

The Latin American Community Center

Denise Ziya Berte, PhD

Vice-President of Life Empowerment Services

Marielena Velez de Brown MD

Health Families Coordinator

About Us

- ❖ A multi-service community center with programs addressing a spectrum of care including education, prevention, social services, mental health and advocacy focusing on Latino or new immigrant populations
- ❖ 403 Van Buren, 301 N. Harrison, and various sites across the city
- ❖ The Mission of the LACC is to provide a continuum of care, advocacy, and educational services for the lifespan of Latino Community in Delaware

Current Efforts

- ❖ The LACC provides services in the area of Life Long Education including: Early Childhood Education Programs (age 6 weeks to 5 years of age) utilizing the Expediary Learning Model, Licensed After and Before School Programs, Credit Recovery, Youth Evening Enrichment, Adult ESL, Computer Literacy, and GED for Spanish speakers.
- ❖ The LACC provides Life Empowerment Services including Full Psychological Services, Domestic Violence, Parenting (In-Home and Parent Aid), Victims of Crime, Healthy Homes, Healthy Families, Case Management, Food Bank, HIV Testing/ Counseling, Prevention Promoters, PCIT, DWI Classes, Work Development, Senior Services, Financial Literacy, Breastfeeding Support and many more

Future Plans to Improve Health Equity

- ❖ Continue to educate and Advocate for non-English speakers to have equal access to health enriching services
- ❖ Continue to invest in creating bilingual/ bicultural professionals in the health and mental health fields
- ❖ Offer and expand case management and referral programs so that non-English speakers can navigate the health care resources available
- ❖ Offer and expand auxiliary programs that support health in the Latino and New Immigrant Community including HIV Testing, Breastfeeding, Mental Health, Healthy Homes, Healthy Families, etc.
- ❖ New program initiatives including expanding services to victims of sexual assault/ child sexual abuse, creating a low cost legal service for new immigrants, increasing access to psychiatric services, etc.

Challenges

- ❖ Lack of eligibility for clients to access many needed medical services
- ❖ Lack of transportation, childcare, and flexible appointments with current health care providers
- ❖ Lack of bilingual/bicultural professional health services
- ❖ Lack of access to specialist services
- ❖ Lack of trained and licensed medical/ mental health professionals in DE in certain areas
- ❖ Inability for new immigrant community to make health decisions based on consumer satisfaction due to economic constraints

Achievements

- ❖ The LACC provides quality continuum of care services to thousands of individuals yearly across programs.
- ❖ The LACC has met or exceeded goals in all health prevention programs.
- ❖ The LACC has established formal relationships with all major systems that affect the lives of their participants including health care, education, social services, legal and legislative.

Opportunities to Collaborate

- ❖ The LACC offers training and expertise in cultural competence for mainstream providers.
- ❖ The LACC is a referral source for underserved populations to mainstream health services
- ❖ The LACC provides interpretation for mainstream health services
- ❖ The LACC provides multilingual/ multicultural psychological testing and assessment for mainstream service providers