

Contact: Rodolfo Gutierrez
Hispanic Advocacy and
Community Empowerment
through Research
Phone (612) 625-0573
Email: rodolfo@hacer-mn.org

330 HHH Center
301 19th Ave South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone: 612-624-3326
www.hacer-mn.org

HACER and
Development Training
Institute

Press Release

The Announcement of the Minnesota Latino Non-Profit Leadership Academy: Call for Applications

The Development Training Institute (DTI) and Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research (HACER) invite Latino nonprofit leaders of new, emerging, and established organizations to apply for participation in a year-long Academy to develop their capacity to serve Minnesota's rapidly growing Latino community. **The purpose of the Academy is to foster, nurture, and support Latino nonprofit leaders as they move their organizations to the next levels of excellence, sustainability, and impact.**

Minneapolis MN, May 1, 2009:

Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research (HACER) (Minneapolis, MN) and The Development Training Institute (Ellicott City, MD) would like to invite Latino nonprofit organizations throughout the state to apply to participate in the Minnesota Latino Nonprofit Leadership Academy. Applications will be available at www.hacer-mn.org on May 1, 2009. The Application Deadline is June 1, 2009.

Latino non-profit leaders emphasize that they are often unable to apply knowledge gained at workshops due to understaffing, under-funding, and inability to afford services of expert consultants. Addressing this concern is a strength of the Minnesota Latino Nonprofit Leadership Academy. The 12-month model consists of three 3-day workshops for all participants conducted at retreat centers in Minnesota, 45 days of on-site technical assistance to each organization, coaching by seasoned Latino non-profit practitioners, and distance learning. The workshops are bilingual, with an all-Latino faculty.

Offered in North Carolina with great success, the Academy is a transformative experience focusing on three key themes: self-development of Minnesota Latino non-profit leaders, organizational capacity building and peer-to-peer networking within the Minnesota Latino community context with an emphasis on smaller, less robust and emerging Latino non-profits. Participating organizations will include multi-issue groups serving Latino communities in many program areas.

The Academy will better position Latino non-profits and local leaders focused on education, community economic development, asset building, workforce development and human services delivery to develop robust programs and high-performing non-profits better equipped to serve Latino families,

For Release 1 a.m. CST, May 1, 2009

children and businesses and accelerate integration into the mainstream. Participants will gain critical thinking and strategic-planning skills to enhance their abilities to help their organizations move to the next levels of excellence, sustainability and impact.

This opportunity is offered at no cost to participants. The Academy is available to 10 Latino nonprofits and will include participation by the executive director, emerging leader (program manager) and board presidents of each organization—a total of 30 participants.

The Minnesota Latino Non-Profit Leadership Academy was created in collaboration with an Advisory Committee of over 30 Minnesota Latino nonprofit leaders and organizations, such as the Latino Economic Development Center and the Collaborative for Strong Latino Communities and is being supported by local foundations including the St. Paul Travelers Foundation, the Minneapolis Foundation, and the Northwest Area Foundation.

The Academy was developed and is sponsored by The Development Training Institute (DTI), the nations' premier community leadership development organization with HACER as the Latino Co-Training Partner who will assume full stewardship of the Academy after this inaugural year.

Building the capacity of Latino community building organizations and their leaders strengthens their readiness to meet the challenges presented by the recent economic downturn and increases the likelihood that they will be able to continue to provide services to growing Latino populations with ever greater need.

The Application Deadline is June 1, 2009. Interested organizations can download the applications at www.hacer-mn.org. Questions about the application process or participation may be submitted by email to Andrey Skarie at HACER: andrey@hacer-mn.org.