

NCERA-216

Project/Activity Number: NCERA 216

Project/Activity Title: Latinos and Immigrants in Midwestern Communities

Period Covered: June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011

Date of this Report: August 12, 2011

Annual Meeting Dates: June 8 & 10, 2011

Participants: June 8 & 10, 2011 -- Rubén Martinez (MSU), Kim Greder (ISU), Claudia Prado-Meza (ISU), Saul Abarca Orozco (ISU), Diego Thompson (ISU), Pilar Horner (MSU), Domingo Martinez (Mizzou), Abelardo Rodriguez (Idaho State), Robert Reyes (Goshen College, Indiana), Alejandra Gudiño (Mizzou), Steve Jeanetta (Mizzou); Jill Kilanowski (Cincinnati Children's Hospital); Corinne Valdivia (Mizzou); Miguel Carranza (Neb); Kathleen Tajeu (Auburn); Olga Santiago (MSU); Domingo Martinez (Mizzou);

Brief Summary of minutes of annual meeting:

The annual meeting had three primary objectives, to: 1) provide updates in each of the thematic areas of emphasis; 2) address leadership succession issues; and 3) promote awareness and begin preparation of mid-term program report.

Accomplishments:

All three objectives were accomplished at the annual meeting. Updates were provided in the areas of entrepreneurship and business, families and education, building immigrant friendly communities, and diversity competent organizations. No representatives for the civic engagement area were present. Leadership succession issues were addressed as follows: Present Chair, Rubén Martinez, will continue for another year; Kim Greder will serve as Vice Chair; Pilar Horner will serve as Secretary/Communications Coordinator; Executive Board members are: Miguel Carranza, Alejandra Gudiño, Joel Jennings, Domingo Martinez, Abelardo Rodriguez. Co-chairs by thematic area are as follows: entrepreneurship and business, Abelardo Rodriguez & Jan Flora; families and education, Alejandra Gudiño & Robert Reyes; building immigrant friendly communities, Domingo Martinez & Diego Thompson; building diverse organizations, Rubén Martinez & Miguel Carranza; and civic engagement, Carmen DeRusha & Joel Jennings. Finally, a Skype conversation was held with the initiative's administrative advisor, Charles Hibberd, regarding the requirements of the mid-term report. Submission date for materials for the mid-term report was set as September 15, 2011.

Short-term Outcomes: The initiative has developed relationships among members from different college and universities across the north central region. Collaborative projects are being explored, developed and implemented. In addition, NCERA 216 and SERA 37, which are similar interstate initiatives are sharing information and will begin combining forces in

developing webinars for sharing research results, providing development workshops, and exploring research areas in which to collaborate.

Outputs: At the College of Human Environmental Sciences, Extension Division, University of Missouri-Columbia is developing a bilingual website for Missouri families to access information on family wellness topics, such as nutrition, obesity, physical activity, chronic diseases, and so on. Additionally, numerous professional papers have been delivered at professional conferences and several researchers have published the results of their work (see below). An important outcome is an agreement between NCERA 216 and the Cambio de Colores Conference to collaborate in mutually beneficial ways, so that the NCERA 216 annual meeting occurs at the annual conference, thereby bringing participants to the conference to share research and program outcomes and to network. Outcomes are occurring in outreach, education and research. A critical synergy is developing across the region that we anticipate will produce key outcomes in each of the thematic areas.

Activities: In education, for instance, two theses are underway focusing on Latino entrepreneurs at St. Louis University; one focusing on Latino farmers was completed in 2010 at Iowa State, and a dissertation on Latino immigrant networks was completed at the University of Missouri in 2010. All were supervised by NCERA 216 participants. In outreach, researchers and practitioners are providing nutrition and healthy lifestyle materials in the migrant camps in Ohio and Michigan. In Missouri, a pilot version of the Juntos Program, which originated at North Carolina State University and addresses Latino dropout prevention by helping parents and students understand the education system, is being implemented. This effort is part of the collaboration between NCERA 216 and SERA 37. In Iowa, doctoral students in sociology and working through the Leopold Center at Iowa State have been utilizing a community capitals approach to engage immigrant Latino farmers in local food systems. In research, a pilot program was funded to examine how children of immigrant families experience fear of their own and/or their family members' deportation. The pilot grant enables researchers in Michigan to examine health and mental health outcomes for Latino youth who experience the stress and stigma of potential deportation and raids by ICE." These projects combine education, outreach and research.

Milestones: The most important achievement has been the development of collaborative relationships across the region by interested scholars and practitioners. Collaboration by NCERA 216 and the Cambio de Colores Annual Conference has been the medium for this achievement. It is these relationships that will make the lasting impacts in the region.

Impacts: Contributions to the stock of knowledge about Latino and immigrant communities in the Midwest has been the most important impact to date. There is now a rapidly increasing body of knowledge that is emerging from the work of NCERA 216 members that is shedding light in areas that previously had not been studied. Additionally, there is a sense of community that is emerging among participants across the region among that will continue to yield outputs and activities as the initiative moves forward.

Publications:

While only works in print are listed here, numerous professional panels and presentations have been made by members of NCERA 216 at regional and national conferences.

Books

- Gold, S. P. (2010). *The store in the hood: A century of ethnic business and conflict*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.
- Martinez, R. (ed.). (2011). *Latinos in the Midwest*. East Lansing, MI: MSU Press.

Refereed Articles

- Horner, P., Castillo, M., Delva, J., Sanchez, N. (2010). Parental perceptions of neighborhood effects in Latino comunas: The script of “the delinquent” in understanding drug use, violence, and social disorganization. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 46 (In press).
- Valdivia, C. & Flores, L. 2011. Factors Affecting the Job Satisfaction of Latino/a Immigrants in the Midwest. *Journal of Career Development*. DOI: 10.1177/0894845310386478: 1-19.

Non-Refereed Articles

- Kayitsinga, J., & Martinez, R. (2010). Using technology to enhance survival skills among Latino migrant farmworkers. *NEXO*, 13(2), pp. 1, 4-9, 18-19.
- Martinez, R., & Escobar, R. (2010). The settlement phases of Latinos/as in Lansing. *NEXO*, 13(2), pp.1, 12-17.
- Martinez, R., & Kayitsinga, J. (2011). 2011. “The Education of Latinos in Michigan and its Mid-Sized Cities.” *NEXO*. 14(2): 10-11, 14.
- Martinez, R., & Tello-Buntin, J. (2011). “Latino-Owned Businesses: Patterns of Growth and Exclusion.” *NEXO*. 14(2): 1, 3, 18-19.
- Santiago, O., Martinez, R., & Avila, B. (2011). “Hispanic Mothers’ Perception of Child’s Activity Level Associated with Child’s Obesity and Physical Activity.” *NEXO*. 14(2): 1, 6-9, 16-17.

Chapters

- Gold, S. (2010). After the Cold War: Comparing Soviet Jewish and Vietnamese youth in the 1980s to today’s young refugees. In G. Holton & G. Sonnert (Eds.), *How to help young immigrants succeed* (pp. 75-88). New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Martinez, R. (2011). “A Demographic Overview of Latino Children,” In F. Villarruel and N. Cabrera (Eds). *Latina/o Child Psychology and Mental Health*, Vol. 1, Development and Context, (pp. 1-30). Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers.

Reports

- Cutz, G., & Theuri, E. (2011). “Teaching Technology to Hispanic Youth: A Report on Factors Affecting Students’ Learning.” JSRI Research Report #45. East Lansing, MI: The Julian Samora Research Institute, Michigan State University.
- Jordan, Elinor R. 2010. “The Inherent Tension Between Design and Practice in the H-2A Guestworker Visa Program,” JSRI Occasional Paper #74, The Julian Samora Research Institute, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, 2010.

- Kayitsinga, Jean. (2010). "Household poverty in the Midwest: The influence of race/ethnicity, location, and local opportunity structures." JSRI Research Report #45. East Lansing, MI: The Julian Samora Research Institute, Michigan State University.
- Kayitsinga, Jean. (2010). "Poverty and Health of Children from Racial/Ethnic Minority and Immigrant Families in the Midwest," JSRI Research Report #44. East Lansing, MI: Julian Samora Research Institute, Michigan State University.
- Koval, John P. (2010). "Suburban Chicago: The Latino Capital of the Midwest," JSRI Statistical Brief No. 17. East Lansing, MI: Julian Samora Research Institute, Michigan State University.
- Guzmán, J. C., Jara, R., Armet, S. (2011). *Latinos in North Central Indiana: A Demographic Profile*. Vol. 1. Goshen, IN: Goshen College, Center for Intercultural Teaching and Learning.
- Miller, S., Martinez, R., & Fuan, A. (2010). *Measuring the Economic and Fiscal Contributions of Michigan's Latino Population*. East Lansing: JSRI, MSU.
- Parsons, M., Palacios, J., Guzmán, J. C. (2011). *Latinos in North Central Indiana: A Historical Account of their Settlement 1990-2009*. Vol. 2. Goshen, IN: Goshen College, Center for Intercultural Teaching and Learning.
- Guzmán, J. C., Reyes, J. R., Palacios, J., Carolan-Silva, A. R. (2011). *Latinos in North Central Indiana: Educational Challenges and Opportunities*. Vol. 3. Goshen, IN: Goshen College, Center for Intercultural Teaching and Learning.

Authorization: