

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Mission: To increase educational opportunities, improve achievement, and promote equity in outcomes for Latinos by building the capacity and strengthening the quality of the community-based education sector and by informing the broader public education system.

The National Council of La Raza's (NCLR) Education Program services and activities are targeted to the approximately 150 affiliated organizations that provide educational services to the Latino community while NCLR's education policy work addresses national issues in public education. The organization's Affiliates provide services at each critical stage of the educational "pipeline." NCLR's program work places a special focus on affiliated organizations and programs that serve preschool and high school students and works in partnership with other organizations on special projects.

Early Childhood and Secondary Education Programs focus on areas of acute disparity in Latino educational achievement. Through a capacity-building, training and technical assistance model – which strengthens services and programs operated by the community-based organizations – these programs provide curriculum support, program development, and professional development, as well as work in academic enrichment, college preparation, parent/family involvement, and literacy development. While the direct services of NCLR's education programs target NCLR Affiliates and non-traditional public schools, the models and practices developed with these groups inform the work of public schools and other organizations and agencies working with Latino students.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MAJOR PROJECTS

Lee y serás Early Literacy Development Initiative: a national bilingual early literacy development initiative to equip Latino parents with the information and tools they need to embrace their role as their children's most important teacher – even before their children enter school.

Pre-Kindergarten Parents as Partners (Pre-K PAP): a program that trains experienced bilingual early childhood teachers to work with Latino parents to help them learn and act on knowledge, skills, changed attitudes, and new behaviors in support of the developmental needs of their children.

Sembrando Semillas: a program that documents and disseminates best practices in Latino-serving early childhood programs that promote state early learning standards and values important to Latino families.

SECONDARY EDUCATION MAJOR PROJECTS

Charter School Initiative: a visionary initiative launched in 2001 to support the development of 50 charter schools throughout the country. These 50 new schools form part of a larger network of 100 charter and alternative schools, all of which aim to increase educational opportunities and high school graduation rates for Latinos.

Early College Project (ECP): an initiative that focuses on increasing high school and college graduation rates for Latino students by providing instruction and support so students graduate from high school with up to two years of college credit.

Training and Professional Development Services: a platform of supports for schools and education programs focused on increasing their capacity to meet the needs of Latino students. Training and professional development include activities and resources around charter school development, literacy development, teaching English Language Learners, parental engagement, curriculum and instruction, and data collection and analysis.

For more information please contact NCLR at 1-800-311-NCLR or visit our website at www.nclr.org.

