



Fact Sheet

October 2008

LATINO ADVISORY BOARD

What you should know:

The Latino Advisory Board (LAB) was established in 2001 by the Office of AIDS (OA) as part of its ongoing Latino HIV/AIDS Prevention Initiative. LAB was created in response to: 1) historical data that indicated Latinos in California were accessing HIV/AIDS services at a lower rate than their corresponding infection rates; and 2) recommendations made by Latino community representatives who attended OA-sponsored urban and rural Latino HIV/AIDS symposiums held in the late 1990s, and a Latino Summit that took place in 2000. Participants in these meetings identified issues, barriers, strategies, and interventions to address cross-cultural diversity, men who have sex with men, women, youth, substance using, and migrant populations. Meeting participants also shared best practices and learned from respected researchers.

What we do:

The purpose of LAB is to work with OA in an advisory capacity to provide community perspectives and recommendations in the planning and development of HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment services for Latinos in California. LAB works closely with the Latino community to identify critical HIV/AIDS issues, psychosocial, and cultural challenges as well as gaps in HIV services that can be addressed through local and statewide efforts. LAB's accomplishments include the following:

- The completion of a report – *Entre Familia: Addressing the Interconnected Issues of California's Latinos and HIV in Education, Prevention, Care and Treatment* soon to be available on OA's Web site.
- Participation in a recent statewide HIV/AIDS needs assessment for Latinos conducted by Project Concern International. The assessment was completed in 2007 to identify technical assistance and capacity building needs of HIV/AIDS providers to increase their ability to effectively serve Latinos living with and at risk for HIV/AIDS.
- Collaboration with other community planning groups that assist OA in formulating a fully informed response to the impact of HIV/AIDS in California's diverse populations.

LAB's 23 members represent the diverse Latino community throughout California including HIV/AIDS care and prevention providers, epidemiologists, researchers, administrators, as well as persons living with HIV/AIDS. Current members of LAB



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offer a wealth of professional expertise and experience and represent academic institutions, health departments, and consumers in the following organizations:

- San Diego Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Center
- Mama's Kitchen (San Diego)
- San Francisco Department of Public Health
- Alameda County Health Department
- Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services
- Desert AIDS Project (Palm Springs)
- Center of Excellence for Transgender HIV Prevention
- AltaMed Health Services (Los Angeles)
- Monterey County Health Department
- The Wall Las Memorias Project (Los Angeles)
- City of Berkeley Health Department
- University of California, Berkeley
- Fresno County Health Department
- Santa Clara Department of Health and Human Services
- WORLD – Women Organized to Respond to Life Threatening Disease (Oakland)
- Catholic Healthcare West
- San Ysidro Health Center
- University of California, San Diego
- Consumers from Los Angeles and Palm Springs

Helpful Resources:

- For more information, see OA fact sheet about *HIV/AIDS among California Latinos*.
- For more information about LAB, contact OA at (916) 449-5900. OA's Webmaster at ooa-web@cdph.ca.gov.
- For more information about Project Concern International technical assistance and capacity building services for the Latino HIV/AIDS Prevention Initiative, contact Rosalinda Cano-Hays, Project Director, at (619) 791-2610 extension 313.