



Kansas Hispanic & Latino American Affairs Commission



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A Letter from Executive Director Adrienne Foster

Summer is here, and with the change of season, the Kansas Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission (KHLAAC) is starting a new era in which we are partnering with non-profits, for-profits and state agencies to bring the best resources to the Kansas Hispanic and Latino community.

Staying well-connected with community members and understanding their needs is crucial in the development of our roadmap. The roadmap for our organization is based on Governor Brownback's Road Map for Kansas, which encourages everyone to be accountable and included in the Kansas Report Card.

The first step in achieving our yearly objectives is to understand the needs of our community. That is why I have an open door policy. We value your feedback and believe communication and collaboration are vital to achieving our objectives.

The second step is to partner with organizations at all levels to bring resources to the community. The goal is to bridge the divide between the private and public sectors. Together, we can all leverage our resources and achieve our common goals while serving the community and improving the quality of life for all Kansans.

Kansas has great potential and we hope our community members will take advantage of the many resources available to them to improve their lives.

KHLAAC will be the facilitator for all organizations to enable communication and resources for the Hispanic and Latino-American Community.

Welcome to the new era of KHLAAC. Together we will strengthen our communities and create a better future for all Kansans.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Foster

Understanding Our Demographics

There are 236,803 more Hispanic Americans in

Kansas today than in 1980. While the overall population of Kansas has grown 19.3% since 1980, the Hispanic population in Kansas has grown 374%. It is important for KHLAAC to be prepared to support this growth.

Some Demographic Data at a Glance:

300,042 is the number of Hispanic Kansans as of April 2010. They represent 10.5% of the state's population.

Hispanic Americans are the fastest growing minority in the U.S. and now account

for 15.8% of the country's total population.

According to Woods and Poole Economics, the 2030 Hispanic Population is projected to grow to 496,030.

Source: State Data Center at the State Library of Kansas

Three Pillars to Taking the Hispanic Community to the Next Level

It is no secret, if you want a house that will endure the test of time, you need a strong foundation. For this reason, KHLAAC is setting its goals and objectives for 2011. It is important to have a roadmap to guide the organization and be able to track the success of our programs.



The first three priorities of the Kansas Hispanic and Latino-American Affairs Commission (KHLAAC) during 2011 are:

1. Education

Increase the number of fourth-grade students reading at grade level and raise the state's high school graduation rate. Education is the guiding force that will take the Hispanic community to the next level. This will be accomplished by partnering

with public and private organizations such as Cerner Corp., the Kansas Children's Service League, El Centro Inc. and the Mid-America Regional Council. KHLAAC will

unite all initiatives to do what is right for the Hispanic and Latino-American population in Kansas.

2. Health

Improve the health and well-being of the community by encouraging kids to be more physically active. This will be accomplished by partnering with state and local organizations to introduce programs at schools which will help children and parents understand the importance of being physically active.



3. Personal Finances

Create a culture that focuses on the importance of establishing good credit by maintaining checking and savings accounts, balancing a checkbook and paying bills on time. This will lead to homeownership and life insurance for the Hispanic Community.

"The roadmap for 2011 covers Education, Health and Personal finances"

Kansas Hispanic- Latino Americans and Money

32.7%

The estimate for the percentage of Hispanic Kansas who have no health insurance coverage, compared to 13.2% of all Kansans.

\$37,649

Median income for Hispanic households, the median income for the state is \$47,817.

56.3%

Percentage of Hispanic Americans in Kansas who own their home.

5,774

In 2007, the number of Hispanic-owned businesses in Kansas, employing 6,851 people. This accounts for 2.4% of all Kansas firms, compared to 8.3% of U.S. business.

\$82,800

The median value of their homes. The overall median value for homes in Kansas is \$125,500.

\$1,056,826,000

Total receipts from Kansas businesses in 2007.

Source: State Data Center at the State Library of Kansas

About the Hispanic and Latino American Commission

**To contact the
commission visit
www.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.

The Kansas Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission was established to serve as an advisory board to the Governor. There are currently seven commissioners who each serve six year terms. Four out of the seven Commissioners terms are set to expire this year. The Hispanic and Latino American Affairs Commission will welcome four new Commissioners who will be appointed by the Governor in the following weeks.

How Are Commissioners Selected?

The commission consists of seven members. No more than four members shall be of the same political party. Each Congressional district in the State of Kansas needs to be represented by at least one member and this individual needs to be a resi-

dent of the district at the time of appointment and needs to represent the entire State. Once the commission is in place, they select one of its members as the Chairperson and one as Secretary.

What They Do

They are the voice of the Hispanic community; they share information, conduct hearings and conferences focused on what is affecting Kansas communities. They also coordinate and work with state departments and agencies to serve the Hispanic community in areas of art, education, employment, health, housing, welfare and recreation. They serve as a liaison and as advocates for the Hispanic community. Commissioners also evaluate existing programs and propose legislation concerning Hispanics. They work to stimulate public aware-

ness of the problems faced by the Hispanic community by conducting public education programs and training sessions. They also solicit federal funds to develop programs, establish advisory committees on special subjects and cooperate with the state and other organizations in advising and assisting school districts and training programs for bilingual



The commissioners serve as advocates for the Hispanic community.

Mission

The Commission serves as a liaison for the Kansas Hispanic & Latino Community and the Office of the Governor. The Commission assists the Governor's office by addressing, advising, creating and implementing public policy concerns in the areas related to education, health, finance, and business. The Commission works closely with the Kansas Hispanic Legislative Caucus as well as State agencies in order to improve the lives of all Kansans.

Goals

- Increase net personal income.
- Increase the percentage of fourth-graders reading at grade level.
- Increase the percentage of high school graduates who are college or career ready.
- Decrease the percentage of Kansas children who live in poverty.

Meet The Executive Director

Adrienne Foster



Executive Director of Kansas Hispanic & Latino American Affairs Commission

The baby of twelve, Adrienne was the first to attend college after obtaining her high school diploma from Bishop Ward High School. After receiving a LULAC scholarship to Washburn University, Adrienne graduated with a Bachelor's in Public Administration and an Associate in Art.

Later, Adrienne obtained her Master's in Public Administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City along with her Fundraising Certificate. Adrienne was elected to the Roeland Park City Council during a Special Election in June 2005. She became very active with the National League of Cities and two of their constituent groups; Women in Municipal Government (WIMG) and Hispanic Elected & Local Officials (HELO). Adrienne currently serves as the President of WIMG and First Vice-President of HELO. After serving on the City Council for four years, Adrienne ran for Mayor of Roeland Park and was elected in April 2009. Adrienne volunteers with her Church, Kansas Children's Service League and the Shawnee Indian Mission Historic site. She has been married for 17 years to her husband Stephen, and has five boys.

Meet the Commissioners



Ma. Cecilia Ysaac-Belmares
Kansas City, Kansas

Ma. Cecilia is a life long resident of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas. Cecilia attended Donnelly College on a full Presidential Scholarship. Able to continue her education as a recipient of the GKC Hispanic Scholarship Foundation, Cecilia joined other Hispanic/Latino students and founded the first HALO chapter on the campus of the University of Kansas. Cecilia majored in Latin American Area Studies and received a B.A. from KU. She has been the Liaison for the Guadalupe Center (KCMO), Family and Education Outreach Advocate at St. Joseph-St. Benedict Parish in KCKS. In 1998 Cecilia found her calling as a Spanish/English Language Medical Interpreter at KU Medical Center. In 2004 she became the first resident of Wyandotte County to fulfill and com-

plete the requirements established by the National Consortium for Language Access in the Courts to become a Certified State Court Spanish Language Interpreter. She is an entrepreneur and freelance interpreter managing an interpreting and translation service. Cecilia maintains ties to her community through membership with MANA de Kansas City, Los Promotores de Salud--El Centro Inc., University of Kansas Medical Center Community Advisor on Latino Health and Research Projects, JayDoc Free Clinic, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas Sister Cities program.



Dr. Lucila Corley

Salina, Kansas

Dr. Lucila Corley is a native of Mexico. Dr. Corley graduated from the Medical School of the IPN in Mexico City and served as a doctor in IMSS Mazatlan, Mexico, for 25 years. She has lived in Kansas for 11 years, serving the community through a variety of roles - Catholic Charities, the Salina-Saline County Health Department, Salina Regional Health Center and the Infant-Child Development Program. She pursued her passion for several years to bring a mass media source of information to the Spanish-speaking community, leading to the 2006 creation of La Voz, a Spanish and English newspaper serving Central Kansas. She is a Community Advocate for Smoky Hill Learning Center's English Language Learners program. Dr. Corley has served on the Board of Directors for the Smoky Hill Community Health Center, the Salina Family Health Care Center, Project OPEN and Salina YWCA. She is a liaison for the Mexican Consulate in Kansas City, a volunteer with the Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas, and an ally with the Safe Zone Program at Kansas State University. She has been an entrepreneur for the last 5 years, supporting the local economy.

Read the next issue of KHLAAC's newsletter to learn more about the newly appointed Commissioners.

NOTICE TO HISPANIC AND/OR WOMEN FARMERS OR RANCHERS

COMPENSATION FOR CLAIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

If you believe that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation.

To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov

The claims package will have detailed information about the eligibility and claims process.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Community Champions

Do you know of an individual who has made a difference in the community? If you do and you want to share with the community all the great things this person does, send an email to khaac@ks.gov. The story needs to be 300 words. Please include a picture.

Criteria:

- Works with the Hispanic Community.
- Is passionate about what he/she does and inspire others.



YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND

A COALITION TO ENSURE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR HISPANIC CHILDREN TO SUCCEED

Hispanic Elected Local Officials (HELO) • LULAC
StudentsFirst • Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
CHISPA • NPRC • and many more...

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2011 • 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six
2301 S.E. 17th Street • Fort Lauderdale, FL • 33316
(Ask for group rate when making reservations)

RSVP to arlen@hcreo.com or call 561.340.1408
www.hcreoevent.com



Hispanic Council for Reform and Educational Options

8461 Lake Worth Road, Lake Worth, FL 33467
561.340.1408 • www.HCREO.com



URBAN LEAGUE OF KANSAS STATEWIDE DIVERSITY JOB FAIR

July 13
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Century II,
Exhibition Hall
225 W. Douglas,
Wichita, KS
316-722-7320

Free for job
seekers

The “Dos” and “Don’ts” of Your Interview

When called for an interview, you are excited and want to do your best. Here are some tips that will help you shine during your interview.

DO

1. Be prepared—do your homework. Research the company. Go to its website and read any publications it has.
2. Ask questions- the interviewer wants to know you have done your homework and also wants to see you are engaged and passionate about the position and the company. When the interviewer asks you “do you have any questions?” you will be ready to ask: what are the next steps, when should I expect to hear back or any particulars about the position.

3. Highlight your skills and experience— have you taken special training? Has your previous position given you skills that will be useful for this new position? Make sure to tell the interviewer. You have 10-30 minutes to tell that person how your skills and abilities will create a positive impact in the company.
4. Answer questions- you need to answer all questions. If you don’t understand a question, make sure to ask for more information to give the best answer.

DON’T

Don’t lie- make sure the work experience listed in your resume matches what you have done. When you are searching for a job, it is not just about what is best for you, but what is best for the company

and you. Both are searching for the perfect fit. No long-term relationship can be based on lies.

2. Don’t be late- Remember there is only one chance to make a first impression. Make sure to wear clothes appropriate to the interview.
3. Don’t talk bad about your previous employers - even when you are asked “described your worst boss” what the interviewer is looking for here is how you dealt with a difficult person and how you overcame the situation. The interviewer doesn’t want to hear all the ugly details.

For more information and resources, visit our website under resources www.khlaac.ks.gov.
Source:
www.quintcareers.com
www.careerbuilder.com

Employment Opportunities

Best Buy Corporation is hiring for the following positions:

- Mobile Wireless Sales Consultant
- Mobile Wireless Sales in-Store Manager
- Customer Service Specialist/Cashier
- Geek Squad Automotive Installation Tech
- Geek Squad Counter Intelligence Agent-Computer Tech
- Sales Associate

To see additional positions, job description and apply for available openings visit www.bestbuy-jobs.com.

Cottonwood, Incorporated is hiring a Human Resource Director.

Location: 2801 West 31st Street, Lawrence, Kansas 666047

Contact Dick Leines and/or Jill Baker

Phone: 785.842.0550

Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree in human resources, personnel administration or business, or 5 years experience in the field with 3 years in Human Resources.

This is an exempt position.



“Education beyond high school, whether it’s vocational/technical school or a four-year university, is important. If you want to invest towards a higher education goal, Learning Quest may help you and your family,”

Higher Education can be a Reality

When Mary found out she was pregnant, she started worrying about her baby’s future. With tuition costs going up every year it is easy to get intimidated. About half of all full-time undergraduate college students attend a four-year college with an average yearly tuition of \$9,000. This would be around \$36,000 for a four-year degree (not taking into account other expenses such as room, board, etc.) at a public higher education institution. The reality is that there is no magic number for how much college costs. It varies widely, depending on each individual and his/her choices. There are several advantages to having a college degree. In addition to more job opportunities, the difference in pay for those who have a degree can be significant. Higher education can be more accessible for those

who plan ahead thanks to the Learning Quest® 529 Education Savings Program. This program is a state-sponsored 529 plan. Learning Quest is administered by Kansas State Treasurer Ron Estes and is professionally managed by American Century Investments®. “Education beyond high school, whether it’s vocational/technical school or a four-year university, is important. If you want to invest towards a higher education goal, Learning Quest may help you and your family,” said Estes.

Kansas residents can open a Learning Quest account with an initial investment of \$100 or an automatic monthly investment of \$25. Non-Kansas residents can open an account with a \$500 initial investment or an automatic monthly investment of \$50.

A Flexible Program for Your Needs

- The student may use the money to pay for qualified education expenses at any accredited higher education institution.
- Any U.S. resident or citizen can contribute to the account.
- The account owner can change the beneficiary at any time.

There are benefits for the families who choose to save for a higher education through Learning Quest. For more information about Learning Quest call 1.877.345.8837 or visit www.learningquest.com.

Now Mary smiles with relief. College is one of the things she can eliminate from her list of worries now that she has a plan.

Source: Learningquest.com

Education

81.6%

The graduation rate for Hispanic American high school students in 2007-2008 school year.

15.8%

Percentage of students enrolled in Kansas K-12 schools who are Hispanic American during 2009-2010 school year

9.7%

Percentage of Hispanic Americans in Kansas who hold a bachelor’s degree or higher.

14.4%

The percentage of Hispanic American in Kansas enrolled in college or graduate school.

10,857 | 14,781

The number of Hispanic American men and women in Kansas who hold bachelor’s degrees or higher.

Source: State Data Center at the State Library of Kansas

KHLAAC

900 SW Jackson, Ste. 100
Topeka, KS 66612

The KHLAAC Newsletter is sent by email monthly and printed twice a year. The newsletter is mailed to active non-profits, State offices, schools and partner organizations. Subscribe to the KHLAAC monthly publication by sending an email to khlaac@ks.gov or by visiting www.khlaac.ks.gov.

If you are trying to attract diverse talent, create a positive impact in the community, and create brand awareness, sponsoring the KHLAAC Newsletter can be an efficient and cost effective way to communicate with the Hispanic and Latino-American community. For more information email khlaac@ks.gov or call 785.296.3465.

Calendar of Events

Event: Un Cafecito
Date: Wednesday, July 13
Location: El Centro, Inc. Argentine Office
1333 South 27th Street
Kansas City, Kansas

Event: Dodge City Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours
Date: Wednesday, July 13
Time: 5:30– 7:30 p.m.
Cost: Members \$7 non-members \$10
Contact: Kim at 785.776.8829 or email: chamber@manhattan.org
Must register by July 12

Event: Coalition of Women VS. Cancer (Zumba Class)
Date: Friday, July 15
Time: 6-8 p.m.
Location: El Centro gymnasium
1330 S. 30th Street
Kansas City, Kansas
Cost: \$15
This is a fund raiser, proceeds will benefit cancer prevention programs

Event: Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of

Commerce Luncheon and Social Media
Date: Wednesday, July 13
Time: 12-1 p.m.
Location: Ramada Hotel and Conference Center
1400 N. Lorraine St.
Hutchinson, Kansas
Cost: \$10 includes lunch
Must register 620.662.3391 or at info@hutchchamber.com

Event: Latino Art Bravisimo
Date: Through July 18
Time: M-F from 8-5 p.m.
Place: Lenexa City Hall
12350 W. 87th Street Parkway
Lenexa, Kansas
Cost: Free

Event: Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce Computing in the Clouds for Small Business
Date: Wednesday, July 27
Time: 12-1 p.m.
Location: Chamber of Commerce 117 N. Walnut St.
Hutchinson, Kansas
Cost: Free to first 30 members. Bring your lunch and laptop. Must register 620.662.3391

Event: Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce New Member Mingle at 4!
Date: Tuesday, August 23
Time: 4-5 p.m.
Location: Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce 117 N. Walnut St.
Hutchinson, Kansas
Must register 620.662.3391 or at info@hutchchamber.com

Event: Chanute Chamber of Commerce 94th Annual Celebration of Mexican Heritage
Date: Sept. 9-10
Time: All day event
Location: Santa Fe Park 3000 S. Santa Fe, Chanute, Kansas
Cost: Free. Booths with food and other items for sale.
Contact: 877-431-3350

Do you have events for the community?
Call 785.296.3465 or email KHLAAC
khlaac@ks.gov.