

Agency Purpose

The Council on Affairs of Chicano/Latino People (“Chicano Latino Affairs Council” or “CLAC”) was established in 1978 by the Minnesota legislature to advise and bring awareness to the governor and state legislature on the nature of issues facing Minnesota’s vibrant and growing Latino communities statewide, including the challenges encountered by Chicano/Latino migrant agricultural workers. Additionally, CLAC serves as a liaison between state government and the Latino community in Minnesota.

The Chicano Latino Affairs Council engages the Latino community through public service and works to carry out its mission by:

- ◆ Advising and educating legislators and policymakers on critical issues that impact Latinos in the areas of health, education, housing, economic development, and immigration;
- ◆ Serving as a liaison between local, state, and federal government and Minnesota’s Latino community;
- ◆ Acting as an information and referral agency to ensure that Latinos have access to programs and services sponsored by government agencies and community-based organizations;
- ◆ Raising awareness about the challenges and issues that impact the Latino community; and
- ◆ Publicizing the accomplishments and contributions Latinos make to the state of Minnesota.

Core Functions

The Chicano Latino Affairs Council’s internal operations include four working units: executive, administrative, legislative, and civic/community affairs. Each unit carries on specific duties to support the mission of CLAC. The executive unit works in collaboration with the other units and council members to advise the governor and state legislature on issues that affect the Latino community. The legislative unit works to inform the state legislature and agency heads on recent trends of the community in health, housing, education, immigration, and economic development. Additionally, the unit informs the community on policy issues and relevant legislation that impacts the community. The civic/community affairs unit works to engage the Latino community statewide through community forums, focus groups, surveys, and other civic activities to capture the Latino voice. Through enhance methods of civic engagement, the unit also acts as a conduit to bring the Latino community to the state capitol to testify before the state legislature on important policy and issues for Latinos in Minnesota.

At A Glance

The Latino community in Minnesota is the state’s fastest growing ethnic group. Today, Latinos in Minnesota make up just fewer than 4% of the state’s total population or over 205,000 residents. From 1990 to 2000, Minnesota saw a historical growth in the Latino population of 166%, increasing from 54,000 to 143,000 Latino residents. Latinos continue to be an influential and integral part of Minnesota’s economy and culture, both in the Twin Cities metro area and in Greater Minnesota.

Mexican American Buying Power by Counties

The following table, based on Census 2000 data, shows the buying of this Latino group.

Figures in millions

Hennepin	\$288	Anoka	\$32
Ramsey	\$187	Rice	\$20
Dakota	\$78	Olmsted	\$20
Washington	\$37	Nobles	\$18

Median Household Income

The median household income for Latinos in was \$35,500, second lowest in the state to African Americans at \$25,000.

Education

The Latino student enrollment in the state continues to increase. While the Latino population in the state is less than 4%, Latino students in public schools represent over 6% or 51,000 students.

Minnesota: Latino Enrollment by Grade

Grade	2003-2004		2007-2008	
	Number	%	Number	%
PK	591	5.4	991	4.3
K	3,966	6.7	4,945	8.2
1-4	13,449	5.7	17,718	7.4
5-8	11,324	4.4	14,484	5.9
9-12	9,263	3.3	12,583	4.5

The following are key functions that carry out the mission of the Chicano Latino Affairs Council:

- Act as resource for the governor, Minnesota legislature, and state agencies that focus on policy issues that impact the Latino community and migrant farm workers in the state;
- ◆ Serve as an informative source on the Latino community for all levels of government that implement legislation and create policies that have an impact on Minnesota Latinos;
- ◆ Act as a resource for the Latino community to have access to programs and services by the state and community organizations;
- ◆ Educate and inform the Latinos community on relevant policy issues in Minnesota;
- ◆ Act as conduit to provide access to the Latino community to testify and present before the Minnesota legislature;
- ◆ Publish a quarterly newsletter to report on recent issues of importance and recognize the accomplishments and contributions Latinos make to the state of Minnesota; and
- ◆ Publish a statewide bilingual directory to serve as a resource of information for the community about Latino Minnesota organizations, businesses, churches, media, and networking groups that work to empower and serve the community.

At A Glance (continued)

Immigration

According to the American Community Survey immigrants in Minnesota represented 6.6 of the state's total population. The top three countries of birth of foreign born in Minnesota were Mexico, India, and Vietnam.

**Foreign Born Population in Minnesota, 2006
American Community Survey**

Asia	36.3%
Latin America	27.9%
Africa	18.8%
Europe	13%

Operations

The organizational structure of CLAC is unique to state government. The makeup of CLAC personnel consists of a four-person staff, one student intern, and a fifteen-council membership (or board). CLAC is led by an executive director and supported by three integral units: administrative, legislative, and civic/community affairs.

The CLAC members are appointed by the governor for a term of four years. The composition of the 15-member board is broken down by the following: three at-large members and eight members that represent the Minnesota's congressional districts. In addition, two state representatives and two state senators are appointed by the leadership of the Minnesota legislature. The composition of the CLAC membership must fully represent the demographics of the state's Latino community. Through the CLAC executive director and staff, the CLAC members provide the official voice of the council to represent over 205,000 Latinos in the state of Minnesota.

The Chicano Latino Affairs Council serves the Latino community, individuals, and ethnic groups born in or whose ancestors are from countries in Latin American, including Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Panama, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Key Goals

During each legislative session, CLAC presents a united platform on behalf of the Latino community in Minnesota and addresses critical issues in policy areas such as pre K-12 and higher education, housing, health, economic development, and immigration. During the 86th Legislature, the Chicano Latino Affairs Council will focus on health disparities among Latinos in Minnesota, the achievement gap in education for Latinos, and single rate/universal tuition in higher education for all Minnesota students. The council's priorities align to those set forth by Minnesota Milestones in health care and insurance for all Minnesotans, addressing disparities in education and high school graduation rates, and the affordability of housing.

CLAC has a variety of specific goals related to planned activities for the biennium. They are as follows:

Goal 1 - To capture the Latino voice through a statewide civic engagement strategy

Goal 2 - To advise and educate the governor and legislature on critical issues that impacts the Latino community through a legislative engagement strategy

Goal 3 - To inform the community on policy issues that will impact the Latino community, as well as to publicize the contributions and accomplishments of Latinos in Minnesota

Key Measures

Goal 1 measures

- ◆ Host five community forums and visits in Latino cluster communities as designated by the State Demographic Center to inform local Latino communities of the CLAC’s mission
- ◆ Engage several cohorts of Latinos in focus groups to secure qualitative and quantitative data in CLAC’s five key areas
- ◆ Conduct survey research and management on policy priorities set by the Council

Goal 2 measures

- ◆ Host a Legislative Day at the Capitol: a forum used to present a united platform for the state’s Latino community
- ◆ Present before senate and house committee hearings on CLAC’s five key areas and act as a conduit for the Latino community to engage the Minnesota legislature
- ◆ Conduct one-on-one informative briefs with the governor and advisors and state legislators on CLAC’s legislative priorities

Goal 3 measures

- ◆ Distribute a bimonthly legislative update medium entitled “Click-CLAC” to keep abreast the issues and bills being discussed during the legislative session
- ◆ Publish a quarterly statewide e-newsletter entitled “¡El Minnesotano! E-Newsletter to inform CLAC stakeholders of the council’s work, recognize Latino individuals and entities contributing to the common good, and highlight relevant themes in Latino Minnesota
- ◆ Distribute press releases and action alerts to keep the community well informed on state policy and actions

Budget

The 2008-2009 biennial budget included a \$622,000 general fund appropriation.

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Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2010-11
	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
General					
Current Appropriation	308	314	314	314	628
Forecast Base	308	314	314	314	628
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2008-09					1%
 <u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Carry Forward					
Miscellaneous Special Revenue	4	2	0	0	0
Direct Appropriations					
General	291	331	314	314	628
Statutory Appropriations					
Miscellaneous Special Revenue	20	17	0	0	0
Gift	0	8	0	0	0
Total	315	358	314	314	628
 <u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	233	254	256	262	518
Other Operating Expenses	82	104	58	52	110
Total	315	358	314	314	628
 <u>Expenditures by Program</u>					
Cncl Spanish Spkg	315	358	314	314	628
Total	315	358	314	314	628
 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	 3.9	 4.0	 3.7	 3.7	

CHICANO LATINO AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Agency Revenue Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Actual FY2008	Budgeted FY2009	Current Law		Biennium 2010-11
			FY2010	FY2011	
<u>Non Dedicated Revenue:</u>					
Total Non-Dedicated Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Dedicated Receipts:</u>					
Grants:					
Miscellaneous Special Revenue	20	6	0	0	0
Other Revenues:					
Miscellaneous Special Revenue	0	11	0	0	0
Gift	1	8	0	0	0
Total Dedicated Receipts	21	25	0	0	0
Agency Total Revenue	21	25	0	0	0