



Kansas Hispanic & Latino American Affairs Commission



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Volume I, Issue VI

April– May 2012

A Letter from Executive Director Adrienne Foster

We celebrated the 2012 Hispanic Day on the Hill on March 1. The day was a great opportunity for policy-makers in Topeka and the community to gather together and share and learn from each other. The Hispanic community has needs that are impacted daily by the decisions taken by the legislature. The legislature tries to understand those needs and create policies that will impact our daily lives in a positive way. As a community member, it is important for you to understand how the legislature works so you can have a voice when laws are created. The best tool we have as a community is education. If we know and understand how the legislature works, how they develop laws and who they are, the stronger impact the Hispanic community can make. During this event, the participants were able to learn about the following topics:

- Learned more about laws/policies that affect the Hispanic Community
 - Had the opportunity to meet with your own legislature
 - Received the tools that enabled them to communicate with impact with the legislature
- During the Hispanic Day on the Hill, we discussed a number of issues that affect Hispanics in the legislature right now such as the economy, the job market, education and immigration.

It doesn't matter what political affiliation you have, we all have a common goal to create a better Kansas for all. If you attended the Hispanic Day at the Hill and want to share your feedback, or would like to participate in any of the upcoming meetings and events from KHLAAC, please email khlac@ks.gov.

Sincerely,
Adrienne Foster

Please help shape the future of transportation in Kansas! The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is currently doing a study of the Intercity Bus System in the state. Intercity bus service refers to the long-distance bus service provided by carriers such as Greyhound, Los Pisanos, and Prestige's Bee Line. As a part of the study, a survey is being conducted. The survey can be accessed at: <http://heartlandmarketresearch.com/surveys/kdotesp1.htm>

Current Kansas Board Openings

If you are interested in serving on a board and would like more information, please contact: Kim Borchers, Governor's Director of Appointments at **785.368.7321** or by email kim.borchers@ks.gov.

- Kansas Advisory Group of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (6)
- Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (1)
- Kansas Commission of Disability Concerns (1)
- Kansas Dealer Review Board (1)
- Kansas Historical Records Advisory Board (3)
- Kansas Home Inspectors Registration Board (1)
- Persian Gulf War Veterans Health Initiative Board (3)
- Physical Assistant Council (1)
- Real Estate Appraisal Board (1)
- State Historic Sites Board of Review (5)
- State Rehabilitation Council (11)
- Advisory Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs (1)
- Respiratory Care Council (5)
- Kansas Agricultural Remediation Board (1)
- Kansas Lottery Commission (1)
- Kansas State Fair Board (3)
- Kansas Volunteer Commission (4)
- State Banking Board (3)
- University of Kansas Hospital Authority (3)
- Board of Pharmacy (2)
- Kansas Board of Barbering (2)
- Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (4)
- Kansas Dental Board (3)
- Kansas Real Estate Commission (1)
- Emergency Medical Service Board (1)

Hispanic Day on the Hill

The Hispanic Day on the Hill was celebrated on March 1. During this event, attendees learned about the legislature, how a bill becomes a law in Kansas, went on tours at the Capitol and learned more about the local government. In the afternoon Dr. Diane DeBacker, Commissioner Kansas State Department of Education spoke about the ways to close the gap in education (see more information on page 4). Brandon Skidmore, Deputy



Bureau Director Kansas Department of Health and Environment – Bureau of Health Promotion and

Dr. Ghazala Perveen, Health Officer, Kansas Department of Health and Environment – Bureau of Health Promotion spoke about health in Kansas. They shared how chronic diseases are drivers of poor health and mortality among the members of the Hispanic and Latino Community.



Later Monica Brede, Economic Development Representative Kansas Department of Commerce– Office

of Minority and Women Business Development spoke about the Kansas Statewide

Certification Program. This certification helps businesses work with companies that require for their vendors/providers to be minorities or women-owned businesses (see page 3 for more details about the certification). Attendees also learned about the new voter identification requirements. For the coming elections, voters will need a valid form of photographic identification. There are new requirements that all eligible voters need to meet.

To learn more, visit www.gotVoterID.com.

Hispanic and Latino Health Highlights in Kansas

- In Kansas, diabetes prevalence is strongly associated with race and ethnicity, in 2010 nearly 13% of Hispanic Kansans had doctor diagnosed diabetes
- Chronic diseases are fueled by modifiable risk factors—primarily tobacco use, physical inactivity and poor diet
- Over one third of the Hispanic population in Kansas is obese
- 2 out of 5 Hispanic Kansans do not get the recommended levels of physical activity and 4 out of 5 do not meet the minimum requirements for fruit and vegetable consumption
- Hispanic adolescents in Kansas have not been immune to these trends; nearly 13% of Hispanic adolescents are obese and nearly a third smoke cigarettes
- Working through public/private partnerships, efforts are underway in Kansas to impact chronic disease
- Finney County implemented a downtown wellness program, put into place a Farmers Market for ready access to fresh fruits and vegetables and developed a map of local walking and biking trails
- Public health is working with Kansas communities to put in place supports for providers and their patients – examples include Tomando Control de su Salud (Taking Control of your Health), a chronic disease self management program, the Tobacco Quit Line for public use (in both telephone and web versions) with quit coaches fluent in Spanish, and Early Detection Works, a breast and cervical cancer screening program for women who meet program eligibility requirements and enrollment operators who speak Spanish and can assist Spanish callers determine their eligibility for the program

Source: Kansas Department of Health and Environment– Bureau of Health Promotion

Valid Forms of Photographic Identification

Be prepared to vote in the 2012 elections. Kansas law has changed. All registered voters will be required to present a photo identification (ID). Some of the valid forms of ID.

- A driver's license or nondriver's identification card issued by Kansas or by another state or district of the United States
- A concealed carry of handgun license issued by Kansas or a concealed carry of handgun or weapon license issued by another state or district of the United States
- United States passport
- An employee badge or identification document issued by a municipal, county, state or federal government office
- A military identification document issued by the United States
- A student identification card issued by an accredited postsecondary institution of education in the state of Kansas
- A public assistance identification card issued by a municipal, county, state or federal government office.

For more information visit: www.gotVoterID.com
Source: www.gotVoterID.com

Internship Opportunities

KHLAAC is looking for a Summer Intern and Fall Intern – All interested applicants need to complete an application below:

<http://governor.ks.gov/serving-kansans/governor's-office-internship-program>

The Kansas Statewide Certification Program

The Kansas statewide Certification Program (KSCP) is a joint effort between the Department of Transportation, Office of Civil Rights, and the Department of Commerce, Office of Minority and Women Business Development.

To be eligible as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) an applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. The disadvantaged owner must be a citizen of the United States or have been lawfully admitted as a permanent U.S. resident.
2. The firm must meet USDOT size standards, be independent, be viable and be for profit.
3. The business must be at least 51% owned and controlled by a socially and economically disadvantaged person. Economic disadvantage is a personal net worth under \$750,000 excluding equity in the applicant business and the disadvantaged owner's primary residence.

The complete application must be signed, notarized, and returned with the required supporting documentation. The applicant will be notified via letter of the certification acceptance or denial. If accepted, the certification is valid for three years with annual updates required. Businesses that are certified will be listed in a directory of DBEs. The certification under this program does not guarantee that you will receive additional business or contracts.

Mail the complete application and required documents to either offices listed:

Doria Watson
Kansas Department of Transportation
Office of Civil Rights
700 SW Harrison Street, 3rd Floor
Topeka, KS 66603
785.296.7940

Or

Rhonda Harris
Kansas Department of Commerce
Office of Minority and Women Business Development
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 100
Topeka, KS 66612
785.296.5298

Closing the Gap in Education

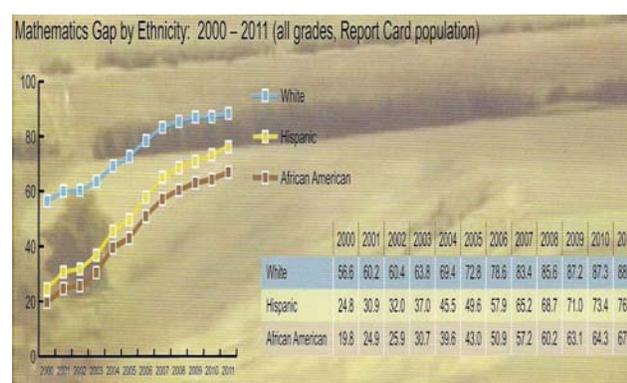
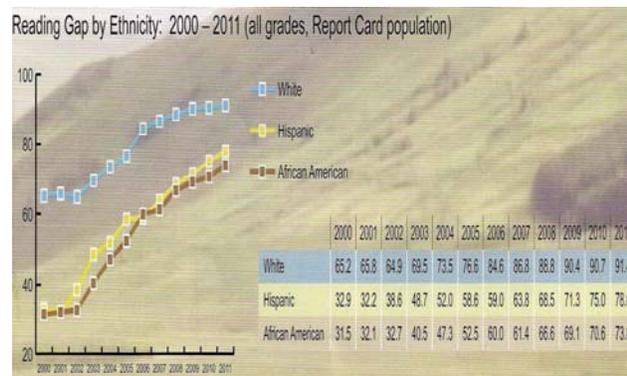
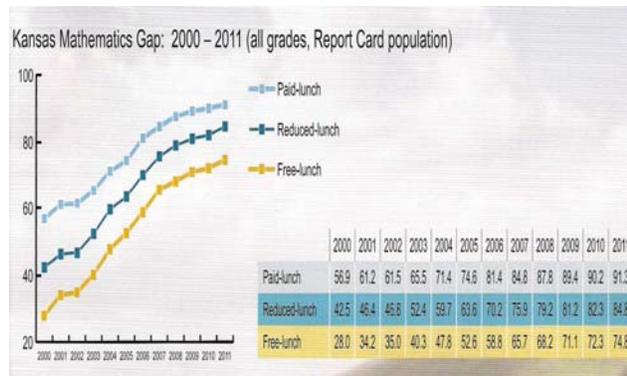
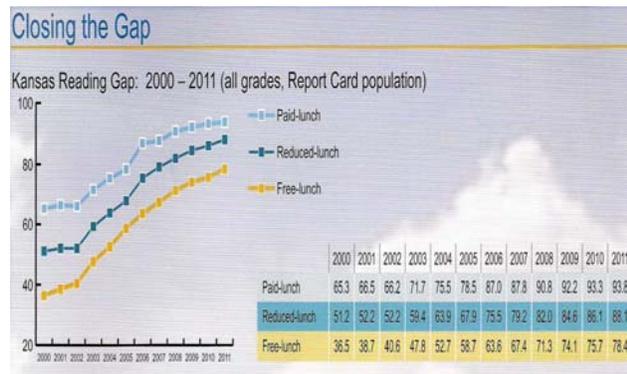
Kansas saw several changes during the 2010-2011 school year. One of the changes was the implementation of the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics by the State Board of Education. The Board's action put Kansas on the path to implementing standards aligned with college and career-ready expectations, helping to ensure all Kansas students are ready for their next step following high school graduation.

"I am extremely proud of the progress Kansas students have made on our state assessments. At the same time, I'm troubled by a persistent achievement gap among our minority populations and between our advantaged and disadvantaged students. We have closed the gap considerably over the past decade, but we can and must continue to focus our efforts on eliminating the disparities that still exist" said Dr. Diane DeBacker, Kansas Commissioner of Education.

The goal is to prepare students and ensure they leave high school prepared for success in both college and career. Kansas continues to perform well compared to other states, but the percentage of Kansas students achieving ACT college readiness benchmarks is still too low.

Another important change is the state accountability system and school accreditation model. The model that will be used needs to be fair to schools and results in focus on effective instruction that leads to college and career readiness for all Kansas students by the time they leave high school. The key is keeping children in school. Reducing the dropout rate is a top priority. This will be accomplished by creating a safe and productive environment for students at all levels, as well as creating materials relevant to their lives.

Source: Kansas Accountability Report. Education Summary 2010-2011. Kansas State Department of Education. January 2012.



Community Champions



Isabel Gutierrez's family moved to Kansas City from Juarez, Mexico, when she was 15 years old; her family was searching for a better future and education for the whole family. She is a strong advocate for the Hispanic community. She was hired by Olathe District Schools to work with School Plus, a program designed for afterschool care in which a large number of Hispanic children attended whose parents' first language is Spanish. After a year in the school district, Isabel was hired to work with Parents as Teachers to provide

bilingual services to parents of children ages birth to 3 years old.

Currently Isabel works for the Olathe Public Schools' Parents as Teachers (Padres Como Maestros) program. She also works at Shawnees Mission Medical Center at the child care center and as a Baby-sitting instructor.

Isabel has great knowledge and experience working with Hispanic families as well as the Anglo families who are parenting their children. One of the things Isabel has learned through the years of working with families is that the need of parenting knowledge does not discriminate and has no language barriers. Because all parents have the same needs and wants for their children, they want the best, but at times they might not have the tools to get to their goals.

Her motivation to work with families has always been to partner with parents and encourage positive day to day interactions building strong social/emotional bonds with their children. When parents learn about the stages of development their infant or toddler experience, they can provide appropriate experiences needed for later school and life success. Sharing this knowledge also empowers the parents to be the primary authority in their child's life by providing love, security and designing their educational future. An area in which all parents need knowledge and understanding is Discipline. Discipline, "to teach", is about teaching self-control, understanding their child's development needs, and learning about their environment and relationships. Often, people treat their children the same way their parents treated them. A new way of positive, nurturing parenting can be learned and put into practice. Parents need to talk and establish a relationship with their children day in and day out.

Isabel believes that Parents as Teachers is a great program that can meet those needs our parents might have by serving one family at a time and empowering them with the knowledge of early childhood education. However, there are not enough funds to meet every family's need in their native language. Our community faces many barriers - not only language, but also low-income - and lacks the resources to help guide their children in a more positive and educational way. Most of our community do not own a computer or have a way to transport them to the library. Parents as Teachers is a key resource so parent educators can become an educational support and guide to our community. Providing more parenting classes in their neighborhoods and in their language will bring more knowledge and positive experiences for others. "Knowledge is power. Empowering our Hispanic parents will bring and create a better future for them and for their children" said Isabel.

New Health Resource

The Ventanilla de Salud (The Health Window) is a joint program with the Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center. The purpose of this program is to facilitate access to healthcare to Mexican immigrants and, create a culture of prevention, information and participation that will prevent illness, improving their health and provide them better lives. This program is supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Minority Health Region VII. The objectives of this program are:

- Create awareness of the public health programs.
- Improve the health of the Mexican population and their families.
- Reduce the use of the emergency room.
- Educate the population about health prevention topics, and become the one source for health education in the area.

Services

- Referral to clinics and hospitals where people can attend that are low cost
- Health education and advice on the top health issues
- Information, assistance with application and/or renovation of public health programs for those who are eligible, especially for children and pregnant women

Other Services

- Nutrition program referral
- Health fairs and other public health programs

For more information contact the Mexican Consulate at 816.556.0800.

Source: <http://portal.sre.gob.mx/kansascity/index.php?option=displaypage&Itemid=115&op=page&SubMenu=>

KANSAS MINORITY HEALTH SUMMIT



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Registration

9:00 a.m.

Health and Fitness

9:45 a.m.

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program

10:30 a.m.

**Tomando Control de su Salud
(Taking Control of Your Health)**

11:15 a.m.

Break and Lunch

11:30 a.m.

Oral Health

12:15 p.m.

Early Detection Works

1:15 p.m.

Creation Health Presentation

2:00 p.m. **Conclusion**



APRIL 18, 2012 • 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Shawnee Mission Medical Center

9100 West 74th Street, Merriam, KS

Conference Room: Shawnee Mission Room

The Kansas Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission in collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Bureau of Health Promotions and the Center for Health Equity invite you to attend the Kansas Minority Health Summit. The focus of the event is on prevention, self-management and lifestyle modification as they relate to Arthritis, Cancer, Oral Health and Diabetes. Such subjects include but are not limited to pre-diabetes, diabetes and lifestyle modification to prevent and manage diabetes.



For more information please contact the KHLAAC at (785)296.3465 or khlac@ks.gov. Register online at www.khlac.ks.gov by April 18, 2012



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11:30 a.m.

Oral Health

12:30 p.m.

Early Detection Works

1:15 p.m.

Summary of Day

2:00 p.m.

Conclusion

APRIL 20, 2012 • 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Garden City Community College

801 Campus Drive, Garden City, KS

Conference Room: Beth Tedrow Student Center

The Kansas Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission in collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health & Environment, Bureau of Health Promotions and the Center for Health Equity invite you to attend the Kansas Minority Health Summit. The focus of the event is on prevention, self-management and lifestyle modification as they relate to Arthritis, Cancer, Oral Health and Diabetes. Such subjects include but are not limited to pre-diabetes, diabetes and lifestyle modification to prevent and manage diabetes.



For more information please contact the KHLAAC at (785)296.3465 or khlac@ks.gov. Register online at www.khlac.ks.gov by April 18, 2012.

Cavalcade to Strengthen the Community



The Cavalcade is set for September 18, 2012. The event is promoted by Palomino Ranch with support from Kansas Secretary of Commerce Pat George and local businesses.

Omar Lopez, owner of the Palomino Ranch, expect more than 500 participants for this event. The cavalcade is a five-hour journey that starts with a chuck wagon breakfast at 8 a.m. in Cimarron and follow a country road to the Palomino Ranch and continues through the day and end at the Dodge City Fiesta. The event is for the entire community.

Source: http://www.dodgeglobe.com/news/x2125235068/New-event-to-honor-200th-anniversary-of-Mexican-independence?zc_p=1

Commission Meetings

Date: May 11, 2012
Time: 8:30 a.m.-noon
Location: 900 SW Jackson 2nd floor,
Topeka Kan.
For more information contact
khlaac@ks.gov.

The KHLAAC Newsletter is sent by email bi-monthly and printed twice a year.

Subscribe to the KHLAAC bi-monthly publication by sending an email to khlaac@ks.gov or by visiting www.khlaac.ks.gov

For employment opportunities visit www.khlaac.ks.gov If you would like to advertise your open positions please email

Calendar of Events

Kansas CDFI Forum

When: May 22, 2012 - 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Where: Jack Reardon Convention Center, 520 Minnesota, Kansas City, KS 63101

Contact: Dorothy Brown at 816-234-8084

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Housing Assistance Council, NeighborWorks and the U.S. Department of Treasury's Community Development Financial Institution Fund – a forum to promote partnerships with Community Development Financial Institutions.

Kansas Cavalry Encampment Awards Ceremony

When: Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Where: K-State Alumni Center in Manhattan, KS

Contact: Krista Mellen 785-296-7911

Dodge City Roundup Rodeo

When: August 3 -7

Where: Dodge City, KS

Contact: Dodge City Roundup, Inc. 620-225-2244

24th Annual YWCA Leadership Luncheon

When: May 9, 2012 – 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: Maner Conference Center, Capitol Plaza Hotel

Contact: Jill Bronaugh at jillb@ywcatopeka.org

Mexican Consulate Kansas City

What: Saturday Appointments 2012

When: To get an appointment and for more information call 1.877.639.4835.

The Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office announces its lineup of 4-day CPS classes for 2012

1. **KS20111101962 - March 6th thru the 9th**, at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in Hutchinson. This is a Controlled class, contact Alvin Sowers at [kletc.org](mailto:asowers@kletc.org) for registration information.

2. **KS201112291081 – April 3rd thru the 6th**, at the 4-H building in Holton. This is a Controlled class, contact Tim McCool at the Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office tmccool@dccca.org for registration information.

3. **KS201112291082 – May 8th thru the 11th**, at the Kansas Highway Patrol Training Center in Salina. This is a Controlled class, contact Tim McCool at the Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office tmccool@dccca.org for registration information.

4. **KS201112291083 – May 21st thru the 24th**, at the 4-H

building in Grainfield. This is a public course and is open to anyone.

Do you have events for the community? Call 785.296.3465 or email [KHLAAC at khlaac@ks.gov](mailto:khlaac@ks.gov).

Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to volunteer as an Advisor on one of the following Committees:

- Marketing
- Education
- Legal
- Health
- Community Outreach
- Business
- Arts
- Youth Outreach

Please email khlaac@ks.gov or call 785.296.3465.