissioner Molina served as Vice Chair from July 1, 2008 to July 16, 2009. He is part of the development committee. In 2004, Commissioner Molina received his BA in Political Science and an Army Officer Commission from Oregon State University. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Infantry Officer Basic Course at Fort Benning, GA. He is a social entrepreneur founder and CEO for BilingualHire.

Dagoberto Morales-Duran, Medford

Mr. Morales has worked very actively as a volunteer in the Hispanic community for the past 11 years. He believes that he can effectively represent the needs and interests of Hispanics in Southern Oregon. He has lived in Medford for the past 15 years and has seen the growth and diversification of the population in the region.

Oregon Legislative Assembly Representatives

Senator Fred Girod- R-Stayton, District 9

Senator Girod began his public service in the House of Representatives in 1992. He was recently appointed to serve a two-year term on the Commission.

Representative Chip Shields

Representative Shields served as for all the year until he took office in the Senate in late fall 2009.

OREGON ADVOCACY COMMISSION OFFICE STAFF

JOY HOWARD

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

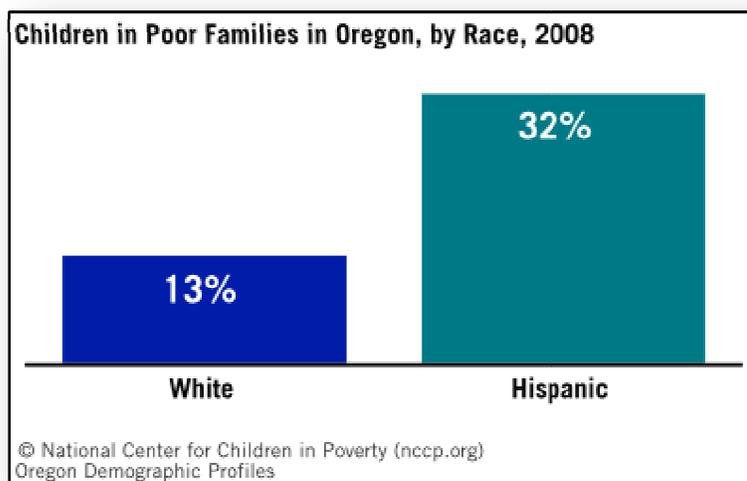
LATINO POPULATION IN THE STATE OF THE OREGON

The number of Latinos residing in Oregon has increased dramatically in the last two decades, leading to increased diversity across the state, particularly visible in the public school system, in agricultural fields, and in urban workplaces. This, however, is not a new phenomenon. There has been a settled Mexican-origin population in Oregon since the mid-nineteenth century.

Our 2008 report addressed the long history of the Latino settlement in the state. In this annual report, we focus on the situation of the second generation, children and youth of Latino descent who will contribute to the prosperity and cultural diversity of the state in the years to come. We believe that when addressing their needs, we are actually investing in the future of all Oregonians.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE: LATINO CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN OREGON

During the 2000s, the number of U.S.-born Latino children under age 18 has grown substantially in Oregon and the nation. Nine out of ten of the 16 million Latino children in our nation are U.S.-born citizens¹. Clearly, Latino children and youth—our future workers, voters, taxpayers, and consumers—are a critical part of our future economic, social, and political prosperity. Latino families have much strength, including stability, youthfulness, a commitment to the wellbeing of their children, a strong work ethic, and an ability to develop cohesive communities. However, many Latino children also face unique and substantial challenges, and their circumstances can vary widely depending on their parents' countries of origin, education levels, English



¹ This text has been adapted from *The State of Latino Children and Youth in the United States*, a 2009 report by the National Council of La Raza (NCLR).

language ability, and income. Poverty levels in particular remain unacceptably high among Latino children: while 32 percent (44,280) of Latino children live in poor families in Oregon in 2008, it is projected that by 2030 that portion will rise to 44 percent if the trend remains constant². See Figure 1 on Hispanic children living in poverty in Oregon.

The information that follows paints a broad portrait of today's Latino children and youth in Oregon, highlighting particular areas of concern that our policies and programs must be address in order to ensure the future well-being of this population. Attending to the needs of Latino children and youth will lead not only to improved opportunities in Latino communities, but to the successful development of all Oregonians.

Family Composition

Having an immigrant parent can prevent children from accessing important benefits to which they are entitled, including education and health services. Nationally, more than three out of five (62%) Latino children live in families in which at least one parent is an immigrant, and more than one in ten lives in a mixed-status family with one parent who is U.S.-born and one parent who was born outside of the United States. Based on community reports, we have reasons to believe that the Latino family composition in our state is very similar to that of the nation. In 2008, a majority of Latino children in Oregon lived in two-parent households according to estimates by the American Community Survey, U.S. Bureau of the Census. Having two parents living at home serve as a protective factor for Latino children, whose parents place particular importance on family life.

Education

Oregon schools have undergone a similar demographic shift, with substantial increases in Latino student enrollment. But this growth is not evenly distributed throughout the state. Ten of Oregon's 213 school districts enroll 50 percent of the state's Latino students. Seven of these school districts are in the Portland metropolitan area, two are located in the mid-Willamette

² National Center for Children in Poverty, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. *Children in Poverty*. Available at http://www.nccp.org/profiles/OR_profile_7.html

Valley, and one is located in Southern Oregon³. These school districts are Salem-Keizer, Beaverton, Portland, Hillsboro, Woodburn, Reynolds, Forest Grove, Tigard-Tualatin, Gresham-Barlow, and Medford.

Table 1: Children and Youth Population in Oregon: Changes in the State Population
Ages 5-24, 2006-2020

	Population 2006	Projected Population	Projected Change 2006- 2020
Latino	88,968	122,484	38%
Asian	40,319	51,179	27%
Native American	16,165	18,454	14%
African American	21,200	22,997	8%
White	767,786	749,242	-2%
Total	934,438	967,354	3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau estimates tabulated by The Education Trust, *Youth Population in Oregon*, Education Watch State Report, 2009. www.collegeresults.org

High-quality early childhood education is a critical stepping stone in helping children succeed in school and become productive adults later in life. However, Latino children are underrepresented in early childhood education programs in our state⁴.

Moreover, teenagers who drop out of high school are at a severe disadvantage in terms of future employment opportunities and potential earnings, and Latino youth in Oregon are among the less likely to graduate from high school. Although fewer Latino students left school in the past academic year—an improvement attributed to better tracking of students by the state, and schools stepping up to help those at risk—more Latino students settled on earning a General Educational Development (GED) credential rather than a diploma. Studies show that students with GEDs don't earn nearly as much as those with diplomas⁵.

³ EcoNorthwest. *The Hispanic-White Achievement Gap*. Portland, Oregon, 2009

⁴ National Task Force on Early Childhood Education for Hispanics *Para Nuestros Niños*. Available at <http://www.ecehispanic.org/people.html>

⁵ Graves, Bill. Oregon high school dropout rate drops to lowest in a decade. *The Oregonian*, April 15, 2009.

Available at http://www.oregonlive.com/education/index.ssf/2009/04/oregon_high_school_dropout_rat_1.html

This is a matter of concern for the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs. The Commissioners have requested a number of presentations from School Superintendents and Principals in School Districts across the state whose schools have high proportion of Latino students.

The Commission is similarly concerned about the Latino student graduation rates in Oregon's public colleges and universities. Nationally, two-thirds of minority students (African American, Latino, and Native American students) who attend a four-year college actually attend a public institution, and the same is true in our state. Given the mission of public colleges to serve the higher education needs of the local residents, these institutions must do their utmost to ensure that far more young Oregonians from minority backgrounds earn a college degree⁶.

Several factors can affect Latino graduation rates, including the institution's size, student population, and available resources per student. However, after accounting for these factors, research demonstrates that similar institutions serving similar students show wide disparity in bachelor-degree attainment. What colleges do to help their Latino students succeed has a substantial impact on this matter.

A recent report by Eagle and Theokas (2010) ranks Western Oregon University number one among top 10 gainers in underrepresented minority graduation rates among public Master's institutions across the nation. In the same report, the University of Oregon ranks 15 among top gainers nationally. Western Oregon University's achievement is notable because Master's and Bachelor's institutions tend to serve a more socially and economically diverse student body, and have fewer resources per student, while graduation rates typically are higher at research institutions like the UO, which tend to enroll more well prepared students and have more resources available to them.

⁶ Eagle, Jennifer and Christina Theokas. Top Gainers: Some Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities Make Big Improvements in Minority Graduation Rates. Washington D.C.: The Education Thrust, 2010.

What we can do to hasten Latino student success in Oregon⁷:

Develop a media campaign emphasizing the social and economic benefits for raising the degree completion rate overall for all Oregonians, and for Oregonians of Latino descent specifically.

Create a support plan specifically tailored to improve the success of Latino students in schools, colleges, and universities and track degree completion goals and measures of progress.

Focus on the strategic alignment of educational support efforts from the state to community level to increase accountability and effectiveness.

Replicate or expand institutional practices that are improving Latino student success in the Northwest.

Increase both support to and the accountability of schools, colleges, and universities enrolling large numbers of Latino students to improve academic quality, retention, and degree completion.

Health

Children without insurance are 18 times more likely than children with continuous private health coverage to have unmet needs for medical care. In 2008, more Latino children lacked health insurance than children in other population groups in Oregon. Among Latino children who had health insurance, more than half were covered through public health insurance, which provides affordable care for low-income working families. Latino advocates are concerned about the high rate of uninsured Latino children and adults in our state, and will continue to make this matter a subject of discussion and scrutiny.

Factors such as poverty and immigration status have an important effect on Latinos' access to health insurance and health care. Nevertheless non-citizens, who are recent immigrants, use fewer healthcare resources than naturalized citizens and U.S. natives. Researchers conclude that healthcare expenditures for the recent immigrants have not been a growing problem relative to expenditures among the native-born. In fact, recent immigrants use fewer healthcare

⁷ Santiago, Deborah A. and Travis Reindl. *Taking Stock: Higher Education and Latinos*. Washington, D.C.: Exelencia in Education, 2009. Available at www.EdExelencia.org

resources than even naturalized citizens⁸. This is an important finding, given the current public debate on whether immigrants' use of healthcare resources is and would continue to be growing challenge for public programs. Evidence appears to suggest that providing health care to immigrants actually costs significantly less than providing medical services to the native-born.

Juvenile Justice

Based on current incarceration rates, about one in six Latino males— and one in three Black males— will be imprisoned at some point during their lifetimes. In addition, a recent report found that one in four incarcerated Latino youth were held in adult prisons, which are less likely to offer age-appropriate educational, health, and counseling services. Among all of the policy areas affecting vulnerable Latino children and families, juvenile justice exhibits the most substantial gap between best practice and common practice, between what practitioners know and what they often do. This is true in our state and across the nation.

Perhaps because it serves an unpopular and powerless segment of our society— behaviorally troubled, primarily poor teenagers—juvenile justice policy has been characterized by inefficacy and political prejudices. The consequences are disturbing and costly: Our juvenile justice system is littered with poorly conceived strategies that often increase crime, endanger young people and damage their future prospects, waste dollars, and violate our deepest held principles about equal justice under the law⁹. In the long-term, Latino youth who enter the Juvenile Justice system—those who end up in detention centers and training schools—suffer some of the worst consequences any youth cohort in our nation. Over their lifetime, they will achieve less education, work less and for lower wages, fail more frequently to form stable families, experience more chronic health problems, and more imprisonment.

Because Latino youth—like any other youth— are influenced by peers, and are eager to expand their personal autonomy and assert their independence, it is easy to assume that parents and families, particularly foreign-born parents, no longer exert an influence on adolescents. Nothing could be farther from the truth. An overwhelming body of research and experience shows that the support by parents and families remains crucial, and that effectively

⁸ Stimpson, Jim P., Fernando A. Wilson, and Karl Eschbach. Trends in Healthcare Spending for Immigrants in the United States. *Health Affairs* 29(3):1-7, 2010.

⁹ These comments have been adapted from an essay by Douglas W. Nelson "A Road Map to Juvenile Justice Reform," published in *2008 Kids Count Data Book*, Baltimore, M D: The Annie Casey Foundation, 2009. Available at www.aecf.org

engaging parents is pivotal to successful youth development. Unfortunately, most juvenile justice systems are more inclined to ignore, alienate, or blame family members than to enroll them as partners.

A factor in the increase in minor court cases handled by juvenile courts is the widespread use of “zero tolerance” policies in schools. Our juvenile courts are prosecuting many youth for misconduct that was previously handled informally. Since these policies were implemented (and police officers were deployed at schools to enforce them), many courts have experienced substantial increases in delinquency cases originating in schools.

Increased reliance on juvenile courts to address relatively minor misbehavior is worrisome because (a) youth who enter the justice system for minor offenses and are initially sentenced to probation, can easily wind up in a juvenile detention or corrections facilities if they violate probation rules; (b) involvement in the justice system can cause lasting psychological harm, lowering young people’s sense of competence and their aspirations for the future, and leading them to gravitate more toward deviant peers; and (c) once youth have a juvenile record, even for a minor offense, they are treated more harshly for future offenses, increasing the likelihood that they will spiral deeper into the juvenile corrections system.

Perhaps the most troubling characteristic of our juvenile justice system is the overrepresentation of minority youth. The problem is pervasive, and has often seemed intractable. Despite decades of federally funded efforts to reduce “disproportionate minority confinement” and “disproportionate minority contact,” most jurisdictions have made little progress beyond repeated documentation of the obvious. Multnomah County, however, has produced substantial reductions in racial/ethnic disparities within its juvenile justice system, through the implementation of a variety of data-driven reforms—such as objective risk screening of arrestees, expedited case processing, and structured responses to probation violations—to eliminate unnecessary or inappropriate use of detention. By repeatedly reviewing system data, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, local leaders identified decision points where racial disparities were prominent and examined the underlying policies and practices that might contribute to them. When structural bias or the exercise of individual discretion placed minority youth at a disadvantage, they made changes, increased quality assurance, and introduced positive reinforcement to emphasize their commitment to equity. We need similar strategies to reduce disproportionate minority contact and confinement in Lane County and in rural counties in Eastern and Southern Oregon¹⁰.

¹⁰ See also Oregon in State Juvenile Justice Profiles by the National Center for Juvenile Justice <http://70.89.227.250:8080/stateprofiles/profiles/ORo6.asp?state=/stateprofiles/profiles/ORo6.asp&topic=>

What public officials, policy makers, and the justice system can do to address Latino youth disproportionate contact with the juvenile system in Oregon¹¹:

Eliminate ethnic profiling and other practices based explicitly or implicitly on ethnic stereotypes affecting Oregonians and Oregonians of Latino descent specifically.

Collect data in a way that accurately counts Latino youth and other minority youth.

Employ bilingual and culturally competent staff to ensure better services to Latino youth and their families.

Reduce subjective or biased decision making by creating objective risk assessment tools.

Partner with community-based Latino organizations to provide relevant dispositional programming.

What Latino families and their communities can do to address Latino youth disproportionate contact with the juvenile system in Oregon¹²:

Get organized at the local level to make the justice system accountable to Latino communities

Call for the active inclusion of Latino youth voices in policy development and implementation

Form Latino advisory groups to guide policymaking and implementation in the law enforcement and justice systems.

¹¹ Francisco Villarruel and Nancy Walker, ¿Dónde Está la Justicia? A Call to Action on Behalf of the Latino and Latina Youth in the U.S Justice System. National Center for Juvenile Justice, Washington, D.C, 2008
http://www.buildingblocksforyouth.org/latino_rpt/fact_eng.html

¹² Francisco Villarruel and Nancy Walker, ¿Dónde Está la Justicia? A Call to Action on Behalf of the Latino and Latina Youth in the U.S Justice System. National Center for Juvenile Justice, Washington, D.C, 2008
http://www.buildingblocksforyouth.org/latino_rpt/fact_eng.html

Law Enforcement and New Driver License Regulations

We concur with a report issued by the Law Enforcement Contacts Policy and Data Review Committee (LECC)¹³ in December 2008 that racially biased policing, whether actual or perceived, impacts relationships between communities of color and law enforcement agencies. Policing in our nation is based on principles of procedural justice. It is expected to be *neutral*, treat the citizenry with *respect*, and seek *fair* outcomes.

A review of research on law enforcement-citizen relations indicates that *trust* in and *satisfaction* with police have important ramifications for crime prevention, case investigation, legitimacy of government institutions, and crime itself. The LECC analyzed data from five Oregon police agencies: Hillsboro PD, Oregon State Police (OSP), Corvallis PD, Beaverton PD, and Eugene PD. In two out of three jurisdictions Hispanic drivers are more likely to be stopped compared to their percentage of the driving-aged population. Across three jurisdictions African American and Hispanic motorists are more likely to be searched compared to White motorists. In most cases, these differences in search experiences of African American and Hispanic drivers, compared to white drivers, are statistically significant.

In the 2008 special legislative session, the Governor proposed, and the Legislature approved, SB 1080 which requires all applicants for new, replacement or renewal driver license or identification cards to provide proof of citizenship or “lawful presence” in the U.S. Members of the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs and other advocates expressed concern that passage of the new law would lead to increased targeting of Hispanic and immigrant drivers for enforcement actions by law enforcement, an increase in the number of citations and arrests related to the offenses of driving uninsured and driving without a license, and potential negative public safety implications. In 2008, the Legislature also approved HB 3625 which requires the Oregon Department of Transportation to monitor changes in the rate of uninsured drivers, unlicensed drivers, and the number of accidents in which they are involved as a result of SB 1080. Advocates sustain that SB 1080 may have a counterproductive effect on recent immigrants. This bill is expected to have the

¹³ Law Enforcement Contacts Policy Data and Review Committee, *2008 Annual Report*, prepared by Criminal Justice Policy Research, Institute Hatfield School of Government, Portland State University.

consequence of diminishing public safety because of an increase in the number of drivers who are unlicensed and uninsured.

HIGHLIGHTS OF

2009 OCHA COMMISSIONERS' ACTIVITIES

JOSE IBARRA – CHAIR

Regular meetings

- Attended all our Salem meetings of commission.
- Arranged Regular meetings with OAC administrator to set up expectations and to review processes in place, and to provide feedback, as well go over specific activities.
- Spent many hours scheduling speakers for three of four regular meetings.
- Attended Salem joint meeting of Advocacy Commissions.
- Attended a presentation to the joint Advocacy Commissions by the Office of Multicultural Health and Services, Oregon Department of Human Services.

Miscellaneous OCHA work

- Contributed to draft and signed an OCHA resolution honoring the service of Woodburn Police officers slain and injured during an incident on December 12, 2009. This resolution was unanimously approved by OCHA in January 22, 2009.
- Met with several state government officials to discuss OCHA's activities and to provide feedback on issues brought to the Commission's attention directly related to the Latino community.
Meet in separate meetings with the following officials and city leaders: Oregon Attorney General John Kroger; Commissioner Brad Avakian, BOLI; Secretary of State Kate Brown; Portland City Mayor; Medford city officials; Mayor of Ashland; City of Phoenix; City of Woodburn; City Officials, Eugene; Mayor of Beaverton; and other elected officials and community leaders.
- Lead the initiative that included OCHA in the joint statement by state Latino councils and commissions to call for action on the 2010 decennial census, released on April 13, 2009.
- Attended meetings of different Chambers of Commerce to speak about the work of the commission, and to seek opportunities for collaborative efforts in activities directly related to the Latino Community.
- Helped drafting an OCHA resolution to express gratitude to the members of the Portland City Council, former Mayor Tom Potter, and residents who worked for the memorial to change the name of 39th Avenue to César E. Chávez Boulevard, unanimously approved on July 16, 2009.
- Conducted outreach to elected officials, community leaders, and organizations throughout the state.
- Recruitment of new candidates for commission openings and other boards.
- Directly responded to inquiries from the people who contacted our office asking for information.
- Participated in Community Forum with other State officials
- Lead the effort to include OCHA in a memorandum of collaboration with the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute.

- Attended a presentation on the 2009 Climate Action Plan by the City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and Multnomah County Sustainability Program.
- Attended a meeting with the Portland City Mayor in the company of commissioners Carrasco, Caceres, and Gutierrez to discuss the City economic development strategy and its impact on Latino populations, in July 2009.

OCHA's legislative committee work

- Attended Legislative Hearings to provide testimonial related to bills potentially impacting the Latino communities.
- Presented a testimonial to the Subcommittee on Public Safety on February 10, 2009.
- Provided testimonial to the Historical Panel reviewing the Historical Significance of the Cesar Chavez Legacy in Oregon on April 2009.
- Meet with different members of the House and the Senate to discuss legislation with a potential impact in Latinos in Oregon.

OCHA's community outreach through the media

- Participated in TV interviews with the Local Univision Affiliate in Portland
- Appeared on Radio Programs to promote the work of the commission.

OCHA's outreach with national organizations

- Attended meetings with national organizations, both in person and by conference call with the following: US Council of Commissions on Hispanic Affairs, Washington DC, April 2009; US Council of Commissions on Hispanic Affairs and United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, Chicago, IL August 2009.
- Participated in Conference calls, with different organizations, such as White House initiative in Education, NCLR, NALEO, and US Census Bureau, among others.

OCHA's outreach with University Presidents and officials

- Meetings with the Presidents of the following universities: Southern Oregon University; Western Oregon University; University of Oregon; Rogue Community College; and Chemeketa Community College.

OCHA's outreach with School District officials

- Meetings and conference calls with officials in the following districts: Medford School District; Woodburn School District; and Salem-Keizer School District.

OCHA's outreach with Health Care related organizations

- La Clinica del Valle; Oregon Health Division representatives

OCHA's education work

- Attended 2009 Education Summit "The State of Latinos in Education" hosted by USHLI, National Education Association, and AFT; and developed for the United States Council of Latino Affairs in Washington, D.C., April 13-15, 2009.
- Attended The American Leadership Forum of Oregon public square dialogue on immigration in Oregon at PSU, April 24, 2009.
- Made a presentation on Latinos in Oregon at the NW Regional Conference of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute in Spokane, WA, October 2-3, 2009
- Attended the Symposium "From Day 1 to Degree" organized by the Oregon State Board of Education

- Attended organizing meeting of the Oregon Latino Agenda for Action at PSU on October 13, 2009.

The expenses for most of these activities, including travel expenses, were covered entirely by Chair Jose Ibarra; not only he volunteered his time but also the expenses related to the multiple activities of the commission in which he was involved in 2009.

RAYMOND C. CABALLERO

Regular meetings

- Attended all our all day Salem meetings of commission. [October meeting in Medford by teleconference]
- Arranged agendas and speakers for three of four quarterly meetings.
- Spent many hours scheduling speakers for three of four regular meetings.
- Attended Salem joint meeting of Advocacy Commissions.

Miscellaneous OCHA work

- Meetings with PSU regarding Latino students and community
- Meeting with President Wim Wiewel and Latino community.
- Meeting with Task force on Latino student success.
- Meeting with Carlos Crespo of the school of public health.

Other OCHA meetings

- Meeting with Consuelo Saragoza regarding Oregon Latino issues.
- Met in Salem to hear report on Latino education gap from the Chalkboard Project on August 19, 2009, in the company of Commissioners Carrasco and Chair Ibarra.
- Attended graduation ceremony of bilingual students in Eugene along with Jose Ibarra
- Testified before joint budget committee in Salem.
- Attended community meeting in Cornelius with Attorney General John Kroger.
- OCHA committee work: A number of meetings and phone calls to members of the annual report or legislative committees regarding subject matter of those committees.

OCHA's legislative committee work

- Meetings with other commissioners on legislative agenda.
- Meetings with governor's staff on drivers' license legislation.
- Met along with other OCHA members and Rep. Chip Shields and drivers' license issue.

OCHA's work with Oregon Historical Resource Inventory Web Portal

- Drafted model for a historical resource inventory web site broken down on a per county basis.
- Held multiple meetings with personnel from the Oregon Historical Society, PSU and area librarians regarding the web site.
- Met with provost at Western Oregon University on web site.

Environmental Justice Task Force

- Served as OCHA representative on that board from July 2008 to July 2009.
- Attended all regular meetings

- Drafted set of bylaws for taskforce.

OCHA's staff work

- Interviewed applicants for staff position.
- Met with staff over web site maintenance
- Prepared list of appointed and elected Latino public officials
- Many telephone calls and meetings with Chair Ibarra regarding OCHA matters.

DAVID MOLINA

Commissioner David Molina was reappointed by Governor Ted Kulongoski to a second 3-year term in 2009. Commissioner Molina served as Vice Chair from June 2008 to June 2009, and led an unsuccessful bid to serve as Chair.

Regular meetings

- Attended all the regular meetings of commission.

Miscellaneous OCHA work

- At the request of the Chair, one of his first priorities was identifying and recruiting candidates to serve on the Commission.
- Through his experience in content management systems, launched an overhaul of updating the commission's official website until staff could be recruited, trained and in a position to ensure sustainability.
- In March 28, 2009, the commission held for the first time a community-forum with Oregon's Attorney General John Kroger at Centro Cultural de Washington County in Cornelius. The forum raised the need to advocate on behalf of Oregon's Latino immigrant and most disadvantaged populations in the areas of workforce development, job training, education and health care. It also raised the need for more public meetings in the community.
- Prior to the end of 2009, Commissioner Molina in collaboration with Hillsboro School Board member, Adriana Cañas and Washington County Latino residents hosted an evening reception to meet, listen and educate David Robinson, Oregon's First District Congressional candidate on issues impacting Oregon's Latino communities, including: jobs, quality education, access & affordability to higher education, the DREAM Act, and immigration reform. Commissioner Molina, and board member Adriana Cañas continue to work together on education issues.
- In late January 2010, Commissioner Molina in collaboration with Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian, Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries, hosted a Labor & Employment forum in East Multnomah County. The bilingual forum focused on labor & employment issues and attracted Latino residents from surrounding Beaverton, Woodburn and Troutdale. The event offered a great opportunity to learn about the work of the Bureau of Labor and Industries' Civil Rights and Wage and Hour Divisions to defend the civil and employment rights of all individuals that work in Oregon.

OCHA's legislative committee work

- Served a short-stint as Committee Administrator for the House Committee on Veterans & Emergency Services during the 2009 Oregon Legislative session where he learned Oregon's intricate legislative process.

OCHA's outreach with Health Care related organizations

- As a result of this first-hand experience in community activism, Commissioner Molina continues to advocate for Oregon's Latino community-based organizations.
- On November 7, 2009, Commissioner Molina organized and hosted a Health Care Reform & Latino Health Care Disparities forum in the heart of East Multnomah County's Rockwood area at Mexican grocery store, Tienda La Tapatia. The Spanish forum was moderated by Delia Hernandez, Noticias Latinas KUNP-TV Univision and the distinguished panel included: Dr. Yves Lefranc, Minority Representative, Oregon Academy of Family Medicine; Dr. Peter Mahr, Portland Chapter, Physicians for a National Health Program, Edith Molina, Chair, Oregon Latino Health Coalition, and Ursula Rojas Weiser, Consulate of Mexico-Portland. The culturally and linguistically tailored forum attracted over sixty residents and raised the need to focus improving culturally & linguistically competent health care services.

OCHA's community outreach through the media

- Commissioner Molina is a regular guest of Univision KUNP-TV En Comunidad, and community radio KBOO's Mujeres Bravas, Armando Puentes and Tonalli programs on public policy developments and sharing ideas on improving the delivery of government services to the Latino community.

DAGOBERTO MORALES

Regular meetings

- Attended all the regular meetings of commission.

Miscellaneous OCHA work

- In January 2009, Commissioner Morales organized a meeting with the principal of South Medford High School to address complaints from parents about differential treatment experienced by Latino students. Several Latino parents participated in this meeting carried out at the principal's office. The principal, vice-principal, and counselor Beth Hauser were present. After listening to the parents, the principal made the commitment to adequately address those complaints, and if the school staff did not change their attitude, disciplinary sanctions could be considered.
- Contacted Daniel Santos asking for advice to find the best way to control the anti-immigrant attitude manifested, according several community accounts, by officers with the Medford Police Department and Sheriff office of Jackson County.
- In May 2009 Commissioner Morales organized a meeting with members of the Latino community in The Dalles to inform them about their civil rights, and how to best address their complaints to the Police Department in The Dalles regarding harassment and discrimination reportedly experienced by members of the Latino community.
- In October 2009, attended a presentation in Malin, Oregon where Latino community members received information about their civil rights and responsibilities.
- In October 2009 participated in a meeting organized by a group of Latino parents concerned by plans made public by the superintendent of the School District of Klamath about the imminent closing of an elementary school. Commissioner Morales asked for information about the percentage of Latino students in that particular school. He learned that 60 percent of Latino students are in the ELL program (English Language Learners), and 50% qualify for free or reduced lunch (low-income families). As an outcome of this community meeting, the parents organized another meeting with the school board of the school district scheduled for November 17, 2009, with the purpose of discuss with the

superintendent that closing the elementary school in Malin and bussing the students to Merrill (about 15 miles away) presents a risk for the safety of the children and their parents in case of emergency. Before the scheduled date for this meeting, the superintendent contacted some of the parents, and told them that Commissioner Morales' presence at that meeting was not necessary given that the school closing would be postponed for one year, and that the school would not close on March 2010 as it had been announced before.

- During a period of several months, Commissioner Morales has been working to reopen a case of an injury on the job that happened in 2005. In collaboration with staff at the Mexican Consulate and through IMG, we have been able to give hope to the injured Latino forestry worker about the possibility of reopening his case and finding ways to pay for his medical treatment and physical rehab needs.

GILBERT CARRASCO

Regular meetings

- Attended all our meetings of commission.

OCHA's legislative work

- Drafted a memorandum on the most recent Oregon Driver Licenses' requirements: Alternative options for drivers license (Real ID)
 - Propose amendment to current statute which also outlines that this is a public safety issue more than undocumented residents' issue.
 - Opt-In Program
 - Go back to original law with option that those wanting a license/ID with more accessibility provide additional documentation to prove citizenship.
 - Suggested action: Survey states that have alternative statutes and compare them to Oregon before presenting amendments to legislation.
 - Suggested action: Create a coalition to identify potential partnerships (e.g., business communities, farmers/nurseries, insurance companies, hotels, etc.) and discuss ways to implement bill into legislation.
- Suggested action: Secure funding for OACO
- Suggested statutory provision – placement of teachers with at least five years of experience in schools
- Suggested: Students as residents in higher education so they don't have to prove legal status.

Miscellaneous OCHA work

- Helped drafting a resolution in support of John M. Haroldson for United States Attorney for District of Oregon, supported by OCHA
- Attended a Community Partners Briefing on "The Hispanic-white Achievement Gap in Oregon" in the company of Chair Ibarra and Commissioner Caballero, on August 19, 2009.

OCHA committee work

- A number of meetings and phone calls to members of the annual report or legislative committees regarding subject matter of those committees.

MARCELA MENDOZA

Regular meetings

Attended October meeting of commission.

OCHA committee work

- A number of meetings and phone calls to members of the annual report committee regarding subject matter of this committee.
- Lead the drafting of the 2009 annual report

Environmental Justice Task Force

- Served as OCHA representative on that board since August 2009
- Attended regular meetings