



## Latino Health Initiative Montgomery County Department of Health & Human Services

### FY09 Major Programs and Activities

---

#### Community Programs and Campaigns

"Ama tu Vida" Campaign: The "Ama tu Vida" campaign promotes health and wellness in the Latino community. The "Ama tu Vida" campaign invites the community to make a commitment to living a healthier life, and encourages them to adopt lifelong health promotion and disease prevention habits. For more information please contact Paola C. Fernán-Zegarra at 240-777-4173 or e-mail at [Paola.Fernan-Zegarra@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Paola.Fernan-Zegarra@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Asthma Management Pilot Program: This pilot program is designed to increase the knowledge of Latino parents of children with asthma regarding the condition and its management, and increase awareness and utilization of pediatric clinical services. The desired outcome is Latino families who are empowered to appropriately self manage asthma in their children. For more information please contact Luis Aguirre at 240-777-3384 or e-mail at [luis.aguirre@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:luis.aguirre@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Health Promoters Program "Vías de la Salud": The mission of the HPP is to improve the health and well being of the low-income Latino community in Montgomery County through training and empowerment of Latino health promoters to promote healthy behaviors, facilitate access to health services, and advocate of health policies that benefit the community. For more information please contact Mercedes Moore at 240-777-3470 or e-mail at [Mercedes.Moore@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Mercedes.Moore@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Latino Youth Wellness Program (LYWP): This program provides the unique opportunity for participating youth between the ages of 12-19 and their families to engage in a holistic approach to wellness by including components that address mental, physical, social, environmental and emotional issues in a culturally and linguistically competent manner. The LYWP has a component to improve physical fitness among the youth in the program. For more information please contact Paola C. Fernán-Zegarra at 240-777-4173 or e-mail at [Paola.Fernan-Zegarra@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Paola.Fernan-Zegarra@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Foreign-Trained Health Professionals Program: This program is a multi-institutional collaboration of the LHI, Montgomery College, Holy Cross Hospital, Washington Adventist Hospital and Workforce Investment Board. The program provides a comprehensive, integrated and coordinated approach to effectively address the needs and decrease the challenges and barriers Latino nurses encounter in Maryland to obtain the nursing license. The program incorporates four components: support and guidance system, academics, practical exposure to the U.S. healthcare system, and mentoring. For more information please contact Carmen I. Sáenz at 240-777-4796 or e-mail at [Carmen.Saenz@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Carmen.Saenz@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Smoking Cessation Program for Latinos: The goal of the program is to reduce the prevalence of cigarette use among low-income Latinos who live or work in Montgomery County. Smoking cessation interventions are available to current smokers willing to try to quit smoking. For more information please contact Flor de Maria Gutierrez at 240-777-4630 or e-mail at [FlordeMaria.Gutierrez@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:FlordeMaria.Gutierrez@montgomerycountymd.gov)

System Navigator & Interpreter Program: The goal of this program is to guide, provide resources and professional medical interpretation in a culturally competent manner in order to facilitate access to health care for low-income, uninsured Latinos. Another component of the program is the Bilingual Health Services Information Line (301-270-8432) which informs callers of existing health and human services and other related programs in Montgomery County and assists them to successfully access these services. For more information please contact Luis Martinez at 240-777-1864 or e-mail at [Luis.Martinez@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Luis.Martinez@montgomerycountymd.gov)

## **Special Projects**

Emergency Preparedness Project: This project is a collaborative effort between the Latino Health Initiative and the Montgomery Advanced Practice Center (APC). This project intends to increase awareness, understanding and knowledge of public health emergency threats among low income Latino families and to develop and test culturally and linguistically appropriate educational interventions. The project uses the health promoter model as a strategy. For more information please contact Sonia Mora at 240-777-1779 or e-mail at [Sonia.Mora@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Sonia.Mora@montgomerycountymd.gov)

## **Workgroups**

Latino Data Workgroup: This workgroup brings together stakeholders to collaboratively develop and implement an action plan that will enhance the current system for collecting, analyzing, and reporting health data on Latinos in Montgomery County. For more information please contact Graciela Jaschek at 240-777-3085 or e-mail at [Graciela.Jaschek@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Graciela.Jaschek@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Community Engagement Workgroup (CEW): This workgroup seeks to promote and increase the involvement of the Latino community in efforts to improve health care services and the health of its population through participation in public decision making and decision making activities. For more information please contact Graciela Jaschek at 240-777-3085 or e-mail at [Graciela.Jaschek@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Graciela.Jaschek@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Website: [www.lhiinfo.org](http://www.lhiinfo.org)

10/09/2008