



HISTORY

The United States Public Health Service (USPHS) Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC) was formed in 1989 and became fully operational in 1990 when the Surgeon General approved its charter. HOAC is administered under the Office of the Surgeon General (OSG) and serves as one of the four Chartered Minority Advisory Groups (CMAG) within the Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC), which provides information, advice, and consultation to the OSG on issues affecting minority officers.

Hispanics/Latinos have made lasting contributions to the mission of the USPHS. Dr. Juan Guitéras (1852-1925) collaborated with Dr. Juan Carlos Finlay (1833-1915), who discovered that the Aedes mosquito is the disease vector of yellow fever, to eradicate the disease. VADM Antonia Novello was the first woman and first Hispanic appointed to serve as Surgeon General from 1990-1993. VADM Novello had a vision to create a coalition of minority groups that would serve as a liaison to the Surgeon General. Fulfilling this vision, MOLC was founded in 1990 to represent USPHS racial and ethnic minority officer groups at the OSG. She also played an important role in launching the Healthy Children Ready to Learn Initiative and the National Hispanic/Latino Health Initiative. VADM Richard Carmona who served as Surgeon General from 2002-2006 laid the foundation for the current Transformation of the Corps. Today, Hispanic Officers of the Commissioned Cops continue to add their contributions to our living history.

GROWING FORCE

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Hispanic/Latino community is the largest and fastest growing minority group in the United States. Latinos accounted for 12.5% and 16.3%, a 43% increase, of the total population in 2000 and 2010, respectively. As a clear growing force, Latinos are projected to account for 18% of the US population in 2020 and over 30% by 2050. The Commissioned Corps derives its strength from the diversity of its officers. Diversity infuses the USPHS with varied perspectives and creative approaches critical to the development of new solutions to tackle global public health challenges. Every officer has an opportunity to make a unique contribution to the USPHS mission. HOAC offers a forum in which officers can impact the USPHS and the health of Hispanics/Latinos.

MISSION

The mission of HOAC is to inform and advise the Office of the Surgeon General (OSG) on matters concerning the Hispanic/Latino community, offer professional development opportunities, educate, encourage community outreach, and provide a network of support for officers committed to promoting, advancing, and protecting the health and safety of Hispanic/Latino communities throughout the nation and globally.



OBJECTIVES

HOAC serves in a resource and advisory capacity to assist in the development, coordination, and evaluation of activities related to officers in all professional categories committed to improving the health and wellbeing of Hispanic/Latino communities with the following specific objectives:

1. Serves as a resource and advisor in the education, outreach, and commitment to advance and protect the health and safety of Hispanic/Latino communities.
2. Supports the career advancement and professional development of Hispanic/Latino officers and other officers committed to improving the health of Hispanic/Latino communities.
3. Coordinates and facilitates communication and outreach among Hispanic/Latino officers, MOLC, CMAGs, governmental agencies, operating divisions (OPDIV) and communities where officers are assigned.
4. Identifies public health concerns impacting Hispanic/Latino communities and advises the OSG on those concerns through MOLC.
5. Provides a network of support for officers committed to promote, advance, and protect the health and safety of Hispanic/Latino communities throughout the nation and globally.



MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

HOAC has seven subcommittees. If you are interested in taking a leadership role and making a difference, visit our website to learn more about each subcommittee and how you can get involved:

- Awards and Recognition
- Charter and Bylaws
- Communications and Public Relations
- Nomination and Membership
- Recruitment and Retention
- Education and Outreach
- Deployment and Readiness

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

HOAC membership consists of no more than 20 voting members, and an unlimited number of general members who are non-voting but may serve on subcommittees and be active in helping HOAC achieve its mission. At the time they are nominated and appointed to HOAC, voting members must be:

- Active Duty Commissioned Corps officers who meet basic readiness requirements; or
- Full-time Civil Servants; and
- Interested in Hispanic/Latino issues and are willing to further the HOAC mission.

NOMINATION PROCESS

HOAC will solicit nominations for voting members among Commissioned Corps Officers and civil service personnel. A membership application, current CV, and a narrative describing one's interest in helping to achieve the HOAC mission are required.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

We invite you to partner with us to fulfill the HOAC mission and further expand our legacy. The expertise, training, experience, and dedication each officer brings to HOAC are highly valued and utilized to support our projects and activities.

Opportunities exist to network across professional disciplines, to mentor and support career development, to create programs to educate others about public health issues affecting the Hispanic/Latino community, and build camaraderie and esprit de corps.

Your investment as a HOAC member provides long-term benefit to the Hispanic/Latino community and furthering the mission of the USPHS.

Learn more about HOAC:

<https://dcp.psc.gov/osg/hoac/>

Join our HOAC email distribution list:

<https://list.nih.gov/archives/hoac.html>

Join our Facebook Group, search for USPHS

Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee or
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/268242400334562/>



Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee
(HOAC)



<https://dcp.psc.gov/osg/hoac/>