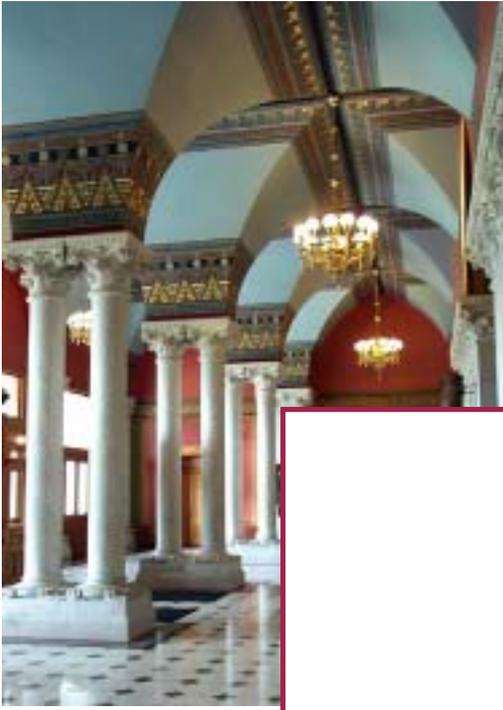


July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001



John G. Rowland
Governor

State of Connecticut Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs Commission 2001 Annual Report



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Mission Statement

**To coordinate and provide
access to resources by
developing and
recommending to the
Governor and the Legislature
policy for the advancement
of the Latino & Puerto Rican
Communities.**

Report of the Chair



Chairperson
Maritza Tirú

Dear Governor Rowland:

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission began the 2001 year focusing on legislation. We co-sponsored a legislative reception along with the other 3 commissions in order to start advocating for our legislative initiatives early in the session. Some of the legislation we supported includes immigrant rights, funding for court interpreters training, and voter rights restoration. I am extremely proud to report that this strategy, coupled with a number of other advocacy processes enabled us to succeed in obtaining funding in support of training for court interpreters, additional funding for asthma research and in gaining passage of the immigrant rights law in the State of Connecticut. ***While this is a prior year report, I want to make mention of the tragedy that occurred on September 11th. Our hearts go out to all of the families touched by this tragic event. Please know that you are in our minds and prayers. May God bless you at this very trying time!***

Another key accomplishment for the Commission was the press conference held in conjunction with the Federal Equal Employment Opportunities Commission and the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund to announce the class action lawsuit against Beauty Enterprises for their blatant discriminatory acts towards primarily Hispanic employees. This action was particularly satisfying as it came about as a result of a public hearing on "Workplace Discrimination" that the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission held in conjunction with State Representative Minnie González in May of 2000. Over 22 employees gave testimony at the public hearing and came forward afterward to file a formal complaint against this employer.

The Commission continues to implement a great many of the strategies developed at the retreat held during the prior year to assist with carrying out its mission. Strategies such as creation of working committees to better identify those areas in which we need to remain vigilant such as legislation affecting our community, budget oversight to ensure compliance and special projects review and selection allowing for better use of staff resources.

The Commission has been active by supporting the following initiatives important to the Latino community in Connecticut:

1. We embarked on a new initiative in collaboration with the African American Affairs Commission, the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, DemocracyWorks and the National Conference for Community and Justice related to reflecting the makeup of the State's population on the slate of State Boards and Commissions. This initiative has been very successful and the partners have been able to increase the participation of the underrepresented and women of color on these boards through the various talent banks. The initiative has been so successful in attracting people that the partners have also undertaken providing access through service on municipal boards and commissions, non-profit boards and, most recently, working in collaboration with the State Treasurer to open up opportunities for more women and the underrepresented on corporate boards.
2. We released a second socio-economic status of Latinos in Connecticut study with the support of the Graustein Memorial Fund. The research for this document was performed by the Center for Research and Public Policy. One of the study's findings is that overall, Latinos are enjoying a better lifestyle than they were two years ago. It also shows, however, that there

- are areas where this population is still underserved. This data will now be utilized to create public policy pieces to be advanced through the legislature on behalf of the Latino community.
3. Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission staff and commissioners were also interviewed extensively by the print and broadcast media about the Census figures which were released indicating that Latinos in the State are now the majority population of the under-represented classes numbering over 320,000 strong. As a result of this increase, calls to the LPRAC Office have virtually doubled for speaking engagements, information on the growing population, inquiries related to the mission of the Agency as well as calls related to where people and organizations can find help on a variety of topics.
 4. LPRAC was also instrumental in convening the first of its kind dual language two-day institute this past June at the Legislative Office Building in the collaboration with the Hartford Public Schools' Bilingual Education Office. Numerous rooms designated for this event were filled to capacity and the well-qualified speakers enjoyed an extremely engaged audience of educators from throughout the country. The event was so successful that we are currently in the process of scheduling the second round for the summer of 2002. It was rewarding to hear what other districts in other states are doing with regards to dual language. Even more heartening is the fact that these districts not only teach Spanish as a second language but others such as Armenian, Korean, Japanese and a whole host of languages reflective of the makeup of the world we live in. This is very satisfying as we are all quite aware of the global market accessible through the internet that now brings the world to us at the touch of a button.

The Commission, in collaboration with the Latino Leadership Development Network of Leadership Greater Hartford held its first Leadership Summit on Friday, December 8, 2000 at the Hartford Marriott Hotel in Farmington. The Summit was extremely successful attracting over 500 Latino leaders from throughout the State despite the bad weather conditions of that morning. Some of the workshops held centered around education, civic responsibility, housing, health and youth. The civic responsibility workshop heard from such noted individuals as Marilda Gandara, President and CEO of the Aetna Foundation (who also facilitated the workshop); Jorge Bahamonde, CEO of the United Way of the Capital Area; and, Diana Campoamor, President of Hispanics in Philanthropy based in California. What made this day so productive was the fact that there was an action piece tied into participation within the 5 separate workshops. Those individuals participating had to come up with at least one initiative they wished to go back and work on in order to report back at the second leadership summit being planned for 2002.

LPRAC participated on the statewide committee looking at the redrawing of the district map in Connecticut in collaboration with DemocracyWorks and the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund. The various regional committees working on these maps came up with alternatives to present to the Legislative Committee looking to redraw the new boundary lines by November 30, 2001. These were presented to those committee members at the public hearings that were held throughout the State. It is our hope that our input is taken into consideration as this committee deliberates how to proceed on behalf of the residents of Connecticut.

Overall, the Commission had a banner year for projects, involvement and participation at all levels. We are working at full capacity having finally hired a Public Information Officer to allow us to better communicate our wide-ranging activities statewide to everyone wishing to participate with the initiatives of LPRAC.

I wish to conclude by thanking everyone who has made this year as Chairperson for me so successful. The staff, commissioners and the public that it has been a pleasure for me to work with throughout this past year were absolutely wonderful. Thank you for making my watch such a successful one.

Sincerely,

Maritza Tirú
Chairperson

Commissioner Biographies

Ramón L. Arroyo, Commissioner



(**Public Citizen**) of Hartford, was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Connecticut. Currently, he is a Senior Field Representative in the Office of Human Services for the City of Hartford. Mr. Arroyo has participated and volunteered in many organizations. He is currently the President of the Puerto Rican and Latino Alliance (PAC) of Connecticut. The following is a list of the memberships he has held:

Hartford's Charter Revision Commission
Capitol Area Substance Abuse Council, member of Board of Directors
Hartford Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Hogar Crea of Connecticut, state board of directors
Puerto Rican PAC, President
Boys Scouts of America
Long River Council, Volunteer Career Awareness Speaker
Quirk Middle School PTSA-President
María Sánchez Baseball Little League, Assistant Coach
West Middle School, PTA-Vice President
Neighborhood Legal Services, member of board of directors
Hartford's Public Access Television, member of board of directors
Hartford's Democratic Town Committee-Third District, Spokesperson

The **House Majority Leader David Pudlin** appointed Mr. Arroyo to LPRAC in 1999.

Ivette Servera, Treasurer



(**Small Business and Economic Development**) of Farmington, works for the State of Connecticut Judicial Department, Adult Probation, at the Bristol office. She attended Sacred Heart University in Bridgeport where she received a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work with a minor in Sociology. Ms. Servera is a member of many community organizations including: past President of Handicapped Children of Puerto Rico, Bridgeport; La Danza, Bridgeport; Executive Board of Boys Scouts; President of La Casa De Puerto Rico; Leadership Greater Hartford –Marketing and Education Committees; 2nd President of Hartford Lions Club; ASPIRA Hartford effort; Hispanic Journalists Association; Connecticut Probation and Parole Association; and Republican Hispanic Women's Task Force. She volunteers with the American Red Cross on the Disaster Action Team and is a Community Liaison Volunteer. She is a frequent contributor as a writer to El Extra News, Spanish Newspaper in Hartford. She is currently a board member with the United Way.

Governor John G. Rowland appointed Ms. Servera to LPRAC in 1999.

Elena de Murias, Secretary



(Arts and Culture) of Bridgeport, is the Executive Director of the Discovery Museum located in Bridgeport. The Discovery Museum is an interactive experience for all ages focusing on art, science and space with an attendance of over 100,000 visitors annually. Ms. de Murias is also the Vice-Chairperson of Sound View Community Media, the newest affiliate of the Discovery Museum which offers television production, training and programming for six towns in Connecticut. The Discovery Museum is the first Museum in the United States to be granted the management of Public, Educational and Government access television stations.

Prior to joining the Discovery Museum in 1996, Ms. de Murias was an international banker for twenty years with Chase Manhattan and Chemical Bank living and working in Latin America, Asia, Europe and Australia. Ms. de Murias graduated from Kent School in Kent, CT.; Goucher College in Baltimore, Md. with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish; Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas with a Master's degree in Latin American Studies. She spent her junior year abroad at the University of Arts and Sciences in Valencia, Spain and attended various summer programs in Quito, Ecuador, Lima, Perú, and Guadalajara, Mexico. Ms. de Murias is on advisory councils at Kent School and Sacred Heart University. She is on the Board of Directors of Career Resources, a welfare to work organization in Bridgeport and the Greater Bridgeport Symphony. She lives in Bridgeport, Connecticut and Manhattan, New York.

She was appointed to the commission in 1998 by **Senate Minority Leader, M. Adela Eads** and re-appointed in 1999.

Efraín Rosado, Commissioner



(Public Citizen) is a 26 year New Britain resident. He attended the Catholic University of Puerto Rico and graduated from Central Connecticut State University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems.

He is employed at Cigna Corporation as a Systems Consultant. He is a former New Britain Parks and Recreation Commissioner; a member of the Saint Ann's Passion Play Cast and Board in New Britain; a member of Region 10, a New Britain Education Diversity Council, and served on the School Choice Commission created by Governor Rowland. Mr. Rosado coaches Little League Baseball and Junior Soccer.

He was appointed to the Commission in 1995, 1997, and re-appointed in 1999 by **House Minority Leader, Robert M. Ward**.

Raúl A. Rodríguez, Commissioner



(Environment) resides in Wethersfield and is an Associate at Arnold & Associates in Hartford. He has practiced public housing/residential summary process eviction law and general civil law for the past twelve years.

He is a member of the Connecticut and New York Bars. Mr. Rodríguez received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Cornell University and received his Juris Doctorate Degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo, Faculty of Law. He is a member of the Connecticut Bar Association, the Hartford County Bar Association, The Hispanic National Bar Association and the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association. He is a member of the ASPIRA Hartford Programs Coordinating Committee. He is a charter member and Vice President of Public Relations for the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission Toastmasters Club; and, Assistant Secretary and Membership Chairperson of the Hartford Evening Lions Club. He is a member of the Wethersfield Democratic Town Committee, Salvation Army Advisory Board, and Leadership Greater Hartford Class of 1999. Mr. Rodríguez wrote *“One Strike, You’re Out. Evictions in Connecticut”* which was published in the June/July 1998 issue of the Connecticut Lawyer Magazine.

He is a former member of: the United Way of Greater Hartford - Board of Directors, Chair of the Affirmative Action Committee, Member of the Allocations Steering Committee and the Neighborhood Support Collaboration. He was Chairperson of the Hartford Fair Rent Commission; member of the Hartford Commission on the City Plan; Secretary of the Hartford Democratic Party; Secretary of South / Southwest Elderly Housing Corporation Board of Directors; and, the Board of Directors of Southend Community Services Corporation.

He was appointed to the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission in 1997 by **Senate Minority Leader M. Adela Eads** and elected Chairperson March 1998. He was re-appointed in 1999.

Manuel García, Commissioner



(Human Services) was born and raised in Bridgeport. He is employed at Automation Design Concepts as a Controls Supervisor with many years of customer relations experience across the United States and Puerto Rico. He is an active member of the community. He is a chaplain with the Fairfield County Sheriffs Department of Connecticut. He provides religious service at Danbury Federal Correctional Center and at New Haven Correctional Center for Latino inmates. Mr. García has and continues to serve on various boards. He is associate Minister of Mission Good Shepherd Church, Inc. Milford, CT; a former Vice President of the Third Stone Ridge Co-op Board of Directors, a member of the Bridgeport Republican Town Committee; Justice of the Peace; a former Vice President of the South End Community Center and a member of the Royal Rangers instructing boys and men in religious and moral values.

He was appointed to the Commission in 1997 by **Governor John G. Rowland** and re-appointed in 1999.

Ramón A. Serbia, Commissioner



(Transportation) of Stamford. Has studied in the areas of Physics and Mathematics at the University of Puerto Rico, Aeronautical Engineering at the University of St. Louis, Architecture at the University of Florida, and Business Administration at the Alexander Hamilton Institute, New York. He is a licensed architect in Connecticut and New York. Currently, he is the Executive Assistant to the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation assigned to the Bureau of Transportation. He was appointed by Governor John G. Rowland as Chief State Building Inspector for the State of Connecticut in June 1995. He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the National Council of States on Building Codes and Standards (NCSBCS). Mr. Serbia is a speaker and lecturer at colleges, universities and community development organizations in the areas of economic and community development and urban planning. He is a member of the Connecticut Republican Party; the Connecticut Republican Party Finance Committee and NAACP in Stamford. He is Chairman of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly, Connecticut Chapter and former National Assistant Secretary of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly. He is the Co-Chair of Star 51 – Pro Statehood, Puerto Rico National Movement, a former advisor to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico’s Secretary of Housing and former advisor to the President of the Senate in Puerto Rico on Housing and Urban Affairs. He’s been a consultant to the XIV Pan American Games in the Dominican Republic, Office of the President of the Republic, a delegate from Puerto Rico to the Pan American Federation of Architects Congress in Colombia, a former Vice President of the College of Engineers, Architects and Surveyors in Puerto Rico. He is a former member of the San Juan, Puerto Rico, Lions Club and Co-Chair of the New Majority Council of Connecticut. He is a former member of the Stamford Republican Town Committee.

He was appointed to the Commission by the **Minority Leader of the House of Representatives Robert M. Ward** in 1995, 1997 and re-appointed in 1999.

Alma L. Maya, Commissioner



(Public Citizen) of Bridgeport, is the Executive Director of ASPIRA of Connecticut. She attended Sacred Heart University and Springfield College. Formerly, she was an Investigator for the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, and a Business Officer for the Connecticut Development Authority. Ms. Maya has participated and volunteered in many organizations, among them: the City of Bridgeport’s Charter Revision Commission; Puerto Rican Parade of Connecticut, Bridgeport Chapter, and Family Services Woodfield. She is a founding board member of ASPIRA of Connecticut, member of the State of Connecticut Board of Pardons, State Co-Chair of the Connecticut Latino Redistricting Committee, board member of the Legislative Electoral Action Program (LEAP), past President of the Puerto Rican Coalition, and a founding member of LPRAC. Currently, she is a board member of the Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition and a member of the Fairfield County Community Foundation Latino Advisory Committee.

She was appointed to the commission by **Senate Majority Leader George C. Jepsen** in 1997 and re-appointed in 1999.

Maritza Tirú, Chairperson



(Education) of Waterbury, is the Director of Career Development and Placement at Naugatuck Valley Community-Technical College in Waterbury. She has taught English as a Second Language at the college. She has a Master's Degree from the University of Connecticut. Ms. Tirú is well known in the community and is very involved in many local organizations. These include: the Chamber of Commerce – Waterbury Leadership Program, Community Vision for Waterbury, Vice-Chair of the Educational Task Force, Literacy Volunteers of America – Waterbury Chapter, Mayor's Task Force Against Drugs, Spanish Action Council – Past President 1992-1994, School-Based Health Center Planning Committee, American Red Cross – Waterbury Chapter. Waterbury PRIDE-N.A.A.C.P., CT Trails Girls Scout Council, Get Them Off Program (GTOP), Minority Empowerment Coalition – Vice-President, Northwest Collaboration Committee, UCONN Advisory Board, Waterbury Area Services Team, The Displaced Homemaker Program Advisory Board and Youth Advocacy Association of Greater Waterbury. Ms. Tirú was recently selected to serve a two-year term to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. She is also the student advisor to the Black Student Union and the Hispanic Student Union at the college.

Ms. Tirú was appointed to the Commission originally in 1995, reappointed in 1996, and reappointed again in 1999 by **Governor John G. Rowland**.

Carlos Vázquez, Commissioner



(Children and Youth Development) of Bridgeport has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Sacred Heart University. Currently, he is the Director of Government Affairs at United Illuminating Company in New Haven. There, he develops and implements the company's agenda of issues for action before the State of Connecticut General Assembly and the United States Congress.

He has and continues to serve on various boards and is a founding member of the Association of Connecticut Lobbyists, President in 1996-1999 member of Board of Directors of Visiting Nurses Association, President of the Utilities State Government Organization, and former District Chairman of the Eastern Region, Savoy Athletic Club, member of Board of Directors & Sergeant at Arms of the Spanish American Development Agency (SADA), Commissioner and Vice Chairman of the City of Bridgeport's Zoning Board of Appeals. He is a member of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council as well as of the Government Affairs Council, Bridgeport Beardsley Park Lions Club, Bridgeport Jobs Advisory Board – Private Industry Council and its successor organization Bridgeport Career Resources, Inc. Board of Directors, and Liceo Cubano de Bridgeport. From 1996 to the present he has been Vice Chairman of the Bridgeport Democratic Town Committee.

Mr. Vázquez was appointed to the Commission in 1997 and re-appointed in 1999 by the **Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin B. Sullivan**.

Julián Nieves, III, M.D., Vice Chairperson



(**Health**) of Hartford, has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology with Honors from Andrews University in Michigan. He also holds a Doctor of Medicine Degree from Cornell University Medical College in New York. He completed his residency at the Yale Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program in New Haven. He is Board Certified in the State of Connecticut in the field of Internal Medicine. Dr. Nieves is currently the Assistant Director of the Department of Medicine at Hartford Hospital. He also serves as the Director for Community Relations, Medical Director of Salud Primero (Health First) at Hartford Hospital. He serves as Medical Director of Ambulatory Care Practice-Compañeros en Salud (Partners in Health) at the Hispanic Health Council. Dr. Nieves is also an Assistant Professor with the Department of Medicine at the University of Connecticut's School of Medicine. From 1997 to 1998, Dr. Nieves was a Researcher with the Stay Well Health Center in the Yale Primary Care Internal Medicine Program where he investigated comprehensive primary care in inner city populations. He served as a Research Assistant with the Department of Medicine at the University of Connecticut's School of Medicine where he developed a self-report hunger scale in clinical study of malnutrition in Hartford, Connecticut. Dr. Nieves also worked as a Research Assistant with the Hispanic Health Council investigating the possible health hazard involving the use of elemental mercury in folk remedies. Dr. Nieves received an "Excellence in Teaching" award from the University of Connecticut Student Continuity Practice. He is also a member of the Connecticut Medical Society and the American Medical Society.

He was appointed to the Commission in 1999 by Senate **President Pro Tempore, Kevin Sullivan.**

Américo Santiago, Commissioner



(**Public Citizen**) of Waterbury, currently working for DemocracyWorks as a consultant. He was the Assistant Secretary of the State of Connecticut and the Legislative Director for the Office of the Secretary of State. He was responsible for voter registration and education along with monitoring and assisting in the development and tracking of legislation. He was elected to the Connecticut House of Representatives for four terms from 1988 to 1995. He was a member of the Bridgeport City Council from 1987 to 1989 and is on the Democratic Town Committee since 1983. Mr. Santiago is a member of the Puerto Rican Parade, Co-Founder of Aspira of Connecticut. Co-Founder of the National Puerto Rican Congress and former Vice-President, and a member of El Congreso in Bridgeport. Former Chairperson of LPRAC from 1997-1998.

He was appointed to the Commission in 1995 and re-appointed in 2001 by **Senate Majority Leader, George Jepsen.**

VACANT

(Public Safety) *Appointment made by: Speaker of the House Moira K. Lyons.*

VACANT

(Housing) *Appointment Made by: Speaker of the House Moira K. Lyons.*

The Commission Shall:

Legislative Mandates

1. Review and comment on any proposed state legislation and regulations that would affect the Latino and Puerto Rican populations in the state;
2. Advise and provide information to the Governor on the state's policies concerning the Latino and Puerto Rican communities;
3. Advise the Governor concerning the coordination and administration of state programs serving the Latino and Puerto Rican populations;
4. Maintain a liaison between the Latino and Puerto Rican communities and governmental entities;
5. Encourage Latino and Puerto Rican representation at all levels of state government, including state boards and commissions;
6. Secure appropriate recognition of the accomplishments and contributions of the Latino and Puerto Rican populations of the state; and
7. Prepare and submit to the Governor an annual report concerning its activities with any appropriate recommendations concerning the Latino and Puerto Rican populations of the state.

*(Excerpt from Section 2-120(c). Chapter 23d
of the Connecticut General Statutes.)*

Executive Director's Report



Executive Director
Fernando Betancourt

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission (LPRAC) continued to build on the excellent foundation established in the year 2000. We went to the legislature with a variety of recommendations including immigrant rights, voter rights restoration and funding for initiatives such as asthma research and training for court interpreters. We collaborated with Connecticut's Latino legislators to enhance our success and worked closely with the Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association regarding the court interpreters legislation. It gives us great pleasure to report that we were able to capture additional funding for the asthma research and the court interpreters training as well as to witness the passage of the first immigrant rights bill for the State of Connecticut. The Voter Rights Restoration law also passed in the house and senate. LPRAC also basked in the fruit of our labor related to the workplace discrimination public hearing held in the Spring of 2000. That hearing came about through the collaboration of this agency and State Representative Minnie González and the participation of such national organizations as the Federal Equal Employment and Opportunities Commission and the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Another major success for the Commission was the release of our second socio economic study on the status of Latinos in Connecticut. We released the study on Tuesday, June 5, 2001 at a press conference held at the State Capitol. Representatives from the Center for Research and Public Policy participated and outlined some of the findings for the legislators, commissioners, press and members of the public present that day. We also had representation from the Graustein Memorial Fund without whose funding we would not have been able to undertake the study. We were also very pleased with the participation of our Latino legislators: Representatives Evelyn Mantilla, John Martínez, Minnie González, Felipe Reinoso and Lydia Martínez. The report has been well-received and it is our intent to take the data further by hiring a part time policy consultant to prepare a policy document to bring before the legislature.

Our agency held its third annual awards gala to celebrate accomplished Latinos from throughout the State. Once again we sold out the event and had over 600 Latino and non-Latino prominent individuals in attendance helping us fulfill the legislative mandate to recognize Latino leaders in our state.

We are participants in a new initiative the fundraising community known as "Hispanics in Philanthropy". The group is working to organize the public and private giving within the Latino community and identify better strategies for a more effective way of providing funding to community-based organizations throughout the State. This is a very exciting project whose time has come and we are delighted to be at the table at its inception.

Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs commissioners and staff continue to collaborate with State, public and private agencies in order to better serve our community. This past year we organized a two-day dual language institute in collaboration with the Hartford Public Schools. The event drew an overflow crowd to the Legislative Office Building where they intensely participated in the dialogue about bilingual programs within school systems throughout the United States. The event was so

successful that it is in the planning stages again for the summer of 2002. We are also represented on a focus group convened by the Children's Health Council dealing with Limited English Proficiency for participants in the Husky A program of the Department of Social Services. The group's goal is to identify strategies for better medical services access for limited English proficient populations throughout the State. We rallied hand in hand with members of the public, State legislators and other interested parties on the issue of Vieques and the Navy's installation there. LPRAC also participated throughout the year on a new initiative called "Reflecting Connecticut/Reflejando a Connecticut" which was organized by a partnership with the African American Affairs Commission, the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, DemocracyWorks, National Conference for Community and Justice to promote diversity on State Boards and Commissions. The partnership sponsored four forums statewide in an effort to recruit as diverse a pool of candidates as possible. The highlight of the initiative is the promotion the talent banks maintained by the 3 participating state commissions. In addition, the partnership reached out in other areas to give additional opportunities for the community to serve; areas such as municipal boards and commissions and non-profit boards. They are also looking to participate with the State Treasurer's Office in providing access to people of color and women on corporate boards as well.

TOASTMASTERS CLUB



From Left to Right: David Busanet, founding President of LPRAC's Toastmasters receives award from current President Ruth Espinosa.

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission "Toastmasters Club" achieved President's Distinguished Club status. Its members accomplished this goal by obtaining 9 out of the 10 points needed to be so named. LPRAC's Toastmasters Club is the only bilingual club in Connecticut. It was formed in 1997 through the efforts of its first President, David Busanet. This accomplishment is a fitting tribute to him, Commissioner Raúl Rodríguez, former Club President, Bonnie Lebron, past Club President, Ruth Espinosa, current Club President and members Ann Smith and Julia Serrano who work so vigorously in increasing Club membership. We congratulate them for this prestigious achievement. The Club meets twice per month and hosts influential leaders from throughout the state.

We also developed a legislative agenda and priorities in collaboration with the Latino State Delegation and successfully advocated for legislation that passed in the best interest of our community. It was extremely satisfying to learn that the Latino population in

Connecticut has become the majority population of the underrepresented classes coming in at 9.4 percent of the population just edging out the African American community which came in at 9.1 percent per the most recent Census data. We are elated with our achievements this past year and look forward to your continued support and participation in the many areas we will be continuing our efforts on behalf of the up and coming Latino community in the State of Connecticut.

Your involvement is crucial and very much appreciated by the Commissioners and Staff of the Commission. We look forward to building upon our continued success in 2002.

Sincerely,

Fernando Betancourt
Executive Director

SPECIAL PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES

First Annual Dual Language Institute, Co-sponsored by The Hartford Public Schools and the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission.



From Left to Right: A reporter with “La Identidad” Newspaper, Dr. Ana Maria Olezza, Dr. Rosa Quezada and Carol Bernson Shapiro, event organizers and all from The Hartford Public Schools.



L-R - Dr. Elizabeth Howard, Dr. Mary Cazabon, Dr. Margarita Calderón and Dr. Ester de Jong, four of the workshop presenters at the first Dual Language Institute co-sponsored by The Hartford Public Schools and the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission.

The Hartford Public Schools in collaboration with the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission of the State of Connecticut, held a very successful two day dual language education two-day institute on Thursday and Friday, June 28 and 29, 2001. The event was held primarily at the Legislative Office Building but portions of the Capitol were utilized as well.

The two day institute was advertised nationally and, as a result, both days were well-attended and the conference rooms were filled to capacity. The key presenters were outstanding in their wide-ranging knowledge of what a successful dual language program entails as well as in the manner in which they presented their information. The institute was attended by practitioners as well as administrators from school systems throughout the country.

The keynote presenters were: Dr. Mary Cazabon, Director of Bilingual and ESL Programs for the Cambridge Public Schools in Massachusetts; as well as Dr. Margarita Calderón, Research Scientist with Johns Hopkins University; Dr. Ester de Jong, Assistant Director of Bilingual Education for the Framingham Public Schools and Ms. Elizabeth Howard, Research Associate with the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington, D.C.

“It is an honor to hold our Dual Language Institute entitled “Dual Language Education in the New Millennium”, the first one of its kind in the State of Connecticut” said Anthony Amato, Superintendent of Schools for the Hartford Public School System. As he addressed the overflow crowd the first day, he stressed the importance of bilingualism indicating that research and experience have demonstrated that a dual language system improves academic outcomes for all students. He energized the crowd with his knowledge of the topic and his strong support for providing each and every child with the opportunity to interact in more than one language. He considers bilingualism a way of ensuring that all students receive a quality education and unlimited opportunities to succeed.

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission is delighted to have helped sponsor such a successful and first of its kind event. We look forward to continued collaborations with the outstanding staff of the Hartford Public Schools.

La Danza

Commissioners and staff of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission attended “La Danza” on May 11, 2001 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. The purpose of our presence there was to support Commissioner Elena de Murias who was selected as the Volunteer of the Year by the organization. “La Danza” is an annual event organized by leaders of the Latino community in Bridgeport to honor the various Latino countries represented within its population. This year was dedicated to Mexico and dancers performed the various dances from different regions of the country to the delight of the guests in attendance that evening.



Alberto Ibarguen, Publisher of the Miami Herald and the keynote speaker at the **2000 Latino Leadership Summit** chats with some of the Summit participants including Assistant State Treasurer, Madelyn Colón and LPRAC Commissioner Américo Santiago.

Latino Agenda for the New Millennium

LPRAC continues to work on an agenda for the new millennium. It has released a second socio economic study on the status of Latinos in Connecticut. In addition, Commission staff has vigorously worked on a number of legislative priorities that provide additional benefits to Latinos in the State. Some of these include an immigrants rights bill, court interpreter training and voter rights restoration. The staff is also working on the development of a second Latino Leadership Summit building on the phenomenal success of the first Summit which was held in December 2000. Finally, LPRAC continues to build collaborations among State, private and non-profit organizations in order to increase its outreach on behalf of the Latino community.

Third Annual Gala Awards Banquet



R: Young Carlos González and family at the Gala Awards where he received Special Recognition.



Anthony Amato, Hartford Superintendent of Schools and Keynote Speaker at Third Annual Gala Awards.

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission held its third annual Awards Gala at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Cromwell. The Banquet was well-attended drawing over 600 prominent Latino and non-Latino individuals from throughout the state.

We recognized the following individuals and organization for their outstanding achievements on behalf of the Latino community:

Latino Citizens of the Year:

Patricia McCann-Vissepo

Dr. Julio Morales

Promesa Youth Award:

Aracelis Vazquez

Community Service Award:

Hartford Evening Lions Club

Special Recognitions:

Edna Garcia, Former State Rep.

Hector Diaz, Former State Rep.

**Fernanda Barreiros-Jacobs,
Former LPRAC Leg. Analyst**

By recognizing these outstanding individuals and organizations, we were able to meet one of our State mandates to promote awareness of the accomplishments of our community.

Latino Socio-Economic Study

Through a grant received from the Graustein Memorial Fund, staff of LPRAC was able to contract with the Center for Research and Public Policy in order to study the socio-economic conditions of the Latino community statewide. The study (the second one of its kind) was released at a press conference held on Tuesday, June 5, 2001 at the State Capitol's Old Judiciary Room. The press conference was well-attended and members and staff of the Commission, Latino and non-Latino legislators and staff of the Center for Research and Public Policy were present to participate in the presentation and question and answer period.

C ALAHE Awards

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission co-sponsored the Fifth Annual Scholarship Awards Celebration held by the Connecticut Association of Latin Americans in Higher Education on Wednesday, June 27, 2001 at the State Capitol's Old Judiciary Room. It was a fantastic event and there was a great cross section of support from throughout the community. There were five youth that were recognized from throughout the State and awarded \$2000 scholarships each.

Puerto Rico Family Monument



The artist, José Buscaglia and a host of Hispanic community reps received the Puerto Rican Family Monument at the State Armory in May 2001.

The Special Projects Director, Lucy Goicoechea-Hernández and our Legislative Analyst, Werner Oyanadel, were present last May, 2001 when the Puerto Rico Family Monument was delivered to Connecticut by the artist Jose Buscaglia. The "Organización de Puertorriqueños Unidos" along with the Hispanic Professional Network arranged to have the Monument temporarily housed at the State Armory on Broad Street until all the funds necessary for final placement at Bushnell Park are raised. The event was covered by the print and broadcast media and the Artist as well as members of the two sponsoring organizations were interviewed.

For further information regarding the monument, please visit our website at www.cga.state.ct.us/lprac.

Management Assessment Study

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission held an informal retreat at the home of the Chairperson of the Commission for the purpose of setting agenda regarding the work the Commission would be undertaking for the upcoming year. A more formal retreat is planned for 2002 where a facilitator will be hired to help the Commission identify strengths, weaknesses, areas where our work has been beneficial and those areas we still need to work on to further enhance our successes.

Census 2000 Project

The results of the Statewide Census count are in! The Latino community in Connecticut has grown to 9.4 percent of the population. This makes the Latino community the largest underrepresented or what is considered a “minority” group in the State. African Americans make up 9.2 percent of the population. This is an exciting time for the Commission as these numbers released by the Census help us to organize our priorities related to the advocacy we provide at the legislature on behalf of this now majority community.

Statewide Voter Rights and Redistricting Committee

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission collaborated with the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund with the development of statewide voting rights and redistricting committees in Connecticut. The State lost population and, as a result, a legislative seat was taken away on the national level. The Redistricting Committees met to determine how best to draw the new district maps for the State so that there would be minimal impact on the Latino community. Committees were established in the major cities including Hartford, Waterbury, Bridgeport and New Britain. The State established a legislative committee that would take into consideration any information submitted by citizens with recommendations as to how best to re-draw the district boundary lines in order to take into account the elimination of one U.S. Representative seat. The final map would then be implemented by the Fall of 2001 or, in the case the legislative committee cannot decide how best to re-draw the maps, it would go to the State Supreme Court for their input.

Puerto Rico Social Work Interns' Site Visit

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission (LPRAC), in collaboration with Dr. Julio Morales of the University of Connecticut's School of Social Work, hosted a site visit by Social Work Interns from the University of Puerto Rico. The students gained information on the mission of our agency and the types of services we provide the Latino community here in Connecticut. Staff of LPRAC arranged for a tour of the State Capitol and Legislative Office Building for the visiting students along with an opportunity to meet the five Latino legislators serving in Connecticut's legislature.

Navy from Vieques, Puerto Rico

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission, in keeping with the resolution it sponsored in support of the removal of the Navy from Vieques, participated in a rally held in May, 2001 on Pearl Street in Hartford along with Latino legislators and other prominent Latino leaders.

Two-Day Dual Language Institute

The Hartford Public Schools presented its first Dual Language Institute at the Legislative Office Building on June 27 and 28, 2001 in collaboration with the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission. The Superintendent of Schools, Anthony Amato, welcomed the overflow crowd to the Institute on the first day. There were 5 experts in dual language education featured throughout the two days. It was refreshing to hear the statistics on the variety of languages taught throughout the school systems in the United States. For example, some school systems in the State of Massachusetts teach Armenian while others with a high Vietnamese population teach Hmong. Because the Institute was so successful the district is planning to hold a second one in the summer of 2002.

Website Availability

The Commission's website is being revamped to include a variety of information so that it is as useful to the visitors as possible. It is under construction and you will see the changes and difference in its user-friendliness very shortly. We have contracted the work through a website consultant in order to assure compliance with all state regulations related to website construction and public access.

Latino Leadership Development Network

LPRAC co-sponsored the first biennial summit on leadership development in cooperation with the Latino Leadership Development Network and Leadership Greater Hartford. The mission of the conference is to bring together outstanding Latino leaders from throughout the State to work towards solutions to issues important to the Latino community. The summit was a great success and you can read about some of the outcomes on page 29 of this report.

Empowering Families to Build a Better Life.

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission co-sponsored this conference on empowering families in collaboration with the Connecticut Institute for Municipal Studies and a variety of statewide agencies including the Connecticut Voices for Children, Commission on Children, the Child Advocate and the Department of Education. The conference was held at the Waterbury Sheraton and was well attended. The State's Attorney General attended and complimented the organizations and individuals in attendance for wanting to reach out to families in order to address the pressing problems experienced within the State's school systems. The outcome of the conference was the development of a series of working meetings to develop three working documents that would include a variety of solutions that then could be replicated and implemented within all of the school systems.

Professional Association of Bilingual Education Administrators

The Professional Association of Bilingual Education Administrators approached the Commission for assistance with legislation affecting English language learners. Meetings were held where the PABEA took a position on the matter. As a result, strategy sessions were held and it was agreed that a meeting would be held with the State Department of Education leading to a final meeting with the Commissioner of Education, Ted Sergi.

Restoration of Voter Rights

Collaborating with a number of state legislators including Representative Kenneth Green (D - 1 District) and Deputy Majority Leader John Martínez (D - 95 District), along with DemocracyWorks, the LPRAC supported the restoration of voter rights for people who have been convicted of a felony and served a prison sentence to register to vote upon release from the correctional system. The LPRAC believes that Connecticut should change the existing law to allow for an “End of Incarceration” standard that in effect would re-enfranchise more than 36,000 people in the state. Of that number, according to the Office of Legislative Research 10,235 are Latinos. These figures present an alarming picture of community disenfranchisement that we share with other communities of color. The commission’s support for this legislation represents a unique opportunity to send a powerful message to the Connecticut legislature: We believe in the rehabilitation of our citizens and that society is ready to provide the mechanism to reintegrate these individuals in the democratic process. A bulletin board campaign is planned in order to get out the information on where people can call to have their voting rights restored upon release from prison.

Campaign Finance Reform

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission collaborated with legislative initiatives spearheaded by State Representative Andrew Fleischmann (D-18 District) and other advocates for campaign finance reform in order to pass legislation that would give individuals from our community an opportunity to equally participate in the electoral process. Our goal in supporting this legislation is to allow for a fair and equitable means of funding a political campaign so that Latino candidates for elective office have a better chance of competing dollar for dollar. LPRAC testified before the Government Administration and Elections Committee in February supporting this bill.

Legislative Update

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission (LPRAC) is proud to inform you that we wrote testimony for twenty seven different legislative proposals and monitored over sixty four bills that had a potential impact on the Latino community in Connecticut for the 2001 Legislative Session. We are very excited to report that eleven of these proposals were adopted into law. Furthermore, five out of these eleven new regulations were part of LPRAC's 2001 Legislative Agenda. The following is a summary of these eleven new state policies separated by categories of Health, Criminal Justice, Government Reform, Children, Immigration and Housing issues. For additional detail on any of the below listed items, please visit the website at www.cga.state.ct.us/lprac.

Legislative 2001 Priorities

Supported or Co-sponsored the Following Legislation

**Court Interpreters & Creation of Accreditation
Standards in Connecticut**

Asthma

Voting Rights

Restoration of Judicial Discretion in Mandatory Sentencing

Equitable Wages for Early Childhood Professionals

Immigrant Rights

Public Assistance Benefits for Legal Immigrants

Supportive Housing "PILOTS"

\$10 Million Increase in Bonding for Housing

Rental Assistance Program

Mental Health Investment Fund

Asthma

LPRAC in collaboration with its own Legislative and Priorities Committee successfully assisted legislators

The Commission was successful in a number of areas during this legislative session including in the area of voter rights, immigrant rights and court interpreter assessment and training.

create a system that will better collect data for specific social and health status indicators in Connecticut. This issue is critical to the Commission because of the high number of Latinos with Asthma. LPRAC Commissioners and staff met with Commissioner of Public Health, Joxel García to discuss avenues for resolving the lack of uniform data

collection on race and ethnicity within State databases among several other areas of concern regarding asthma.

Court Interpreters

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission is happy to report that our efforts to strengthen the quality of the work performed by court interpreters will now be expanded through a new process of certification. New court interpreters will now need to be accredited by the National Center for State Court Interpreters.

Voting Rights

Another great victory this legislative session deals with another issue highlighted at our legislative reception on November 30, 2001. An act restoring voting rights of convicted felons who are on probation. Under this new law, Public Act 01-11, felons who have not been convicted of elections related crimes are eligible to have their voting rights restored when released from the Department of Correction's custody.

Restoration of Judicial Discretion in Mandatory Sentencing

LPRAC supports this new law in light of the well documented societal issues that impact the prison population and the crime rate. These factors comprise many issues that are prevalent within the Latino population in Connecticut, for instance, poverty, lower educational attainment, lack of employment opportunities, homelessness, drug or alcohol abuse and mental illness. This new law, Public Act 01-99, allows judges to impose less than the law's mandatory minimum sentence on non-violent offenders. Defendants must show good cause and invoke the act's provisions only once, and judges must put on the record their reasons for imposing a lesser sentence. Certain drug offenses involving children are excluded.

Equitable Wages for Early Childhood Professionals

Latinos are the youngest population in the United States, one-third of Latinos in the country are under 18 years of age and they represent approximately 15 percent of the k-12 population. Yet, many resources a child brings into the classroom, such as a second language are not universally valued, the active participation of parents in the education of their children are not facilitated, and educational assessments, often in the form of tests, are incorrectly used to make decisions that negatively impact the student. These factors continue throughout the educational pipeline, from early childhood through graduate and professional education. As a result of these factors, the Latino population finds itself always behind in educational matters compared to other ethnic groups.

Immigrant Rights

This landmark legislation designed to inform immigrant workers about their employment rights was signed into law by Governor Rowland July 6, 2001. The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission, the New England Regional Council of Carpenters and the National Employment Law Project sponsored the law. This issue is very relevant because we believe that Connecticut should be at the forefront in the protection of all citizens and residents of the state regardless of their national origin. The new law, Public Act 01-147, requires Connecticut's Labor Commissioner to produce information in Spanish and other languages describing employee rights under Connecticut wage and hour laws and unemployment compensation laws.

Public Assistance Benefits for Legal Immigrants

LPRAC is very pleased to announce that SB 935, "An Act Providing for the Continuation of Public Assistance Benefits for Legal Immigrants" was adopted into law via sections 108-112, 126 and 127 of Public Act 01-9. This new law keeps solely state-funded welfare programs open for legal immigrants who are barred from federally funded programs but, with several exceptions, prohibits new applications after June 30, 2002. Under current law, many of these programs would have ended July 1, 2001.

Supportive Housing "PILOTS" Initiative Housing Development and Services Funded

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs commission through its collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Coalition and Partnership for Strong Communities is happy to report that phase 2 of the Supportive Housing PILOTS initiative was funded with \$1.5 million for support services connected to housing in the first year of the biennium and another \$1.5 million in the second year of the biennium. The coalition was also successful in securing funding for the "**bricks and mortar**"- the money to build or rehabilitate housing with \$15 million in surplus dollars and \$10 million in bonding.

\$10 Million Increase in Bonding for Housing

The partnership has successfully worked to secure an agreement between legislative leadership and the Office of Policy and Management to assure that \$10 million of bond funds at the Department of Economic and Community Development will be allocated in the next twelve months for production of new affordable housing units-either through rehabilitation or new construction.

Rental Assistance Program (RAP)

The budget included \$1.2 million to pay for an increase in fair market rents for the Rental Assistance Program (RAP). The funding is critical because without it, the number of available subsidies would have been reduced in order to raise the rent levels.

Mental Health Investment Fund

\$25 million in surplus funds have been directed for a Community Mental Health Strategic Investment. This is a big victory for the Keep the Promise Campaign-a campaign that LPRAC supports, which has advocated during the last two legislative sessions for improving community-based services for people with mental illness.

The following is a list of major presentations or participation by the Executive Director on behalf of the LPRAC

engagements & presentations

American Leadership Forum Participation.

National Puerto Rican Coalition Conference Attendance.

National Conference on State Legislatures Attendance.

Connecticut Hispanic Association of State Employees' Presentation.

Testified regarding Fleet Bank's merger with Bank Boston.

Presentation at Fairfield University Regarding the Future of Hispanic America.

Participated in the Judicial Branch's Hispanic Heritage Month celebration.

Participated in the Hate Crime Conference sponsored by the US Attorney's Office.

Presentation at the Hispanic Health Council regarding people in the Latino community living with disabilities.

Appointed to the Family Leave Act Task Force by the General Assembly.

Presentation at the Housing Coalition Conference.

Presentation at the Forum on Commission on Aging in Waterbury.

Presentation at the Sexual Assault Crisis-Laws of the State Conference.

Participated in the survey and focus group of the Funders Collaborative for Strong Latino Communities.

Presentations on Vieques at Trinity College, Wesleyan University and the New Haven Public Library.

Panelist to discuss the Social State of Connecticut Report sponsored by the State's Commission on Children.

Conversations with Attorney General for development of a Latino Consumer University.

State Treasurer named the Executive Director to the Fleet-Boston Bank Regional Advisory Board on Community Reinvestment.

Participated in the Comité Amigos del Caribe Relief Fund for Venezuela.

Received an Appreciation Award from the Connecticut Association of Latin Americans in Higher Education.

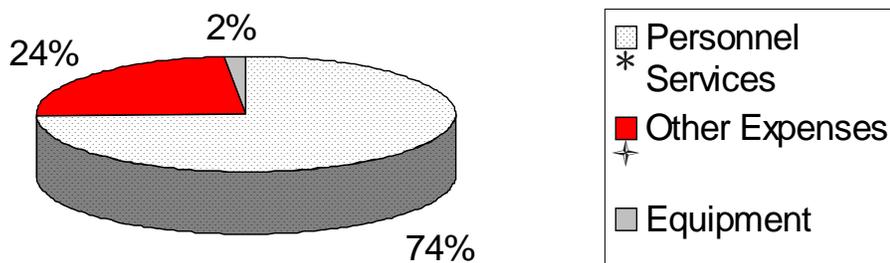
Provided information for use in a Waterbury-Republican Newspaper article on the Greater Waterbury Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Invited to Serve on the Board of Fellows of the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education.

The Budget 2000 - 2001

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>APPROPRIATED</u>
<i>Personnel Services</i>	\$ 300,172.00
<i>Other Expenses</i>	\$ 78,180.00
<i>Equipment</i>	\$ 5,250.00
TOTAL	\$ 383,602.00

The Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs Commission Budget 2000-2001



* **Personnel Services** increased by one position this fiscal year allowing for the hiring of a Public Information Officer.

† **Other expenses** includes contracted services as well as staff development & printing costs.

First Latino Leadership Summit

*In Collaboration with
The Latino Leadership Network and
Leadership Greater Hartford*

The Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission (LPRAC) was delighted to host the first of its kind Latino Leadership Summit in collaboration with the Latino Leadership Development Network (LLDN), an ad hoc committee of Leadership Greater Hartford. Despite the inclement weather on Friday morning, December 6, 2000, there were well

over 500 Latino leaders from throughout the State in attendance. The Summit was the brainchild of the LLDN and staff of the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission. The day featured a series of workshops each with its own topic of interest to the Latino community: health, education, civic involvement/civic responsibility and youth were all subjects that were thoroughly and passionately debated by the attendees. The goal of the conference was to, not only hold this important summit, but to also take something with us that we could work on and report back on at the next Summit.

The Keynote Speaker for the day was Alberto Ibarguen. He is currently the Publisher of the Miami Herald but is a long time friend of many here in the Hartford community. As a former resident and executive with the Connecticut National Bank, Alberto knew many of the Summit participants firsthand. He was very motivational in his presentation and everyone delighted in speaking to him after his presentation.

We had participants such as the State Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, the State Commissioner for Public Health, Dr.



Marilda Gándara, President and CEO of the Aetna Foundation facilitating the Civic Involvement Workshop during the 2000 Leadership Summit.

Joxel García, Pete Rosa and Ernie Marquez from the State University System, Marilda Gándara, President and CEO of the Aetna Foundation and Superintendent of Hartford Schools, Anthony Amato.. Many of these individuals offered to facilitate a workshop or sit on a panel related to their expertise. They did an outstanding job of getting participants to buy into the development of an outcome they wished to take with them after the day's activities and report back at the next Summit targeted for 2002.

It was very moving to hear from the youth (about 30 students from the various colleges and universities) in attendance about how they were inspired by the enthusiasm in the room and the many Latino leaders from all over the state that they did not know about till that day. There were two young men from Central Connecticut State University who were planning a youth summit similar to the one being held that morning in order to work on issues specific to them as students. The summit was a huge success and we look forward to collaborating with LLDN and LGH on the next one.

LPRAC Hosts First Latino Leadership Summit.

The Staff



Fernando Betancourt, Executive Director, Moraima Gutiérrez, Media Specialist,
Lucy Goicoechea-Hernández, Special Projects Director,
Tersee Flores, Legislative Secretary and Werner Oyanadel, Legislative Analyst.

THE LATINO & PUERTO RICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION TOASTMASTERS CLUB

Invites you to attend the only bilingual communications skills building organization in the state.

The Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs Commission Toastmasters Club will help you develop your bilingual communications skills in either English or Spanish through multiple roles, speeches and competitions.

For further information, please call us at:
(860) 240-8330.

This report was prepared by:

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Thank You

Thank you to the many agencies and organizations who collaborated with LPRAC this past year.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

COMMISSION MEETINGS
ARE HELD EVERY THIRD
WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH AT THE
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING,
SUITE 2600
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

5:30 PM -- 8:00 PM

We are always looking to add to our talent bank and we ask that if you are not already listed, please contact our office to find out how your name can be part of our list. This database is helpful in generating candidates to serve on State Boards and Commissions.

Committees of the Commission

The following committees meet at least quarterly in order to undertake the various assignments that culminate in the accomplishment of the work of the Agency:

Executive

Article VIII of the By Laws
This committee meets monthly.

Procedures & Personnel

Article IX (e) of the By Laws
Meets as related issues arise.

Priorities & Legislation

Article IX (g) of the By Laws
Meets during Legislative Session.

Budget

Article IX (f) of the By Laws
This committee meets in the fall.

Affirmative Action & Talent Bank

Article IX (h) of the By Laws
Meets as related issues arise.

Public Information & Education

Article IX (l) of the By Laws
Meets as related issues arise.

Special Projects

Article IX (j) of the By Laws
Meets as related issues arise.



The Commission meets on the third Wednesday of every month except in August.

**Connecticut General Assembly's
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