



>Forewords

The Latino Commission on AIDS is pleased to share this report on our many achievements in 2013 and our goals for 2014. The continued, generous support of our partners equips us to respond promptly and effectively to the ever-evolving needs of Hispanic/ Latino communities and brings us closer to fulfilling our vision: "To end the HIV&AIDS epidemic, eliminating health disparities to reach healthy communities." Through your generosity, we've: provided more than 2,300 individual clients with direct support services (individualized counseling, ongoing support services, and HIV and Hepatitis testing); presented more than 100 educational workshops, conferences, community events and capacity building assistance services (trainings, webinars and consultations) for more than 2,000 community members and organizations; and partnered with more than 240 organizations nationwide through community mobilization events, to ensure Latinos and other groups have access to culturally competent care. In 2013 we continued our commitment to serve Puerto Rico and visited the island seven times to provide key activities: trainings, workshops, strategic advice and treatment education.

The Latino Commission on AIDS engaged in a year-long strategic planning process in 2013 during which the board and staff set the course for the agency's next era of sustainability and effectiveness. The Commission's executive team, board committees, full board and staff members identified and assessed internal and external trends and challenges, and developed corresponding goals and strategies to

guide our work during the next five years. Through this process the Commission has reaffirmed the foundation of its role as a leader on HIV prevention, community mobilization on education, and advocating for reaching healthy communities. The Commission has closely looked at its strengths and vulnerabilities, and has learned from its deep and long track record in the field. As a result, the Commission will spend 2014-2018 implementing a long-term strategic plan to strengthen our internal infrastructure in order for us to continue developing a non-traditional, learning community based organization that has a transformational impact in our local, regional and national work.

We have big plans in 2014 to lay the foundation for an even greater, broader impact on Hispanic health in the years ahead. We are expanding our work to partner with local Hispanic/Latino communities in the states, Washington, DC, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. Our plans include playing a central role in establishing the Hispanic Health Network, to overcome urgent challenges like hepatitis, ensure access to Spanish-language HIV treatment education and culturally competent care, and end discrimination against immigrants in need of healthcare.

Guillermo Chacon President

Puerto Rico



addressing the crisis. bringing education.

The Commission has undertaken a special commitment to address the disproportional impact of HIV&AIDS, and improve the quality of prevention and care in Puerto Rico. The Commission conducted, in early 2012, a three-month regional needs assessment and designed the Puerto Rico Training Institute, a seven-part series conducted via webinar and on-site trainings and events across the island from 2012 through 2013. A total of two hundred and three (203) individuals participated in the training series overall. Three out of the seven part training series were conducted in 2013. During February 2013, in partnership with AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), the Commission conducted a two day skills building training in Bayamon, "Caminando Juntos" (Walking Together). The 80 participants from community based organizations, CBOs, Puerto Rico Department of Health, PRDH, people living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA), and activists launching and sustaining a collaborative effort to develop an action plan to eliminate HIV&AIDS in Puerto Rico.

In March 2013, the Commission conducted a Grant Writing Training and to conclude the institute, an Organizational Sustainability Training which covered topics such as personal development and well-being, innovative design of programs, community collaboration, and evaluation. Overall the training series institute was a successful endeavor that highlighted the commitment of service providers, health departments, and clinicians in Puerto Rico to implement high impact prevention.

In August 2013 the Tratamiento Ahora (Treatment Now) program returned to Puerto Rico to work with another PWA organization known as Poder Positivo, located on the western coast of the island, an area which is often overlooked since most trainings take place in San Juan. Twenty-four case managers, sociologists, dentists, doctors, nurses and people living with HIV attended a Stigma Training, a follow up to their Fundamentals of HIV training the year prior. In November we provide training in partnership with APIA, the association of people living with AIDS. The training and retreat provide treatment education and leadership development for 68 participants outside San Juan.

2014 Goals: In 2014 and on, it is our goal to continue our presence and provide different services to our community and institutional partners on the island. We will utilize innovative ways to deliver services, customized to the needs of Puerto Rico and convene collaborators to address the complexities of ensuring services across many areas on the island. Lastly, we hope to develop targeted training packages to assist our consumers and enhance their capacity in the areas of management and the development of common agendas, how to effectively and affordably expanding their HIV testing programs, Hepatitis testing and treatment, and best approaches to working with those who are HIV positive with a long term effort toward reducing stigma and homophobia.





Latinos in the Deep South



assisting newcomers. building leadership.

The Latinos in the Deep South program works with Latino communities, Latino-serving organizations, local health departments, regional media outlets, local businesses, and AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs) across the Southern United States to reduce health disparities, especially around HIV&AIDS. We have five key program goals: 1) Heighten awareness of the emerging Latino population in the south; 2) Increase awareness of the needs of the Latino population; 3) Enhance the ability of communities to meet these needs; 4) Help enfranchise and empower Latino communities to address local needs; 5) Help create overall healthier communities.

2013 Accomplishments: In 2013 the program completed its third cycle of the Dennis deLeon Sustainable Leadership Institute and launched the first Georgia Latino Leadership Initiative, a Georgiaspecific component of the Institute. The program provided various trainings across the southern states, including three trainings on the Hispanic Healthcare Worker Model in Alabama and North Carolina, one training on the Latino Religious Leadership Model in North Carolina, one Finding Positives training in Kentucky, a town hall meeting in North Carolina regarding Biomedical HIV Prevention, and webinars in partnership with the national HIV In+Care Campaign in English and Spanish regarding linking and retaining HIV positive Latinos in care.

In 2013 Latinos in the Deep South conducted a wide scale assessment of non-traditional

service providers in Kentucky and findings of the report were presented in a town hall meeting format during the 2013 African American/Latino Leadership Conference on HIV/AIDS plenary session. We also participated in the formative research of Principle Investigator, Dr. Carol Galletly, at Center for AIDS Intervention Research at the Medical College of Wisconsin on Proyecto Luz, a study that aims to understand how HIV criminalization and immigrants laws impact the health seeking behaviors of Latino immigrants in Tennessee and North Carolina. Finally, Latinos in the Deep South participated in three North Carolina advocacy days: HIV Advocacy Day, LGBT Legislative Day and Latino Advocacy Day where we promoted restoration of AIDS Drug Assistance Program funding in the budget proposal, thanked legislators for introducing a Syringe Decriminalization Bill, promoted higher education for undocumented students, and opposed anti-immigrant bills including the Reclaim North Carolina Act.

2014 Goals: Latinos in the Deep South will continue positioning the agenda of Latino HIV issues in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Louisiana, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi on structural aspects and barriers to healthcare. We are in the midst of collecting data for our follow up to the 2008 pivot report, "Shaping the New Response: HIV/AIDS and Latinos in the Deep South" to be released in the summer of 2014.



Capacity Building Assistance (CBA)

The Commission works with organizations and communities across the United States and Territories to provide health departments, faith-based organizations, and community based organizations, media, universities, businesses, health care workers, and coalitions with capacity building assistance (CBA) to enhance HIV prevention/health promotion programs in both urban and rural settings. All of our CBA programs are guided by the CHANGE Model (Vega, 2009) stating that our commitment and approach is Customized (attention to organization, target, and geographic needs), Holistic (an overall organizational assessment that looks at both internal and external factors), Analytic (hands on applied adult learning approach), Networking (promote and provide spaces in which collaboration can occur), Grassroots (value the expertise of those we serve), and Evaluatory (by evaluating our services we provide the example on the importance of evaluation).

MANOS UNIDAS (Hands United) COMUNIDADES SALUDABLES AHORA (Healthy Communities Now)

Hands United provides services to community based organizations that work with diverse populations and diverse risk behaviors in addressing the HIV&AIDS epidemic. The program provides assistance under three different subcategories: Organizational Infrastructure and Program Sustainability,

Program Implementation, and Evaluation. Healthy Communities Now provides capacity building services to different entities, including coalitions, universities, grassroots groups, clinics, health centers, community based organizations, and other partners, concerned with reaching diverse Latino communities to bring health messages around HIV&AIDS prevention. The program disseminates four models that grose from Commission-driven. grassroots initiatives: National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD) model, Mobilizing Emerging Hispanic Population model, Religious Leadership model, and the Healthcare Worker Mobilization model. In addition, our services help consumers develop their own mobilization models.

2013 Accomplishments: During 2013 these two national programs officially reached all 50 states, as well as the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Proactively, we provided more than 25 webinars, including a webinar series on topics that include: changes in the HIV landscape, biomedical research, NLAAD planning and implementation, sustainability and funding portfolio diversification. Based on high-demand, we designed a new, interactive curricula - "Community Assessment approach to Finding Positives" – which has been implemented in three states thus far. We responded to more than 45 capacity building requests to assist organizations in their transition into new changes and funding requirements, assisting in developing evaluation plans, tools, guiding programmatic implementation, customized trainings, and individual coaching sessions on social marketing, social media, strategic planning, board development,

cultural competency specific to gender and sexuality, recruitment and retention. We also assisted coalitions, universities, and health departments with assessments and strategic meetings aiming at developing their own mobilization models in order to respond to their population needs. Through our CBA Connect newsletter, we reach more than 1500 people bi-monthly in the HIV workforce and allies (non-traditional partners) with information on overarching topics of interest such as the Affordable Care Act, Latinos in the Deep South, Men who have sex with Men disparities (MSM), and State of the Science (PrEP, nPEP, Vaccines, etc.). The newsletter is formatted in a way that recipients receive not only information, but best practice approaches, lessons learned directly from our consumers, links to tools recently developed, as well as information on upcoming events.

In collaboration with the Commission's Hispanic Behavioral Research Center, we implemented a series of Town Hall meetings and Training Institutes. The Town Halls served to bring information on HIV prevention biomedical research to service providers as well as community members. Training Institutes were held in Puerto Rico and Chicago, with content and programming customized to each locale based on our formative assessment. In Puerto Rico, we focused on Community Mobilization, Formative Assessment (Finding Positives), Organization Sustainability and coaching around grant writing. In Chicago, the focus was on the changing HIV and healthcare landscape and how to best prepare and align programing to respond to these changes.

2014 Goals: In 2014 and on, it is our goal to merge both National CBA programs under one name "Hands United" and continue to provide the high quality services to our consumers. We will utilize innovative ways to deliver services, including live webcasting; e-learning with self-paced tutorials; and convening a new technical expert group to provide our consumers with access to broad and varied expertise in the field, such as medical billing, electronic health records, and biomedical prevention implementation. Lastly, we hope to develop targeted training packages to assist our consumers and enhance their capacity in the areas of management and development, effectively and affordably expanding their HIV testing programs, and best approaches to working with those who are HIV positive.

PUENTE PARA LA SALUD (Bridge To Healthy Communities)

Puente Para La Salud is designed to reduce health disparities among Latino (LGBT) individuals, families and communities by increasing access to and quality of health and human services (HHS) targeting Latino LGBT through the provision of comprehensive capacity building assistance services to providers in New York City.

2013 Accomplishments: During 2013 Puente Para la Salud provided capacity training to a wide range of community based organizations, harm reduction programs, communities of faith and people living with

HIV/AIDS across all 5 boroughs of New York City. Trainings were customized to the needs of the over 150 participants and included topics such as HIV 101, cancer, gender identity, stigma, Hepatitis C, the new biomedical strategies for prevention, confidentiality, and HIV co-morbidities.

2014 Goals: In 2014 PPLS will focus on developing its new initiative which focuses on Latino LGBT over the age of 40. Through a needs assessment with the population we work with, we will develop new training materials to address the specific needs of Latino LGBT over the age of 40.

the Latino Commission on AIDS, Tratamiento Ahora delivered their "Looking for Positives" training in Puerto Rico, Stigma training in Baltimore, Biomedical Strategies in Fort Lauderdale and Texas, and LGBT Cultural Competency in North Carolina.

2014 Goals: The Commission will continue promoting these important training sessions for English or Spanish-speaking providers around the nation, with trainings planned in New York, Maryland, Alabama, Florida and Texas. Treatment education is a key component as a retention strategy for people to staying in care for HIV.

TRATAMIENTO AHORA (Treatment Now)

Tratamiento Ahora is an intensive one, two or three-day program offered locally, regionally, and nationally, and is the only HIV treatment education training institute conducted in Spanish for Spanish-speaking healthcare professionals, to ensure the latest advances are rapidly disseminated to the community in both Spanish and English.

2013 Accomplishments: In 2013

Tratamiento Ahora delivered 8 trainings in English and Spanish across the US and territories. The Fundamentals of HIV training was conducted in New York, North Carolina and Florida to service providers, social workers, case managers, people living with HIV, and volunteers. In collaboration with the Capacity Building Assistance Division of

JUNTOS CONSTRUYENDO (Building Together)

Juntos Construyendo fosters a New York statewide Latino Gay, Bisexual Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) Network, building leadership and capacity to promote communication and networking among Latino MSM-serving organizations and grassroots organizations in order to develop strategies on how to best serve the Latino MSM community in New York State.

2013 Accomplishments: In 2013 Juntos Construyendo (JC) developed an antihomophobia social media campaign called ¡Libérate! (Free yourself), a video-based social marketing campaign launched through social media (Tumblr, Facebook, twitter) urging the Latino community at large to let go the heavy burdens that homophobia places on them.





The campaign addresses homophobia from a different perspective; that of the consuming, draining, and overwhelming energy that arise from harboring homophobic sentiments. JC also provided various capacity enhancement opportunities and resources for organizations and groups throughout NY State. Together with Be the Generation Bridge (BTGB), the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN), JC developed a brochure to inform community at large about the topic of biomedical research. JC provided capacity enhancement services to more than 10 organizations/groups serving the Latino Gay and Bisexual Community in NYS and implemented a statewide two-day capacity building institute "Building a Strong Foundation: The Changing Landscape of HIV Prevention for MSM and Young MSM of Color" in collaboration with the New York State Taskforce on Black Gay Health, the AIDS Institute, and the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. More than 100 participants from over 40 organizations throughout the state as well as health department and AIDS institute staff participated in this training institute.

2014 Goals: In 2014 Juntos Construyendo would like to continue to enhance its social media presence through the development of campaigns aiming to raise awareness on the different issues that impact the LGBT community. Based on report and recommendations that resulted from the NYS AIDS institute; JC, together with the AIDS Institute, will engage in developing a statewide action plan to assist organizations with their transition and implementation of new approaches such as Community High Impact Prevention (CHIP), bring information

on new developments in HIV biomedical research, combination prevention toolbox, and more.

REUNIÓN LATINA TRAINING INSTITUTE

Reunion Latina is The Commission's annual Albany training institute for providers, advocates and people living with and affected by HIV&AIDS, designed to disseminate strategies for building a comprehensive approach to the healthcare needs of Latinos in New York State.

2013 Accomplishments: In 2013, Reunion Latina Institute included presentations and workshops that explore the impact of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, hepatitis and access to health care for Latinos and Latinas. While HIV&AIDS is still an issue affecting our communities, the focus now is on the management of HIV&AIDS as a chronic disease. By doing so, The Commission can provide a more realistic view and focus on the health of our communities that is reflected in our response to this disease. In 2013, Reunion Latina introduced new prevention tools such as PEP, PrEP and other biomedical interventions currently being researched.

2014 Goals: Reunion Latina will continue expanding its reach to conditions affecting Latino Communities in New York State by including information and data on viral hepatitis, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer and asthma. We will also focus on new



realities of HIV prevention and treatment, with emphasis on biomedical intervention, access to HIV testing and interventions designed to work with populations at high risk and continue to educate the community about new realities of access to health care, Medicaid redesign implementation, and the Affordable Care Act implications in our state.

LATINO RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Since 1995, the Latino Religious Leadership Program (LRLP) has engaged Latino communities of faith throughout New York City in efforts to educate the community about the realities of HIV & AIDS, and to alter community norms and attitudes toward HIV & AIDS and other health conditions. Understanding the centrality of Latino communities of faith, LRLP has promoted health education through faith-based networks as a means of preventing the spread of HIV.

2013 Accomplishments: During the 2012-2013 program year, LRLP included 27 communities of faith, representing a range of denominations and regions of the city. Participating communities of faith were required to conduct one monthly health education workshop and one annual HIV testing event. LRLP staff supported these activities by offering 4 capacity building events, 3 citywide community events, and by assisting in the coordination of the workshops and testing events as requested by the communities of faith. On their part, the communities of faith

surpassed the projected participation in their activities, holding a total of 137 workshops that reached 4,196 individuals across NYC. Though not all the communities of faith scheduled a testing event, those that did surpassed the projected target in that area as well, providing 383 HIV tests on 14 separate dates.

Several communities of faith distinguished themselves this year. Coordinators at three of the long-standing communities of faith became role models and mentors to other coordinators, sharing their strategies for community outreach. Such collaborations and member initiatives are crucial to the long-term sustainability of LRLP. As well, the attainment of CLIA waivers by Metropolitan Community Church of New York and Fordham Manor Reformed Church ensured that these congregations will be able to provide HIV testing directly to their communities. These achievements are a testament to the ways in which LRLP fosters relationships among its member congregations, and encourages their development as faith-based service providers.

2014 Goals: In the upcoming year, the Latino Religious Leadership Project will: expand outreach to new communities of faith in the NYC metropolitan area in order to expand the network of participant communities of faith; continue promoting information and activities about the innovative HIV prevention initiatives that are re-shaping HIV prevention and Testing in NYC; promote and provide Hepatitis-C testing as part of the scope of services provided by communities of faith; and expand educational services to include cardiovascular diseases and financial management.



Community Mobilization Initiatives

The Commission mobilizes Latino groups and community leaders to build broad-based consensus, and educates policymakers at all levels of government about health concerns and issues of concern to Hispanics.

NATIONAL LATINO AIDS AWARENESS DAY (NLAAD): OCTOBER 15

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD) is a community mobilization/social marketing campaign implemented at local levels, which seeks to draw attention to the critical roles that HIV testing and prevention education play in stemming the spread of HIV&AIDS in the Latino community. For the past 11 years, annually on October 15th, the Latino Commission on AIDS has partnered with local, regional, and national organizations to mobilize a broad and far-reaching consortium of community based organizations, leaders from the Latino community, city and state health departments, and elected officials. Through press conferences, health fairs, cultural celebrations, and other activities, Latinos around the country recognize the tremendous toll HIV has taken on their local and national communities and the importance of prevention and care through HIV testing. NLAAD provides local Latino AIDS organizations and organizations that serve Latinos with an important opportunity to bring attention to the conditions which facilitate the spread of HIV in their communities and the struggles faced by Latinos living with HIV/AIDS.

2013 Accomplishments: Understanding that the greatest influencing factor to get communities to act is through word of mouth, NLAAD's 2013 theme, Commit to Speak, is a call to action encouraging Latinos to discuss HIV and risk behaviors. Annually, NLAAD solidified support from over 240 partners, who together organized 113 events in 81 cities across the United States and Territories. Through a partnership with OraSure Technologies, 5,000 HIV testing kits were donated to NLAAD partners that were CLIA waived HIV testing certified sites, thus providing counseling and testing services to thousands of Latinos and allowing them to become aware of their HIV status. In addition, electronic copies of the 2013 campaign kits were distributed to partners across the country via email and our renovated website (www. nlaad.org). The morning of NLAAD, a press conference was held on the steps of New York City's City Hall. Speeches focused on topics including, the importance of becoming aware of one's HIV status, barriers Latinos/ Hispanics face in accessing healthcare, health disparities, advocacy, the new over the counter at home HIV test made available by OraSure, and the importance of collaborative support among all racial, ethnic and marginalized communities. A series of webcasts took place throughout the month leading up to NLAAD on various



topics including HIV Awareness among Latinos, Communities of Faith and Latino HIV Awareness, and Queer Latinos and HIV Awareness. Total views reached 929 individuals. Viewers were able to engage in discussion with panelists through Twitter, while also serving as a means to increase discussion on social media.

2014 Goals: In 2014 NLAAD is working to increase participation with local traditional and nontraditional partners, encourage collaborations to maximize resources and increase impact, and ensure that local community members continue to respond to our efforts to diminish HIV in our Latino/ Hispanic communities.

Stanton of Phoenix, Arizona; Mayor John P. Seiler of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Mayor Rahm Emanuel of Chicago, Illinois; and Governor Tom Corbett of Pennsylvania. In addition to various teleconferences and webinars, NHHAD hosted its first bilingual Twitter Chat on Latinos and Viral Hepatitis.

2014 Goals: In 2014, The Commission will expand NHHAD participation across the country and secure new strategic resources to launch a major Hispanic hepatitis initiative in New York State. We aim to test more than 100 people for Hepatitis C and see more than 50 get vaccinated for Hepatitis A & B.

NATIONAL HISPANIC HEPATITIS AWARENESS DAY (NHAAD): May 15

National Hispanic Hepatitis Awareness Day (NHHAD) is a national community mobilization and social marketing campaign taking place annually on May 15th to draw attention to the critical roles that viral hepatitis awareness, prevention, testing, treatment education, and referral-to-care play in stemming the spread of hepatitis in Hispanic communities.

2013 Accomplishments: In its second year, NHHAD welcomed over 200 participants and received proclamations from Mayor Bloomberg of New York City; Mayor Grey



Latino Health Advocacy

The Commission builds collaborations across party lines to meet the needs of our constituents and educates policymakers at the federal, state and local levels.

NEW YORK STATE LATINO AIDS ADVOCACY NETWORK

2013 Accomplishments: In March 2013, advocates from across the state traveled to Albany to participate in the 3rd annual New York State Latino AIDS Advocacy Day. Advocates attended over 30 meetings with elected officials from both parties in the Assembly and Senate, as well as a meeting with staff of the New York AIDS Institute to brainstorm priorities for issues affecting HIV, AIDS, and HCV.

Additionally, the Network hosted the first annual legislative briefing titled "Addressing the Impact of HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis, and other Health Challenges for Hispanics in New York State", co-chaired by the Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force and the NYS Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Caucus. Result of this meeting was a brief that outlines changes in the Hispanic population across the state, new data on the impact of HIV, AIDS, and HCV, and the implementation of Health Care Reform in the state. Representatives from the network highlighted the need for the state to renew their leadership in the HIV/ AIDS epidemic, particularly when it comes to new models for health care delivery, new innovations for HIV prevention, and the needs of Latino immigrants.

2014 Goals: In 2014, the New York State Latino AIDS Advocacy Network will rebrand itself as the New York State Latino Health Network and continue working with elected officials, health department officials, and community leaders to address health disparities affecting the Latino community, including HIV, AIDS, HCV, and other health conditions.

NEW YORK CITY AIDS ADVOCACY NETWORK

2013 Accomplishments: As part of the New York City Latino LGBTQ Network, the Commission led the effort in releasing a list of priorities and recommendations to New York City Mayoral Candidates to address the needs of the Latino LGBTQ community in New York City. In addition to underlying infrastructural problems and different issues that result from continued homophobia, transphobia, stigma, and discrimination in NYC, the document presents effective solutions the Mayoral Candidates should consider if elected into office.

2014 Goals: The Advocacy department will continue raising the voice of Latino gay men in New York City and increase the focus on Latino health disparities in all five boroughs.

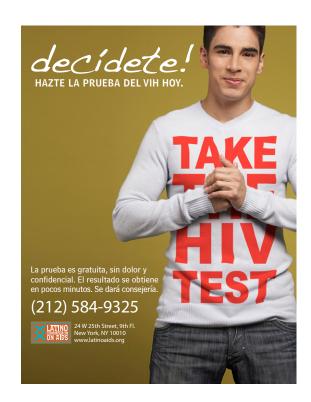


HIV & Hepatitis Testing & Access to Care

The Latino Commission on AIDS' Testing and Access to Care programs provide free services to high risk individuals to find out their HIV and/or Hepatitis C status and be placed into medical care.

2013 Accomplishments: This year the Commission was recognized as CTR-High Achievers by the NYSDOH/AIDS Institute in Albany, for linking the highest number of HIV+ individuals into medical care within their first 30 days of diagnosis. We provided 1,414 HIV testing, 217 Hepatitis C testing and counseling services at the Commission, as well as in the community at colleges, food pantries, senior centers, gay bars, substance abuse treatment programs, Walgreen/ Duane Reade pharmacies, and churches throughout the five boroughs of NYC. In 2013 we identified 18 new HIV cases and linked a total of 21 HIV+ individuals to medical care. We provided HIV testing and HIV prevention workshops to hundreds of Latino/African American gay men, college students, and to approximately 100 seniors at 10 senior centers city-wide. We provided workshops on STIs, Hepatitis C, and HIV/Substance Abuse to over 600 individuals in substance abuse treatment centers. LIM College, a valued partner of the Commission in reaching youth in NYC, supported our work this year during their World AIDS Day Fashion Show. Our partnership with LIM College has made it possible to reach their staff, students, and community in regards to HIV prevention/ testing.

2014 Goals: The Commission's goal for this year is to continue to engage the community city-wide to provide them with free HIV and Hepatitis C testing, and to link as many newly diagnosed individuals into care services.





Health Promotion and Prevention Programs

MUJERES UNIDAS (Women United)

Mujeres Unidas (Women United) is an adaptation of the evidence-based WILLOW intervention (Women Involved in Life Learning from Other Women) model for providing educational and support group sessions for women living with HIV&AIDS. This program provides them with ongoing supports and primary/secondary prevention programming to increase their condom use and knowledge about other STDs.

2013 Accomplishments: In 2013 Mujeres Unidas graduated a total of 60 women across 6 cycles conducted in both English and Spanish. The primary benefit for Latina women is the support network they create through sharing stories of their lives and listening to women going through similar situations as themselves.

2014 Goals: The Commission will continue our innovative program to provide HIV+ women a safe space and to seek ways to eliminate barriers to their participation such as childcare.

PARA AYUDAR (To Help)

Para Ayudar provides education on risk reduction and prevention through individual sessions around the use of alcohol or other drugs. We also offer referrals to other agencies for medical, legal, and social needs. Our target population is Latino Spanish speaking immigrants who are part of the gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

2013 Accomplishments: Para Ayudar served 207 new clients, providing 382 individual counseling sessions and 35 referrals to complement and address needs identified by our clients. Our peer educators successfully completed more than 400 hours of outreach. At the community level, our intervention spread awareness regarding alcohol abuse and drug consumption through use of social media such as Facebook and YouTube; bilingual flyers and posters; and conducting workshops.

SOMOS HOMBRES

Somos Hombres is a group-level behavioral intervention adapted for Latino Gay/Bi men from Many Men, Many Voices (3MV) which attempts to reduce HIV and sexually transmitted disease (STD) risk behaviors and increase related health-promotion behaviors among Latino men who have sex with men (MSM). The goal of Somos Hombres is to promote changes that reduce HIV and STD risk and encourage health-promotion behaviors among Latino Gay/Bi men. The intervention focuses on helping participants to better understand the social and behavioral determinants that put Latino gay men at increased risk for HIV and other STDs.



2013 Accomplishments: During 2013 Somos Hombres ran 7 cycles, reaching a total of 54 Latino MSM between 18-45 years of age. Participants benefited from group session, which provides a wide range of resources, and were connected to additional support services. The program objectives are to positively influence participants' identity, values, and self-standards as Latino gay/bi men; increase their perception of personal susceptibility to HIV and STwDs; increate their knowledge of STDs and the interrelationships between STDs and HIV; increase knowledge of risk-reduction and health-promotion behaviors, and Intentions to reduce their risk and adopt health-promotion behaviors.

2014 Goals: In 2014 Somos Hombres will continue to reach out to the Latino Gay/Bi community to reduce risky behaviors and positively influence participants to promote a health community.

MPOWERMENT PROJECT / LATINOS D

Mpowerment is a peer and network based community level intervention that seeks to reduce new HIV infections among youngadult Gay Latinos and uses a combination of informal and formal outreach, discussion groups, creation of safe spaces, social opportunities, and social marketing to reach a broad range of HIV+ and HIV- gay and bisexual men between the ages of 20 and 35 who are sexually active. This initiative places

particular emphasis on reaching out to recentlyarrived immigrants and migrant workers who are monolingual or Spanish-language dominant.

2013 Accomplishments: During 2013, the program recruited more than 390 new, unduplicated clients through educational and social events, conducted 16 educational sessions and organized 15 socials events attended by 960 people. The leadership team has more than 50 volunteers between core group members and volunteers. The Mr. Latinos D Contest has become a major community event (gathering 450-500 attendees at the October 24 forth annual event), the Annual Retreat in December of 70 Latino gay men, and the Dimension D educational magazine have become valued community resource.

The highlight of the program year has become our annual Mr. Latinos D Pageant, which gathers 450-500 attendees annually. This event brings together young Latino gay and bisexual men to represent their Latin American country of origin in a judged competition of beauty, talent, creativity, leadership and knowledge about HIV. The Contestants and volunteers work for months to prepare this event in order to spread knowledge and awareness in the community about stigma, homophobia and HIV. The winner of the contest is crowned King and is designated that year's ambassador to educate and promote testing and awareness about the importance of prevention for HIV and STIs.

2014 Goals: The Commission will develop creative new ways to continue this needed program for building community, visibility and leadership among the LGBT Latino community.

Research and Evaluation

INSTITUTE FOR HISPANIC HEALTH EQUITY

The Hispanic Behavioral Research Center (HBRC) amplifies the diverse voices of the Hispanic communities to improve health outcomes through research, evaluation, education and community networks. Our goals are to 1) increase the amount and quality of research that puts the experience of Latinos at the forefront; 2) heighten the use of analytic and evidence-driven policy and programming; and 3) empower the community to use research as an effective mobilization tool.

2013 Accomplishments: The HBCR has made key accomplishments in each of its core areas: research, evaluation, education and training, and community connections. For the past two years, we have been collaborating on a research study looking at how HIV criminalization and immigration laws impact how Latinos in North Carolina and Tennessee access and utilize healthcare, particularly for HIV prevention and treatment. In July 2013, HBRC presented the intersection between HIV prevention and psychology at the American Psychological Association Annual Conference. Additionally a forthcoming manuscript was developed with our partners assessing the HIV workforce knowledge and attitudes on biomedical prevention and HIV treatment; results from this research will be disseminated broadly and fuel forthcoming capacity building assistance services. Throughout the year, HBRC collaborated with the Capacity Building Assistance Division and other partners on a series of town hall meetings to educate and build the capacity of Latino communities around biomedical HIV prevention and clinical trials. Six town hall meetings were held across the country impacting 350 attendees.

We also improved our community dissemination through creating a blog in which we have posted nearly 100 posts with 5,302 views and 80 comments. The HBCR has established key partnerships with a shared vision of providing an analytic and evidence-driven perceptive on matters of programming and policy impacting the Latino community. In 2013, we collaborated with community based organizations, universities and research centers, and corporations, including Entre Hermanos, The Pride Center at Equality Park, Congreso, GALAEI, University of North Carolina, El Centro Hispano, New York University, The Center for Latino Family and Adolescent Health, Psychology Coalition at the United Nations, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Black AIDS Institute, National Association of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, Medical College of Wisconsin, Duke University, and Janssen Therapeutics.

2014 Goals: In the coming year, the HBCR will increase its work in several areas strategic to addressing our mission to fight the spread of HIV&AIDS in the Latino community, particularly in these times of change. Key areas for 2014 include the release of key publications and concurring events that highlight diverse Latino experiences in the US, particularly around health care, prevention, policy and society.



Audited Financials

For the years ended June 30	2013	2012
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 90,346	\$ 10,970
Receivables - Governmental/Other Contracts	511,144	577,532
Pledges Receivable	229,358	124,520
Security Deposit	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	19,085	41,260
Fixed Assets	11,986	17,555
Total assets	\$ 861,919	\$ 771,837
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 423,283	\$ 519,322
Accrued Salaries and Related Benefits	112,407	100,151
Line of Credit Payable	97,379	99,291
Due to Fiscal Conduits	-	-
Contract - Advance Payments	178,777	20,837
Unrestricted Net Assets	50,073	32,236
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 861,837	\$ 771,837



Conclusion

In 2014, the Latino Commission on AIDS will continue providing national, regional, and local leadership regarding the unique healthcare, social service and community health needs of Hispanics/Latinos and other disenfranchised communities. With your loyal and steadfast support, we are able to meet the challenges ahead through innovative and groundbreaking programs that address the evolving needs of our constituents.

In 2014 the Latino Commission on AIDS will continue to take the lead on innovative initiatives, program integration, and fostering strategic partnerships in order to attain our ambitious goals and secure the resources necessary to support our groundbreaking work.

It will be a challenging year and there will be key issues that we must carefully monitor. These include: how the new NYC administration will define their commitment to address the impact of HIV&AIDS in our communities and the allocation of resources to confront health disparities and access to health care for Hispanics/Latinos; the continued implementation of statelevel anti-immigrant legislation, especially in the Southern region of the United States; individual states' implementation of healthcare reform in the context of confronting health disparities among racial and ethnic communities; the 2014 New York State Gubernatorial election along with the midterm elections at the Federal level, with special engagements to support the goals of the end of AIDS campaign in New York State. Your support equips us with the tools to: mobilize community leaders, policymakers and other stakeholders; to inform regarding HIV, AIDS, other health policies and decisionmaking; give a voice to local leaders and communities; create sustainable and innovative partnerships to meet the health challenges of underserved and marginalized populations in the face of continued funding restraints and service reductions; sustain our presence in Puerto Rico and the Southern region of the United States; continue providing services and support focused on Latino Gay men, along with young African American Gay men, who are the most impacted with new HIV infections.

We recognize that the most important part of the Latino Commission on AIDS is the collaborative way we conduct our work, facilitating our ability to convene diverse partners and supporters. We remain committed to our mission and strategic vision. By working together, we will continue to provide leadership to address the changing health needs and challenges of our communities to move forward to design a world without AIDS.

United We Can!

unidos podemos!



