

LAYLA P. SULEIMAN GONZÁLEZ, Ph.D., J.D.



SENIOR MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE:

Expert in change management, aligning operations with mission driven strategic objectives and implementing performance management to document compliance and benchmark progress. Successful in navigating complex intergovernmental, community, and philanthropic relationships. Deeply committed to diversity, inclusion, and leadership development.

CORE COMPETECIES & STRENGTHS:

Change Management and Organizational Development, Strategic Planning and Innovation, Policy and Legislation, Performance Management, Analytics & Evaluation, Diversity, Equity, and Language Access, Compliance, Education and Training, Intergovernmental and Community Relations, Grant Writing, Review and Monitoring, Collaboration and Leadership Development.

EDUCATION: DEPAUL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

Juris Doctor (J.D.) 2008
Bar Examination – July 2009

Certificate: *International & Comparative Law*
Summer Coursework at American University in Cairo:
Comparative Constitutional Law, International Criminal Law, Islamic Jurisprudence
Externship: *Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund (MALDEF)*

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

Doctor in Philosophy (Ph.D.) 1999
National Science Foundation Minority Fellow

Major Area: *Applied Developmental Psychology*
Minor Concentration: *Clinical Psychology*

Bachelor of Science (B.S.) 1986
Cum Laude

Major: *Applied Psychology*
Minors: *Criminal Justice, Spanish Literature*
Internship: *Children's Memorial Hospital Inpatient Unit*
Human Service Skills Certificate

CERTIFICATIONS: BOARD OF IMMIGRATION APPEALS (BIA) CERTIFICATION, CERTIFIED MEDIATOR

APPOINTMENTS:

CITY OF CHICAGO

Office of New Americans Advisory Committee

2012-Present

- A committee of advisors to generate recommendations, develop strategies, and present an overall vision to promote the City's economic vitality and ensure global competitiveness, by becoming the most immigrant friendly city in the world.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

2013- Present

Budgeting for Results Commission, Illinois Single Audit Commission, Grants Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Steering Committee, State Health Improvement Plan Council, P-20 Education Council – Data and Assessment, Commission to End Hunger, Commission on the Elimination of Poverty, Social Services Advisory Committee, Child Welfare Advisory Committee, Governor's Office of Health Innovation and Transformation.

ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2012-2014

Racial and Ethnic Impact Research Task Force

PROFESSIONAL (NON-ACADEMIC) EXPERIENCE:**CONSULTING IN POLICY, EVALUATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 1988 – Present**

(See Selected Consulting Assignments section below)

- Provide consultation and technical assistance to diverse entities, including governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations and foundations, grounded in asset based, culturally democratic and participatory approaches to improve the well-being of vulnerable children, youth and families. Consultation focus in the following areas: language access as a civil right, policy analysis, evaluation and performance measurement, organizational/community assessment and strategic planning, program development and implementation, multisector collaboration and conflict management, culture, race & power issues.

**SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE CEO, AUNT MARTHA'S YOUTH SERVICE AND HEALTH CENTER,
Olympia Fields, IL 04/2016- PRESENT**

- Lead organizational change management efforts, including value based care and integrated primary and behavioral health care.
- Implement reorganization of performance and analytics functions throughout the organization
- Facilitate innovation and new strategic directions, including potential partnerships and mergers.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,**ILLINOIS LATINO FAMILY COMMISSION (ILFC), Chicago, IL, 02/2013 – 10/2015**

- Led Commission's organizational and strategic operations in policy, legislation, advocacy, community engagement, and research.
- Drafted legislation to promote Latino equity and representation. Seven pieces of legislation have become Public Law.
- Developed ILFC's legislative agenda and strategy to engage government officials and to educate other key stakeholders.
- Advanced research efforts to provide more accurate and relevant data on Latinos that can inform policy, legislation and practice.
- Fostered and maintained strong and engaged relationships with the Governor's administration and wide range of legislators, state agencies, and foundation, community, policy and advocacy leaders.
- Engaged the Latino community to promote greater representation in decision making and forge strategic partnerships with entities that share common policy and/or programmatic goals.
- Ensured Latino perspectives and concerns were included in planning and policy decision making across State Agencies, including key policy initiatives such as the Temporary Driver's License, Health Improvement Plan, Grants Accountability, Business Enterprise Program, and P-20 Education Council.

CHIEF RESULTS OFFICER (CRO)- DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (IDHS), Chicago, IL, 03/2010 – 02/2013.**

- Implemented Performance Based Contracting for over 200 programs, 4,000 contracts and 1,600 community service providers totaling over 3 billion dollars in grants and procurement
- Prepared performance based budget request materials for appropriation hearings in the General Assembly; IDHS's budget was over \$5 billion
- Led Budgeting for Results and performance management implementation; positioned IDHS as the lead agency.
- Represented IDHS and served as lead for the Human Services Results Team identifying the strategic priorities for the state.
- Collaborated with community and philanthropic partners to increase capacity for internal and provider performance management and reporting
- Facilitated, developed, and monitored IDHS strategic planning across Central Management, Operations and Program Divisions.
- Developed performance management and evaluation procedures to improve efficiency and outcomes for the IDHS and its community partners.
- Worked with external researchers to develop research designs and establish shared data agreements

LEGAL EXTERN --MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND, Chicago, IL., 5/08-8/08

- Tracked legislative initiatives dealing with immigration across the Midwest region (11 states). Participated in advocacy efforts aimed at anti-immigrant state legislation and municipal ordinances.
- Researched, compared and analyzed English Language Learner (ELL) provisions in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Illinois implementation of services for ELLs, including the Corey H. Consent Decree.
- Conducted intakes for potential litigation dealing with ICE holds of undocumented detainees at Cook County Jail.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR--FAMILY RESOURCE COALITION, CHICAGO, IL, 3/94-10/95

- Responsible for day-to-day operations, program development, organizational strategic planning, budget oversight and management.
- Moved organization from project-focused to cross-functional team organizational structure.
- Supervised the planning and implementation of the Coalition's special projects, including the African American and Latino Caucuses, best practices in family support, and constituency building activities.
- Wrote proposals, prepared workplans and reports for foundations and government grants.

FIELD PROJECT DIRECTOR--DAILY LIFE EXPERIENCE AND MENTAL HEALTH OF YOUTH AT RISK, LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO, 8/92-2/94

- Participated in the development of an NIMH proposal to study the daily experience of youths from diverse cultural backgrounds living in high risk environments, using pagers as an innovative "experience sampling" methodology.
- Supervised the analyses of qualitative data collected from focus groups.

PROJECT MANAGER--CENTER FOR URBAN AFFAIRS AND POLICY RESEARCH, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY AND LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO, 4/90-4/91.

- Supervised interviewers in the data collection phase and conducted interviews for a grant project funded by NIJ investigating community organization in response to the crack problem in Chicago and nationwide.

SENIOR PLANNING CONSULTANT --MAYOR'S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON LATINO AFFAIRS (MACLA), CITY OF CHICAGO, 6/85- 8/87

- Prepared working drafts of legislative issue papers, including briefs on foreign policy and poverty.
- Drafted departmental policy statement and recommendations on education, and updates in the areas of safety, economic development, health, and human services.
- Produced reports evaluating affirmative action in city hiring.
- Compiled, researched, and analyzed data on the services provided to Latinos by city departments.
- Coordinated the preliminary planning for MACLA's Legislative Training Conference.
- Assisted in the planning and organization of MACLA's citywide Latino Youth Education Conference.
- Represented MACLA in departmental meetings and community forums, responsible for staffing community task forces and community outreach.

EARLIER POSITIONS:

CLINICAL INTERN--INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC UNIT, CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 1/86-7/86

COUNSELOR--HISPANIC ALLIANCE, LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO, 3/84 - 3/85

CONSULTING PROJECTS (SELECTED):**SENIOR ADVISOR, EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION**

AUNT MARTHA'S HEALTH CENTER, Chicago, IL, 11/2015 – 04/2016

- Lead change management efforts, including value based care and integrated health and behavioral health care.
- Support reorganization of performance and analytics functions throughout the organization
- Facilitate innovation and new strategic directions, including potential partnerships and mergers.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS FOUNDATION, (ILLCF) Chicago, IL – 11/15-Present

- Planning and coordination consultation for the Annual Legislative Conference
- Strategic visioning and planning. Development of 3 year plan.

COMMITTEE FOR HISPANIC CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, INC., (CHCF) New York, NY – 8/10-08/12

- Delivered training in race, equity and social justice for youth in leadership and organizing program.
- Trained staff on race and equity within the Latino culture and language access as a civil right.

LATINO CONSORTIUM, STRATEGIC PLANNING, Chicago, IL – 07/08, 08/09

- Facilitated the Latino Consortium's (child welfare services) annual strategic planning and visioning for 2008 & 2009

LATINO POLICY FORUM, A BLUEPRINT FOR LATINO EQUITY, Chicago, IL – 04/09 – 09/09

- Conducted an analysis of the Illinois 2010 Budget on Health and Human Services and the Latino Community. Assisted in drafting the final report that includes the capital budget, stimulus funding, education, employment, and housing.

LIFELINK CORPORATION, LEADERSHIP IN CHILD WELFARE WORKSHOP, Chicago, IL – 08/08

- Planned and facilitated a 2-day workshop on leadership development for child welfare managers.

**CHICAGO COMMUNITY BUILDING INITIATIVE (CCBI), LOCAL INITIATIVE EVALUATION, WOODS FUND
Chicago, IL - 01/03 –12/03**

- Conducted a cluster level evaluation of CCBI, an effort supported by major Chicago area foundations with funding from the Ford Foundation to develop the capacity of community organizing entities to impact public policy.

COMMITTEE FOR HISPANIC CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, INC., (CHCF) New York, NY - 8/00-12/02

- Assisted in the facilitation of national forum (funded by the Packard Foundation) on the implications of recently enacted laws, the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) and the Multi Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA), for Latino children and families. Prepared a report on the findings and recommendations.
- Facilitated a forum series on child protection in New York & Puerto Rico, including identification of applicable laws and available resources for Latino children and families. Prepared a report on the findings and recommendations that was presented to N.Y. Administration for Child Services and community leaders (funded by the Casey Foundation).

ARAB AMERICAN ACTION NETWORK (AAAN), Chicago, IL - 10/99-10/02

- Facilitated discussion with multiple partners for identification of advocacy targets in response to Middle East crisis.
- Guided the advocacy and service organization through a strategic planning process to identify key directions (i.e., reduce anti-Arab discrimination, promote youth development and family empowerment) program objectives and advocacy targets.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LATINO EXECUTIVES (NCLE), CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (CWLA), Washington, D.C. - 09/01-03/02

- Developed the policy strategy and prepared advocacy materials for member meetings with federal legislators in D.C.

PARTNERS OF THE AMERICAS, (POA) Washington D.C. - 6/00-8/01

- Conducted focus groups to identify barriers to and current level of participation in policy formulation and discussions aimed at improving the quality of life in Latin America. Prepared a report on the findings that were used to refine the outreach and mobilization campaign.
- Provided training on U.S. foreign policy, community mobilization and media outreach to non-governmental organizations.

CHICAGO AREA PROJECT, YOUTH AS RESOURCES/A NEW DAY PROGRAM, Chicago, IL. - 10/99 to 10/02

- Conducted program evaluations of two Chicago Area Project initiatives. A report on the lessons learned from the "Youth as Resources" project was used as the basis for a manual on implementation of youth as resources projects in public housing contexts. "A New Day program" was an innovative pilot project using a gender-based approach to working with court involved/adjudicated female youth.

KELLOGG FOUNDATION, REGIONAL EVALUATOR- PRE-BIRTH THROUGH AGE THREE INITIATIVE, Battle Creek, MI - 5/99-8/00

- Participated in the evaluation of the Pre-Birth Through Age Three Initiative of the Kellogg Foundation aimed at creating a system of supports to help young children thrive. Worked closely with the Latino community in Southwest Detroit and the Cass County/Leech Lake Reservation community in Minnesota.

ALLIANCE OF LOGAN SQUARE ORGANIZATIONS (ALSO), ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT, Chicago, IL - 11/98- 11/01

- Provided technical assistance in organizational development, management, proposal development, asset mapping, and collaboration to the Alliance of Logan Square Organizations (ALSO). Conducted positive youth development training for community agencies in Logan Square.

CHAPIN HALL CENTER FOR CHILDREN, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES INITIATIVE, EVALUATION CONSULTANT, Chicago, IL - 6/93-10/98

- Worked on a research team conducting a process evaluation of a Chicago Community Trust Initiative, promoting collaboration of social service agencies and community governance aimed at improving services for children, youth, and families in eight Chicago communities.
- Provide technical assistance to community grantees on the implementation of the Initiative, including community and program development strategies to improve services to children, youth and families.
- Trained collaborative partners in children, youth and family policy and provided technical assistance in the development of advocacy strategies.

THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST, THE CHICAGO INITIATIVE (TCI), GRANT EVALUATION CONSULTANT, Chicago, IL - 6/93-1/94

- Developed and implemented a management information system for documenting and evaluating grants.
- Conducted an implementation evaluation of the grants awarded in 1993.
- Prepared evaluation report outlining strategic directions for TCI based on participant and grantee perspectives

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS:

7th District Women's Recognition Award, Cook County 7th District, March, 2016.

Community Services Award, Healthcare Alternative Systems (HAS), October, 2014.

Community Advocate for Renewal and Empowerment Award, Rincon Family Services, March, 2014.

Distinguished Alumni Award, DePaul Latino Law Student Association, DePaul University School of Law, December, 2013

Celeste Peña Community Service Award, Latino Advisory Committee, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (IDCFS), November, 2010

Distinguished Alumni Award, DePaul Latino Law Student Association, DePaul University School of Law, November, 2010.

Faculty Research Fellowship, Center for Latino Research, DePaul University, Winter Quarter, 2004.

Summer Research Institute Fellow -National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, May, 2003

Summer Research Institute Fellow-National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, May, 2002

Faculty/Staff Development Tour, "The Three Faces of China: Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Mainland China," DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois, June-July, 2002.

Si Se Puede: Por Los Niños Award, for advocacy on behalf of Latino children, National Council of Latino Executives, Child Welfare League of America, Washington, D.C., March, 2000.

Scholl Fellowship, Chapin Hall Center for Children and Families, University of Chicago, Fall, 1993.

Child Welfare and Family Policy Fellow, Chapin Hall Center for Children and Families, University of Chicago, Summer, 1993.

Excellence in Teaching Award, Loyola University Chicago, 1992-1993.

Commitment to Serving Students Certificate, Learning Assistance Center of Counseling & Developmental Services recognizing professors "who have made a difference" in peer tutors' experience at Loyola University.

National Science Foundation Fellowship. Recipient of a three-year National Science Foundation Fellowship for Minority Graduate Students.

Latino Quantitative Methodology Training Seminar. One of 15 national Latino scholars selected for the IUP/SSRC's program on "Quantitative Research Methodologies with Latino Populations," University of Michigan, Summer, 1990.

Latino Qualitative Methodology Training Seminar. One of 20 national Latino scholars participating in the IUP/SSRC's program on "Qualitative Research Methodologies with Latino Populations," Stanford University, Summer, 1988.

Bachelor's level: Cum laude, Dean's list, Psi Chi, Sigma Delta Pi, Human Service Skills Certificate.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION, TASK FORCES & ADVISORY GROUPS (Selected):

Federal & National:

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services & U.S. Department of Education, Federal Grant Reviewer, FY2003 to Present.
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, *National Kinship Care Advisory Panel*, 1998-1999
- National Advisory Board, Effective Child Welfare Practice with Hispanic Families Project, University of Kansas, Denver University, and New Mexico State University, a two year project funded by the Children's Bureau, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, April, 2005 to 2010.
- National Council of Latino Executives, Child Welfare League of America, 1994-2003
- Cross-Cultural Dialogue on Early Childhood Education, National Black Child Development Institute/National Council of La Raza, 2000.
- Advancing Cultural Competence Task Force, Child Welfare League of America 7/96-10/97
- National Latino Child Welfare Advocacy Group, Kellogg Foundation 10/94-12/96

Local & Regional:

- Interdisciplinary Training Advisory Committee, Loyola University Chicago, 2015- Present.
- Advisory Committee - Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF), 2007 – 2010. Prepared an analysis of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Funding and the Latino Community and drafted Latino State Agenda which was endorsed by more than 40 organizations.
- Committee to Establish the Illinois Latino Family Commission- Drafted S.B. 1746 which was signed into law P.L. 095-0619 establishing a state level commission to address the concerns of Latino children, youth and families in Illinois, September, 2007
- Latino Policy and Research Project Oversight Committee, McCormick Tribune Foundation, 2002-2003.

- Cook County Welfare Services Committee, State of Illinois, 9/98 – 2000
- Community collaboration working group-Governor’s Task Force on Human Services Reform, 3/97-3/98

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY:

Catholic Charities, Board of Advisors	2010 - Present
Catholic Charities Latino Advisory Committee, Board Member	2010 - Present
Southwest Community Alliance, Member	2011 - 2014
CrossRoads Fund, Board Member	2010 - 2011
Erie Neighborhood House, Board Member	2000 to 2004
Arab American Action Network, Board Member	2000 to 2004

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA)	2008 - 2013
Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois (HLAI)	2004 - 2010
American Bar Association	2003 - 2010
American Psychological Association	1986 - 2009
American Education Research Association	1999 - 2009
Society for Research in Child Development	1990 - 2004
National Association for the Education of Young Children	2002 - 2004
American Evaluation Association	1999 - 2004

PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, TESTIMONY, CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & SEMINARS:

PUBLICATIONS (Selected):

Suleiman González, L.P. (2004). Child Protection with Diverse Populations: Culture, Language, and Transnational Issues. The Future of Children, 14 , 184-189. Special Issue: Children, Families, and Foster Care (Peer Reviewed)

Barrios, L., Suleiman, L. and Vidal de Haymes, M. (2004). Latino Population Trends and Child Welfare Services: Reflections on Policy, Practice, and Research from the Latino Consortium Roundtable Discussions. Illinois Child Welfare, 1, 106-114. (Peer Reviewed).

Suleiman González, L. P. (2004). Critical Perspectives on Youth Development. In D. Weil (Ed.) Critical Thinking and Learning: An Encyclopedia. Pp. 104-107. Phoenix, AZ: Greenwood Press. (Editor Reviewed)

Suleiman, L.P. (2003). Beyond Cultural Competence: Language Access and Latino Civil Rights. Child Welfare Journal, 82, 185-200. (Peer Reviewed)

TECHNICAL REPORTS (Selected):

Meza, R. & Suleiman González, L.P. (2016). Litigation and Advocacy Efforts that Impacted Midwest Latinos: Past Challenges and Future Possibilities. American Bar Foundation.

Suleiman González, L.P. (2003). Hispanic Family Profile. Latino Consortium & Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Suleiman González, L.P. (2003). Creating a Latino Child Welfare Agenda: A Strategic Framework for Change. The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc., New York. Funded in part by the David and Lucille Packard Foundation.

Suleiman González, L.P. (2002). The Impact of ASFA on Latino Families. The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc., New York. Funded in part by the David and Lucille Packard Foundation.

Suleiman González, L.P. (2002). Racial Representation in Child Victim and Foster Care Populations : State Summary Data by Race. Prepared for the Race Matters II Forum, Chicago, Illinois.

Suleiman González, L.P. & Pizzigati, K. (2002). Latino Child Welfare Legislative Agenda 2002. The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc., Washington, D.C. Prepared for the National Council of Latino Executives Meeting, Child Welfare League of America Conference 2002.

Suleiman González, L.P. (2001). Building a Better Future for Latino Families. The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc., New York. Funded in part by the Casey Foundation.

Suleiman González, L.P. & Pizzigati, K. (2001). Latino Child Welfare Legislative Agenda 2001. The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc., Washington, D.C. Prepared for the National Council of Latino Executives Meeting, Child Welfare League of America Conference 2001.

Suleiman González, L.P. (2001). Making Youth Programs Work in Public Housing Contexts: An Evaluation of Youth as Resources. Prepared for the Youth as Resources Program, Chicago Area Project, Chicago, IL.

Suleiman, L.P. (1995). Community Views at the Frontlines: Long Range Planning Directions for The Chicago Initiative. Prepared for The Chicago Initiative, The Chicago Community Trust.

Cano, S. P., & Suleiman, L. P. (1986). Affirmative Action: City Hiring, Staffing and Appointments. Mayor's Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs, City of Chicago.

CONFERENCE

PRESENTATIONS (Selected) :

International

"Bringing International Human Rights into the Child Services Framework: Advocating for Cultural and Linguistic Competence" presented at the International Forum on Child Welfare 2010, New York, November, 2010 (Peer Reviewed)

"A Human Rights Approach to Youth and Social Services" presented at the XXVI General Assembly of the Inter-American Conference on Social Security, American Commission of Social Jurists, Panama, September, 2010. (Invited Panelist)

"Involving Youth in Community Research: A Model for Youth Development and Civic Engagement of Young Latinos" presented at the International Conference on Civic Education Research, New Orleans, November 16-18, 2003. (Peer Reviewed).

"Linking with Community Resources to Promote Youth Development: The role of NGOs in educational and civic engagement programs for culturally diverse youth." presented at the The Ninth International Literacy and Education Research Network Conference on Learning, Beijing Friendship Hotel, Beijing,

China, 16-20 July 2002 (Peer Reviewed)

"Mirada de Mujer: Tuning in to the Telenovela & its Pedagogical Implications," IX Scientific Seminar on the Quality of Education, Asociacion de Pedagogos, Matanzas, Cuba, February, 2002. (Peer Reviewed)

Invited Speaker & Conference Keynotes

"Policies to Promote Connections for Older Youth Impacted by Foster Care," Whatever It Takes: Strategies for Preventing and Addressing Disconnection, Children's Aid Society, Community Service Society, Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, New York Bar, December, 2011 (Invited Panel Presenter)

"The State of Illinois Latino Family Commission," Latino Advisory Committee Family Institute, IDCFS, Oak Brook, IL, November, 2010. (Invited Panel Presenter)

"Community Resources: The State of Illinois Latino Family Commission," Illinois Association of Hispanic State Employees (IAHSE), Chicago, IL, October 2010. (Invited Panel Presenter)

"Spanning Twenty Years: Looking Back And Moving Forward," 20 years of Perseverance, Resilience of the Latino Family, 20th Latino Advisory Committee Family Institute, IDCFS, St. Charles, IL, November, 2008. (Invited Keynote Panel Presenter)

"MALDEF Update: Essentials and Key Features of the Latino Family Commission Bill." La Presencia Latina: Many Lives, One Voice. Illinois Latino Legislative Caucus Foundation Conference, Rosemont, IL, November, 2007. (Invited Workshop Presenter)

"Language and the Right to Communication Access: Improving Latino Engagement in Reunification Services," 19th Latino Advisory Committee Family Institute: My Family, My Home, My Culture: Facets of Reunification, IDCFS, Lisle, IL, November, 2007. (Invited Workshop Presenter)

"Improving Latino Engagement in Prevention Services: Language and the Right to Communication Access," Stronger Roots, Stronger Branches: Moving to Action, Prevention First, Naperville, IL, September, 2006. (Invited Workshop Presenter)

"Migration, A Critical Issue for Child Welfare: A Transnational Research and Policy Forum," Group Co-Chair American Humane Association & Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, July 24-26, 2006 (Invited Group Discussion Facilitator)

"Hispanic Family Profile: A Review of the Data," Child Welfare and the Hispanic Community, Part III, Kane County State's Attorney, Geneva, Illinois, September, 2004. (Invited Guest Speaker)

"Language Services: The Key to Moving Families Through Various Systems of Care," presented at the National Association of Social Workers, Illinois Chapter, Arlington Heights, IL September, 2003. (Peer Reviewed)

"Safeguarding the Rights of Immigrant Children," part of a workshop on the Impact of Militarism on Immigrant Communities, Incite! Chicago Women of Color: Fighting the War on Our Communities at Home and Abroad, Chicago, Illinois, August, 2003. (Invited Panel Speaker)

"Latino Demographic Trends: Implications for Child Welfare Practice" Layla Suleiman and Vidal de Haymes. Illinois Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers Conference. Springfield, IL, September 2002

"Expanding the Conversation: Perspectives on Disproportionality," Race Matters II: Understanding and Addressing Racial Disproportionality in the Child Welfare System. Chicago, Illinois, March 2002. (Invited Panel Speaker)

"Beyond Cultural Competence: The Politics of Language and Latino Civil Rights" Child Welfare League of America, Washington, D.C., March, 2002. (Invited Symposium Speaker)

"Language, Immigration and Culture in Latino Families: Implications for Child Welfare," Invited Presenter, Developing a Latino Child Welfare Agenda, Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, New York, January 2002. (Invited Forum Speaker)

"Preparing Youth of Color for the Future: Integrating Community-based and Developmental Approaches" Department of Labor- Region V Youth Development Conference, Chicago, Illinois, November, 2001. (Invited Workshop Organizer and Speaker)

"Language and Latino Civil Rights in Child Welfare Services, Implications of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act," Invited Panelist, Latino Child Welfare Symposium, Child Welfare League of America, Washington, D.C., March, 2001. (Invited Panelist; Proposal Reviewed by Program Committee)

"The Impact of New Federal Child Welfare Policy on Latino Children: The Importance of Language & Culture," Children's Defense Fund, New York, 2000. (Invited Speaker)

"Los Niños de los Barrios," A Televideo Conference: The Impact of Federal Policy on Latino Children and Families, Invited Panelist, Puerto Rican Association for Community Affairs (PRACA), New York, 1999. (Invited Panelist, Video available).

TRAINING SEMINARS

(Selected):

"HIPAA Protections, Policies and Procedures," – Arden Shore, Waukegan, June 2016.

"Program Evaluation: Best Practices for Measuring Success" - Center for Nonprofit Success, Chicago Leadership Series, Chicago, October 2010.

Latino Child Welfare Training Initiative - Training on International and National Legal Mandates, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, Illinois, May 2009 – February 2010

Latino Child Welfare Training Initiative (a project of Loyola University, IDCFS, Latino Consortium, Mexican Consulate) Training on International and National Legal Mandates, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, for the Illinois Public Guardian's Office, Chicago, Illinois, May, 2006.

"Implementing Empowerment and Participatory Evaluations," Workshop for grantees of the CrossRoads Fund, Chicago, Illinois, May 2004.

"Latinos and U.S. Foreign Policy: Community Mobilization and Media Outreach," Hispanic Council of International Relations, Training sponsored by Partners of the Americas, National Council of La Raza Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July, 2001

"Applying Family Support principles to social service practice," Early Childhood Leadership Development, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1994.

"Understanding Latino Culture," presented at the Mexican Fine Arts Center, for the City Colleges of Chicago Staff Development Course, Acquiring Cultural Knowledge, June, 1992.

LANGUAGES:

Native Spanish speaker. Fluent in Spanish and English (reading, writing and oral communication).
Language courses: Arabic (Intensive Summer MSA, University of Chicago, 2003)

REFERENCES:

Available upon request.