



A Model For Mobilizing Emerging Populations

Dr. Miriam Y Vega

According to the latest US Census Data (2010) Hispanics/Latinos are now 1 out of every 6 individuals in the United States; they are 16% of the US population. There has, to put it mildly, been enormous growth in the US Hispanic/Latino population. Some areas of the United States (i.e. New York, California, and Texas) have had longstanding Hispanic populations. However, now in other parts of the US (i.e. the Deep South) Hispanics/Latinos are emerging and rapidly growing segments of the US population.

Emerging populations bring with them norms and cultural values that they often seek to integrate with the norms and values of the new area. They form social networks and develop social capital. Social networks and social capital are dynamic, have a range, strength and direction. Social networks have a tendency to norm certain behaviors and attitudes, and can encourage poor health outcomes through emphasizing greater risk-taking or misinformation about health conditions, screening and treatment. Conversely, social networks can also serve as conduits of needed information and social support to encourage healthier behaviors.

In order to address the National AIDS Strategy goals and objectives (see previous CBA Connect Newsletter for a review of the Strategy), it is imperative to mobilize and address the health needs of these emerging populations taking into account their social networks, social capital along with cultural norms and values. To that end, the Commission has developed a community mobilization model for emerging populations underlined by the following principle:

- L** Local leadership development
- U** Unifying goals, strategies and tactics through the building of coalitions, networks and workgroups
- K** Bi-directional enhancement of knowledge of the emerging population and of the local environment
- A** Action-oriented endeavors to increase access to care and decrease health disparities

To carry out this model there are 8 core elements:

- Define who is the emerging population
- Leadership assessment & development
- Resource mapping
- Stigma mapping
- Leveraging resources
- Understanding and addressing the individual, organizational and environmental barriers to accessing care
- Understanding and addressing health disparities
- Evaluation

This model is being disseminated to communities and stakeholders across the country. In addition, a toolkit to help implement the model is currently being developed for distribution.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1	World AIDS Day Memorial	New York, NY
December 5—7	Treatment Now / Tratamiento Ahora	Los Angeles, CA
December 12—16	Treatment Now / Tratamiento Ahora	San Juan, PR
December 2011—March 2012	Midwest Regional Needs Assessment	Midwest
February 2012	Texas Regional Training Institute	Austin, Dallas, San Antonio, TX
March 8—9, 2012	Reunion Latina	Albany, NY

SERVICIO MEMORIAL LATINO DEL SIDA
Comunidades de Fe Latinas Responden
1 de Diciembre, 2011

1 de Diciembre
Dia Mundial del SIDA

5:45 PM Vigilia
6:00 PM Servicio Interreligioso

Iglesia Metodista Unida
"Broadway Temple"
4111 Broadway
New York, NY 10033
(Washington Heights)
Para informacion llame al 646-375-4446
O escriba a dleyva@latinoaids.org

Linea informativa sobre el SIDA en el Estado de Nueva York 1-800-233-7432

Programa de Liderazgo Religioso Latino
Este programa es posible gracias al apoyo del Consejo Municipal de la Ciudad de Nueva York (NYC Council)

ISSUE CONTENTS

2	Southwest Summit
3	National Network of Libraries of Medicine
3	Prepare for the International AIDS Conference
4	Sustainable Leadership Summit

Southwest Summit on Emerging Hispanic Communities:

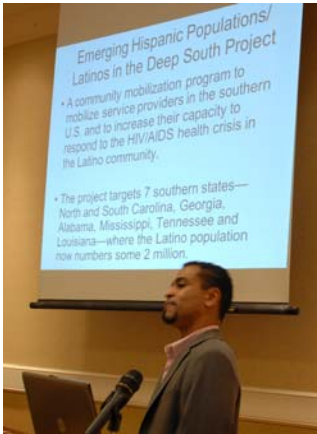
Dr. Andrew Spieldenner

To address on a regional level the LUKA principle, in September, the Latino Commission on AIDS (the Commission) convened a summit of Latino-serving health departments, community members, elected officials, service providers and academics. The purpose of the summit was to:

- 1 Focus on the latest biomedical HIV treatment and its incorporation within academic and clinical practice, prevention, and within emerging Hispanic communities across the country
- 2 Provide new insights into incorporating structural level interventions and other related strategies within HIV prevention and care
- 3 Review the implications of HIV research that addresses the challenges of scaling up treatment and prevention, especially within the new guidelines provided by the National HIV/AIDS Strategy
- 4 Provide opportunities for professional development, dialogue and debate among HIV/AIDS stakeholders and professionals.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of AIDS Research (OAR) co-sponsored the event, and the OAR lead, Dr. Jack Whitescarver, gave opening remarks, reflecting on the changing times of the HIV epidemic and the importance of marginalized populations to articulate their own HIV/AIDS agenda – through research, policy and services.

Three states were represented at the Summit: **Arizona, Nevada** and **Utah**. These have different HIV epidemics, Latino populations and funding profiles. They share a common stream of migration between states and Mexico, as populations – both Latino and gay - freely pass the state lines for employment or social opportunities. Health departments and service providers freely acknowledged how the state boundaries did little to prevent access to testing, information and other HIV/AIDS services.



Right:
Dr. Miriam Vega,
Vice-President,
Latino Commission on AIDS

Above (from top to bottom):
Edwin Espinel—Utah Department of Health;
Lazara Paz, MPH—Nevada State Health Department;
Christian F Castro—Latino Commission on AIDS;
Judy Norton—Arizona Department of Health Services

The agenda covered the broad range of policy and technology advances in domestic HIV/AIDS today. Commission staff members, Christian Castro and Yanira Arias, presented the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. Commission Vice-President, Dr. Miriam Vega, discussed structural level interventions. Lina Cherfas, Capacity Building Assistance Program Manager, explored community-based participatory research initiatives. Georgette King, from the HIV Prevention Trials Network, presented on data from the 052 study and other behavioral and biomedical studies sponsored by the Network. Deputy Director of Research and Evaluation at the Commission, Dr. Andrew Spieldenner, discussed new directions in biomedical HIV interventions as well as social determinants of health. Each state was given the opportunity to discuss regional HIV/AIDS epidemiology in the agenda.

A key part of the Commission's capacity building model is to provide networking opportunities for participants. True to form, the regions met separately to discuss the state of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, as well as partnering opportunities in each state. The conflicts and shared commonalities were discussed in the private breakout sessions.

Continues on page 5

Expanding Your Resources: National Network of Libraries of Medicine

Barbara Jones, MLS



- ◆ *Where can I find the information I need?*
- ◆ *What should I tell my patient/client about their health?*
- ◆ *Who can I collaborate with to have a larger impact on the population I serve?*
- ◆ *I need information for a grant proposal...*

These are all questions that can be answered by working with your regional office of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM). This organization is funded through the National Library of Medicine to provide health information access to health care providers and individuals in the public sector. It is organized in eight regions across the country (to find your region and contact office go to <http://nnlm.gov>).

Staff members of the NN/LM regions offer the following services:

- Free Network membership to those organizations providing health information resources through a library or information center.
- Training on all of the free information databases and resources developed by the National Library of Medicine. These databases include PubMed, which offers access to citations and abstracts of biomedical information; MedlinePlus, the consumer health database which is available in Spanish; Public Health Partners, a cooperative venture of all of the major public health organizations and many others.
- Opportunities for collaborative projects with libraries and other community organizations working toward similar goals.
- Linkages with libraries for access to journal articles.
- Funding opportunities for health information related projects.
- Regular communications on health information related topics and funding opportunities.
- Promotional materials for the various databases.

If you are a community based organization, a public health department, a clinic, or any other type of organization working with people needing information about their health, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) is definitely a group you should contact.

In addition to the website mentioned above, you can speak with someone at your regional office by calling 1-800-338-7657.

Preparation for the XIX International AIDS Conference

AIDS 2012 Brown Bag Webinar Series is a capacity-building initiative of the National Latino AIDS Action Network (NLAAN). In collaboration with partner organizations and with the support from the Office of AIDS Research of the National Institutes of Health, this initiative seeks to increase knowledge of the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) in communities of color and to encourage their participation in this conference, which will be held July 22-27, 2012, in Washington DC.

For more information, regarding these webinars, please email: nlaan411@gmail.com

The Community Abstract Mentoring Program (CAMP) is an online abstract mentoring program with the goal of building HIV/AIDS research dissemination capacity within communities of color to submit high-quality abstracts for acceptance at the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) and to increase their participation as conference presenters by providing abstract preparation support from mentors. CAMP is completely independent of the AIDS 2012 abstract review and selection process.

Individuals can request support from a mentor by submitting their abstracts to CAMP at <http://www.aids2012.org/>. CAMP will be available from December 1, 2011, through February 1, 2012.

SAVE THE DATE



REUNION LATINA MARCH 8-9, 2012 ALBANY, NEW YORK

Registration opens December 1st, 2011
Scholarship application opens January 1st, 2012
For more information call 646-375-4446 or dleyva@latinoaids.org



DENNIS DE LEON SUSTAINABLE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

September 21, 2011
Columbia, SC

NORTH CAROLINA | SOUTH CAROLINA | LOUISIANA

Yanira Arias



Second row (from left to right): Jorge Alonzo, Mark Gray, Brian Burton, Jorge Leone, Elsa Pardo
First row (from left to right): Cindy Wilks-Vásquez, Edena Meetze, Denise Rivera, Lucy Gordon

On September 21st, 2011 the Latinos in the Deep South Project of the Latino Commission on AIDS (The Commission), held its first **DENNIS DE LEON SUSTAINABLE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**, where a total of 12 emerging leaders graduated from the Dennis Deleon Sustainable Leadership Institute (DdLSLI). The institute provided a space for emerging community leaders to enhance and develop leadership skills in order to impact HIV/AIDS at the local, state and federal health policy levels. The Commission created the Institute to serve as a platform to promote participatory and honest dialogue about how to address the pressing social, policy and structural issues affecting Latinos in the Deep South. We believe this was an opportunity for enhancing new advocacy/policy efforts, support existing local coalitions and create sustainable leadership actions in the Southern States.

The DdLSLI was implemented from April through July 2011, with a diverse group of emerging leaders from North Carolina, South Carolina and Louisiana; the Institute engaged all participants in discussing several key policy issues affecting Latinos in the South such as:

- Impact of current anti immigration laws in the Southern States
- State of public transportation and its impact on health-care access, particularly in rural areas
- ADAP waiting list
- Criminalization of HIV/AIDS
- Syringe Access Programs (SAP) and community engagement towards supporting SAP



Miriam Y. Vega, PhD., Commission's Vice President, gives the welcoming words to Leadership Summit participants

The Leadership Summit in Columbia, SC was the final step for cohort 1, the institute's first cohort. During the Summit

all participants presented on their collective actions for responding to local health policy issues affecting Latinos in the Southern States, as well on the importance of identifying local resources and key players for coalition building, in order to collaboratively impact current local health policies that are detrimental to Latinos in the Deep South. The Commission's Vice President, Miriam Vega, and the Latinos in the Deep South Director, Christian Castro, facilitated a town hall on Structural Level Interventions for Impacting Local Health Policy. Participants also engaged in a discussion on Latinos and the 2010 Census, facilitated by Mr. Castro and Yanira Arias, Director of Community Organizing at the Commission.

Cohort 2 of the DdLSLI will be implemented between the spring and summer 2012 and will engage emerging leaders from Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia, stay tuned for application process!

Continues on page 5

For information on how to request Capacity Building Assistance please visit www.latinoaids.org/programs/cba or contact us at CBAdivision@latinoaids.org or 212-675-3288

Southwest Summit, cont...

Unlike other comparative community based organizations (CBOs), the Commission has a fully integrated Research and Evaluation Department (RED). As such, the Commission's RED recognizes that Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) initiatives require an investment and capacity building on both the CBO and the university side. The Commission is unique in developing its own evaluation and research initiatives, and encourages other CBOs and universities to pursue CBPR initiatives.



Georgette King, MPA—HPTN Senior Community Engagement Officer, FHI 360 Science Facilitating Departments

The Commission and OAR recognize the importance of community involvement in the International AIDS Conference 2012. Latinos are particularly poorly represented at the conference, and several opportunities emerge to share best practices and lessons learned, as well as promote engagement amongst Latino/Hispanic organizations and constituents in the International AIDS Conference.

To find out more information, please contact
Yanira Arias
yarias@latinoaids.org
Christian Castro
cfcastro@latinoaids.org.

Leadership Summit, cont...



Tony Price, MPH of the South Carolina Department of Health; shares words on Health Departments as Community Partners.

Price, MPH, Prevention Program Manager SC DHEC, STD/HIV Division and Alberto M. Santana, MS Public Health Analyst, Partnerships Team Capacity Building Branch Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD & TB Prevention Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

We dedicated our first Leadership Summit in Columbia, South Carolina to our beloved leader Dennis deLeon, founder and former president of the Commission. He was and will always be bigger than life. In late 1994, he took over the Commission and built a strong organization that grew at the local, regional and national levels. He brought attention to the urgent need to respond to the HIV/AIDS crisis affecting our communities and became a voice for the voiceless affected by discrimination and homophobia. Dennis deLeon was an advocate and leader, but most importantly, he was our beloved friend. Last but not least, we would like to congratulate all the graduates of the **2011 the Dennis deLeon Sustainable Leadership Institute**; we commend your hard work throughout the entire cohort and we invite each of you to become a mentor for other emerging leaders in your region.



Alberto Santana, MS from the CDC, speaks about the Legacy of Dennis deLeon.

Happy Holidays

from your
Capacity Building Assistance Providers
at the
Latino Commission on AIDS