

# Year in Review NCLR Regional Recaps

# 2015 Southeast Region Year-End Recap

NCLR and its Affiliate Network help build a stronger America by creating opportunities for Latinos. Together, NCLR's national influence and Affiliates' local expertise elevate the Latino voice, build new connections, and open doors in a more powerful and effective way than if we acted alone. As we move into 2016, let's take a look back at some of what we accomplished in 2015.

# Southeast Snapshot

The Southeast Affiliate Network is home to 44 Affiliate community-based organizations, serving families across 13 states.

# Affiliate Profile \$278 Million Combined Agency Budget \$6,092 Employees \$360,895 Clients Served





# **Recognizing Our Southeast Affiliates**

NCLR is proud of its Affiliates and the work they do to empower communities. In 2015, we were pleased to recognize their contributions and celebrate these specific achievements:



The **Hispanic Unity of Florida** in Hollywood was recognized as the 2015 NCLR Southeast Affiliate of the Year.

**Connect Familias** and **UnidosNow**, two Southeast Affiliates, were among the 10 organizations to join the NCLR Affiliate Network in 2015.

## **IPRESENTE!**

As a convener of Latino leadership, NCLR strengthens Affiliates' ability to succeed by providing a platform for peer-to-peer collaboration and connecting leaders to share and replicate best practices through various activities throughout the year. Using NCLR national recognition and visibility, we showcase Affiliates highlighting their unique attributes, program models, and expertise. NCLR featured a different Affiliate each month through the Affiliate Spotlight blog series, which received more than **80,000 views**.

Below are 2015 highlights of NCLR-Affiliate community leadership convenings:

- More than 80 representatives of 56 distinct Affiliates attended the Affiliate Leadership Summit in March where they received technical assistance and learned best practices to help them shore up their immigration legal services and prepare for administrative relief.
- For the eighth consecutive year, NCLR and its Affiliate Council presented the Affiliate Leadership Breakfast where more than 300 nonprofit leaders connected and heard an Affiliate-led panel share strategies for leading a successful social enterprise—a topic identified and prioritized by Affiliates.
- The Northeast and Southeast Fall Regional Convening brought together representatives from 32 Affiliate organizations, 15 from the Southeast region. Affiliates learned from their peers about community development, community empowerment and engagement, program evaluation, and how to create an app.
- In Florida, NCLR launched the Florida Latino Leadership Institute for Latino advocacy and leadership development. The curriculum was developed with Affiliates in mind and has been implemented with great success in California and Texas in the past. The institute was a twosession, two-and-half-day intensive training designed for executive directors and organizing or program staff. The 11 Affiliates who participated learned about the history of social movements, the role of nonprofits in social change, issue campaign development, and tactics to organize and mobilize our community.



# **Expanding Affiliate Ability**

NCLR program and policy staff worked with Affiliates to support their growth and ability to serve

and advocate for Latino families.



The following programs and annual events highlight just some of the many ways NCLR adds value to Affiliates' efforts to create opportunities for Latino families.\*

#### **EDUCATION**

Deepening our investment in developing the next generation of leaders, NCLR launched three new programs: the Latino Men of Action initiative—which examines how ideas of masculinity shape students' self-efficacy—and two college readiness programs, Early *Escalera* (for ninth graders) and *Lideres Avanzando* (for college retention). Combined, NCLR is bridging gaps in programming across the educational spectrum preparing our future leaders at an early age for college and career success. NCLR Affiliates were also instrumental in a major policy victory for Latino children: securing passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which stands to benefit the 12 million Latino students in U.S. schools and 5 million English learners.

#### HEALTH

As part of the *Comprando Rico y Sano* project, NCLR and its subgrantee Affiliates trained 230 *promotores de salud* and educated nearly 50,000 Latinos via face-to-face discussions about nutrition, helping families build healthy eating habits. Additionally, 14,500 Latino households now have access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) because of the culturally competent enrollment assistance they received through NCLR Affiliates.

<sup>\*</sup>The information included in this recap is intended to show a snapshot of NCLR activities and is not a comprehensive list of all grant opportunities and trainings.



#### HOUSING

NCLR's investment of almost \$3 million in Housing and Community Development programs and services made it possible for Affiliates to provide counseling services to over 40,000 families on critical issues such as pre- and post-purchase counseling, mortgage modifications, and mortgage delinquencies. Additionally, the NCLR Homeownership Network (NHN) provided financial, budgeting, and money-management services to empower Latinos to make informed choices and improve their financial well-being.

#### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



Over 2,000 adults became more competitive in the workforce as a result of NCLR's investment in Affiliate job training programs, with 33 grants in 2015. In addition to ongoing technical assistance to those grantees, another 27 Affiliates from across the country attended NCLR's Workforce Development Bridge Curriculum

Training and received intensive training that allowed them to introduce NCLR's workforce curriculum into their existing programs.

#### **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

NCLR's civic engagement work focused on providing Affiliates technical assistance in incorporating voter registration and advocacy into their existing programs. Nearly 300 Latino leaders from across the country participated in the 2015 NCLR National Latino Advocacy Days on March 4 in Washington, DC. Participants, including nearly 100 youth from *Líderes Congreso*, participated in advocacy training and carried out more than 100 meetings with their congressional representatives to advocate for President Obama's administrative relief actions.



#### WEALTH-BUILDING



NCLR led a successful campaign to protect vital tax credits for working families, the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC), hosting several community forums and press events in partnership with Affiliates. In December, NCLR celebrated the permanent extension of the EITC and CTC – a major policy victory that would not have been possible without the engagement and voices of NCLR Affiliates.



In Florida, NCLR hosted a community forum with Miami Mayor Tomás Regalado sharing that these tax credits keep 600,000 Floridians, including 311,000 children, out of poverty.

In another effort to protect Latino families, NCLR garnered more than 4,000 signatures in support of payday lending reform and collected many stories of Latino families falling into debt traps due to predatory payday lending. NCLR is working with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to ensure there are rules to protect families from falling further into debt.

#### **IMMIGRATION**

NCLR kept pressure on Washington throughout 2015 to act on comprehensive immigration reform, producing press events, blog posts, media appearances, writing editorials, and featuring stories of families impacted by the current broken immigration system. In anticipation of expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and the implementation of the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans

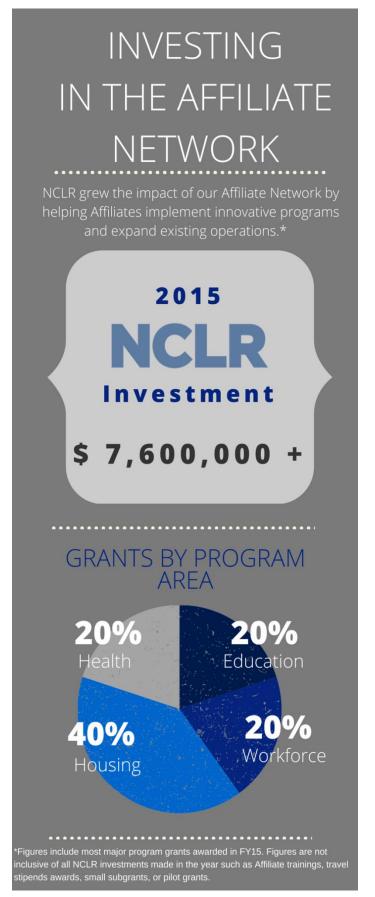


and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) program, NCLR provided technical assistance to Affiliates to shore up their immigration legal services programs through webinars, trainings, and peer-to-peer connections. NCLR also unveiled **Immigo 2.0**, a mobile app designed to give service providers the most up-to-date information about changing immigration laws and policies, with nearly 3,000 downloads to date.

# **Amplifying Affiliate Voice**

In addition to the issues above, NCLR and Affiliates around the country have also forged ahead in new and revitalized movements impacting Latino families. Our collective voice has been heard on important issues such as **technology**, **smart justice reform**, and **youth leadership**. Affiliates have been instrumental in the development of these portfolios providing expertise, voice, and perspective much needed in discussions of policies, solutions, and actions.







### What's Ahead?

As we start 2016, NCLR will continue to work with Affiliates by:

- Developing Latino leaders through capacity-building trainings, peer-to-peer collaboration, and convening Latino community leadership.
- Advancing the Latino vote through citizenship and civic participation through education, registration, GOTV efforts, and advocacy.
- Integrating immigrants through programs such as DAPA/DACA and continuing to work on immigration reform.
- Creating economic opportunities by protecting the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit, and fighting for payday lending reform.
- expand the number of Latino opportunities with access to health coverage such as Medicaid expansion and the Affordable Care Act.



# The Southeast Regional Team

Along with the leadership and dedication of the Southeast Affiliate Council Representatives, Maria Gomez and Mauricio Calvo, NCLR's Florida-based team supports the work of our Affiliates in the Southeast.



Maria Gomez Executive Director Mary's Center



Mauricio Calvo Executive Director Latino Memphis

#### The NCLR Miami-based Team

Camila Gallardo, Assistant Director, Communications
Eric Salazar, Associate Director, Housing and Community Development
Jared Nordlund, Florida Senior Strategist, Civic Engagement\*
Natalie Carlier, Florida Regional Coordinator and Southeast Liaison, Affiliate Member Services
Karla Bachmann, Program Manager, Workforce Development

\*Based in Orlando

For questions about this recap or to learn more about the NCLR Southeast Region, please contact SE-info@nclr.org.

#### PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES\*

NCLR Capital Awards NCLR National Latino Advocacy Days NCLR Affiliate Leadership Summit NCLR Workforce Development Forum NCLR Annual Conference Election Day

March 8, 2016 March 9–10, 2016 March 9, 2016 May 4–6, 2016 July 23–26, 2016 November 4, 2016

\*Dates are subject to change.