



Latino Advisory Council Monthly Meeting  
In-person at Child Link and  
Online Teams Meeting  
**December 21, 2022**

## Unamended Minutes

**Chair-Person:**

Yeni Rojas

**Past Chair-Person:**

Julia Monzon

**Chair-Elect:**

Jennifer Contreras

**Co-Scribes:**

Rosa Molina-Lassalle

**DCFS Members:**

Coty Corcoles  
Jose Garcia  
Juan Maldonado  
Evelyn Martinez  
Melissa Martinez  
Beatriz Ramirez  
Liliana Romero  
Moises Jimenez  
Azalea Mejia  
Guadalupe Toledo

**POS Members:**

Jennifer Contreras  
Damaris Acevedo

**Director's Liason:**

Jose J. Lopez  
Latino Services

**Committees:**

Child Safety, Risk  
Reduction and  
Permanency

Data Analysis,  
Disproportionality  
and Staffing

Strategic  
Communications

POS Collaboration

Latino Family  
Institute

Professional  
Development Day

**Present:** Jose Garcia, Julia Monzon, Jose Lopez, Rosa Maria Molina Lassalle, Evelyn Martinez, Melissa Martinez, Yeni Rojas, Moises Jimenez, Juan Maldonado, Jennifer Contreras, Guadalupe Toledo, Coty Corcoles.

**Excused:** Beatriz Ramirez, Liliana Romero

**Guests:** Daisy Salgado, Greishen Rodriguez, Nancy Rodriguez, Norma Machay, Zulema Ocampo, Tarcisio Ornelas, Kara Hamilton.

**A. Welcome**

Participants were welcomed and introductions were complete.

**B. Positive Vibes**

Be Strong Families conducted a parent café with LAC members as part of ice breaker and positive vibes team building activity. Discussed the Protective factors

**C. Review & Approval of LAC minutes:** July, September, October, and November Minutes- All reviewed and approved by majority of votes after amendments made.

**D. Committee Written Reports**

(Send Written Reports if available)

LAC overview information including roles, responsibilities, expectations, bylaws, values, partnerships and collaboration among DCFS and POS was presented to all.

- a. Child Safety, Risk Reduction and Permanency – Moises Jimenez reported working on committee goals and Director's meeting tasks. Committee reviewed 2022 and developed 2023 annual goals
- b. Data Analysis, Disproportionality and Staffing – Jose Garcia acting Committee Chair-no updated reported- Today is the last day Jose Garcia is participating as he is retiring the end of this month. Committee reviewed 2022 and developed 2023 annual goals
- c. Strategic Communications – Julia Monzon
  - a. The Strategic Communications committee is working on upcoming Noticias Newsletter for the Professional Development Day and working in collaboration with the data analysis. Soy DCFS campaign to recruit bilingual staff. Committee reviewed 2022 and developed 2023 annual goals.
  - b. POS Collaboration– Melissa Martinez & Jose J. Lopez



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Jose Lopez reported the MOU is the Memorandum of Understanding that DCFS has with the Mexican Consulate where the agreement is that DCFS will notify the Mexican Consulate whenever a child is taken into protective custody so that they are contact and assist the parents. If the parents need assistance and how to get their kids back or what was the reason why the child were taken in the first place. Many of the families that come to U.S. are not aware of our laws in the state of Illinois. So that's the purpose of the MOU. Are private agencies aware that they have access to the language line. Next POS Collaboration meeting on 01-12-23 at 2:00 pm

**E. Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Report – Jose J. Lopez**

Jose Lopez reported recruitment events will continue for 2023 and will be asking for volunteers. Bilingual position needs to be posted so Spanish-speaking applicants can apply. Workers need to notify Latino Services when Mexican children are taken into custody to notify the Mexican consulate.

**F. Old Business**

Discussed Open Meeting Act Training link

<https://foiapac.ilag.gov/createaccount.aspx>

It was discussed that the training only needs to be taken once but that training now includes a virtual component.

LAC presentation for new DCFS employees to be posted on D-net.

PowerPoint pentation has been updated and is to be presented to POS and DCFS LAC new members.

Recruitment is ongoing and all LAC members are to do their part.

**G. New Business**

Keep the Discussion of OMA-Required Committee date, time and Agenda to be posted 48 hours in advance

Conference Participation and volunteers needed.

The need of Identify Hispanic from which country they are from.

**Open Forum**

LAC Thanked ChildLink for hosting the LAC retreat meeting and discussed ongoing partnership

**Next General Meeting– Jan 18, 2023**