PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The Latino community has deep religious and spiritual roots. We turn to religious leaders for guidance in times of crisis and need. Because HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis and STIs have impacted the lives of tens of thousands of Hispanic/Latinos and their loved ones, it is of critical importance that our spiritual leaders play an active and visible role in addressing the health challenges in our communities.

Since its beginning in 1996, The Latino Religious Leadership Program (LRLP) has established itself as a catalyst for providing health promotion, education and capacity building amongst Latino communities of faith.

The LRLP has partnered with faith based communities to develop health ministries where congregants lead health promotion activities with local community partners and enable them to provide education, support, and culturally responsive health related services. Similarly, the LRLP educates religious leaders on the importance of health screenings, resources and referrals for key social services to reach health equity.

LRLP has provided capacity building services to churches and congregations to allow them to become sustainable.

The Latino Religious Leadership Program customizes and tailors trainings, mentoring and activities to each faith community to develop or enhance health ministries. The program also organizes events that includes educational workshops, health fairs, lectures and religious services focused on health issues.

ACTIVITIES:

- Health promotion Initiatives around HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, Cancer, mental health, substance use, and other health related issues
- Latino AIDS Memorial on World AIDS Day
- Latino Religious Leadership Capacity Building Institute
- Anti-Stigma Training Institute

The Latinos Religious Leadership Program is a joint-program of the Latino Commission on AIDS & the Hispanic Health Network.