



California Statewide Institute on Health *Taking Action to Build Healthy Communities*

March 14-16, 2008

Hilton Sacramento Arden West
2200 Harvard Street
Sacramento, California 95815

In response to California's growing Latino population and the current effects of chronic disease on the Latino population, the NALEO Educational Fund recognizes the need for strong leadership to address California's obesity epidemic. California Latino elected officials including state legislators, municipal officials and school board members are invited to this three day policy institute to address their role as they inform and shape policies concerning the social and environmental factors that contribute to one of the nations most critical health issues.

With the goal of improving the health of communities throughout California, the NALEO Educational Fund will convene California Latino policymakers, to discuss policy strategies and solutions to confront this issue and will include discussion on: school wellness, community design, neighborhood safety, transportation, housing, recreation, and access to affordable fresh foods. You and your fellow California elected officials will participate in cross-jurisdictional and regional dialogues; and have the opportunity to identify and network with colleagues and experts on health policy from throughout the state.

Unlike any other convening of elected officials, this Policy Institute is planned and facilitated by Latino elected officials who have championed this critical issue. Institute sessions will be facilitated by and will highlight the work of the elected officials chosen to participate in the 2006 and 2007 NALEO California Health Leadership Program on Obesity, an intensive health leadership program.

Participating elected officials will have the opportunity to:

- Develop strategic alliances with elected officials from different levels of office.
- Develop partnerships with Latino elected obesity champions and health policy experts.
- Work with elected officials to develop strategies to build healthy communities.
- Share model initiatives and promising practices showing evidence for decreasing health disparities and improving community wellness.

With the goal of improving the health of communities throughout the state, the "California Statewide Institute on Health" is a Constituency Services department program designed to enhance the governance and policymaking success of Latino elected officials.

Latino elected officials are encouraged to take advantage of this timely opportunity. There is no fee to attend the Institute for current NALEO members. If necessary, the NALEO Educational Fund will provide those NALEO members who attend the Summit with air travel to and from Sacramento, California, as well as a two-night hotel stay and meals as part of the Summit.

For more information about the California Statewide Institute on Health, contact Ms. Marcella Martinez, Deputy Director of Constituency Services, at mmartinez@naleo.org or (213)747-7606, ext. 124

NALEO California Statewide Institute on Health
Taking Action to Build Healthy Communities

Preliminary Draft Agenda

Friday, March 14, 2008

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Institute Registration

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Session I – Taking Action to Address Critical Health Issues

One of the most important issues our communities face today is the staggering increase in the rates of obesity and chronic disease. Inherent in everyday decision making, Latino elected officials have the opportunity to inform and shape policies concerning school wellness, community design, neighborhood safety, transportation, housing, as well as recreation, and access to affordable fresh foods and quality health care. These very decisions affect opportunities for physical activity and healthy eating, which are both directly associated with the prevention of obesity and chronic disease. This session will provide an overview of the critical health issues facing California communities and provide the framework of Latino leadership for healthier communities.

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Introductory Networking Activity: Profile of California Latino Elected Officials

Every community has a unique physical, social and political environment. Elected officials at each level of government have different roles as well as varying priorities based on their unique community characteristics. Beyond their elected role, policymakers wear various hats and serve in multiple roles in their community. The greatest opportunity for enhancing the health of communities is reached when policymakers make policy decisions based on their community characteristics, thread leadership for healthy communities throughout their various roles, and effectively connect health to community priorities. This activity will highlight the full role of health advocacy and leadership and provide increased networking opportunity.

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Opening Reception

Saturday, March 15, 2008

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Special Breakfast Presentation

Strategic partnership and collaboration are vital to improving nutrition and physical activity environments through policy action. Latino elected official's can enhance success when they leverage their capacity to convene key decisions makers in their community and foster coalitions to further healthy community efforts. This special presentation will provide two examples of how California Health Leadership participants were able to effectively utilize strategic partnerships to direct collaborative efforts across government departments and jurisdictions to promote a healthier vision for their communities.

9:00 a.m. – Noon

Session II –Healthy Community Strategies: Innovative Policies for Improving School Systems

Current federal and state legislation has mandated that schools address school wellness. In this session, elected officials will be introduced to strategies that take into account student and staff wellness, through curriculum investment, school siting and policy development. In addition to school board members, municipal elected officials equally play a role in the environments that surround schools. Presentations will include

examples of cross-jurisdictional partnerships, where schools, cities and counties work with a common goal of community health.

- 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Overview: Strategies to Enhance the School Environments**
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Session II Strategy Session: Part II- Jurisdictional Group Dialogues**
Led by NALEO California Health Leadership Program Alumni, Institute participants will engage in roundtable discussions to assess their school environments and exchange policy and governance strategies to effectively enhance their school environments to provide greater opportunity for physical activity and access to healthy food.
- 11:00 a.m. – Noon **Session II Strategy Session: Part II-Cross-Jurisdictional Group Dialogue**
Strategic partnership and collaboration across jurisdictions is vital to building healthy communities. Participants will engage in cross-jurisdictional roundtables and discuss how elected officials at various levels of government can work together to enhance the environment in and around schools.
- 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. **Networking Luncheon**

Special Presentation- Ya Es Hora: The Latino Vote in 2008
NALEO Educational Fund, Department of Civic Engagement
- 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Session III – Healthy Community Strategies: Innovative Policies to Enhance the Built Environment**
Transportation infrastructure, neighborhood development, and planning for open space and parks, are all factors that affect the health of our communities. Latino elected officials hold key positions, making pertinent policy decisions and investments around issues affecting the built environment. This session will highlight strategies to address these issues, available resources, and opportunities to enhance your jurisdiction’s current built environment.
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Overview: Strategies to Enhance the Built Environment**
- 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Session III Strategy Session: Part II- Cross-Jurisdictional Group Dialogues**
Lead by NALEO California Health Leadership Program Alumni, Institute participants will engage in roundtable discussions to assess their community environments and exchange policy and governance strategies to effectively enhance the built environment to provide greater opportunity for safe physical activity and access to healthy food.
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Campaigning for Health Communities: Articulating a Tailored Vision for Change**
This session will challenge elected officials to effectively articulate their jurisdictional priorities through a health lens and tailor their message to a diverse set of stakeholders.

Sunday, March 16, 2008

- 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Special Breakfast Presentation: The Role of Latino Elected Leadership in State and National Health Reform**
The issue of health care reform has garnered increased attention in light of state initiatives and the presidential campaigns. Decreasing health disparities in communities of color and the prevention of chronic disease has been touted as the goal of various state and federal legislative measures. This session will provide an overview of the state and national discussion around health care reform and address the potential role of local elected officials in these efforts.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Speed Networking: Finding Answers to Your Healthy Community Questions**

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. **Session IV – Building a Healthy Community Action Plan**
Participants will work in regional groups to take assessment of their regional resources and the opportunities to build healthier communities. During this assessment, participants will be asked to note and discuss region-specific strategies and build a collective plan to build a healthier California.

11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Regional Action Plan Group Reports**

11:45 a.m. **Closing Remarks**