

Analysis of President's Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Plan

By Marisabel Torres*

INTRODUCTION

In late February 2009, President Barack Obama released an outline of a proposed \$3.6 trillion federal budget for fiscal year (FY) 2010. The document was released just after the enactment of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which provided more than \$750 billion in federal funds to states, cities, and families. In May, the White House released a detailed budget blueprint that offers more clarity on the funding priorities of the new administration and provides guidance to lawmakers working on appropriations legislation this year.

The outcomes of this year's federal budget debate stand to have long-lasting implications on all Americans, and may have an especially deep impact on low-income, Hispanic,[†] and other minority families. The Latino population has grown substantially, to nearly 47 million,[‡] and Latinos account for more than 50% of overall population growth in the country since 2000.¹ By 2050, Latinos are projected to constitute nearly 30% of the population, and more than one in three U.S. workers.² At the same time, over this decade, the National Council of La Raza (NCLR)—the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States—has tracked a diminishing level of federal investments in programs important to the well-being of this community. Moreover, the data show that Latino, Black, and other low-income workers and families are being disproportionately and deeply impacted by the current economic crisis. For example, the unemployment rate for Latino and Black workers reached nearly 13% and 15% respectively in May 2009, with no indications of bottoming out soon.

Similarly, the economic crisis has affected institutions that provide support and relief for impacted families. For example, many NCLR community-based Affiliates are experiencing significant increases in demand for human needs services while facing potential budget cuts that are acutely impacting organizations in states grappling with budget crises. For these reasons, federal investment in programs that serve Latino families and create jobs for minority workers is timely and crucial to protecting as well as reinvesting in the nation's future prosperity and growth.

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† The terms "Hispanic" and "Latino" are used interchangeably by the U.S. Census Bureau and throughout this document to refer to persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central and South American, Dominican, Spanish, and other Hispanic descent; they may be of any race.

‡ These data do not include the 3.9 million residents of Puerto Rico, nor do they reflect the 3% undercount for Latinos reported by the U.S. Census Bureau for the last decennial Census (U.S. Census Bureau, 2005).

Since fall 2008, NCLR has continued to provide policymakers guidance and input on ways to make pertinent and smart federal investments in Latino families and workers.* NCLR has also received feedback and guidance from Affiliates working hard to serve their community's needs. Many of the program areas highlighted in this paper stem from these conversations.

By no means is this analysis an exhaustive assessment of all federal programs and investments. Rather, this paper serves as a guide for the Congress and White House to understand where tangible and direct investments are needed in order to address Latino budget priorities.

* Consult the following NCLR publications for more information:

- *2009 Policy Agenda: A Public Policy Briefing Book*, March 2009, <http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/detail/56115>.
- *Latino Employment Status*, April 2009 and *Latino Employment Status*, March 2009, <http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/detail/57236>, and <http://www.nclr.org/section/marchemployment>.
- *Helping Latino Families Weather the Financial Fallout: Wealth-Building Policy Agenda*, March 2009, <http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/detail/56249>.
- *Ailing Federal Investments in Latino Health Priorities*, January 2009, <http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/detail/55716>.
- *Labor Day 2008: A Snapshot of the Latino Workforce*, August 2008, <http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/detail/53647>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The administration proposed \$46.7 billion in funding for FY 2010 for the Department of Education—an increase of 2.9% from FY 2009 in discretionary spending for the Department. The president’s budget provides increases in funding for critical areas, including an expansion of Federal Pell Grants. However, there is a lack of sufficient, new investment in Latino parents, family literacy, and English language learners (ELLs) in this proposal. Most troubling is that the proposal would eliminate the William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Programs from the budget, where Hispanics constitute roughly half of all participants. The president’s budget would also level fund Language Acquisition State Grants, Title III of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act.

Through the Hispanic Education Coalition (HEC), NCLR has submitted requests for spending on several specific Latino-serving education programs. Please consult HEC’s FY 2010 funding priorities request at <http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/download/56706>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			
FEDERAL PROGRAM	FY 2009 OMNIBUS	FY 2010 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE FY 2009–FY 2010
21st Century Community Learning Centers	\$1.13 m	\$1.13 m	\$0
English Literacy and Civics Program	67 m	75 m	8 m
Even Start	66.5 m	0	- 66.5 m
Federal TRIO Programs	848 m	848 m	0
GEAR UP	313 m	313 m	0
High School Equivalency Program	18.68 m	19.94 m	1.26 m
College Assistance Migrant Program	15.48 m	16.53 m	1.05 m
Hispanic-Serving Institutions	93.3 m	97 m	3.74 m
Language Acquisition State Grants (Title III, ESEA)	730 m	730 m	0
Migrant Education Program (Title I, Part C of the ESEA)	394 m	394 m	0
Federal Pell Grant Program	17.2 b (discretionary)	28.6 b	now entitlement, not discretionary

Source: U.S. Department of Education and White House Office of Management and Budget.

21st Century Community Learning Centers

This program is a key component of NCLB, providing children at risk of school failure with more “time on task” so they can meet academic standards. These programs provide students with academic enrichment opportunities along with activities designed to complement the students’ regular academic program. In addition, 21st Century programs also help working parents by providing a safe

environment for students during nonschool hours or periods when school is not in session. NCLR recommended full funding at \$2.5 billion for FY 2010, which is the amount authorized under NCLB, and an amount that would extend the reach to an additional 1.5 million students in grades K–12. *The president's budget would level fund this program at \$1.13 billion.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/index.html>.

Adult Basic Literacy Education Grants, English Literacy, and Civics Program (Workforce Investment Act, Title II)

This program provides grants to states to fund local programs of adult education and literacy services, including workplace literacy services, family literacy services, and English literacy and civics education programs. The English Literacy and Civics Education Program is an integrated program of educational services to immigrants and other limited-English-proficient (LEP) populations to acquire the basic skills they need to function effectively as parents, workers, and citizens. Local providers implementing English Literacy and Civics Education programs are charged with incorporating instruction on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic participation. NCLR recommended \$750 million for Adult Basic Literacy Education Grants for FY 2010. *The president's budget would fund \$628 million for Adult Basic Literacy Education Grants in FY 2010, with \$75 million for English Literacy and Civics Education, representing an increase of \$8 million above FY 2009.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/AdultEd/elctopic.html>.

Even Start

The William F. Goodling Even Start Family Literacy Programs, authorized under Title I of NCLB, provide research-based family literacy services to children and families at severe educational and economic disadvantages. Even Start programs integrate early childhood education, adult literacy, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program. Each year, Even Start helps approximately 50,000 families, nearly half of whom are Hispanic. Moreover, there is a special set-aside available to ensure that Even Start services are made available to our nation's migrant and Native American families. To support existing programs in all 50 states, NCLR recommended \$100 million for Even Start for FY 2010. *The president's budget for FY 2010 proposed to eliminate Even Start. The Bush administration also proposed elimination of the program in FY 2009, but Congress funded it at \$66.5 million.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/evenstartformula/index.html>.

Federal TRIO Programs

The TRIO Programs include Talent Search and Upward Bound, which help disadvantaged middle and high school students prepare for college by providing tutoring, rigorous coursework, and guidance. Together, Talent Search and Upward Bound serve nearly 873,000 low-income Americans between the ages of 11 and 27, 19% of which are Hispanic. While the TRIO programs currently under serve Latinos, they have proven effective in helping participants graduate from high school ready for college. NCLR recommended \$937 million for Federal TRIO Programs in FY 2010 to expand the reach of services to at least 100,000 more students. *The president's budget would level fund TRIO at \$848 million.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html>.

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)

GEAR UP supports early college preparation and awareness activities at the state and local levels to ensure that low-income elementary and secondary school students are prepared for and pursue postsecondary education. Latinos constitute three in ten (30%) of GEAR UP participants.³ NCLR recommended \$350 million for GEAR UP for FY 2010. *The president's budget would level fund GEAR UP at \$313 million.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/gearup/index.html>.

High School Equivalency Program (HEP) and College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)

HEP assists migrant and seasonal farm workers (or children of such workers) who are 16 years of age or older and not currently enrolled in school. The program helps students earn the equivalent of a high school diploma and subsequently obtain employment or begin postsecondary education or training. HEP serves 7,000 farmworkers annually. CAMP provides migrant students in their first year of undergraduate studies at an institution of higher education with counseling and stipends. CAMP serves about 2,400 students annually, nearly all of whom complete their first year of college. NCLR recommended \$30 million for HEP and \$20 million for CAMP for FY 2010 to support existing programs, reinstate programs that have been eliminated, and add programs in areas with demonstrated need. *The president's budget for FY 2010 would increase funding over FY 2009 levels by more than \$1 million for both HEP and CAMP, bringing them to \$19.9 million and \$16.5, respectively.*

For more information please visit:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/hep/index.html>

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/camp/index.html>

Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) Programs

HSIs Programs help institutions of higher education expand their capacity to serve Hispanic and low-income students. HSIs are designated as institutions with 25% Hispanic students, not less than 50% of who are from low-income households. In academic year 2006–2007, 54% of Hispanic undergraduate students were enrolled in 265 HSIs throughout the nation. NCLR recommended \$275 million for HSIs in FY 2010. *The president's budget would fund HSIs at \$97 million, an increase of \$3 million over FY 2009.*

For more information on HSIs, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/ideshsi/index.html>.

Language Acquisition State Grants (Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title III) Language Acquisition State Grants are authorized under Title III of NCLB. Their purpose is to ensure that ELL students attain English proficiency, develop high levels of academic achievement, and meet the same challenging state academic standards as all children. This program is critical because there are more than five million ELLs currently attending U.S. public schools; they constitute more than 10% of the total U.S. student population. The ELL population is growing rapidly, but the infrastructure to support the emerging population has not kept pace with population growth, especially in Midwestern and Southeastern states. In addition, the funding provided to states through these grants differs widely from state to state, leading to a variance of services available to ELL students. NCLR recommended

\$850 million in FY 2010 for Language Acquisition State Grants to keep pace with the burgeoning ELL student population. *The president's FY 2010 budget would level fund Language Acquisition State Grants at \$730 million.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/index.html>.

Migrant Education Program (ESEA, Title I, Part C)

The goal of the Migrant Education Program (MEP) is to ensure that all migrant students reach challenging academic standards and graduate with a high school diploma (or complete a General Equivalency Diploma) that prepares them for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment. MEP awards formula-based grants to states to identify and recruit migrant students and provide them with educational, health, and nutritional services, among other activities. The program now serves more than 537,000 children, yet has seen few increases in funding during the past decade. This has led to a number of states either cutting services or eliminating programs altogether. NCLR recommended \$475 million in FY 2010 to prevent further program and service elimination. *The president's FY 2010 budget would level fund this program at \$394 million.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/mep/index.html>.

School Dropout Prevention Programs

This program supports effective, sustainable, and coordinated dropout prevention and school reentry programs in high schools that exceed their state's average annual dropout rate. As of July 2009, the Latino graduation rate is at 58% nationwide, compared to 78% for White students. Dropout prevention programs are effective tools for addressing some of the barriers to graduating that Latino students face. NCLR recommended \$45 million for FY 2010. *The president's budget for FY 2010 does not include funding for School Dropout Prevention Programs. The program did not receive appropriations from Congress in FY 2009.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/dropout/index.html>.

Federal Pell Grant Program

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain postbaccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education. Federal financial aid is a critical source of aid for Latino undergraduates. In 2003–2004, half of Latino undergraduates received federal aid, while only 16% of Latino undergraduates received state aid, and 17% received institutional aid.⁴ As Latino students rely heavily on federal aid for postsecondary education and are a fast-growing student population, their needs must be factored into federal efforts to expand this program. *The president's budget would make the Federal Pell Grant Program an entitlement for eligible students, with the maximum annual Pell Grant size increasing to \$5,500 and being indexed for inflation.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/programs/fpg/index.html>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The administration proposed \$78.4 billion in discretionary funding for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). This figure represents a decline in overall discretionary spending for the Department over FY 2009.⁵ The proposed budget would increase funding for various programs of importance to Latinos. For example, the Head Start program, whose Hispanic enrollees represent 30% of all program participants, would receive an increase of more than \$100 million above FY 2009 levels. The Office of Minority Health, Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative, and the Office Civil Rights would all see increases under the president’s proposal. That said, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 (PL 111-5) provided HHS with \$22.4 billion in discretionary funds for FY 2009 and FY 2010.

The president’s budget would also provide a \$634 billion “down payment” for reform of the health care system.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
FEDERAL PROGRAM	FY 2009 OMNIBUS	FY 2010 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE FY 2009–FY 2010
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	\$6.28 b	\$6.31 b	\$28 m
Child Care Development Block Grant	2.12 b	2.12 b	0
Community Health Centers	2.2 b	2.2 b	-22 m
Head Start	7.1 b	7.2 b	122 m
Health Resources and Service Administration	7.23 b	7.12 b	-107 m
Individual Development Accounts	24 m	24 m	0
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program	5.1 b	3.2 b	-1.9 b
Minority HIV/AIDS	51.9 m	143 m	92 m
National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities	205 m	208.8 m	3 m
Office of Civil Rights	36 m	37.7 m	1.7 m
Office of Minority Health	52 m	55.9 m	3 m
Racial and Ethnic Approach to Community Health	35 m	39 m	4 m
Ryan White CARE Act Program	1.9 m	1.9 m	proposed budget assumes reauthorization in FY 2009
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Program	3.3 b	3.3 b	0

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and White House Office of Management and Budget.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The CDC is the lead federal agency for protecting the health and safety of people, providing information designed to enhance health decisions, and promoting health through partnerships with community-based organizations (CBOs). NCLR-affiliated CBOs have forged partnerships with the CDC to develop and implement Hispanic-focused health promotion campaigns. *The president's FY 2010 budget proposed \$6.31 billion for the CDC, an increase of \$28 million over FY 2009 funding.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov>.

Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

The CCDBG program provides funds to states for direct child care assistance payments to low-income families. The program covers monthly child care expenses for approximately one million working families or those that are engaged in education or training programs. The Office of Management and Budget's evaluation tool or Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) assessment found that CCDBG plays a critical role for families transitioning from welfare to work and that child care subsidies expand parental access to a range of care options. However, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, only about 15% of those eligible for child care subsidies under CCDBG receive them.⁶ Given that 29% of Latino children belong to families that live at or below the federal poverty level,⁷ CCDBG funding is significant for Latinos. *The president's FY 2010 budget would level fund CCDBG at \$2.12 billion.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ccdf/index.htm>.

Community Health Center (CHC) Program

CHCs are community-based preventive and primary health care providers serving low-income populations. CHCs serve as an important access point to health care for Latinos in particular, who constitute almost 40% of all CHC patients. NCLR recommended \$2.60 billion for Community Health Centers for FY 2010. *The president's FY 2010 budget would level fund CHCs at \$2.19 billion.*

For more information, please visit <http://bphc.hrsa.gov>.

Head Start

Head Start and Early Head Start are comprehensive health and educational programs that serve low-income children from birth to age five, pregnant women, and their families. The Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) program makes these same services available to the children of farmworkers. Head Start currently serves only 60% of eligible preschoolers. MSHS serves a mere 19% of eligible children. Hispanic children represent 30% of all Head Start enrollees, and they account for the vast majority of children eligible for MSHS. In 2007, the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act (P.L. 110-134) was signed into law, reauthorizing and amending Head Start. The act put a new Head Start funding formula in place that would provide up to \$50 million in additional funding for MSHS over the next five years if the annual Head Start appropriation is sufficient to provide a cost of living increase for all Head Start grantees. *The president's budget would fund Head Start at \$7.23 billion for FY 2010, an increase of \$120 million over FY 2009 and above NCLR's recommendation for FY 2010.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/index.html>.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

The HRSA provides national leadership, program resources, and services to improve access to health care. It is the principal federal agency charged with increasing access to basic health care for those who are medically underserved. Among its offices, HRSA houses the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities and the HIV/AIDS Bureau and funds scholarships and academic loan programs to encourage greater minority participation in the health professions. *The president's FY 2010 budget would decrease funding from \$7.23 billion in FY 2009 to \$7.12 billion.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.hrsa.gov/about/default.htm>.

Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)

These accounts are matched savings accounts designed to help low-income and low-wealth families accumulate savings that they can use for education/job training, homeownership, and/or microenterprise. There are more than 400 community-based IDA programs in 47 states, including several programs that NCLR Affiliates administer, that are available to low-income working families. Research has shown that Latino participants save more on average than their peers in IDA programs, but few Latinos are able to participate given the low level of federal funding. *The president's FY 2010 budget would level fund IDAs at \$24 million.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/afi/assets.html>.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP provides direct heating and cooling benefits to millions of low-income families. According to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau statistics, more than 37 million Americans lived in poverty in 2007, including nearly ten million Latinos. Recent rises in home heating costs have further strained millions of household budgets. *The president's FY 2010 budget would fund LIHEAP at \$3.2 billion, a decrease of \$1.9 billion over FY 2009. However, the proposal includes a \$790 million contingency fund. In addition, the administration proposes creating a new mandatory trigger mechanism to provide automatic increases in energy assistance when energy costs rise quickly.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/index.html>.

Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative

The Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative is part of HHS's larger Initiative to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health by 2010. This initiative focuses on the need to address the alarming rate of HIV/AIDS infection in minority communities. In 2007, racial and ethnic minorities accounted for about 68% of newly diagnosed HIV/AIDS cases.⁸ *The president's budget for FY 2010 would increase funding over FY 2009 from \$51.9 million to \$143 million.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.omhrc.gov/templates/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlID=36>.

National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD)

NCMHD leads, coordinates, supports, and assesses the National Institutes of Health's effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities. In this effort, NCMHD conducts and supports basic, clinical, social, and behavioral research, promotes research infrastructure and training, fosters emerging programs, disseminates information, and reaches out to minority and other communities

experiencing health disparities. *The president's budget would increase funding for NCMHD by \$3 million to \$208.8 million in FY 2010.*

For more information, please visit <http://ncmhd.nih.gov>.

Office for Civil Rights

HHS's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is charged to promote and ensure that people have equal access to and opportunity to participate in and receive services in all HHS programs without facing unlawful discrimination. The rights of LEP individuals to obtain services through HHS are enforced through OCR. However, little is known about the extent of OCR's efforts and effectiveness to date, particularly with respect to Latinos, immigrants, and LEP individuals. *The president's FY 2010 budget would fund OCR at \$37.7 million, an increase of \$1.7 million over FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr>.

Office of Minority Health

The CDC's Office of Minority Health (OMH) works with state, tribal, and local governments, as well as nonprofit organizations to improve health status and eliminate health disparities among Americans of all racial and ethnic groups. *The president's budget would fund OMH at \$55.9 million in FY 2010, an increase of \$3 million over FY 2009 funding.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.omhrc.gov>.

Racial and Ethnic Approach to Community Health (REACH) Across the U.S.

REACH Across the U.S. is a national CDC initiative to eliminate disparities in health status experienced by racial and ethnic minority groups. Specifically, REACH Across the U.S. works to support efforts that provide education on disease prevention for health care providers, health education, and health promotion programs that use lay health workers to reach community members. *The president's budget for FY 2010 would fund REACH Across the U.S. at \$39.6 million, an increase of \$4 million over FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/reach/index.htm>.

Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act

The Ryan White CARE Act is federal legislation that addresses the unmet health needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS by funding primary health care and support services. The CARE Act reaches more than 500,000 individuals each year, making it the federal government's largest program specifically for people living with HIV/AIDS. Although Hispanics represent about one in seven (15%) Americans, they account for nearly one in four (22%) of HIV/AIDS cases. *The Ryan White CARE Act sunsets at the end of FY 2009; the president's budget notes that it anticipates timely reauthorization of the act.*

For more information, please visit <http://hab.hrsa.gov/aboutus.htm>.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

This arm of HHS seeks to focus attention, programs, and funding on improving the lives of people with or at risk for mental and substance abuse disorders. According to one study, less than one in four (24%) Latinos with mental health problems are receiving the appropriate care.⁹ For example,

among adults who have undergone a major depressive episode, only half of Latinos (50.2%) received treatment for depression in 2005, compared to about two-thirds of Whites (67.2%).¹⁰ *The president's FY 2010 budget would level fund SAMHSA at \$3.3 billion.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.samhsa.gov/index.aspx>.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The administration proposed \$48 billion for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The president's budget would respond to the current housing crisis by increasing funds for existing programs as well as adding new initiatives to combat predatory lending. The president's FY 2010 budget would increase the HUD Housing Counseling Program by more than 50% over FY 2009. However, given rising foreclosures, the need for investment outstrips the proposed allocation. The budget would provide \$1 billion for a new Housing Trust Fund, which seeks to help provide affordable housing options for targeted low-income families. The Office of Policy Development and Research, which is tasked with the collection and dissemination of national data on housing, would receive expanded funding of \$50 million under the president's proposal.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT			
FEDERAL PROGRAM	FY 2009 OMNIBUS	FY 2010 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE FY 2009–FY 2010
Community Development Block Grant	\$3.6 b	\$4.5 b	\$1 b
Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) and Fair Housing Initiative Program (FHIP)	53 m	29.5m FHAP; 42.5 m FHIP	3.5 m FHAP; 15 m FHIP
HOME Investment Partnership Program	1.8 b	1.8 b	0
Housing Counseling Assistance	65 m	100 m	35 m
Neighborhood Stabilization Program	3.92 b	2 b (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds)	

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and White House Office of Management and Budget.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The CDBG program works to ensure decent affordable housing, provide services to the most vulnerable communities, and create jobs through the expansion and retention of businesses. CDBG also can provide funds for community improvement investments such as community centers, parks, and water, sewer, and street infrastructure that are critical to improving quality of life, maintaining property values, and keeping neighborhoods safe. *The president's budget request for FY 2010 would fund CDBG at \$4.45 billion. The budget plan includes several "reforms" to the program. For example, the current formula would be modified in an effort to target funds to communities with the greatest need and provide for revised accountability and performance metrics. A corresponding legislative reform includes a hold harmless provision to be in place while this new formula is implemented.*

Moreover, the budget references disaster recovery reform, and three new initiatives: Sustainable Communities Initiative; the Rural Innovation Fund; and, the University Community Fund.

Funding for CDBG includes investment for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). This program is structured to provide emergency funding to state and local governments to facilitate the purchase, rehabilitation, or demolition of vacant and foreclosed properties. This funding seeks to help communities manage the impact of foreclosure on neighborhoods. Given the extent of the current foreclosure crises, NCLR recommended full funding of this program in FY 2010 at \$4.2 billion. *The president's FY 2010 budget for CDBG reflects ARRA funds, which allocated \$2 billion in NSP competitive grants, for emergency assistance for the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed homes, in addition to \$3.92 billion mandatory appropriated NSP funding, reflected in a separate account.*

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs>

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/neighborhoodspg>

Fair Housing Assistance Program and Fair Housing Initiative Program

HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity administers federal laws and establishes national policies that ensure that all Americans can pursue housing opportunities free of discrimination. The office administers the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) and the Fair Housing Initiative Program (FHIP). FHAP provides resources to state and local agencies to process and investigate complaints filed under Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968. FHIP funds seek to strengthen the ability of private fair housing community groups to enforce laws protecting all Americans against housing discrimination. Recent research reveals that housing discrimination against Latinos is high and persistent. Many federal and local offices, as well as agencies funded by FHAP and FHIP, lack bilingual staff and materials, which inhibits effective outreach to the Hispanic community. Historically, there have been few Latino-focused community organizations engaged in fair housing. Many families do not even recognize that they have been discriminated against. Furthermore, government enforcement systems do not proactively attack discrimination. As a result of ineffective enforcement, rising levels of housing discrimination against Latinos and immigrants have gone unabated. NCLR recommended increasing investments in both programs to expand research and capacity efforts. *The president's FY 2010 budget would fund fair housing activities at \$72 million, of which \$29.5 million would be for FHAP and \$42.5 million would be for FHIP. This represents increases of \$3.5 million for FHAP and \$15 million for FHIP over FY 2009 levels.*

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/fheo/partners/FHAP>

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/fheo/partners/FHIP/fhip.cfm>

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

HOME is the largest federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. HOME provides funds to expand affordable housing by acquisition, rehabilitation, and new construction of housing and tenant-based rental assistance. As many Latinos live in high-cost markets, there is a need to create and rehabilitate affordable housing.

Similarly, many low- and moderate-income Latino families would not be able to purchase their first home without down payment assistance. *The president's FY 2010 budget would level fund HOME at \$1.8 billion.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/programs/home>.

Housing Counseling Assistance

Given low rates of Hispanic homeownership, high rates of discrimination, and serious concerns over foreclosure, housing counseling is an essential and proven method of delivering homebuying information and services to the Latino community. As a HUD intermediary, NCLR distributes HUD funding to the NCLR Homeownership Network, which annually serves more than 30,000 families, more than three out of four of which are below 80% of Area Median Income. Funds for housing counseling must increase, with a portion of the increase set aside for foreclosure prevention counseling. Last year, Housing Counseling Assistance was funded at \$180 million for post-purchase foreclosure counseling, plus \$50 million via direct appropriations from HUD. The president's "Making Home Affordable" plan contains a requirement that families with high debt-to-income ratios must meet with a HUD-certified counselor before their loan modification can be approved. The housing market continues to be impacted by the economic recession. In the best case scenario, the need for housing counseling will only double, but more likely is that demand will sky rocket. Sufficient funding is needed to keep up with foreclosure prevention counseling needs. NCLR recommended no less than \$500 million in FY 2010 to meet vital, growing need for effective housing counseling programs. *The president's budget would give \$100 million to Housing Counseling Assistance for FY 2010, nearly 50% more than what was appropriated in FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/counselng.cfm>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The administration proposed \$13.3 billion in discretionary funding for the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) in FY 2010. New initiatives for the DOL proposed in the president’s FY 2010 budget are a Green Jobs Innovation Fund, which would be funded at \$50 million, and a Career Pathways Innovation Fund (formerly Community-Based Job Training Grants), which would receive \$135 million. Aside from these initiatives, the proposed funding for workforce education and training largely replicates the existing workforce funding allotments. Increased investment targeted toward improving job opportunities for the nation’s 22 million Latino workers—who have been especially impacted by the current economic recession—is not strongly reflected in the president’s FY 2010 budget proposal.

Authority for funding integrated job training, which has proven successful for limited-English-proficient Hispanics, currently exists in Title I, Subtitle D, Section 171 (Demonstration, Pilot, Multiservice, Research, and Multistate Projects) of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). In FY 2009, the Limited English Proficiency and Hispanic Worker Initiative Grants, administered under this section, terminated. The president’s budget does not propose a new, similar initiative. However, the president’s budget would allocate \$57.5 million under Section 171 for Pilots, Demonstrations, and Research, of which \$50 million would be used to demonstrate and evaluate transitional job program models. The budget also proposes to move the Office of Job Corps into the Employment and Training Administration.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR			
FEDERAL PROGRAM	FY 2009 OMNIBUS	FY 2010 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE FY 2009–FY 2010
Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Adult Employment and Training Activities	\$861.54 m	\$861.54 m	\$0
WIA Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities	1.4 b	1.4 b	-53 m
WIA Youth Activities	924 m	924 m	0
Job Corps	1.68 b	1.7 b	17 m
WIA Title I, Sec. 167 Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Job Training	82.6 m	82.6 m	0
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	513.6 m	563.6 m	50 m
Office of Federal Contract Compliance Program	82 m	109 m	27 m
Wage and Hour Division	197.6 m	227.6 m	30 m

Source: U.S. Department of Labor and White House Office of Management and Budget.

Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth (WIA Title I)

Of these three major funding streams, Latinos made up 16.4% of the adults, 13.5% of dislocated workers, and 25.9% of youth exiting WIA programs (in 2004). The reach of WIA Title I programs has been extremely limited by declining funding during this decade; meanwhile, there is growing demand from workers struggling in this troubled economy. *The president's FY 2010 budget would level funding for Adult Employment and Training at \$861 million; decrease funding for Dislocated Workers by approximately \$53 million to \$1.4 billion; and level fund Youth Activities at \$924 million. That said, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 funded roughly a combined \$3 billion for Adults, Dislocated Workers, and Youth Activities.*

For program information, please see:

http://www.doleta.gov/programs/general_info.cfm

http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services

Office of Job Corps

Job Corps is a residential education and job training program for at-risk youth ages 16 through 24. The program combines classroom, practical, and work-based learning experiences to prepare youth for stable, long-term, high-paying jobs and serves more than 60,000 young people every year. Minority youth make up 74% of Job Corps participants and Latinos constitute about 17% of total participants. Given the current 57.8% high school dropout rate for Latinos, rising minority youth unemployment is a significant policy concern. *The president's FY 2010 proposal would move the Office of Job Corps into the Employment and Training Administration, funding it at \$1.7 billion, an increase of \$17 million over FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.jobcorps.gov/Home.aspx>.

National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP)

The agriculture industry continues to be plagued by low wages, no benefits, hazardous working conditions, and categorical exclusions from legal protections. Currently authorized in Section 167 of the WIA, NFJP is the only workforce development program serving the nation's migrant and seasonal farmworkers. NFJP is the DOL's most effective national job training program, with a success rate exceeding 83%. The Section 167 program provides English-as-a-second-language instruction, job readiness guidance, and skills training to enable migrant and seasonal farmworkers to broaden their employment prospects. NFJP's 50 nonprofit and public agencies, including many NCLR Affiliates, serve more than 25,000 hardworking, impoverished, and primarily Hispanic migrant and seasonal agricultural workers each year. With help from this unique program, farmworkers often dramatically increase their earnings by entering fields such as health care, transportation, and manufacturing. At current funding levels, NFJP serves only 1% of eligible migrant and seasonal farmworkers. NCLR recommended \$120 million for the program for FY 2010, to expand services to more of the eligible population. *The president's budget for FY 2010 would level fund the National Farmworker Jobs Program at \$82.6 million.*

For more program information, please visit <http://www.doleta.gov/MSFW/html/NFJP.cfm>.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

OSHA is charged with preventing work-related injuries, illnesses, and death. Latinos consistently have the highest rate of death on the job of any group in the labor force. In 2006, 990 Latinos—the majority of them immigrants—died from an occupational injury. Lack of appropriate outreach and enforcement in high-risk workplaces are among the major factors contributing to this alarming trend. NCLR recommended increasing resources for OSHA to monitor safety and health in nontraditional employment arrangements, such as employment of workers on a temporary or contingent basis. NCLR urged DOL to raise the civil and monetary penalties for employers with “willful” violations of the law that result in a worker’s death. *The president’s FY 2010 budget proposes \$563.6 million, an increase of \$50 million over FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.osha.gov>.

Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)

The OFCCP is responsible for ensuring equal employment opportunity and nondiscrimination in employment based on race, sex, religion, color, national origin, disability, or veteran status for businesses contracting with the federal government. *The president’s FY 2010 budget would increase funding over FY 2009 for OFCCP by \$27 million to \$109.5 million.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.dol.gov/esa/ofccp>.

Wage and Hour Division

Among a number of worker protections and employment standards, the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor enforces the federal minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and child labor requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act; the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act; the Employee Polygraph Protection Act; and field sanitation and housing standards in the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Latino workers are overrepresented in industries where violations of wage and hour laws are common. Wage theft and misclassification of employees as independent contractors are pervasive practices in construction, manufacturing, and service occupations. Latino immigrants in particular face immense barriers to accessing the complaint-driven system of enforcement for these laws. *The president’s proposed FY 2010 budget would fund the Wage and Hour Division at \$227.6 million, an increase of \$30 million over FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/index.htm>.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

In addition to the aforementioned federal agencies, there are other select areas of federal government programs that are of concern to Latinos. Among them are those that deal with civil rights issues; immigration and naturalization; juvenile justice; federal food assistance; and rural housing. They are the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Equal Employment and Opportunity Commission, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA): Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP, formerly the Food Stamp Program, is a primary source of nutrition assistance for low-income families. The program helps more than 29 million people every month meet their nutritional needs. Latino families, who suffer from high rates of food insecurity, represent a large share of the eligible SNAP population. However, they have historically had low participation rates in this federal food assistance program. The program was expanded under the Farm Bill of 2008 (P.L. 110-246), when it received \$7.8 billion in funding. The law helped expand and improve benefit levels. For example, states now have the option of allowing applicants to apply over the phone, and food stamp coupons are in the process of being phased out. *The president's FY 2010 budget would increase funding by \$7 billion over FY 2009 to \$61.3 billion. This amount would include a \$3 billion contingency reserve.*

For more program information, please visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/FSP>.

USDA: Rural Housing

There are several programs located at USDA that help Latinos in rural areas develop and find affordable housing and homeownership opportunities. The Section 502 program provides mortgage loans to the rural poor, many of whom are involved in the self-help housing program where families perform approximately 65% of the construction labor required to build their home with the assistance of a community-based organization; this model has proved successful in many rural Latino communities. Two other programs used in tandem to improve the housing situation of migrant and seasonal farmworkers, some of the nation's most poorly housed families, are Section 514, which provides subsidized mortgage loans and Section 516, which provides development subsidy. *Section 502 was funded in ARRA with \$194 million, \$65 million of which went to direct loans and \$129 million went to guaranteed loans. The president's FY 2010 budget would fund Section 502 with \$130 million, with \$40 million for direct loans and \$90 million for guaranteed loans. This is a decrease of \$24 million overall for Section 502 from FY 2009 funding. The budget would fund Sections 514 and 516 with \$17 million, of which \$8 million would go toward direct loan subsidies and \$9 million to farm labor housing grants. This represents a decrease of \$1 million overall from FY 2009. In addition, the president's proposed FY 2010 budget includes \$19.8 million for a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of Sections 514–516 multifamily rental housing properties to restructure existing USDA multifamily housing loans.*

For program information, please visit:

http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/sfh/brief_rhguar.htm

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/nc/514.htm>

USDA: Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

This program provides direct assistance to women with young children for basic nutritional needs. Funds provide vouchers to low-income, at-risk, or postpartum women and infants and children for nutritious supplemental food packages, nutrition education and counseling, and health and immunization referrals. Many Latinos find the enrollment process less intimidating than other food assistance programs, and as a result, Latinos have very high participation in WIC.¹¹ *The president’s budget for FY 2010 would increase funding over FY 2009 by \$917million, to \$7.7 billion.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			
FEDERAL PROGRAM	FY 2009 OMNIBUS	FY 2010 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE FY 2009– FY 2010
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	\$53.9 b	\$61.3 b	\$7 b
Rural Housing: Section 502	154 m	130 m	-24 m
Rural Housing: Section 514 and 516	18 m	17 m	1 m
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)	6.8 b	7.7 b	917 m

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture and White House Office of Management and Budget.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

The DHS consists of about a dozen major components, including U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Among other objectives, the department seeks to coordinate local, state, and federal efforts on U.S. immigration policy. The president’s budget for FY 2010 would increase funding for a number of initiatives supporting immigration enforcement activities within the DHS. *The president’s budget would allocate \$46.8 million for combating southbound firearms and smuggling, doubling funding over FY 2009 levels. It proposes a new allocation of \$70 million for border intelligence, and increasing the number of border officers and analysts working on preventing violence at the border. It also proposes \$200 million for “Secure Communities,” to focus on immigrants convicted of violent crimes, representing a 30% increase in funding over FY 2009. The budget proposes a \$12 million increase for the employment verification program E-Verify, for a total of \$112 million for the program, to go toward an office of monitoring and compliance, increased training, and outreach.*

While there is some funding for immigrant integration included in the president’s proposed budget, it is much less of an investment compared to the amount for enforcement. *The president’s budget proposes \$206 million for immigrant integration, intended to improve USCIS systems and procedures, address fee issues, and increase the transparency of the immigration system. It would also fund \$10 million within USCIS for the establishment of new immigrant integration programs. These would aim to develop multiple programs geared toward citizenship, training, English-as-a-second-language*

instruction, and the coordination of federal resources for immigrant integration. The budget proposes \$850 million for resettled refugees as well as an 11% increase for the Executive Office of Immigration Review, which adjudicates immigration cases involving detained immigrants, immigrants charged for crimes, and immigrants seeking asylum as a form of relief from removal.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY			
FEDERAL PROGRAM	FY 2009 OMNIBUS	FY 2010 PROPOSED	\$ CHANGE FY 2009–FY 2010
Southbound Firearms	\$23 m	\$46 m	\$23 m
Border Intelligence	N/A	70 m	70 m
Secure Communities	153 m	200 m	47 m
E-Verify	100 m	112 m	12 m

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security and White House Office of Management and Budget.

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Operating Budget (Title II, State Grants; Title V, Local Delinquency Prevention; Juvenile Justice Accountability Block Grant)

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention programs support a variety of activities that prevent and reduce juvenile crime. For example, the Title II formula grants to states provide funding for activities to strengthen the juvenile justice system and reduce recidivism. The Title V Local Delinquency Prevention program funds a wide range of collaborative, comprehensive, community-based delinquency prevention programs, including early childhood development, after-school activities, mentoring, and tutoring, as well as dropout, gang, and substance abuse prevention. The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) supports local juvenile justice approaches ranging from secure juvenile corrections facilities for some violent offenders, to effective community-based residential treatment programs for offenders who do not need to be imprisoned, to substance abuse and mental health services for nonviolent offenders remaining at home, to school safety programs. NCLR recommended the following: for Title II, State Grants: \$89 million; Title V, Local Delinquency Prevention: \$95 million; and for JABG: \$250 million. *The president’s FY 2010 budget would level fund Title II State Grants at \$75 million; Title V Local Delinquency Prevention would be level funded at \$62 million; and JABG would be level funded at \$55 million.*

For program information, please visit <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/index.html>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE			
FEDERAL PROGRAM	FY2009 OMNIBUS	FY2010 PRESIDENT	\$ CHANGE FY2009 – FY2010
Title II, State Grants	\$75 m	\$75 m	\$0
Title V, Local Delinquency Prevention	62 m	62 m	0
Juvenile Justice Accountability Block Grant	55 m	55 m	0

Source: U.S. Department of Justice and White House Office of Management and Budget.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

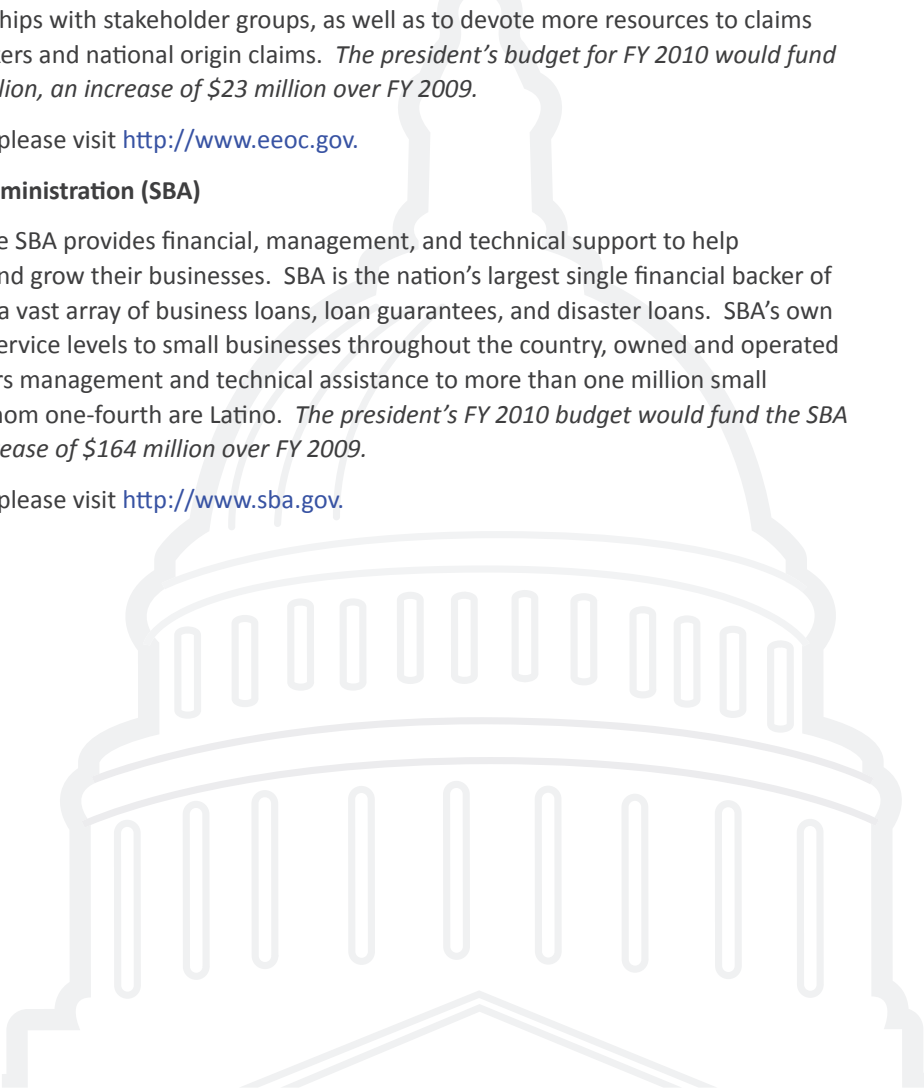
The mission of the EEOC is to promote equal opportunity in employment through administrative and judicial enforcement of the federal civil rights laws and through education and technical assistance. As in past fiscal years, the minority of EEOC caseloads are Hispanic, largely because the Latino community continues to be underserved. An increase in the budget is needed to expand outreach programs and partnerships with stakeholder groups, as well as to devote more resources to claims filed by low-wage workers and national origin claims. *The president’s budget for FY 2010 would fund the EEOC at \$363.3 million, an increase of \$23 million over FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.eeoc.gov>.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

Established in 1953, the SBA provides financial, management, and technical support to help Americans start, run, and grow their businesses. SBA is the nation’s largest single financial backer of small businesses, with a vast array of business loans, loan guarantees, and disaster loans. SBA’s own data show significant service levels to small businesses throughout the country, owned and operated by Hispanics. SBA offers management and technical assistance to more than one million small business owners, of whom one-fourth are Latino. *The president’s FY 2010 budget would fund the SBA at \$779 million, an increase of \$164 million over FY 2009.*

For more information, please visit <http://www.sba.gov>.



ENDNOTES

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- 2 Ibid.
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- 4 *Latinos Paying for College* (Washington, DC: Excelencia in Education, 2007).
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- 6 Ruby Takanishi, Ph.D., "Leveling the Playing Field: Supporting Immigrant Children from Birth to Eight," *The Future of Children* Vol. 14, Num. 2 (2004), http://www.futureofchildren.org/usr_doc/Vol_14_No2_no_photos.pdf.
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- 9 "Mental Health: Culture, Race, and Ethnicity (2001)," A supplement to *Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General* (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2001).
- 10 *2007 National Health Disparities Report*, Prepared by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2008, Table 99b, http://www.ahrq.gov/qual/nhdr07/quality/effectiveness/mentalh/T099_b.htm.
- 11 Jennifer Ng'andu and Emilia M. Leal Gianfortoni, *Sin Provecho: Latinos and Food Insecurity* (Washington, DC: National Council of La Raza, 2006).