COVID-19 and Latino Experiences in WA State:
Nuestra Salud, Nuestro Futuro
Bienvenidos y bienvenidas!

Welcome to the Latino Center for Health Symposium—COVID-19 and Latino Experiences in WA state: Nuestra Salud, Nuestro Futuro! We are glad that you are able to join us as invited stakeholders from across Washington state. Our Latinx communities have been disproportionately impacted since the onset of the pandemic with high rates of infection, at times more than three times the state’s Latinx population of 13.5%. Additionally, barriers to accessing testing and vaccinations are persistent. The emergence of the Delta variant compels us to learn about the strengths and successful strategies that have manifested across urban and rural Latinx communities and draw from the lessons learned to improve the safety, health and well-being of our elders, children, essential workers, family members, students, parents, indeed, all Latinx individuals. This is a collaborative effort! We are proud to convene you, who are leaders invested in the health of Latinx communities and all Washingtonians.

It is easy to dream of returning to normal. However, such thinking fails to recognize that we have to forge new paths, new partnerships and new practices for Nuestra Salud y Nuestro Futuro! The Latino Center for Health stands firm in the belief—Si se puede! We are committed to taking timely and strategic action to inform policy and effect necessary changes for the good of our Latinx communities and all of Washington. We invite you to join in listening and dialogue today with committed health leaders, elected officials, community leaders, researchers and advocates to make a difference in advancing health equity and the health of Latinx individuals, families, and communities.

From all the dedicated staff of the Latino Center for Health—Muchas gracias! Thank you!

Gino Aisenberg, PhD, MSW
and Leo Morales, MD, PhD
Co-Directors
Latino Center for Health
The Latino Center for Health acknowledges this virtual Symposium is taking place throughout Washington state, home to over 29 tribal nations. We honor the land and the Indigenous Peoples past, present, and future, whom we recognize as the original stewards of all the lands we are on today.

At the University of Washington, we stand on the ancestral territories of the Coast Salish people, the land which touches the shared waters of all tribes and bands within the Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations, including the Duwamish. The Duwamish are the First People of the city of Seattle, which took its name from the Duwamish Chief Si’ahl, yet the U.S. Government has continually failed to give the Duwamish People their rightful recognition.

We remember that Indigenous Peoples were lied to, treaties were broken, and their land was stolen by European settlers. This violent colonization is not an event of the past—it is ongoing.

We affirm that acknowledgement is only the first step toward supporting Indigenous sovereignty and having larger conversations toward decolonization, reconciliation, and reparations.

*Learn more and take action:*

- Real Rent Duwamish: [https://www.realrentduwamish.org/](https://www.realrentduwamish.org/)
- Native Land Digital: [native-land.ca](http://native-land.ca)
- “Native land acknowledgments are not the same as land” by Wallace Cleaves and Charles Sepulveda
- “Land acknowledgments meant to honor Indigenous people too often do the opposite – erasing American Indians and sanitizing history instead” by Elisa J. Sobo, Michael Lambert, and Valerie Lambert
- “Return the national parks to the tribes: The jewels of America’s landscape should belong to America’s original peoples” by David Treuer
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 AM</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Antoinette Angulo, MPH</td>
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<td>Policy Director LCH</td>
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<td>Opening Remarks</td>
<td>Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH</td>
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<td>Washington State Secretary of Health</td>
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<td>Update on Vaccine rates</td>
<td>Leo Morales, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Co-Director, Latino Center for Health</td>
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<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Update on Current State of COVID-19 in WA and the New Landscape</td>
<td>Santiago Neme, MD, MPH</td>
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<td>Medical Director, UW Medicine/Northwest Hospital</td>
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<td>9:25 – 10:10 AM</td>
<td>Concurrent Panel Sessions #1</td>
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<td>Panel 1A: Barriers &amp; facilitators to ongoing vaccination efforts</td>
<td>Mabel Bodell, MD</td>
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<td>Adriana Linares, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Martin Valadez, MA</td>
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<td>Moderator: Dr Leo Morales, MD, PhD</td>
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<td>Panel 1B: Return-to-School</td>
<td>Gabriela Ewing</td>
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<td>Manuela Slye</td>
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<td>Erik Castillo</td>
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<td>Panel 2A: Mental Health and Well-Being</td>
<td>Giselle Carcamo, MSW</td>
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<td>Mary Jo Ybarra-Vega,</td>
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<td>Moderator: Gino Aisenberg, PhD, MSW</td>
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<td>10:15 - 11:00 AM</td>
<td>Concurrent Panel Sessions #2</td>
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<td>Panel 2B: Successful Community Mutual Aid Efforts</td>
<td>Marisol Lister</td>
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<td>Edgar Franks</td>
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<td>Panel 2B: Successful Community Mutual Aid Efforts</td>
<td>Moderator: Tomas Madrigal, PhD</td>
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<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<td>11:05 AM</td>
<td>Report Out</td>
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<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Next Steps</td>
<td>Maria Sigüenza</td>
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<td>Executive Director, Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs</td>
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<td>11:55-12:00 AM</td>
<td>Closing remarks</td>
<td>Gino Aisenberg PhD, MSW</td>
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH
Washington State Secretary of Health
@ushahmd

Dr. Umair A. Shah was appointed Secretary of Health for WA state by Governor Jay Inslee on December 2020. Since his appointment, Secretary Shah has been responsible for leading our state's COVID-19 response and vaccination efforts. Under Secretary's Shah's leadership, the Department of Health (DOH) has steadily improved transparency around vaccination data, launched a new dashboard tab to help people understand where and when vaccinations are being given, how many people are getting vaccinated and the demographic makeup of the vaccinated population.

Dr. Shah earned his MD from the University of Toledo Health Science Center; and completed an Internal Medicine Residency, Primary Care/General Medicine Fellowship, and MPH (management), at the University of Texas Health Science Center.

Dr. Shah currently holds numerous leadership positions with respected entities like the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Trust for America's Health; Network for Public Health Law; and Texas Medical Association.

Dr. Shah is known for work in population health, equity, innovation, and engagement. Over his career, he has been a clinician, an innovator, an educator, and a leader in health.

Santiago Neme, MD, MPH
Medical Director at UW Medicine-Northwest Hospital
@SantiagoNeme

Santiago Neme, MD, MPH, is a board-certified physician and UW Medicine clinical associate professor of Medicine and Infectious Diseases. Dr. Neme is Medical Director of UW Medical Center - Northwest, Sr. Associate Medical Director of UW Medical Center, and Vice President of UW Physicians. Dr. Neme earned his M.D. at the National University of Tucuman in Argentina. He completed his Internal Medicine residency, Infectious Disease Fellowship and master's in Public Health (MPH) at the University of Washington. He's a fellow of the American College of Physicians and is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Infectious Disease. He is fluent in Spanish and French.
Panel 1A: Barriers & facilitators to ongoing vaccination efforts

**Mabel Bodell, MD**  
Nephrologist and Co-chair of the Health Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Council, Confluence Health

**Adriana Linares, MD, PhD**  
Family Medicine Specialist, Peacehealth Southwest Medical Center

**Martin Valadez Torres, MA**  
Regional Director, Heritage University's Tri-Cities Campus and Interim Executive Director, Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

**Gabriela Ewing**  
Executive Director, Hispanic Disability Support SW WA (Pasitos Gigantes) and Co-chair, Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

**Manuela Slye**  
former President and current Strategic Advisor, Seattle Council Parent Teacher Student Association (SCPTSA)  
Early childhood educator and community leader @manolitalight

**Erik Castillo**  
Promotor de Salud, Moses Lake/Quincy Community Health Center

**Antoinette Angulo, MPH**  
Policy Director, Latino Center for Health

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Panel 1B: Return-to-School

**Gabriela Ewing**  
Executive Director, Hispanic Disability Support SW WA (Pasitos Gigantes) and Co-chair, Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

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**Antoinette Angulo, MPH**  
Policy Director, Latino Center for Health

**MODERATOR**  
**Dr. Leo Morales, MD, PhD**  
Leo Morales, MD, PhD  
Co-Director, Latino Center for Health  
Professor and Assistant Dean for Healthcare Equity and Quality, UW School of Medicine  
@DrLeoMorales

**MODERATOR**  
**Antoinette Angulo, MPH**  
Policy Director, Latino Center for Health
Panel 2A: Mental Health and Well-Being

Giselle Carcamo, MSW
Justice for Women Coordinator, Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center

Mary Jo Ybarra-Vega, MS, LMHC
Outreach/Behavioral Health Coordinator, Quincy Community Health Center @jo_ybarra

Panel 2B: Successful Community Mutual Aid Efforts

Marisol Lister
Development and Communications Coordinator, Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN)

Edgar Franks
Political Director, Familias Unidas por la Justicia @edgarfranx

MODERATOR

Gino Aisenberg PhD, MSW
Co-Director, Latino Center for Health Associate Professor, UW School of Social Work

Tomas Madrigal, PhD
Washington State Department of Health Equity Coordinator, COVID-19 Response Community Engagement Taskforce
María Sigüenza was born in México and immigrated with her mother as a young child to the state of Washington. She was raised in Burlington, located in the beautiful Skagit Valley. María began her career in non-profit and public service in 2008 as a Spanish-English medical interpreter. She has worked in Skagit Valley Hospital, Sea Mar Community Health Centers, Health Care Authority, Department of Social and Health Services, and the Department of Licensing providing expertise in program management, policy changes, community engagement, language access, equity, diversity, and inclusion. María earned a degree in humanities and social sciences from Western Washington University. She was appointed by Governor Inslee as Executive Director at the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs in August 2018.
OUR TEAM

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Policy Director

Leo Morales, MD, PhD
Co-Director

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Research Director

Kisna Prado
Research Coordinator

Meg Gómez, MSW
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Nathalia Jimenez, MD, MPH
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Leo Morales, MD, PhD
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Andrea Oliva, MS(c)
Administrative Specialist

Kisna Prado
Research Coordinator

Meg Gómez, MSW
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Amber Tafoya, MA(c)
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Mikaela Freundlich Zubiaga, MPH
Program Manager

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Nora Araujo
Community Outreach Specialist
Community Outreach Department
Consulate of Mexico in Seattle

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Promotora de Salud
Ventanilla de Salud Program
Consulate of Mexico in Seattle

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Latino Center for Health Advisory Board member

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Equity Coordinator
COVID-19 Response Community Engagement Taskforce
Washington State Department of Health

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Nephrology Specialist
Confluence Health–Wenatchee

Maria Siguenza
Executive Director
Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs (CHA)

Martin Valadez, MA
Regional Director, Heritage University Tri-Cities Campus
Interim Executive Director, Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Milvia Berenice Pacheco Salvatierra
Artist and President
Movimiento Afrolatino Seattle (MÁS)
ABOUT US

Founded in 2014, the Latino Center for Health (LCH) is a leading voice in current and emerging health issues affecting Latinx communities in Washington state, and the only interdisciplinary health sciences research center in the WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) region with a singular focus on promoting Latino health. We do this through building capacity and authentic partnerships with researchers, policy-makers, community leaders, and other stakeholders to conduct community-engaged research aimed at informing policy addressing Latinx health inequities in Washington state, regionally and nationally.

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