

County Executive
of
Howard County, Maryland

Executive Order: 2020-14
Dated: September 15, 2020
Subject: La Alianza Latina Workgroup

WHEREAS, Howard County should aspire to embody the values of diversity, inclusion, civility, and respect for every member of the Howard County community; and

WHEREAS, incidents of bias and hate based on race, ethnic identity, and immigration status have caused divisions within our community; and

WHEREAS, every person who lives, works, or visits Howard County should feel safe and should be treated with respect and have their dignity affirmed; and

WHEREAS, while Howard County has made great strides in building a diverse community, I recognize that more work is needed to move toward a more inclusive community; and

WHEREAS, I recognize that Howard County Government can always expand on existing relationships and explore ways to improve communication with the Latino community to ensure that every resident is aware that Howard County Government strives to treat every person fairly and equally; and

WHEREAS, I am establishing the La Alianza Latina Workgroup (the Latin Alliance Workgroup) to promote the values of diversity and civility, and to work with County agencies, non-profit organizations, and other interested community groups to facilitate an environment of inclusion, communication, understanding and respect throughout the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the County Executive of Howard County, Maryland that the La Alianza Latina Workgroup is charged with the following:

1. Conduct quarterly meetings which shall include the members of the Workgroup, the Administrator of the Office of Human Rights and designated staff. The meetings shall be open to the public;
2. Organize a series of events and facilitated discussions, in partnership with community and non-profit organizations, to provide opportunities to share concerns, promote mutual understanding and foster stronger relationships to encourage a more inclusive community. This may include, but not be limited to, focus groups, facilitated dialogues, summits and additional outreach efforts;

3. Advise me on best practices and strategies to further protect and promote the Latino community in the areas of health and wellness services to non-English speakers, recommended action steps for closing gaps in healthcare without regard of immigration status, and access to quality of life resources, and;
4. Work with Howard County Government employees to identify best practices to educate members of the Latino community on accessibility of County government resources, including, but not limited to housing;
5. Ensure that all meeting minutes are made available to the public on the Office of Human Rights website; and
6. Submit biannual reports to me on the work of the Workgroup, in addition to current and emerging issues affecting the Latino community, including providing data driven information on specific representation in County government and the County's contract with United States Immigration Customs and Enforcement and recommendations on whether the Workgroup shall become permanent in the Howard County Government.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Office of Human Rights and Equity shall implement and provide leadership, oversight, staffing and logistical support for the La Alianza Latina Workgroup. The Administrator of the Office of Human Rights shall serve as the Coordinator of the Workgroup;

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that Megan Williams from the Office of the County Executive's Constituent Outreach Office shall serve as the County Executive's liaison for the La Alianza Latina Workgroup;

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the La Alianza Latina Workgroup shall consist of the following members:

1. Alicia Altaminaro, Esq.
2. Alicia Ardila
3. Silva Danielle Baron
4. Sandy Cos
5. Katie DiSalvo-Thronson
6. Patricia Lins
7. Maryann Maher
8. Elisa Montalvo
9. Gabriel Moreno, Esq.
10. Andrea Nunez
11. Dr. Yvette Oquendo-Berruz
12. Cris Oviedo
13. Luzmila Robinson
14. David Rodriguez
15. Felicita Sola Carter
16. Gabe Terrasa

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the La Alianza Latina Workgroup shall cease to exist on March 15, 2022 and the terms of the Committee members shall expire on March 15, 2022.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Calvin Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this ___ day of September, 2020.



Calvin Ball, County Executive

