ADVANCING OHIO'S LATINO POPULATION for 30 years
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Dear amigos,

As Charles Dickens wrote, It was the Best of Times, It was the Worst of Times... I use this phrase to remind us of how much we have accomplished and how much we have gone through, all together, during the past year. It is with humility, appreciation, and thankfulness to all of you, who have been there for us, helping us succeed in the provision of the most needed services to our community, in this a most difficult of times.

As such, I would like to express my deepest appreciation for your support and commitment to the 30 years of service work of the Coalition. You made it possible for the Ohio Hispanic Coalition (OHCO), to fulfill its mission of improving the well-being and quality of life of all Hispanics and Latinos through its advocacy, education, training and access to quality services.

This year has been one of the most challenging for both our agency and the communities we serve. The COVID-19 pandemic helped cast a spotlight on systematic barriers faced by our community but also provided opportunities of advancement to overcome those barriers. This challenged us to identify new ways to support our communities. Together, we answered the call to action to the Latinos/Hispanics experiencing increased vulnerability in their health and safety. Together, we developed innovative ways to serve and advocate for all Latinos/Hispanics remotely. Together, we worked to bring more accessible resources to address the emergent needs of Latino/Hispanic community members.

As we prepare to enter another year of uncertainties, our commitment to serving the Latino communities in Central Ohio has been rewarded, not only by the support of our partners, but by the words of appreciation and encouragement we receive from our volunteers, our supporters, and the very families we serve.

Gracias for celebrating with us,

JULIA ARBINI-CARBONELL
PRESIDENT & CEO
WHO WE ARE

Mission
To improve the wellbeing and quality of life of all Latinos through advocacy, education, training and access to quality services.

Vision
Creating collaborative partnerships in order to promote general awareness, including social, educational and economic advancement of Ohio’s Latino population.

Our Leadership Team

The Board of Directors and Executive team are both made up of 100% Latino/Hispanic community members.

Board of Directors

Julia Arbini-Carbonell, President
Hugo Beltran, Chairman
Cecilia Castillo, Vice-Chair
Luis C. Villarroel, Attorney
Josefina Angulo, Community Member
Jose Luis Mas, Attorney at Law (Emeritus)

Executive Team

Josue Vicente, Executive Director
Sarah Brown, Program Officer
Dayra Vazquez, Interpretation & Translation Services and Health Program Coordinator
Daisy Oyola, Youth & Education Program Coordinator
Maria Ramirez, Soy Latina Victim Services Program Coordinator
OUR HIGH

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Ohio Hispanic Coalition in providing culturally-specific and linguistically-appropriate services in the Central Ohio area.

OFFICIAL BUILDING

We purchased a building for the first time in history to house the administrative office and serve as one of the After School Program sites on Bethel Road.
LIGHTS

MORE FOLLOWERS

+2,999

New Facebook followers were gained throughout the year.

NEW WEBSITE

We launched our new and improved website. Now, community members can stay updated and connected with our great services and events all year long.
The Ohio Hispanic Coalition (OHCO) was on the frontlines in directly combating the spread of COVID-19 and successfully transitioned all its direct services to be available fully remote or in-person while adhering to the CDC guidelines to keep both community members and staff healthy and safe during the pandemic.

We brought timely and linguistically-appropriate access to information, resources, and assistance related to COVID-19 to address immediate needs and empower underserved, Latino/Hispanic community members facing systematic barriers in COVID-19-specific healthcare, intervention, public benefits enrollments, food banks, and more.

OHCO helped Latino/Hispanic community members stay healthy, become more financially stable, maintain their homes, and achieve academic success for their children.

110,200+ Facebook Live Views

434 Families enrolled for public benefits
We partnered with the City of Columbus Department of Neighborhoods to prevent the spread COVID-19 and its financial burden on Latino/Hispanic families by providing essential personal protection equipment (PPE) such as face masks, hand sanitizers, and disinfecting supplies, along with healthy food and produce.

**Family Members Served**

- **540** Families
- **90** Families
- **17** Families
- **14** Families
- **143** Families Served
- **5** Families
- **3** Families
- **1** Family
- **7** Families
- **1** Family
- **2** Families
- **1** Family

**Emergency Funds: Rent Assistance**

OHCO was the first and only agency in Franklin County to advocate on behalf of and respond to the needs of the underserved, immigrant, Latino/Hispanic community who did not qualify for COVID-19 federal or state emergency funds due to ineligibility and federal guidelines.

We partnered with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and provided financial relief through rent assistance for Latino/Hispanic Franklin County residents affected by the pandemic.

The assistance helped keep families safe and healthy in their homes, feel more financial stable, and prevent the spread of COVID-19 that has disproportionately impacted Latinos.

**Answered Call of Action by the City of Columbus for PPE Distribution**

We partnered with the City of Columbus Department of Neighborhoods to prevent the spread COVID-19 and its financial burden on Latino/Hispanic families by providing essential personal protection equipment (PPE) such as face masks, hand sanitizers, and disinfecting supplies, along with healthy food and produce.
OHIO HISPANIC COALITION

OUR PROGRAMS

Promotores de Salud

OHCO’s longest-running program since 1998, Promotores de Salud, or Community Health Workers, are bilingual/bi-cultural community members trained to interpret for health providers as well as educate and connect patients with additional resources to provide holistic, quality care.

In partnership with PrimaryOne Health, Spanish and Somali-speaking Promotores de Salud continued to serve patients in-person as essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic and addressed barriers in language, immigration status, financial hardship, and racial disparities that many immigrant patients faced in accessing healthcare.

13,580
Patients Served

Hear from a Promotora
Diana, Promotora de Salud

“Working for the Ohio Hispanic Coalition as a Promotora de Salud, has been one of the most rewarding jobs of my life. It humbles the soul in many ways.

We get to meet so many people, and they get to share part of their lives with us, one memorable patient for me, was a new mom and I remember she was very nervous. I used to see her now and then for follow up appointments, and recently I got to see her again with the baby, the same baby we got to see at the ultrasound, the same baby’s heartbeat we used to hear with a Doppler, the same baby who turned this young girl into a mother. It’s beautiful how these people remember you and in a way they share their lives with you.”
The Ohio Hispanic Coalition provided professionally trained interpreters available 24/7/365 for on-site interpretation for local health centers, attorney meetings, immigration appointments, schools, mental health service providers and other local social service providers.

Due to the need for remote services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Interpretation & Translation Services program successfully expanded its services to provide interpretations via videoconferencing through Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, and more.

**Languages Provided:**

- Spanish
- French
- Portuguese
- Arabic
- Nepali
- Somali
- Amharic

**Interpretations Provided:**

616

**Translations Provided:**

38
OHCO’s Niños en Acción, or Children in Action, Youth & Education department was founded in 2002 to provide quality education assistance that is bilingual and bi-culturally-responsive for Limited English Proficient (LEP) Latino/Hispanic students ages 5-13 to advance Latino youth through educational programming.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we successfully transitioned to a 100% virtual Summer Enrichment Camp and Full Day Learning Center program at three safe locations for students assist parents that worked outside the home and kept families healthy.

The programs helped in the advancement of Latino students through the cultivation of a Latino-specific and bilingual environment that is understanding of their needs, creation of future leaders, break the cycle of poverty, and achieve Latino excellence for every student.

**Student Statistics**

154 Students enrolled

- El Salvador
- Chile
- México
- Nicaragua
- Honduras
- Ecuador
- Guatemala
- Cuba
- Venezuela
- Puerto Rico
- Colombia
- Dominican Republic
Nicolás, a third grader and did not have internet access at home during the COVID-19 pandemic and was bullied at school for several years which caused him to develop anxiety and depression. Our Niños en Acción program connected Nicolás to mental health resources, advocated on his behalf and of his family's to the school, provided a safe place where he could access wi-fi, received hands-on technical support for succeeding in virtual learning, received a healthy meal on a daily basis to boost mental health and learning, and formed healthy relationships through the bilingual/bi-cultural group activities focused on positive social/emotional well-being.

Together, we helped Nicolás improve his grades and feel fully supported to one day achieve his dream to become an NASCAR driver.
The Soy Latina, "I am Latina," Empowerment Services Program serves to empower victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, family violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Promotora Specialists, similar to the Promotores de Salud, or community health workers, fulfill many functions such as victim advocates, educators, and caseworkers to ensure each victim has access to every legal, medical, and social service available through a client-centered approach.

Victims feel empowered to set their own goals and make informed decisions that best fit their needs through Soy Latina informing them of their legal rights and resources available.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, direct services were upgraded and available remotely and limited contact for court-related goals so that victims can continue their goals and journey of healing and independence.

Mujeres en Acción Cultural Therapy Group

The Mujeres en Acción, "women in action," Cultural Therapy Group for Latina/Hispanic women survivors in the Central Ohio area participated in 6 sessions of indigenous, Ecuadorian jewelry-making as they explored ways of healing found in the Latino culture.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the group was successfully launched through videoconferencing and gained more mental/emotional support for their healing journey. Survivors also received technical assistance that also helped them connect better to their counselors and doctors through telehealth.
Natalia is a single mother from Venezuela, who suffered domestic violence for more than two years. She was afraid to report as she thought it would impact her immigration process, had no reliable transportation, and was suffering financial hardship in caring for herself and two children.

She was connected with our Soy Latina team and received trauma-informed, cultural/linguistically appropriate services including court advocacy, housing relocation assistance, weekly support groups, transportation, employment mediation, legal services assistance, and counseling services.

After completing her goals, Natalia was empowered and graduated with a degree in Business Management at the University and is now a permanent resident in the United States.

Intervention and prevention efforts are crucial in our mission to end violence among the Latino/Hispanic communities. We launched two campaigns, the No Mas (No More) Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month, incorporating facts, words or encouragement, videos, and contests in combating stigma and provide accurate, linguistically and culturally-appropriate information and access to quality services.

Survivor Impact
Natalia, Soy Latina Survivor

Maria, Promotora Specialist, reaching community members during PPE & Produce Distribution Event. August 2020

Creating Awareness on Social Media

37,457
Community Members Reached
We celebrated the Día de los Reyes Magos, or Three Wise Men Celebration, in January 2020 which is a Latino tradition following Christmas as toys are given to to children as they were given to Baby Jesus at birth.

OHCO focused on maintaining the Latino tradition in Ohio and focused its efforts on children from Latino/Hispanic families who experienced financial hardship during the holidays or were not eligible to receive toys from local programs due to their zip code or immigration status.

Families from all over the state of Ohio came to experience an event not found anywhere else to pass the tradition to their children, enjoy a safe place and community were Latino culture and language are shared, and feel at home.

700+ Community Members in Attendance

418 Children Received Toys

215 Volunteer Hours
Response to Mental Health Need due to COVID-19

OHCO partnered with the Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services to address the increased rates of mental illness among Latino/Hispanic community related to COVID-19. The Latino-specific campaign in Spanish led to individuals feeling de-stressed, higher rates of utilization of mental health services, and decrease the rates of suicide due to COVID-19.

11,040 Community Members Reached

Latinos Unidos Census 2020

We partnered with the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to reach Latino/Hispanic communities and have their voices heard on the 2020 Census. The project addressed language, cultural, and immigration barriers related to the Census. Our efforts led to higher completion rates impacting future resources that will be allocated to help Latino community members.

12,423 Community Members Reached

Latina Entrepreneur Academy

OHCO partnered with LULAC and launched a bilingual virtual academy for Latina business owners. After the program, participants were empowered as they launched or advanced their business, and gained essential information and resources as they become Latina leaders in the community.

40 Participants Enrolled
OUR PARTNERS

- PrimaryOne Health
- Honda of America Foundation
- Ohio Health
- Belle Harbour Management of Ohio
- Buckeye Health Plan
- Franklin County Children’s Services
- US Bank
- Nationwide Children’s Hospital
- Ohio National University
- United Healthcare
- Fifth Third Bank
- United Way of Central Ohio
- Molina Healthcare
- CareSource
- Discover
- JPMorgan Chase
- CD Dance Company
- Story Tellers of Central Ohio Central
- Jujitsu Self Defense Fundamental
- Columbus Recreation and Parks Department
- V.A.T
- Spartan IT
- OASIS
- Girls Scouts of Ohio
- Coordinated Approach to Children Hood (CATCH)
- Future Ready DESSA System
- National Parents Union
- CHOICES for Domestic Violence
- Legal Aid Society of Columbus
- Rodriguez & DiFranco Law Office, LLC
- Manner Law Firm, LLC
- OSU Star trauma
- The Ohio State University - Spanish & Portuguese Department
- Columbus Zoo & Aquarium
- Zumba with Guadalupe
- Never Accept Bullying
- Ohio Domestic Violence Network
- Directions for Youth & Families
- St. Vincent Family Centers
- Physicians Care Connection
- The Center of Family Safety & Healing
- ABC6
- NBC4
- Mount Carmel Crime Trauma Assistance Program (CTAP)
- Ohio Crime Victim Justice Center (OCVJC)
- Ohio Music Therapy
- Therapy Dog Alliance
- Columbus Symphony Orchestra
- The Columbus Crew
- Turning Point
Thank You to Our Volunteers!

- The Ohio State University - The Kennan Center for Entrepreneurship
- The Ohio State University - Spanish & Portuguese Department
- The Ohio State University - College of Social Work
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
- Rodriguez Bell & DiFranco Law Office, LLC
- U.S. Small Business Administration
- Latino Student Association
- Manner Law Firm, LLC
- Grow with Google
- JPMorgan Chase
- Sol y Luna Salon
- La Madrina
- ABC6

And all the dedicated community members and supporters!

1,604 Volunteer Hours Served
Our Funders

- Harry C Moores Foundation
- Honda of America Foundation
- Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Franklin County Board of Commissioners
- Franklin County Department of Jobs & Family Services
- Franklin County Office of Justice & Policy Programs
- The Columbus Foundation
- The Columbus Crew
- Buckeye Health Plan
- CareSource

- Office of the Ohio Attorney General
- Ohio Department of Health
- Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
- Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services
- George H.W. Bush Vamos A Pescar
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources: Division of Wildlife
- League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
- ADAMH Board of Franklin County
Main Office
1535 Bethel Road
Columbus, OH 43220

Cultural & Education Center - North Site
1535 Bethel Road
Floor 2
Columbus, OH 43220

Cultural & Education Center - East Site
220 W Johnstown Road
Gahanna, OH 43230

Jose Luis Mas Cultural & Education Center
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Columbus, OH 43220

Stay Connected

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@coalicionhispanadeohio

Instagram:
@ohco_columbus

Twitter:
@OHCO_Columbus
THE OHIO HISPANIC COALITION
WOULD LIKE TO SAY

Thank you!

IN MAKING THIS YEAR A SUCCESSFUL ONE.