

The Pillars of Advocacy: Providing a Voice for the Unheard and Underserved

8:30-9:30am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:30am	Opening of Proceedings Master of Ceremonies Antonio Martinez, Univision 41 AI Despertar
9:35am	Welcome and Greetings Maria Elena Girone President and CEO, Puerto Rican Family Institute, Inc.
9:45-9:55am	Conference Overview Mildred M. Allen, Ph.D. President, Puerto Rican Family Foundation, Inc.
10:00-10:30am	Morning Keynote Speaker Honorable Eric Muñoz, M.D. Trauma Surgeon and Professor of Surgery, University of Medicine and Dentistry Assemblyman, Legislative District 21
10:30-12:30pm	Morning Plenary Session <i>The Pillars of Advocacy</i> <i>This session will focus on how community organizations, grassroots lobbying, information and research can be used to bring about systems change and policy changes affecting the lives of the unheard and underserved.</i>
Moderator:	Mildred M. Allen, Ph.D. President, Puerto Rican Family Foundation, Inc.
Panelists:	Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago Board of Governors Distinguished Service

Professor of Urban Studies, Center for Strategic Urban Community Leadership, Rutgers University
Dr. Bonilla-Santiago will discuss her organization's efforts in the area of development of Latino leadership and her work as a founder of the Latino Fellows Public Policy Leadership Institute.

Angelo Falcon

President, National Institute of Latino Policy

Mr. Falcon will present the importance of research and data collection in Advocacy efforts.

Daniel Altilio

President and CPO, United Way of Hudson County

Mr. Altilio will present advocacy and development for programs focusing on helping the underserved (Homeless, Immigrants, Families and Children, Domestic Violence, etc.).

Phil Lubitz

Director of Advocacy, National Alliance on Mental Illness of New Jersey (NAMI)

Mr. Lubitz will present NAMI of New Jersey's efforts on the importance of NAMI Advocacy on behalf of consumers of mental health services.

12:30-12:45pm

Questions and Answers

12:45pm

Lunch

Luncheon Master of Ceremonies

Hector E. Velazquez, PRFI Chairperson

Luncheon Keynote Speaker

Ms. Penny Joseph, Director

Panasonic Corporate Outreach Programs

2:00-4:00pm

Afternoon Plenary Session

Building Institutions of Our Own: A Strategy to Uplift the Voices of the Unheard

This plenary will focus on the imperative and the strategy of building and empowering community service organizations; the importance of building partnerships with stakeholders, consumers, and other significant groups in order to help leverage resources; how to protect and champion Latino culture in the growing environment of backlash against immigration and multiculturalism.

Moderator:

Michael Swerdlow, Ph.D.

Hoboken University Medical Center

Panelists:

Frank Solano, Ph.D.
Director of Programs, PRFI Jersey City Mental Health Clinic

Introduction of Consumers
Maria Lorenzana and Leo De La Vega, Consumer Advocates

Daniel Santo-Pietro
Executive Director
Hispanic Directors Association of New Jersey
Mr. Santo-Pietro will present his work in organizing a coalition of Hispanic agencies and its advocacy work.

Ray Ocasio
CEO
La Casa de Don Pedro
Mr. Ocasio will present his agency's efforts on community organization and advocacy and government on behalf of the Puerto Rican/Latino Community and the importance of establishing institutions of our own.

Lillian Rodriguez-Lopez
President and CEO
Hispanic Federation
Ms. Rodriguez-Lopez will present her agency's efforts on regional strategies and programs designed to advance the public affairs objectives of the Latino Community (particularly in New Jersey).

Mr. Lorenzo Hernandez
Executive Director
Hispanic Information Center of Passaic
Mr. Hernandez will present his efforts on organizing Hispanic agencies in advocacy work in immigration.

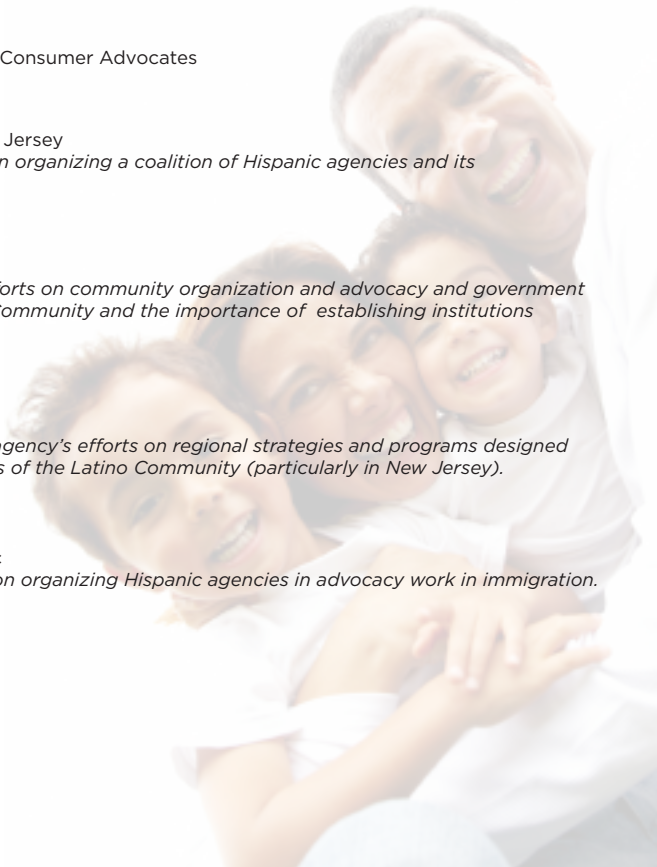
4:00-4:25pm

Questions and Answers

4:30pm

Closings of Proceedings

Elvira Gonzalez
Vice President of Programs
Puerto Rican Family Institute, Inc.



The Pillars of Advocacy: Providing a Voice for the Unheard and Underserved

Thursday
November 20th, 2008
8:30am-4:30pm
Robert Treat Hotel
Newark, New Jersey

For more information call (212) 229-6922
or email mzayas@prfi.org





Puerto Rican Family Institute, Inc. MISSION STATEMENT

The Puerto Rican Family Institute, founded in 1960, is the premier human service provider to Latino children and families in the Continental United States and Puerto Rico. Our mission is to maintain families intact through culturally competent interventions that address risk factors.



Puerto Rican Family Foundation, Inc. MISSION STATEMENT

The Foundation was founded in 1989. It serves primarily as the fundraising arm of the Puerto Rican Family Institute, Inc. The Foundation is the title-holding corporation of the Puerto Rican Family Institute headquarters.

CONFERENCE CORPORATE SPONSORS:



For more information please contact: Migdalia R. Taratunio
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Michael Swerdlow, Ph.D.

Marissa Zayas

Send check by mail (payable to PRFI) as soon as possible to:

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Email: mzayas@prfi.org Telephone: (212) 229-6922

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