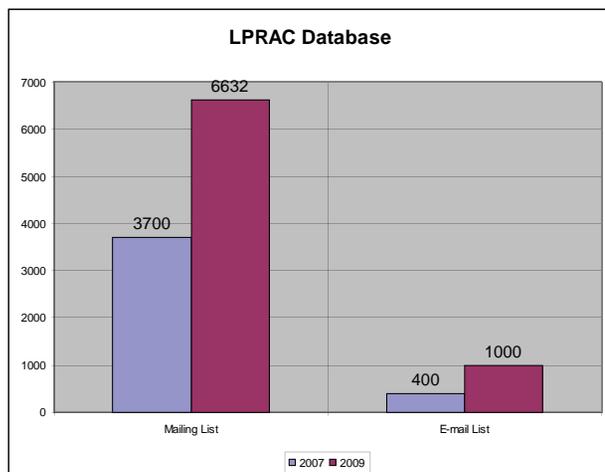


# LPRAC Performance Report Card: 2009

All Connecticut Latinos are Healthy, Safe, Economically Self-Sufficient, Achieve School Success, and Live lives Free from Discrimination

## Approach 1: Research

**Measure 1: Number of Individuals and Organizations Receiving Research Materials Distributed by LPRAC**



### Story behind the baseline:

The chart above reflects the LPRAC's efforts within the last two years to increase the size of its database and improve its distribution capacity. The LPRAC has been working with Information Technology Services (ITS) for the past year to develop a more robust database system that will allow them to tailor their outreach and information delivery efforts by a wide range of criteria. In doing so, the LPRAC can more specifically target groups of people and populations that will benefit from its research efforts. Additionally, copies of all LPRAC research documents are made available to the State library and distributed to all attendees of its forums, summits and recognition ceremonies.

### Progress:

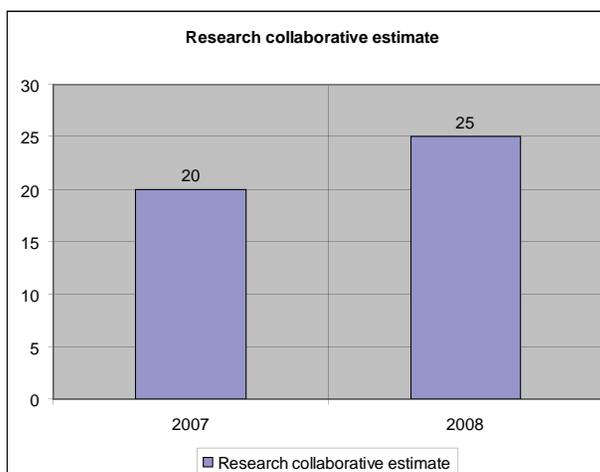
Our new database is fully operational, the LPRAC acquired a list of more than 20,000 new Latino voters,

registered during the "Tu Voto Si Cuenta" registration campaign. This update increased the LPRAC's information delivery capacity to more than 26,000 people.

### Actions:

None

**Measure 2: Number of research collaboratives the LPRAC Participates in.**



### Story behind the baseline:

For Fiscal Years 2007 and 2008 the demands for on-going research continued to increase. More and more elected officials, members of the public and institutions sought our expertise in a broad range of areas. The data above includes large research initiatives such as the fourth edition of the Latino Socio-Economic study and a series of conferences on public policy issues that required research. Finally, it includes research in conjunction with other state elected officials and other Latino organizations on a voter registration campaign that included an in-depth

analysis of voting registration patterns across Connecticut.

### Progress:

none

## Recent LPRAC Research Efforts:

Before a room full of community leaders and concerned members of the public, the LPRAC announced the findings of its fourth and most comprehensive Socio-Economic study on February 26, 2008. This research study details the needs of their communities and the challenges they face regarding quality of life, health care, housing, education, employment and the judicial system. The study received extensive local and national media coverage much of which served to shed light on the ongoing problems Latinos face in Connecticut.

The LPRAC is also working in collaboration with the University of Connecticut's Institute of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and the Roper Center for Public Opinion on a new survey book on Latinos in Connecticut. It will be based on data from the 07-08 New England Latino survey conducted in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. This survey is important because it covers topics ranging from politics, education, discrimination, race relations, and levels of integration. This information has a strong potential to ignite further discussions among policy-makers and/or scholars that may become public policy or other projects by researchers, students, and entrepreneurs throughout the state.

## Data Development Agenda

Percent of partners rating research as useful.

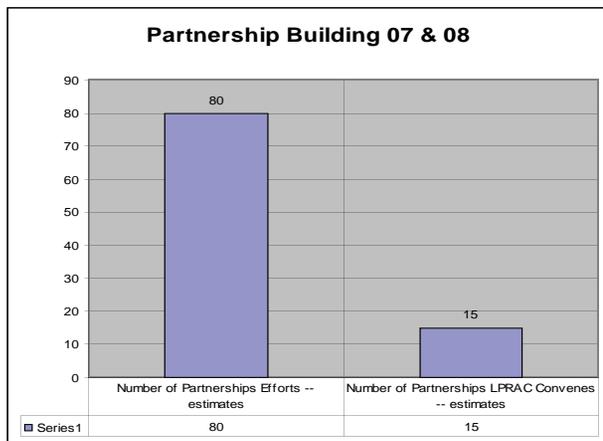


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## Approach 2: Partnership Building

### Measure 1: Number of Partnership Efforts In which LPRAC Participates, Number of Partnership efforts LPRAC Convenes



### Story behind the baseline:

The LPRAC leverages its partnerships with lawmakers, federal and municipal elected officials, and national civil rights leaders to effect change on issues such as workplace discrimination, redistricting, human trafficking, and immigration reform. In July 2008 the LPRAC convened a Housing Summit at the legislature that drew representatives from the State Banking Commission, the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, Connecticut legislators, and members of the public. The LPRAC also hosted a first of its kind money management conference specifically geared to Latino residents with a generous grant from Bank of America. This conference brought together collaborators such as the state treasurer and community agencies from as far away as Stamford. All in all the LPRAC has increased its community events significantly since 2007.

### Progress:

In 2009, the LPRAC increased its visibility in areas of Western and Southeastern Connecticut, while continuing to strengthen existing relationships in key cities such as New Haven and Bridgeport. To that end, LPRAC representatives visited Latino serving organizations across these regions in an effort to exchange operating knowledge and look for opportunities to create or expand working partnerships for the benefit of the community.

### Actions:

- ✓ Pitch and execute at least one media interview per month (i.e., TV, radio or newspaper);
- ✓ Issue six position papers on important topics being addressed by the legislature or in response to events taking place outside of government (i.e., issues affecting the community) and make them available on the LPRAC website;
- ✓ Update commission collateral material and distribute to community organizations across the state;
- ✓ Plan and execute at least two educational forums addressing important issues affecting Latino communities;
- ✓ Host monthly meetings with Latino organizations in parts of the state where we have little reach in an effort to develop key partnerships. Invite the legislator from that area to participate with us;
- ✓ Payroll stuffer to all 76,000 state employees announcing LPRAC events for the year;
- ✓ Regular emails from database announcing events, issues and calls for people to testify on important issues;
- ✓ Create a Latino student congress to help position ourselves as leaders in the public policy arena among the next generation of Latino leaders;
- ✓ Establish program with community-based organizations regarding Latino youth;

- ✓ Work with lawmakers developing forums and community hearings across the state;
- ✓ Dedicate space in our newsletters for legislators who wish to have information published;
- ✓ Increase intern capacity at the LPRAC office; &
- ✓ Establish an advisory board with representatives from Hartford Hospital, the Connecticut Health Foundation and the Hispanic Health Council.

### Case Study

The LPRAC began a new partnership with the Amistad of America, Inc., earlier this year planning a voyage to the Caribbean in the "Amistad" vessel. This trip will be entitled "Freedom Tour" and will begin with a sail from Connecticut to Bermuda and will include port visits to more than half a dozen US East Coast ports before beginning a tour of historical significance throughout the Caribbean. The Amistad of America, Inc., and the LPRAC will develop recommendations via an advisory committee to include Latino students on this voyage.



### Development Agenda:

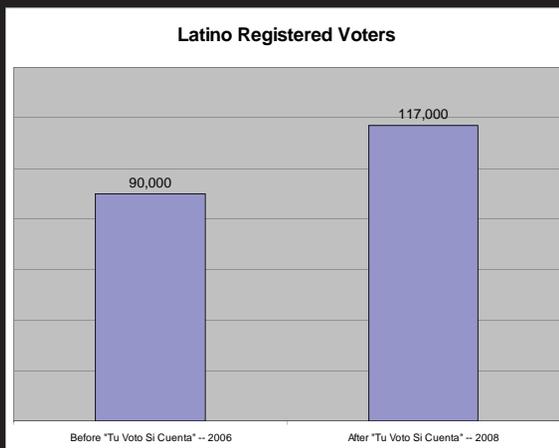
None



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## Case Study: Voter Registration Effort



### Story behind the baseline:

The LPRAC was a collaborator and active participant in the 2007 Latino Voting Summit hosted by Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz. The event served as a launch point for a discussion on Latino civic engagement ahead of the 2008 "Tu Voto Si Cuenta" voter registration campaign. Following the Summit, the LPRAC continued to work closely with the Secretary of State's Office as a partner in the campaign, helping to draw the participation of other Latino leaders and organizations for the Steering Committee and having its staff members chair various subcommittees that helped shape the direction of the campaign. With the goal of registering 10,000 new Latino voters, the campaign focused its efforts on the cities with the largest Latino concentrations in the state -- Bridgeport, Danbury, East Hartford, Hartford, New Haven, New Britain, Manchester, Meriden, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Windham, Norwich, Torrington, New London and Waterbury -- with a clear message and a well-funded marketing strategy, incorporating both English and Spanish language media.

### Progress:

The event ended as planned. The campaign registered a total of 27,000 new Latino voters.

### Actions:

None.

## Recent Partnership Development Efforts:

For four consecutive years the LPRAC joined the United States Postal Service in presenting the Hispanic Heritage Postage Stamp Exhibit. The collection, which pays tribute to people, places and events of cultural significance not only to the Latino community but to the nation at large, was on display in the concourse of the Legislative Office Building in Hartford, Connecticut for the month of September 2006, 2007, 2008, & 2009. The exhibit proudly displays how deeply Latinos are woven into the fabric of this country. Roberto Clemente, Frida Khalo, and Cesar Chavez. These names are as much a part of American history as they are Latin-American history and this year, the LPRAC took it one step further by taking the exhibit on tour across the state. The LPRAC continues to be the only organization in the United States building and displaying such a culturally relevant exhibit of hispanic history and its impact on mainstream society.

Also worth noting is the effort that took place in 2006 between Bank of America, the State Treasurer and LPRAC co-hosting the first of its kind bilingual Money Management conference in Cromwell, CT. This initiative came from a \$30,000 grant awarded to the LPRAC to provide the Latino community in the State of Connecticut access to financial education. In addition to the co-convenors of this event, the LPRAC also involved agencies such as Co-Opportunity Inc., ACCESS agency, Spanish American Merchants Association (SAMA), ACORN, and the Connecticut Puerto Rican Forum to mention just a few.

## Development Agenda:

Percentage of Partnerships Producing Tangible Products.

## Case Study: Women Leadership Conferences

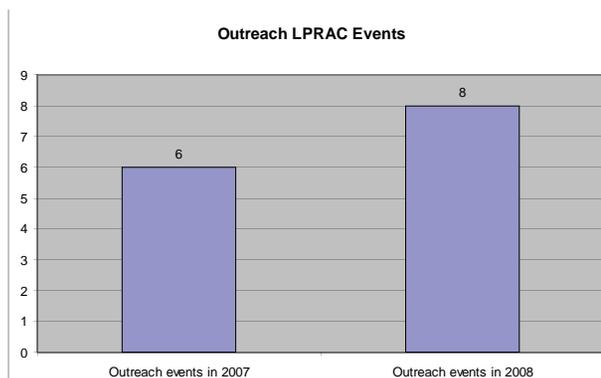
The LPRAC collaborated with the launch of the "Soy Unica, Soy Mujer" Conference hosted by CASAC - Capital Area Substance Abuse Council - at the Pope Park Recreation Center in 2007. Hispanic girls age 9-14 participated in the day long program that included a workshop for mothers on self-esteem. The self-esteem workshop was presented by LPRAC's Special Project Coordinator/Grants Writer with the cooperation of 6 other Latina women leaders from the community. In addition to self esteem building, the emphasis of the workshop was to assist mothers in recognizing that they need to be supportive of their daughters and ensure that they feel comfortable talking to them about any concerns or interests. LPRAC has participated in this program for the past 3 consecutive summers. This year (2009) was the largest group yet with 15 mothers participating and over 40 girls attending the workshops for free. The venue was the Institute for Hispanic Families' new facility in Hartford, Connecticut.



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## Approach 3: Outreach Measure 1: Number of Outreach Events



### Story behind the baseline:

The LPRAC has conducted several outreach events since its inception on a broad range of topics in areas such as health disparities, education reform, and leadership. The number of these events continues to increase every year as indicated on the graph above.

### Progress:

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission starting on May 20, 2009 officially launched a new outreach campaign aimed at expanding its efforts to tap into the larger Latino community. The LPRAC projects receiving funds from the State Department of Social Services to develop a marketing outreach initiative introducing the new Charter Oak Insurance Plan to the Latino Community in the state. This project will take place in collaboration with the African American Affairs Commission.

### Progress:

The LPRAC in 2010 has already begun to plan educational/outreach Results Based Accountability (RBA) meetings in Connecticut on areas of health, safety, education, economic self-sufficiency, and discrimination.

### Actions:

The LPRAC started to hold its regular Commission meetings in different municipalities starting in Bridgeport in the month of May and in New Haven in July 2009. U.S. Representative Jim Himes, Mayor Bill Finch, members of the Bridgeport and New Haven delegation of lawmakers, and community leaders are among those invited to observe the proceedings.

### Recent Partnership Development Efforts:

The LPRAC played a big role in directing the first ever national grant for a tobacco cessation program designed to protect Connecticut Latinos from the dangers of tobacco use. This outreach program was entitled "Latino Don't Smoke Protect Your Health" presented in partnership with Hartford Hospital through a grant totaling \$497,055 given by the American Legacy Foundation for a three year program and implemented by the MATCH Coalition.

Another example of LPRAC outreach events took place between the Hartford Public Schools bilingual/bicultural Education Department. A two day institute on dual language education held collaboratively for 3 consecutive years in a row, was advertised nationally and explored the unique challenges and opportunities in dual language education. Keynote presenters -- among others -- included Dr. Margarita Calderon, Research Scientist with Johns Hopkins University; Ms. Elizabeth Howard, Research Associate with the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, D.C., and Nancy Cloud, from Rhode Island College.

## Case Study

The LPRAC has hosted a "Tribute to Hispanic Veterans" for the past three consecutive years. Plaques, proclamations, citations and a LPRAC certificate of appreciation were presented to 11 military personnel in 2007, 18 in 2008 and 13 in 2009. Additionally, in 2009 the LPRAC also recognized Connecticut's - at that time, 44 fallen veterans and their families who received the recognitions on behalf of their fallen loved ones.

The LPRAC has also recognized pioneers having national and international impact on the Hispanic and mainstream community with a Lifetime Achievement Award for the past three years -- Ednita Nazario, Puerto Rico; Luis Tiant, Cuba; and Edward James Olmos, Mexico.



Left: Luis Tiant & Attorney General Richard Blumenthal; and LPRAC Commissioner Rivera with Latino Veterans receiving their State Recognition Awards.

### Development Agenda:

Number of outreach events.

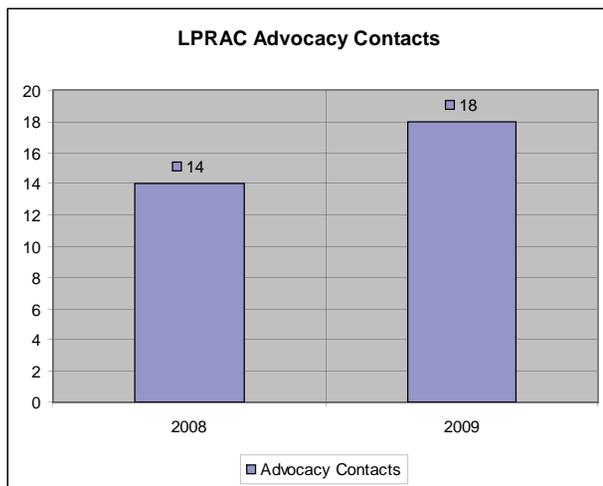


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## Approach 4: Advocacy

### Measure 1: Number of Advocacy Contacts



### Story behind the baseline:

The LPRAC takes great pride in having access to the legislature advocating in support of a broad range of issues that impact the Latino community. In 2007 for instance, the LPRAC among other advocacy efforts urged lawmakers to pass legislation to close the ethnic and racial education achievement gap by fully funding pre-school education; raising child care subsidies; reform secondary education in Connecticut; improve truancy reporting and support multicultural education. The LPRAC also continued advocating in favor of a state earned income tax credit and provided advice to the State Primary Care Access Authority, which is formulating the policy to fully implement universal primary care infrastructure in Connecticut. Furthermore, the LPRAC advocated to the Commission on Racial & Ethnic Disparities to increase the appointment of more Latino judges, improve legal representation for neglected Latino children and increase court interpreters within the judicial system. In 2009 due to the extent of the recession affecting the State of Connecticut, the LPRAC alerted the Connecticut General Assembly (CGA) to provide tax relief, strengthen state services that aim to help families during

times of crisis, reshuffle state priorities to be able to afford education reform legislation and create the infrastructure to provide affordable health care coverage for all state residents. The LPRAC advocated at the CGA in both years via a legislative reception, press conferences, and providing public testimony on a broad range of issues. The graph in this page indicates that growth from 2008 to 2009.

### Progress:

The first legislative battle that the LPRAC won during the session in 2008 was in response to the Governor's budget recommendation to eliminate the four million dollars put in place in the budget to implement the newly created statewide medical interpreter services program, especially, since all the research on the subject clearly indicates that language barriers continue to be among the most serious obstacles faced by individuals with limited english proficiency in need of critical health care in Connecticut. The LPRAC also advocated before the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the CGA to find ways to increase judicial nominations of minority litigators.

### Action:

The LPRAC will continue advocating in support of increasing diversity in state boards and commissions in collaboration with other legislative commissions.

### Recent LPRAC Advocacy Efforts:

The LPRAC played an important role coordinating a press conference to raise serious concerns about the lack of funding to Latino service based community providers across the state and to launch the first Latino Advocacy Day at the State Capitol. This advocacy day was the result of a series of community-based meetings that called for such an event

### Development Agenda:

Number of outreach events

## LPRAC Legislative Agenda Progress Report

	Little Progress	Some Progress	Substantial Progress
<b>Education Reform</b>			
Dropout Prevention Legislation			
After School Programs			
Decrease Achievement gap in Math, Reading, & Writing			
Improve Dual Language Education in Connecticut			
<b>Health</b>			
Universal Health Care in Connecticut			
Fully fund interpreters under Medicaid			
Protect and enhance funding for persons with HIV/Aids			
<b>Economic Development</b>			
Passage of a State Earned Income Credit Tax			
Reform Connecticut's Business Entity Tax			
<b>Housing</b>			
Strengthen anti-predatory lending practices			
Home mortgage relief for renters and recently unemployed			
<b>Access and Trust in the Legal System</b>			
Increase court interpreters in the judicial system			
Improve legal representation of abused or neglected children			
<b>Immigration</b>			
Support the In-State Tuition Legislation			
Support Comprehensive Immigration Reform			

### Story behind the baseline:

33.3% of the LPRAC Legislative Agenda has demonstrated some progress. (Please see diagram to the left for further review.)

### Progress:

The LPRAC will continue to provide input on the Health Disparities Commission & the Racial/Ethnic Disparities Commission in the Criminal Justice System.

### Action:

The LPRAC will incorporate the Results Based Accountability format to its 2010 Legislative Agenda and expand research capacity.

