

## Latino Health Disparities

- At the local and national levels, Latinos are at greatest risk for obesity.
- Latinos have excessively high rates for diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease.
- Additional leading causes of death for Chicanos/Latinos/Indígena include HIV/AIDS, tobacco, alcohol, violence, and COPD.
- Latinas have high rates of cervical cancer, and are three times more likely to have teenage pregnancies.
- Chicano/Latinos/Indígena experience additional institutional barriers to healthcare due to poverty, language, immigration status, and lack of insurance.
- Historically, there has been insufficient data on how different Chicano/Latino/Indígena subgroups are impacted, which impedes advocates and policymakers from effectively addressing health disparities throughout our community.
- Latino youth in the San Francisco have the second highest rates of suicide, homicides, substance and alcohol use, involvement in the foster care and juvenile justice systems.
- Expectant Latinas are twice as likely to receive late or insufficient prenatal care as expectant Anglo mothers.
- Latinos have the highest uninsured rates of any racial or ethnic group within the United States.

## Participating Organizations

Asociación Mayab  
CARECEN  
Day Labor Program  
Healthright 360  
Instituto Familiar de la Raza  
Mission Neighborhood Health Center  
National Council on Alcoholism  
SF AIDS Foundation Latino Programs  
SF Department of Public Health  
St. Luke's Hospital  
St. Peter's Housing  
UCSF Community Resource Center

## Contact Us

For more information on our work, or to join the Chicano/Latino/Indígena Health Equity Coalition, please contact one of the co-convenors below:

Alberto Perez-Rendon  
Asociación Mayab  
aprendon@yahoo.com

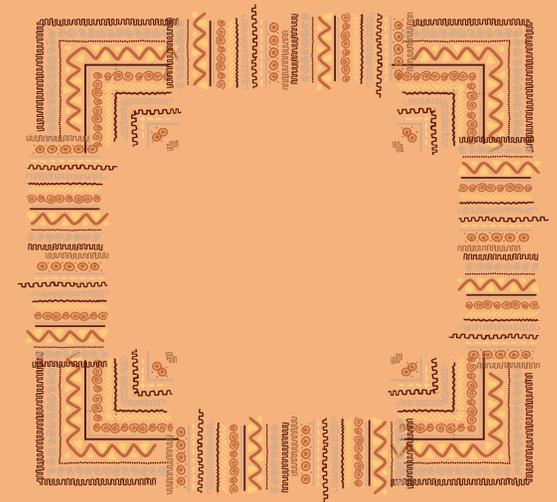
Lariza Dugan-Cuadra  
CARECEN  
lariza@carecensf.org

Estela R. Garcia, DMH  
Instituto Familiar de la Raza  
estela.garcia@ifrsf.org



Chicano/Latino/  
Indígena Health  
Equity Coalition

*Envisioning a healthy community*



## Our History and Mission

Originating in 2007, the Chicano/Latino/Indígena Health Equity Coalition emerged to define, highlight, and reduce the health disparities and inequities impacting our community.

The mission of the Chicano/Latino/Indígena Health Equity Coalition is to be a representative advocacy body that works to ensure the health needs of our community are addressed. In particular, the Chicano/Latino/Indígena Health Equity Coalition works to highlight and improve the health disparities facing our community.

Our name is intended to be a powerful reminder that our community is diverse, crossing multiple countries, cultures, traditions, and needs. Representing a broad cross-section of organizations, individuals, and institutions, the Coalition examines how policy and resource allocation reflect health needs and priorities. The Coalition also proposes and develops program and policy solutions to reduce health disparities, and strategically advocates for resource support.

Through our leadership, advocacy, and policy promotion efforts, the Chicano/Latino/Indígena Health Equity Coalition expects to reduce health disparities impacting our community, identify and alleviate barriers to healthcare, promote the collection of relevant health, demographic, and environmental data impacting the diverse Chicano/Latino/Indígena community, and ensure appropriate policies and resources are in place to effectively meet these goals.

## The Scope of Our Work

The Coalition has already made progress to influence the definition of health, expanding it to incorporate wellness.

Why is this important? Various disparities impacting Chicanos/Latinos/Indígena originate or are aggravated by environmental considerations. Neighborhood violence, for example, adversely impacts the health and wellness of our community. Consequently, program and policy solutions must consider neighborhood violence within a broader context of health and wellness, and not simply a law and order issue. This seemingly small change allows the Chicano/Latino/Indígena Coalition to advocate for resources and promote policies that recognize violence as a health and wellness issue in our community.

This analysis applies to multiple issues and policies that are environmentally impacted. Among them are immigration policy as it impacts family reunification, trauma, and mental health; land use and city planning as it impacts neighborhood safety and quality of life for children, youth, and families; billboard and advertising policies as promoters of sugar, alcohol, tobacco, and other substances contributing to health disparities.

Because community health is impacted by multiple factors, our work extends to all areas that adversely impact the health and wellness of the Chicano/Latino/Indígena community.

## Our Goals

The Chicano/Latino/Indígena Coalition has continued to grow and evolve. We have identified the following recommendations for the next phase of our growth:

1. Improve data collection systems to capture ethnic, cultural, linguistic and health outcomes can be captured among different Latino subgroups.
2. Conduct further assessment of the health needs of Indigenous immigrant communities in San Francisco.
3. Reach out to community leaders and community based organizations to include them in the processes of planning and delivery of services.

The Chicano/Latino/Indígena Health Equity Coalition welcomes interested community organizations, individuals, and institutions to join us in this work.

Meetings are currently held on a quarterly basis. Among other agenda items, each meeting includes information sharing, leadership representation, and action items, and next steps.

