

## Latino Community of Practice

The Latino Community of Practice (LCPR) is a diverse, multi-sector consortium of professionals, families and allies in Georgia with three areas of focus: 1) professional capacity building and collective impact; 2) Latino parent education and leadership training, and 3) formal and informal advocacy in public policy and systems of care.

Some of the LCPR activities include:

- **Adelante Autismo**: A psycho-educational group, facilitated in Spanish, for and with Hispanic/Latinx families with children and youth with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) that meets once a month in Gwinnett County. A partnership with Spectrum, Inc., a 20-year old non-profit serving families of children, youth, and adults with ASD and related disabilities. We collaborate with local/regional professionals to bring them as guest speakers on topics related to navigating educational and health care systems of care.
- **Autism Conference and Expo Spanish-Track**: An annual two-day conference for and with Hispanic/Latino families and professionals that is simultaneously interpreted or facilitated in Spanish with emphasis on meaningful and relevant content for our Latinx communities. We co-lead the planning of the Spanish track to include creation and translation of social marketing materials and promotion, participant recruitment and registration, identifying Spanish guest speakers, working with conference coordinators on any pertinent/relevant logistics, and hiring professional interpreters.
- **Bilingual Community Education and Outreach**: Collaborating with Latino Community of Practice Partners to disseminate bilingual social marketing materials that promote healthy development, inclusive of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Learn the Signs and Act Early (LTSAE), campaign and the Georgia Department of Public Health, Talk with me baby, campaign. We partner with the General Consulate of Mexico by participating in the Window of Health fair every month and every quarter we attend health fairs in the community to disseminate the above-mentioned materials.
- **Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness**: We co-lead internal and external technical assistance on issues with equity, diversity, and inclusion and cultural and linguistic (competence) and responsiveness.
- **Diversity Fellows**: Provide advisement, guidance and mentoring to emerging Latinx leaders who are undergraduate and graduate Georgia State University students. Inclusive of two Diversity Fellows.
- **Radio Vida**: A full partnership with Radio Vida 102.1 FM in Duluth, Georgia where we have a live 30-minute monthly Spanish radio segment called Health is Life that focuses on autism-related topics within the Latinx community in Georgia. And we can answer “on air” questions. Recorded viewings are posted on Facebook for “replay” coupled with an interaction chat section. We prepare topics on the intersection of development and the Latinx community in GA to include information on healthy developmental disabilities and autism spectrum disorders.
- **Social Media Marketing**: We curate our own LCPR, Latino Community Facebook social media page, in Spanish, with current-issues content that promotes best practices and serves to create a virtual community/space for Hispanic/Latinx families.
- **Spanish Parent Academy**: A partnership between the Center for Leadership in Disability and the Georgia Department of Public Health that aims at educating Hispanic/Latinx parents on positive behavior interventions and supports, delivered as two-hour interactive workshops that meet once a week for five - six sessions. We translated the social marketing materials, curriculum, promote the

academy, recruit and register families, provide onsite consecutive interpreting, assist with onsite data collection and are part of the evaluation team.

- **Spanish Youth Mental Health First Aid**: A national Mental Health First Aid USA curriculum in Spanish that we deliver as certified instructors for and with non-profit organizations, schools, faith-based communities, professionals, parents, and community members that engage with Hispanic/Latinx Youth in Georgia. We translate and promote social marketing materials, recruit participants, prepare materials, coordinate logistics, engage in data collection, and are part of the evaluation team.
- **Translation and Interpretation (Professional)**: We offer master-level professional English and Spanish translation and consecutive and simultaneous interpretation. Our staff holds post-graduate certifications in both Educational and Healthcare/Medical interpreting.

For questions about the LCPR, contact Brenda Liz Muñoz at [bmunoz@gsu.edu](mailto:bmunoz@gsu.edu) or call (404)413-1425.