

Latino Initiative Update



Latino Initiative Update Number 4 October 17, 2007

Dear Latino Initiative Advisory Group Members:

It was great to meet many of you in person at our *20-Somethings in the 21st Century* reception and event on October 3-4. I look forward to meeting the rest of you in person as more opportunities arise. For those who were unable to make it, we had a fantastic event. Our very own advisory group member Betty Cortina, Editorial Director of *Latina* magazine, served as a dynamic panelist on Panel I: "The Third Decade" and discussed issues Latinas in their 20s face in the 21st Century. Bill Galston, Campaign Board member, Chair of our Personal Responsibility, Religion and Values Advisory Group and Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution set the foundation for this panel with his presentation, "The Changing 20s" – the presentation is attached for your reference. The National Campaign released two new facts sheets on unplanned pregnancy among 20-somethings at the event. These two fact sheets, in addition to the others on unplanned pregnancy the Campaign has created, are all available on our web site at www.thenc.org/resources/fact-sheets.aspx.

In other exciting news, we have decided on a new name for our organization. The organization has been running under the transitional name *The National Campaign* and we will now officially be known as *The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy*. This means that our name in Spanish will also change. Our Latino Initiative Advisory Group Chair, Daisy Expósito-Ulla, has been a tremendous help in fine-tuning a few possible names with us.

The three choices we have decided to present to you **for your review and feedback** are:

- "La Campaña Nacional para la Prevención del Embarazo Juvenil o No Planificado"
- "La Campaña Nacional para la Prevención de Embarazos Juveniles o No Planificados"
- "La Campaña Nacional para Prevenir el Embarazo Adolescente o No Planificado"

Your input on the best name for our organization in Spanish is greatly appreciated by Tuesday, October 23.

Also, the most current version of our mission and goal are noted below which will also be translated in Spanish once these are approved by our board in mid-November. We will then seek your advice during our conference call in December on the Spanish translation (more details on our conference call are listed below).

The National Campaign Mission

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy seeks to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families and, in particular, to help ensure that children are born into stable, two-parent families who are committed to and ready for the demanding task of raising the next generation. Our specific strategy is to prevent teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among single, young adults. We support a combination of responsible values and behavior by both men and women and responsible policies in both the public and private sectors.

If we are successful, child and family well-being will improve. There will be less poverty, more opportunities for young men and women to complete their education or achieve other life goals, fewer abortions, and a stronger nation.

The National Campaign Goal

When the National Campaign was launched in 1996, we set a goal of reducing the teen pregnancy rate by one-third over 10 years. It now appears as though the nation will achieve this ambitious goal. Despite these declines, the teen pregnancy rate remains far too high. Consequently, in 2006, the National Campaign set another goal—to reduce the teen pregnancy rate by another one-third between 2006 and 2015.

The National Campaign is now expanding its focus to reduce unplanned pregnancy among young adults. A second, separate goal addressing unplanned pregnancy among young adults will be announced in the upcoming months.

Our Next Conference Call

First and foremost, thanks to all who voted on our upcoming conference call. Since our goal is to have the majority of the members participate, and the dates we proposed in November worked for only a few members, we have decided to hold our conference call in December. Please write the dates that will not work for you from December 10 – 19 below:

The dates that will not work for me to participate in our next LIAG conference call from December 10 – 19 are: _____.

Your response is greatly appreciated by Tuesday, October 23. We will then select the best date and move forward with our much anticipated call.

Additional LIAG Members & Fall Fellow

We are continuing our search process for additional members to join our Latino Initiative Advisory Group, particularly from the corporate and religious sectors. Thanks to our Chair, Daisy's connection with Father Alberto Cutie in Miami, Andrea and I had a fruitful conversation with him a few weeks ago and we look forward to sharing with you the ideas we are exploring with him during our conference call in December. Your recommendations for other potential LIAG members are most welcome!

Thank you to those who enthusiastically spread the word about our Latino Initiative Fall Fellow position to your colleagues and friends. We are excited to announce that our new fellow, Kristen Petros, will be joining our team on Friday, October 19. Kristen received her masters in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas in May and has done research on the *maquiladora* industry across the Mexico-U.S. border. She is bilingual, a very good writer, and will be a wonderful addition and support to our Latino Initiative team, assisting with key projects and covering a range of functional areas including: correspondence; meeting and conference preparations; research projects; media research; outreach to new partners; technical assistance; web site review and updates; and partnerships with faith communities.

Research Reviews

THANK YOU to all who generously submitted comments and feedback on our research review by LIAG member Vincent Guilamo-Ramos and his colleague Alida Bouris: "Parent-Adolescent Communication About Sex in Latino Families: A Practitioner Guide." In the words of author Vincent Guilamo-Ramos: "We were excited to read the independently submitted reviews from Campaign staff and members of the Latino Initiative Advisory Group. The reviews were helpful and provided important recommendations to strengthen the guide. In some cases, reviewers made conflicting suggestions and we opted for one Reviewer's preference over the other or our own. We have tried to be responsive to all of the suggested changes. We are enthusiastic about the revision and hope that the Campaign and LIAG members are pleased with the revised guide." The document is now going through final editing at the Campaign, and then will be sent out for design and printing.

We are happy to announce that our second research review examining Latino teen and parent communication and effective parent outreach programs is ready for your comments. Attached you will find the Word document of the draft paper written by Michael Resnick and his colleagues from the University of Minnesota's Healthy Youth Development Research & Training Center. We welcome your feedback in the same way you provided comments on the first guide. Again, there is no need to line edit. We are looking for your more general, conceptual reactions. In particular, we would appreciate your thoughts on any of the following:

- Will the research review be meaningful for practitioners, program leaders, and others working with a diverse array of Latino communities (i.e. in different parts of the country, from different countries of origin, and who have been in the U.S. differing lengths of time)?
- Are there any red flags we need to be aware of?
- Is the language clear and accessible?
- Are there major points missing, or conversely, are there points we can drop?

You can provide your comments in one of two ways: by emailing me at rflores@thenc.org and making your comments in the body of the email or in the document itself with the "track changes" feature, or by phone to discuss at 202-478-8504.

Your feedback on the *Second Research Review* paper is greatly appreciated by Tuesday, October 30.

Media

We are excited to announce that during our third quarter we interacted with important media outlets that either covered or expressed interest in highlighting our Latino Initiative work. These include stories in the *Washington Post*, published on July 27, 2007; *Washington Hispanic*, published on August 20, 2007; and *Women's eNews*, published on August 21, 2007. These articles are all available on our website at www.teenpregnancy.org/espanol/english.asp, on the right-hand side in the *Recent Articles* section. We have also been working with *Newsweek* reporter, Sarah Elkins, on an extensive story on teen pregnancy among Latinos, and coordinated two interviews with Latino Initiative Advisory Group members Hector Sanchez-Flores and Liany Arroyo for an article to be published in the fall. Other media outlets we've established relationships with include: *La Estrella*; *Motivos* magazine; *Quince Girl* magazine; and *MisQuinceMag.com*.

Partnerships

Our very own Latino Initiative Advisory Group member Héctor Sánchez-Flores joined Campaign staff at the first-ever Latino Teen Pregnancy Summit in Seattle, Washington in August. The summit was co-sponsored by the Campaign, the Center for Health Training, and the Seattle Public Schools and is part of our CDC-funded Putting What Works to Work project. Hector's presentation, "Insights into the Latino Culture: Tips and Advice to Working with Latino Families", was one of the highlights of this interactive and educational summit with an

audience of about 50 educators, counselors and faith leaders.

On September 30, Campaign staff presented to the Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) Latina Institute in Washington, D.C. We gave an overview of the Campaign's Latino Initiative and presented on how to advocate effectively in DC to a group of about 40 Latina leaders from California. It was a great pleasure to have worked closely with Congresswoman Hilda Solis' Office and with Latino Initiative Advisory Group member Helen Torres, Executive Director of HOPE and her staff in preparation for this leadership training.

Policy:

We are excited to be exploring opportunities with Latino Initiative Advisory Group member Carmen Joge on the possibility of working with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute on next year's public policy conference. We also want to thank, and give a big round of applause to, Carmen Joge, Esther Aguilera, and their amazing staff for organizing a top-notch CHCI 2007 Public Policy Conference, 7th Annual Reyes of Comedy Night (and Reinas), and the 30th Annual Gala Night.

The Campaign also continues to reach out to Latino members of Congress, both strengthening existing relationships and making new contacts. We continue to work closely with our House Advisory Panel Vice Chair, Representative Hilda Solis, on her legislation, H.R. 468—The Communities of Color Teen Pregnancy Prevention Act— and have met with staff members for Representatives Joe Baca, Xavier Becerra, Nydia Velázquez, and Devin Nunes.

Fundraising:

We are thrilled to announce that, thanks in large measure to all of your invaluable advice and support for our work, the Turner Foundation has committed another \$50,000 for the Latino Initiative. This is a great way to commence our second year of the Latino Initiative in 2008.

We also submitted a grant proposal to the Compton Foundation for \$50,000 to co-sponsor a Southeast Regional Roundtable on Latino Teen Pregnancy, in partnership with the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Coalition of North Carolina, and the South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. We will keep you posted on the Foundation's decision in January 2008.

As you may be aware, we also received a generous grant of \$40,000 from the Abbott Fund to help support our first year activities for the Latino Initiative. We offer our deepest gratitude to the Abbott Fund for their support and we hope to have the opportunity to apply again for 2008.

As always, thanks again for all that you do for the National Campaign and the Latino Initiative. When you have the opportunity, let me know of your exciting work and news, and I will include it in our next update.

I look forward to receiving your feedback on our **organization's name in Spanish and the dates re: our December conference call by Tuesday, October 23; and your comments on the second research review by Tuesday, October 30.** If you have any questions or need additional information, don't hesitate to contact me.

¡Saludos!

Ruthie Flores

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