



La Alianza Hispana's Summer Newsletter



One of my favorite poets Maya Angelou once said: "One isn't necessarily born with courage, but one is born with potential. Without courage, we cannot practice any other virtue with consistency. We can't be kind, true, merciful, generous, or honest."

Today I write to give thanks to all of our friends and supporters for their courage. Practicing generosity can be forgotten.

(Photo by Charan Devereaux)

We become busy in the day to day business of our lives and lose sight of virtues like generosity-which in addition to making life personally meaningful, have the potential to greatly impact our community, and the greater community-our world.

On behalf of La Alianza Hispana, our board and the families that we serve, I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to all of the friends and funders who have supported us this fiscal year. It has been a challenging year for many of Boston's community-based organizations. We have worked harder and longer and will continue to do so to ensure that the families we serve can continue to find support and hope in the programs and services offered by our organizations. La Alianza Hispana will stand in allegiance with its fellow community-based organizations and with foundations and philanthropists to help our families weather these tough times.

The challenges are daunting: a changing economic landscape, dwindling pools of funding, and increased service needs. We have seen increases in the numbers of seniors coming to our Senior Center simply because in addition to companionship and sage advice, the center also offers two hot meals per day. We have also seen the impact of financial stressors on the families we work with at the Latino Family Counseling Center and in the parents of the children attending our Club Latino after school program, many who have lost jobs and whose families are on the brink of economic crisis. And despite these challenges, many of our families have shown great courage through their generosity to

La Alianza Hispana by volunteering their time, making a small donation, or contributing in some other meaningful way. This means a great deal to me and to the staff at La Alianza Hispana.

Our friends and funders have shown great courage and generosity as well. Several new funders committed to support La Alianza Hispana during this challenging year. I would like to personally thank the Highland Street Foundation. At a time of great fiscal challenge for many foundations, a number of whom have seen a 30% reduction in their endowments, the trustees of the Highland Street Foundation demonstrated great courage by awarding twenty organizations with a \$100,000 grant for their outstanding work. La Alianza Hispana is proud to have been recognized. Thanks to the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) who is providing planning and technical assistance support to La Alianza Hispana's Education and Workforce department. And many thanks to the Cabot Family Charitable Trust for supporting our Girl's Initiative this year as well as to all of the funders who renewed their investment in La Alianza Hispana this year. I would also like to thank the individuals who ran the Boston Marathon and who together raised over \$15,000 for La Alianza Hispana. They include: Alejandra St. Guillen, Emily Faircloth, EB Baptista, and Andrés Molina.

Finally, my message would not be complete without thanking two very important individuals who served on our board of directors. Johanna Richwagen has been an extraordinary board member, hosting countless fundraisers and investing long hours of her time in supporting our activities. I would also like to thank Kendra Chencus who also set the bar high and started what is quickly becoming a tradition by becoming the first board member to run the Boston Marathon to raise funds for La Alianza Hispana. We wish them both the best as they embark on new endeavors.

In this issue of La Voz, I am pleased to share with you some upcoming and interesting initiatives; one is the opening of our outpatient behavioral health clinic through the Latino Family Counseling Center and the other is the launching of Ladders to Language, an advanced English language instruction program designed help Latino English-language learners to transition to college or advanced training. We are also delighted to present our newest team members, Dolores Calaf and María Agit, both of whom will bring great leadership to their respective program areas--Workforce and Education, and Mental and Public Health programs. We are also delighted to welcome María Mejía, La Alianza Hispana's newest board member.

Lastly I am excited to announce that La Alianza Hispana will be launching a new virtual fundraising campaign called the Race to 40K. La Alianza Hispana will be working with a national fundraising expert to implement this new fundraising initiative.

We move forward in this new fiscal year with a great deal of excitement. La Alianza Hispana will continue its work with tenacity and courage because we know in our hearts that effort and hard work gives way to generosity and strength.

With love and determination,



Janet Collazo
Executive Director

La Alianza Hispana's New Initiatives

La Alianza Hispana's Public Health and Mental Health Programs



New Leadership and Initiatives

It's an exciting time for La Alianza Hispana's Latino Family Counseling Center. With new leadership at the helm, the center is poised to open its behavioral health outpatient clinic and launch a new HIV prevention initiative.

The Latino Family Counseling Center is delighted to announce that it has a new management team in place ready to launch these new initiatives. Early this year La Alianza Hispana hired a consulting medical director and last month, a full-time clinical director was hired. **Dr. Raúl Condemarin** and **María Agit** are highly seasoned professionals who bring a great deal of experience to La Alianza Hispana's Latino Family Counseling Center.

Voted America's Top Psychiatrist in 2009, **Juan Raúl Condemarin, M.D.** a Physician and Surgeon who received his degree from Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos Medical School in Lima, Peru and is a clinical instructor at Harvard Medical School, is La Alianza Hispana's new consulting medical director. Dr. Condemarin is a board-certified psychiatrist who received his residency training at New York Medical College Residency Training Program and Metropolitan Hospital Center in New York. He is also certified in psychiatry and neurology; psychoanalysis; addiction psychiatry and psychosomatic medicine. Dr. Condemarin currently serves on the Board of the Academics on Psychosomatic Medicine and is co-chair of the National Convention of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry.

María Agit, LMHC La Alianza Hispana's new Clinical Director brings a unique set of skills to La Alianza Hispana. She is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and is now working on a Doctoral degree in Educational Psychology. Prior to coming to La Alianza Hispana, Ms. Agit was the Director of the LAMP program, and Team Leader of Victims Services at RoxComp, Consultant at the South End Community Health Center, and Governor Murphy Trust Fund Fellow at the Massachusetts Mental Health Center. Ms. Agit also has been involved with several community, cultural, and professional development organizations, serving as a member of the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee, the International Mothers Group of Brookline Public Schools, and as a member of the Argentine Association of New England.

Lois Levinsky, LICSW will continue to work with La Alianza Hispana staff as a clinical consultant. Ms. Levinsky, has been a clinical social worker for 35 years, including 20 years as Clinical Associate Professor at the Boston University School of Social Work and 30 years in private practice. Focusing on work with adolescents, young adults and families, Lois has consulted to numerous youth and family-serving organizations, practitioners and administrators, providing clinical supervision and consultation as well as professional development coaching and training to front-line, management and executive staff



(Photo above: Latino Family Counseling Center Staff, left-right Dr. Raúl Condemarin, Ana Cambonchi, Erika Dasilva, Stacy Calhoun, Isabel Villela, Jessica Buttner, and María Agit.)

The new leadership team will be working in tandem with existing staff which include 3 licensed Master-level clinicians and 4 case managers to operate existing programs and services which this year will include two new initiatives!

Outpatient Behavioral Health Clinic

La Alianza Hispana is equally excited to announce the opening of the outpatient behavioral health clinic in September 2009. The clinic will be offering outpatient individual and family counseling with a special focus on adolescent services. With a full staff we are delighted to be in the position to expand our offerings of vital mental health services to the community. We are currently an approved behavioral health provider in the Neighborhood Health Plan (NHP) network and the Boston Medical Center (BMC) HealthNet Plan and are in the process of becoming approved through the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership (MBHP) and Boston HealthNet.

We are also in the process of becoming a Medicare-approved behavioral health provider so that we can expand mental health services to our seniors.

La Alianza Hispana HIV/STI Prevention Initiative: ¡Cuidate Latino!

La Alianza Hispana's newest initiative supported with a grant from the Boston Public Health Commission, will address the need for HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis & STI prevention services for Latinos by targeting 100 high-risk Latino youth in Boston communities to effectively



engage in prevention and education activities using ¡Cuidate!, a rigorously evaluated small-group culturally-based intervention to reduce HIV/STI risk among Latino youth. La Alianza Hispana will reach 120 youth by offering (6) one-hour modules of prevention-based education targeting Latino youth.

New Senior Initiative: Tai Chi for Arthritis and Chronic Pain Management

Pain relief, reduced stress, and improved flexibility, physical ability, and balance are just a few of the benefits that our seniors are enjoying in La Alianza Hispana's new Tai Chi for Arthritis program. The program is offered onsite at La Alianza's Senior Center by Gil Weiner, D.C., a licensed chiropractor who is certified in Tai Chi For Arthritis.

La Alianza Hispana's Workforce Development and Education Programs



New Leadership and Initiatives

This year with support from the Highland Street Foundation, La Alianza Hispana will develop a new Workforce and Education initiative that will greatly enhance the department. La Alianza Hispana has expanded the capacity of the department with the recent hire of Dolores Calaf, the new Director of Education and Workforce who will oversee this new initiative. She will work with Sandy Blanes, creator of the Ladders to Language program, an advanced English language instruction program successfully piloted at the regional Lawrence campus of Cambridge College, to integrate this model into La Alianza Hispana's English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program as part of a new component called Ladders to Success. Dolores will be leading a very dynamic team that will prepare hundreds of Latinos to become part of an increasingly competitive and globalized workforce by bringing this new instructional model to La Alianza Hispana. Early

in her career, Dolores served as the youth services director of La Alianza Hispana for five years. La Alianza Hispana is thrilled to have her back in this new and exciting capacity.



(Photos above: Left Dolores C. Calaf. Right Dolores Calaf, Sandy Blanes, and Marina Rodríguez)

As the new Director of Education and Workforce, Dolores C. Calaf brings to La Alianza Hispana over 20 years of professional experience in community service management, media and marketing production, and publishing. She most recently served as the Director of the Lawrence Regional Center of Cambridge College. Among her diverse professional experiences, Dolores spent five years as the Director of Youth Services at La Alianza Hispana, and has seven years of museum management experience, as former Director of Public Program for The Children's Museum and as Community Liaison for The Museum of Science in Boston. She was also the former Executive Editor of "Qué Pasa", a weekly magazine dedicated to the arts, culture and entertainment of the Latino New England market produced by Univision of New England. Dolores has an extensive profile as a panelist, presenter, and organizer of the arts and community initiatives, and belongs to professional associations in the areas of media, health, business, marketing, education and cultural networks at local, national and international levels. Dolores was recently appointed by Governor Deval Patrick to serve on one of the subcommittees of the Readiness Project Leadership Council.

We are also delighted to announce that Sandy Blanes, the developer of the Ladder model will be working with Dolores to develop Ladder to Success. Sandy Blanes brings over 30 years of experience as an ESOL instructor. The founder of Sandy's American English Center in Santos, Brazil, Sandy is also the author of English in 24 Hours. Most recently, she served as the Director of the Center for English Language Learners Support Service at Cambridge College. Dolores Calaf will be working in tandem with staff to launch our exciting new initiative, Ladders to Success!

Ladders to Success

In September, La Alianza Hispana will launch the Ladders to Success program, a new component to the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program that will help adult ESOL students to enter college, a formal training program or become gainfully employed by bridging the language gap. Ladders to Success is an innovative three-term college preparation English language instruction model piloted with adult learners at the Cambridge College Center for English Language Learner Support Services in Lawrence. This model is designed to help intermediate-level English language learners to become advanced learners who are capable of completing college level coursework. In addition to building La Alianza Hispana's capacity to better serve its student population, Ladders to Success provides opportunities for collaboration with Cambridge College as well as other local area universities and training programs that engage out students in higher

learning and builds a pathway to gainful employment. La Alianza Hispana will pilot the program with 25 adult English language learners in September.

Events of Courage!



Boston Marathon 2009

Our second Boston Marathon Team, made up of board member Alejandra St. Guillen, La Alianza Hispana's own IT guru Andrés Molina, and runners Eb Lynch Baptista and Emily Fairthcloth, ran the marathon to raise funds for La Alianza Hispana! All four runners crossed the finish line (with La Alianza Hispana's staff cheering them on!) and together, they raised over \$15,000 for La Alianza Hispana's programs and services! For Andrés Molina, running on behalf of La Alianza Hispana was a great motivator: "La Alianza has always been a rock in the community. The afterschool program helps to keep teenagers off the streets and parents learn how to care for their children. I'm proud to support this organization."

We are so grateful to John Hancock's Boston Marathon Non-Profit Program for donating four numbers in 2009. We look forward to participating next year.

(Photos by Johanna Richwagen. Above Alejandra St. Guillen, and Andrés Molina. Below Eb Baptista, and Emily Faircloth with Alejandra St. Guillen)

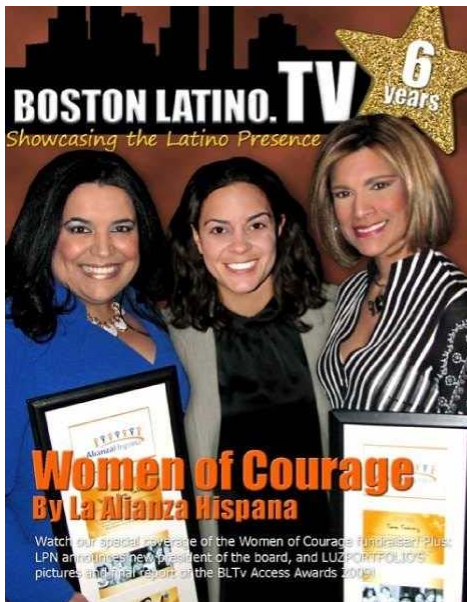
Women of Courage

On June 4th La Alianza Hispana celebrated its Women of Courage event with great success. Over 300 people attended the fundraiser which helped La Alianza Hispana to raise nearly \$7,000 for the services it provides to nearly 10,000 families



every year.

(Photo by Lizandro Segura. Left to right: Digna Gerena, Aixa Beauchamp, Dharma Cortés, Miren Uriarte, Celina Miranda, Janet Collazo, Yadires Nova-Salcedo, Helen Cajigas, and Regla González.)



The event recognized the outstanding achievements of 14 Women who represent excellence in their fields and serve as agents of change for the Latino community. They embody the vision and mission of La Alianza Hispana, and we are delighted to have them as part of our family.

Special thanks to **Carlos Méndez General Manager and Executive Chef of Jose's Mexican Restaurant and the team at Mojitos** and to **Boston Latino TV and El Mundo Newspaper** for their incredible media and in-kind contributions. Their generous support and enthusiasm helped make the event a great success.

[Click here to watch Boston Latino TV's video coverage of Women of Courage.](#)

(Photo above: Boston Latino TV's E-Newsletter Cover, Yadires Nova-Salcedo, Josiane Martínez, and Sara Suárez)

If you were unable to attend the event but would like to support the work of La Alianza Hispana please click here:

[Donate](#)





Bringing a unique level of excitement and enthusiasm to fundraising & development, La Alianza Hispana will be launching a new fundraising initiative that will launch in September. The Race to 40K is a virtual fundraising campaign will work with team of people to execute a 30-day virtual campaign to raise 40K. The campaign includes a two step process:

Training Phase

Full-day of in-person training on Saturday, August 29th at La Alianza Hispana. On the day of the training the Campaign Team (with facilitation and structure) will create an Implementation Plan based.

30-Day Implementation Phase

Campaign Leadership will work closely with the team to execute the implementation plan.

We welcome your involvement. The training, which will be held on Saturday, August 29th will provide an opportunity to make some new friends, network and have fun. We are looking for campaign volunteers with a broad array of skills. Energy and enthusiasm is the key. Also, you won't have to fret about asking anyone for money if you that something you're not comfortable doing. The campaign will align itself to your strengths and interests.

This will be a great opportunity to leverage new media, build relationships and get results for La Alianza Hispana! We hope you can join us. For more information or to sign up for La Alianza Hispana's Race to 40K please contact Director of Development, Rita Lara at Rlara@laalianza.org

La Alianza Hispana's Leadership in Action

This section of the newsletter is part of a series that spotlights La Alianza Hispana's board-supported activities and events.

The first half of 2009 was a very busy time for La Alianza Hispana's board. The board worked in tandem with La Alianza Hispana staff to support its Boston marathon runners and to continue a tradition began last year by former board member Kendra Chencus: the running of the Boston marathon by a La Alianza Hispana board member! The board also helped to organize the Women of Courage event, the first in what we hope is an annual celebration of Latina Leadership. The board bid farewell to two incredible board members, Johanna Richwagen and Kendra Chencus, both of whom we will miss immensely and we welcomed a new member, María Mejía--a Human Resources professional who has already proven to be a great asset to La Alianza Hispana by supporting improvements to the organization's staff performance management system.



(2009 Marathon Runners. Left to right, Alejandra St. Guillen, Andres Molina, Emily Faircloth, and Eb Lynch Baptista.)

In April, board member Alejandra St. Guillen, along with 3 other runners, Eb Lynch Baptista, Emily Faircloth, and La Alianza Hispana's own IT guru, Andrés Molina, ran the Boston Marathon to raise funds for the organization. Approximately \$15,000 was raised to support La Alianza Hispana's programs and services.

Although Alejandra St. Guillen had run three marathons prior, she had always wanted to run Boston and raising funds for La Alianza Hispana became a strong motivator. She had this to say about her experience: "As a board member, I am proud to have been able to do this for La Alianza Hispana. When I first came back to Boston in 2003, I actually volunteered as GED tutor with a family who went to La Alianza Hispana in need of a tutor for their daughter who was in Boston for medical treatment at Children's Hospital. It is incredible how La Alianza Hispana serves as such an important resource for the Latino community, including new immigrants. I was able to be part of that 6 years ago as a volunteer and now I see it on a broader scale as a board member. Running the

marathon was the least that I could do to help La Alianza Hispana to continue its great work in the community."



In addition to the marathon, board members also took a big part in organizing the Women of Courage event and supporting fellow board member Miren Uriarte, who was recognized at the event for her invaluable contribution to the field of Higher Education. Miren is a senior research associate at the Mauricio Gastón Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy, where she also served as founding director from 1989 to 1993. She is a sociologist, specializing in applied sociology and race and ethnic relations. Her areas of expertise include institutional development in minority communities, policy analysis focused on the differential impact of social policy on minority communities in general and on Latinos in the U.S. specifically, and program development and evaluation research in education, health care, and human services in the U.S. and abroad. Miren was also recently awarded the University of Massachusetts Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Service. Congratulations, Miren!

(New board member María Mejía)

La Alianza Hispana recently welcomed a new board member, María Mejía. Originally from the Dominican Republic, María came to the United States in 1998 to attend graduate school at Cornell University where she graduated from in 2000 with a Master of Industrial and Labor Relations. María has extensive experience in human resources and has worked throughout the United States and Chile. In 2007, María joined Harvard University as an Administrative Fellow and currently serves as the Senior Human Resources Consultant for Harvard Human Resources. Along with her incredible professional background, María brings a great deal of energy, enthusiasm and commitment to La Alianza Hispana's mission. Welcome, María!!

A Community of Supporters
Thanks for making the difference



(Photo by Johanna Richwagen. Left-right, Josiane Martínez, Janet Collazo, Cale Camareno, María Mejía, Giovanna Negretti, Apolo Cátala, and Rita Lara)

We would like to thank all of the funders who invested in La Alianza Hispana.

They include:

- Amelia Peabody Foundation
- Bank of New York Mellon Charitable Giving Program
- Boston Campaign for Proficiency
- Boston Private Bank

- Boston Public Health Commission
- Bushrod H. Campbell and Adah F. Hall Charity Fund
- Cabot Family Charitable Trust
- Children's Trust
- Citizens Bank Foundation
- Clipper Ship Foundation
- Campaign for Proficiency
- City of Boston Commission on Affairs of the Elderly
- City of Boston's Neighborhood Development: Partners with Non-Profits Program
- City of Boston's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events
- Community Development Block Grant
- Deloitte & Touche USA LLP
- Highland Street Foundation
- John Hancock's 2008 Boston Marathon Non-Profit Program
- Latino After School Initiative (LASI)
- Liberty Mutual Foundation
- Massachusetts Department of Education
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Massachusetts Department of Children and Families
- Rutland Corner Foundation
- Sailors' Snug Harbor of Boston
- Sovereign Bank Foundation
- The Roxbury Trust
- Tufts Health Plan Foundation
- United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Minority Health
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Women's Health
- Yawkey Foundation



Tens of thousands of employees of Deloitte & Touche USA LLP (Deloitte) set aside their regular work and made their communities their client on Friday June 5th for the organization's 10th annual IMPACT Day, a one-day example of its year-round commitment to volunteer service. In this their third year providing a day of service to La Alianza Hispana, Deloitte employees started a series of renovations to the Workforce development and Education classrooms.

Join Our Team!

Job Opportunities at La Alianza Hispana

Please help us recruit top talent for the following career opportunities at

La Alianza Hispana:

- English as a Second Language Teachers needed for fall session for the Workforce and Education Department. Master level degree preferably in Education .
- Case Manager for ¡Cuidate Latino! (Take care of Yourself!) an HIV, AIDS/Hepatitis & STI prevention services at the Latino Family Counseling Center.



Photo by Charan Devereaux

Send resume and cover letter via regular mail or email to:

Rosita Colon
La Alianza Hispana, Inc.
409 Dudley Street
Roxbury, MA 0211
Tel: (617) 427-7175 Ext. 221
Fax: (617) 442-2259
Email: rcolon@laalianza.org

La Alianza Hispana on Facebook and Twitter



We are pleased to announce that La Alianza Hispana now offers another way for you to show your support for our organization and the thousands of Latinos we serve every year: you can become a fan of La Alianza Hispana in facebook or follow us on Twitter!

Join Us on Facebook!

Becoming a fan of La Alianza Hispana on facebook is easy. If you already have a Facebook profile, simply [click here](#) and choose "Become a Fan" in the top right corner of the page.

Next, spread the word! Invite others in your network to become a fan of La Alianza Hispana by clicking the "Share" button on the same page. La Alianza Hispana's facebook fan page includes photos, news, events' calendar, discussion panels, videos and more. Come stop by and see who has already "fanned" us.

Join Us on Twitter!

Perhaps you already use Twitter to communicate with your friends, find out about breaking news, and keep up with La Alianza Hispana's latest updates.

[Click here to join us for up-to-the-minute updates and informative tweets..](#)



La Alianza Hispana's Media Coverage

[Boston Latino TV's video coverage of Women of Courage event.](#)

[El Mundo. An evening to be remembered La Alianza Hispana recognizes Latina Women of Courage](#)

[El Planeta. La Alianza Hispana reconocerá a latinas con poder.](#)

[Siglo 21. La Alianza Hispana Adelanta a Latinos a través de Tecnología](#)

[Boston Goble. Festival Celebrates Latino Culture and Stresses Health.](#)

[New England Ethnic News,Hispanic Health Fair Celebrates Life and Disease Prevention](#)

[Siglo 21. Alianza Hispana y 'Celebra la Vida con Salud y Música' Traen a Milly Quezada](#)

[Siglo 21. Celebra La Vida Con Salud y Música](#)

[WBZTV Centro. Free Latino Health Fair @ Boston City Hall Plaza \(Video\)](#)

[Boston Globe. Building Communities Through Coffee](#)

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