

2019 Lideramos Fellows

The 2019 Fellows direct exemplary Latino programs across the country. These programs have proven track-records and offer effective models and best practices. Fellows come from six states and the District of Columbia. Fellows represent the rich diversity of the Latino community!



CURTIS ESQUIBEL

DENVER, CO

Associate director of the Latino Leadership Institute in Denver overseeing the Fellowship and alumni programs. Previously, Curtis led Denver's first collective impact initiative on college success at the Denver College Attainment Network. He held multiple leadership roles at the Denver Scholarship Foundation and was a journalist in Colorado and Northern California.



ANGELA FLOREZ

PHOENIX, AZ

Chief Development Officer at Valle de Sol, she managed leadership programs serving 8 Arizona communities - the only state-model in the nation. The program is culturally focused serving working professional, community leaders and individuals and has a over 25 year track-record. Angela is a graduate of Arizona State University and has completed several personal leadership development programs in Arizona including the Hispanic Leadership Institute.



DR. FRANCESCA GALARRAGA

DENVER, CO

President and Chief Engagement Officer of BRAVE Strategies, a Colorado consulting firm focused on leadership, coaching, diversity, inclusion, and organizational culture. Prior to establishing BRAVE Strategies, Francesca led diversity and inclusion initiatives for various universities and Fortune 500 companies including The Walt Disney World Resort. Francesca is Board Vice President at Wyatt Academy and on Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice editorial board.



MARY ANN GOMEZ-ORTA

WASHINGTON, DC

President/CEO of The Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute (CHLI). CHLI fosters broad awareness of the diversity of thought, heritage, interests and views of Americans of Hispanic and Portuguese descent. Prior to CHLI, she was Executive Director of the National Association of Hispanic Publications. Mary Ann serves as Board President of the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility and formerly worked Coors Brewing Company and McDonald.



ZENAIDA LANDEROS

BETTENDORF, IA

Serves as executive director of the Greater Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce whose mission is to grow local businesses and to leverage community assets including Hispanic cultural identity. Zenaida received the Executive Master of Nonprofit Administration Fellowship at Notre Dame University- the youngest recipient of this notable honor. She developed the Empowering Latina Leadership Alliance aimed inspiring Quad Cities Latinas.



SOLICIA LOPEZ

DENVER, CO

Leads Student Voice and Leadership Director for Denver Public Schools encouraging students of color to participate in social justice, education reform, and civic action. During her tenure she developed three leadership programs to empower youth to address educational policy. Previously she was assistant director of diversity and inclusion for University of Colorado Anschutz campus, a Center for Progressive Leadership Fellow, and Circle of Latina Leadership.



PRICILA NOVOA

LOS ANGELES, CA

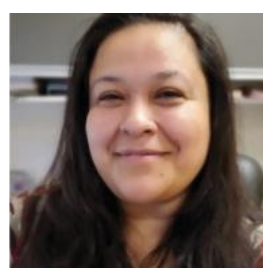
A passionate advocate for Latina empowerment and education equity, Pricila is Programs and Community Relations Manager at Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE). She leads the statewide Latina Empowerment Days, a one-day intensive increasing the community impact, skills and knowledge of Latinas. Nearly 900 California Latinas participate. Pricila has her B.A. from the University of California, Irvine and is a mentor for Big Brothers Big Sisters.



ALFRED RAMIREZ

MOLINE, IL

President of Diverse Strategies, Alfred is a keynote speaker, coach, trainer, and facilitator focusing on leaders, businesses, diversity, culture change, and community engagement. He was President Clinton's White House Associate Director of Presidential Personnel; Senior Advisor, Corporation for National Service; and Director of the White House Initiative on Hispanic Educational Excellence at U.S. Department of Education. He is on the Moline Foundation and United Way boards.



ANA DELIA VALERIANO

BIRMINGHAM, AL

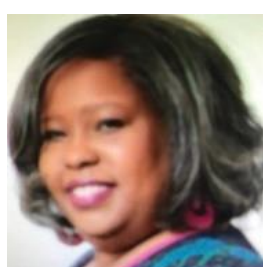
Leads *Mi Futuro: En Mis Manos* a college readiness program for the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama which aims to increase the number of Hispanic youth in higher education. Youth and families establish concrete educational targets and disentangle the college admissions process. Participants engage in 6-week curriculum entitled *Juntos* with follow-up and mentoring; financial workshops; a College Visit Day; Career Readiness Workshop; and a scholarship fund.



SALINA VILLEGAS

SAN DIEGO, CA

Leadership Program Director for RISE San Diego, she graduated from the RISE fellowship. Her passion is advocating for students from marginalized communities. Salina founded the alumni director position at Reality Changers to increase college retention rates of first-generation college students and was an instructor with the College Apps Academy program. Selina previously worked with Helix Charter High School and Hamilton College and was inducted into the San Diego Unified School District Hall of Fame.



NICOLE WARDS

CHICAGO, IL

A graduate of the Multicultural Leadership Academy at the Latino Policy Forum, Nicole became director in 2018. She works with participants and alumni engagement. Previously, she assisted high school students in the Trio-Upward Bound Program, advocated for education and employment for Chicago Housing Authority residents and worked in family reunification at the Department of Children and Family Services.