



City Of Bloomington Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 6:00 PM Zoom Public Meeting MINUTES

The Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs (CHLA) works to identify and research the issues which impact the Hispanic and Latino populations in Bloomington, especially in the areas of health, education, public safety and cultural competency. CHLA responsibilities include: developing action committees, promote positive remedies for issues confronting Latinos, network with like-minded organizations, and celebrate Latino and Hispanic history and contributions to the Bloomington Community.

In Attendance: Amy Oakley, Dario Baez, Gavin Everett, Francisco Ruiz, Luis Fuentes-Rohwer, Nico Sigler, Josefa Luce, Ivan Maceda, Ruben Marte

Also in Attendance: Norma Landgraff

I. Approval of minutes- April 2020

- i. Nico motions to approve the minutes; Ruben seconds. April 2020 minutes passed

II. Liaison Report-

- i. Still trying to get funding for El Centro for members of the community who do not qualify for any kind of assistance.

III. Current business

a. Health and Public Safety Report

- i. There is a new site for COVID testing through the state and the county health department. It should be open this week, but Shelley has not been able to confirm it. The site is run by Optum. I have heard from colleagues in Indy that it is very difficult to navigate for non English speakers and you need a computer to complete the application. I will try to do some more investigating to confirm this.
- ii. HealthNet has received funding from the County Health Department to help pay for prenatal care for individuals who do not qualify for insurance. They will be required to apply for Emergency Medicaid which will pay for the delivery. They will need to complete an application for assistance through the HealthNet Foundation. HealthNet staff can help the patient if needed and we can get them the application.
- iii. The HealthNet Foundation has created a fund for HealthNet patients who need assistance in paying for co-pays either with HealthNet or specialists they have been referred to. They can get the application at the clinic and we can help them complete it if needed. This fund came from a donation from the VIM clinic when they closed. HealthNet continues to raise funds to help support the patients who do not qualify for any insurance. These include our Spanish speaking patients and other immigrants. We hope that this will help anyone who is concerned about their healthcare debts.
- iv. We continue to have concerns about patients who are not working and their unwillingness to reach out for help. There also seems to be some concerns about children returning to school...or not returning to school.

b. Cultural Competency

- i. Letter from CHLA re: Federal Stimulus Package Decision – Make sure to verify if the payment is coming. The IRS has established a hotline so that people can call and see where there stimulus check is or why they may not be eligible. We can utilize the Latino Outreach program, and other news avenues. Ivan, Nico, and Luis will spearhead this effort



c. Education-

i. CHLA Awards: Post-pone decision about date and location until June meeting

IV. Additional Items

i. Introduction of new members appointed to the commission: Norma Landraff, Dario Baez, and Francisco Ruiz

ii. Link for COVID-19 testing: <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>

V. Guests/Public Comment (Please allow 3-5 minutes per guest)

VI. Adjournment meeting adjourned at 6:54pm

Next meeting June 24, 2020 @ 5:30pm-7:00pm