



**City of Bloomington
Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs**

**Wednesday, September 24th, 2025 @ 5:30-7:00 PM
Public Meeting Hooker Conference Room**

MINUTES

Attendance: Mariella Arredondo, Raquel Anderson, Claudia Lara, Marlo Libel, Javier Rosales, Jimena Holguín y Gabriela Puscama.

Absent: Dinorah Sapp y José Fuentes.

Staff Liaison: Ximena Martinez

I. Call to order at 5:32 PM

II. Approval of August's meeting minutes: Approved

III. Guests/Public Comment

- **Isak Asare**, Council Member (not present)
- **Courtney Daily**, Council Member
 - Thinking of ways to collaborate with CHLA and the Latino community (Jimena)
 - Discussed her concerns re: pressure on DEI; discussed the pressures within the city; indicated that she wants to support our work.
 - Ximena described the holiday assistance program, its importance for the community, and how it was conducted
 - Discussion ensued
 - Also, a discussion of CHLA and its advocacy
 - Courtney indicated that starting next year, there will be a liaison for each city commission.
- **Miguel Avila**, Indiana Aid
 - Passed out flyers from Indiana Aid and explained the organization and what they do (support individuals detained by ICE). Described the history of the program.

IV. LIAISON REPORT

- A. Fiesta del Otoño:** Thank you
- B. CHLA tag names:** recollect from Javier
- C. Invitation made to Sheriff Marte for workshop:** Ximena will contact to identify dates and times for the workshop; Ximena, Gabriela, and Raquel will coordinate
- D. Invitation to OOTM and MCCSC Superintendent (see below – education):** Proposed by Marlo that she give us a date, and we will work around it.
- E. Next Meeting:** October 24th
- F. Elections for Chair, ViceChair, and Secretary:** October meeting

V. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Education: Raquel, Dinorah, Mariella

- Address counselor BHSS
- Organize informational sessions with high school students and parents regarding college

- The letter to the superintendent was signed as CHLA, mailed, and emailed. This has been answered. She has been invited to reconnect with the CHLA through the monthly meetings.
- **Raquel** will reconnect with Dr. Markay Winston's Communication Director. She also sent the letters via messages to the schools, but answers had not been received.
- **Mariella** drafted the response for the disaggregated data request.
- **Mariella** informed re: results of the letter to the superintendent (from prior meeting). She was invited to come to the commission. Mariella also explained that we are here to help.
- **Javier** talked about what is happening at Fairview.

B. Health Services: Marlo, Jimena, Claudia

- Interpretation and translation within the health care providers, especially IU Health
- Access to Medical Interpretation - survey
- The **Mental Health Forum** follow-up and workshops.
 - In the forum, the action point was to have workshops for the community in Spanish. Themes were identified, and the list was sent to the care providers; no one has responded. Ximena recommends we just go for it. CHLA agreed. The first workshop will be done by **Claudia** and will take place in October. **The Health Subcommittee will be meeting at times and dates.**
 - Also, the possibility to develop follow-up sessions with the agencies (health and mental health)

C. Public Relations: Javier, Mariella, Jimena

- **Foro Latino de Agencias** – Organize quarterly meetings with community agencies.
- **Informational/welcome sessions** twice a year covering transportation, safety, housing, health, and education. Potential locations include MCPL, CCL, churches, and Adult Educational Centers.
- Issue of sustainability – develop materials – informational
- Community Plan re: immigration realities

D. Fundraising: Marlo, Raquel, tabled

E. Updates from prior meetings:

- **Holiday Assistance Program:** Written letters by Claudia and Mariella to be sent to the admin and City Council. Jimena suggested we draft a letter and send it to our supporters. Jimena will draft one and send it around to CHLA members with a timeline.

VI. ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

VI. ADJOURNMENT at: 7:00 PM