

## **VNR Latino Initiative Resource Guide**

### **About VNR's Latino Initiative**

In September 2009, VNR convened Latino-led and Latino serving nonprofits in the San Fernando Valley. The first of its kind in the Valley, this event brought together leadership of these nonprofits, as well as representatives from several Los Angeles City Council offices and from local businesses. Participants discussed ways in which Latino nonprofits can share resources, collaborate, and work to build a network of Valley-based Latino leaders. VNR was asked to serve as a communications platform to keep Latino nonprofit leaders in touch; to assist Valley nonprofits in recruiting Latino government, business and community leaders to serve on their boards; and to host future convenings that would bring together the Latino communities of the Valley, both to network and find ways the nonprofit, business and government sectors can collaborate with one another.

VNR coordinated a second convening in July 2010 that focused on board development, exploring how Valley nonprofits can increase the number of Latinos serving on their Boards, and how Board development and training can be provided for Latino-focused nonprofits. At this event participants exchanged best practices taken from their own experience, discussed the importance of inspiring volunteerism among Latino leaders as a gateway to serving on boards of directors, and expressed interest in continuing to meet so they could exchange resources and best practices. The third event in this series, taking place in December 2010, concentrates on finding and recruiting Latino volunteers.

Additional events are planned for 2011. VNR's Latino Initiative also includes training programs on Latino leadership, and a multi-site program for helping local mental health agencies provide training (in Spanish and culturally-adapted) in family involvement for families of adults and youth with mental health problems.

This guide provides several useful resources shared at recent VNR Latino Initiative Events. For additional resources please visit VNR's resource library at [www.valleynonprofitresources.org](http://www.valleynonprofitresources.org)

### **Resources**

**Community Leadership Development Program (CLDP)** is designed to provide members of the San Fernando Valley Jaycees and the community at large an opportunity to gain the fundamental knowledge and resources to become effective community leaders. The CLDP couples an interactive curriculum taught by established and emerging leaders with real world non-profit board experience to provide the basic tools and exposure participants need to help them serve effectively in leadership roles in our community. Course content includes: leadership best practices, small group communications, laws and ethics, marketing and promotion, financial decision making, planning and development, and fundraising. For more information please contact Wendy Saunders at [wendysaunders@ymcala.org](mailto:wendysaunders@ymcala.org).

**Riordan Volunteer Leadership Development Program** is a program of the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce. The program educates and trains business professionals for service on nonprofit boards. Information on how to apply for the program as both a participant and as a partner agency is available on the program's website. For more information visit [www.rvldp.org](http://www.rvldp.org).

**Latino Professional Associations** The following professional associations may be helpful for individuals or nonprofits seeking to connect regarding board of director memberships or volunteering.

Latino Professional Network [www.lpnonline.com](http://www.lpnonline.com)

Society of Latino/a Professionals [alainromero@yahoo.com](mailto:alainromero@yahoo.com)

Association of Latino Professionals in Finance [info@losangeles.alpfa.org](mailto:info@losangeles.alpfa.org)

Las Comadres [www.lascomadres.org](http://www.lascomadres.org)

Glendale Latino Association [www.glendalelatinoassociation.com](http://www.glendalelatinoassociation.com)

Mexican American Bar Association <http://www.mabaattorneys.com/>

Latina Lawyers Bar Association <http://www.llbalaw.org/>

HOPE Leadership Institute [www.latinas.org](http://www.latinas.org)

Also a list of National and Regional Latino focused organizations and associations is available at: [http://journals.dartmouth.edu/latinox/resource\\_center/academics4.shtml](http://journals.dartmouth.edu/latinox/resource_center/academics4.shtml)

**Directors of Volunteers in Agencies – San Fernando Valley Chapter** is a coalition of nonprofit volunteer management staff from difference orgs throughout the San Fernando Valley. For more information, contact [doviasfv@yahoo.com](mailto:doviasfv@yahoo.com)

**Volunteer Center of Los Angeles** is a resource center for volunteers the aggregates a variety of volunteer opportunities through out Los Angeles, including the San Fernando Valley. For more information, visit the Center's website at [www.vcla.net](http://www.vcla.net) or call (818) 908-5070.

**Resources for Service Learning Programs** These programs are offered at several local institutions, and provide students the ability to earn school credit by volunteering with a nonprofit.

California State University Northridge  
Merri Whitelock, Director of Community Engagement  
[Merri.Whitelock@csun.edu](mailto:Merri.Whitelock@csun.edu)

Additional CSUN Resources for posting volunteer opportunities and internships:

CSUN Matador Involvement Center\*  
Justin Weiss  
Activities Coordinator, Community and Volunteer Involvement  
[justin.weiss@csun.edu](mailto:justin.weiss@csun.edu)  
<http://www.csun.edu/getinvolved/>

\*also contact for a list of Latino focused university clubs, organizations, fraternities, and sororities that regularly offer volunteers for work at nonprofits.

CSUN Career Center  
(818) 677-2878  
<http://www.csun.edu/career/students/>

Los Angeles Valley College will soon be launching a service learning program. For more information contact Tony Jaramillo at 818/947-2941 or [van\\_nuysws@yahoo.com](mailto:van_nuysws@yahoo.com)

Pierce College  
Jim Dawson, Service Learning Director  
[DawsonJS@piercecollege.edu](mailto:DawsonJS@piercecollege.edu)