



Latino Leaders for the Enhancement of Advocacy and Development

Alberto Flores, MPA, *President* Laura M. Gonzales, Ph.D., *Secretary*
Daniel Soza, III, *Vice President* Leroy Hernandez, PABS, *Treasurer*
Robert Anthony Alvarez, *General Counsel*

LATINO LEADERS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF ADVOCACY AND DEVELOPMENT

LLEAD MICHIGAN - 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION & PURPOSE

LLEAD is a statewide Latino organization. Its mission is to bring together Latinx communities in the state to exchange ideas on common issues to present unified solutions in resolving challenges confronted at the local, state and national levels. LLEAD and its chapters aim to provide the vehicle whereby local communities can coordinate, design, develop, and advocate to overcome societal problems.

COVID-19 AND THE LATINO COMMUNITY

The LLEAD Michigan Board of Directors continued to meet via Zoom during 2021, except for the December meeting hosted by the Latinx Technology & Community Center in Flint, Michigan. The Center Director, Asa Zuccaro, hosted the LLEAD Board and participated in the monthly meeting agenda items. Some Board members and guests participated and reported via Zoom to bring a successful and productive meeting to fruition.

The Covid-19 pandemic continued to negatively affect Latinos in Michigan, particularly in education, overall health, business, employment, and all other areas of life. Latinos remained primary victims of the pandemic, particularly frontline and essential workers, including the vulnerable Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers.

THE URGENCY TO LLEAD

The LLEAD Board of Directors once again volunteered to assure that their efforts towards the creation of a statewide Latino organization were able to advocate and develop systems whereby issues confronting the Michigan Latino community were resolved. The 2021 eleven-member board of directors included the following Al Flores, President (Perrinton); Danny Soza, Vice President (Saginaw); Dr. Laura Gonzalez, Secretary (Mt. Pleasant); and Leroy Hernandez, Treasurer (Holland); Esther Fifelski (Holland); Gil Guevara (Saginaw); Bobby Deleon (Saginaw); Guillermo Lopez (Lansing); Diana Rivera (Okemos); Juan Marinez (Okemos) and Dr. Sheila Contreras (Lansing).

*Bringing together Michigan Latinx communities to exchange ideas, and to develop and present solutions on common issues encountered at local, state and national levels.
LLEAD is a 501 (c)(3) organization.*