



# Agenda

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## Immigration Committee

June 7, 2011 – 5:45 p.m.  
Women's Health Services  
901 W. Alameda St., Suite 25

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. May 3, 2011
- IV. Announcements
- V. Community Comments
- VI. Old Business
  - a. Southside planning focus group
  - b. Cop logic/bilingual aspect
  - c. Report on soccer league for immigrant children, City, M.A. Acosta & A. Guerrero
  - d. Wage Theft Complaints to the City of Santa Fe
  - e. Drivers licenses for immigrants update
- VII. New Business
  - a. Health care options for immigrant families
  - b. Letters to the Mayor requesting reappointment to the Committee
- VIII. Communications from Staff
- IX. Communications from Committee
- X. Adjourn

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**INDEX SUMMARY OF MINUTES  
IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE  
June 7, 2011**

<u>INDEX</u>	<u>ACTION TAKEN</u>	<u>PAGE(S)</u>
Cover Page		1
Call to Order	Call to Order by Chair, Maria Cristina Lopez at 5:55 pm at Women's Health Services office, Santa Fe, NM	1
Roll Call	A quorum was declared by verbal roll call, 3 excused absences.	1
Review and Approval of Agenda	<i>Ms. Cabeza de Vaca moved to approve the agenda as amended, second by Mr. Acosta, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i>	1
Approval of Minutes, May 3, 2011 Corrections: Page 3 – remove the word “would” from Mr. Acosta’s statement	<i>Mr. Acosta moved to approve the minutes as corrected, second by Ms. Cabeza de Vaca, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i>	2
Announcements Introduction, Question and Answer with Chief Raymond Rael, Santa Fe Police Department	<i>Informational</i>	2-4
Old Business A. Southside Planning Focus Group B. Cop Logic/bilingual aspect C. Report on soccer league for Immigrant children, city, Mr. Acosta and Ms. Guerrero D. Wage Theft Complaints to the City of Santa Fe E. Driver’s Licenses for Immigrants Update	<i>Informational</i>	4-5
New Business A. Chair turned the floor over to Ms. Jewel Cabeza de Vaca for the presentation by Health Care and Program Providers	John Cassidy, CEO, La Familia Medical Center Nancy Adelsheim, Women’s Health Services Loretta Fernandez, Santa Fe Public Schools, Adelante Program Gail, Adelante Program Greg Smith, Project Manager, SF County Health Care Assistant Program Bruce Baser, Health Tomorrow Partners	5-9

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<b>Communications from Staff</b>	<i>Reappointment letters are requested from the Committee should they desire to serve. Letters will be provided to the Mayor for final approval.</i>	9
<b>Communications from Committee</b>	<i>Informational: Advocacy for Immigrants, Staff to F/U and contact Charlotte Roybal.</i>	9
<b>Adjournment</b>	There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm	9
<b>Note: Thank you to Women's Health Services for providing the meeting space for this month's meeting.</b>		
<b>Signature Page</b>		9

# **Immigration Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes**

June 7, 2011

### **I. Call to order**

**Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair** called to order the regular meeting of the Immigration Committee to order at **5:45 pm** on June 7, 2011 at the Women's Health Services Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

### **II. Roll call**

Fran Lucero, Secretary conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

#### In attendance:

Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair  
Jewel Cabeza de Vaca  
Miguel Angel Acosta  
Betty Shinas  
Elizabeth Hemmer  
Marcela Diaz

#### Absent

Erwin Rivera  
Amparo Guerrero  
Rev Chester Topple

#### Others Present:

Chief Raymond J. Rael, Santa Fe Police Department  
Captain Aric Wheeler, Santa Fe Police Department  
Carla Lopez, Staff Liaison  
John Cassidy, CEO, La Familia Medical Center  
Nancy Adelsheim, Women's Health Services  
Loretta Fernandez, Santa Fe Public Schools, Adelante Program  
Gail, Adelante Program  
Greg Smith, Project Manager, SF County Health Care Assistant Program  
Bruce Baser, Health Tomorrow Partners

Fran Lucero, Stenographer

### **III. Approval of Agenda**

**Chief Rael's Introduction will be listed under announcements.**

*Ms. Cabeza de Vaca moved to approve the agenda, second by Mr. Acosta, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

#### **IV. Approval of minutes from May 3, 2011**

Thank you to Fran for transcribing the minutes and translating from Spanish to English.

Page 3: Mr. Acosta said that he knew of a contact in Albuquerque. Remove the word "would"

*Mr. Acosta moved to approve the minutes of May 3, 2011, second by Ms. Cabeza de Vaca, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

#### **V. Announcements**

Introduction of Police Chief Raymond Rael by Captain Aric Wheeler. Chief Rael retired from the City of Santa Fe and was working as a Human Resources Investigator. He is very focused on moving the department forward and continuing to move the department in a forward direction. He fully supports the Immigration Committee and he will assure compliance and adherence to policies to support the Immigration Committee.

Chief Rael is the Interim Chief and very grateful that Captain Wheeler continues to work and assist the police department to reach the goals and fulfill the mission of the department. The Chief understands the nervousness on change, but he will work hard to continue within the best of service on enforcement and he is interested in forwarding an agenda for a good life. The Chief looks forward to working with the committee members and the citizens of this city. The Chief previously served the city in the police department for 21 years. His background includes EEOC and other investigative experience.

The Chair reiterated that the Immigration Committee has had a very positive relationship with the Police Department. In the past all of the police representatives have supported driver's licenses for immigrants. Would you support the Immigration Committee at the next legislative session regarding driver's licenses for immigrants?

Chief Rael said that the city has taken a position and he will proceed with the stand of the city. As Chief of Police he does not have a personal opinion to express, he will act and support the city of Santa Fe's position.

Ms. Diaz asked the Chief the question on where he sees the department interacting with Immigration Committee and population. She asked, "What are the Chiefs ideas on how to promote public safety to cooperate and assure that the families are not afraid of the police?"

The Chair also restated that the Immigration Committee by resolution was established in 1999.

The Chief said he is open to suggestions from the community leaders in the neighborhoods and he solicits help from the committee and community leaders to hopefully engage in communication that the Police Department is neither the enemy nor the citizens of our community. Police are viewed differently in other countries, and the community needs to be educated. The Chief will not tolerate any corruption from any of his police officers.

Ms. Diaz said that in some cases, ICE, the local jails, and other law enforcement agencies were not being cooperative. We are living in a hostile environment when it affects immigrants. We (SOMOS UN Pueblo Unido) do get calls at night when there are problems. How do we get around this road blocks, these are challenges that exist in our community, how can we get our leaders to work with us and the city police. Bottom line; Ms. Diaz stated, "How can the Immigration Committee help the City Police". We need strong public safety in our neighborhoods.

Mr. Acosta said that we need a pro-active approach, there are financial constraints and yet we have many concerns, drugs, and weapons being used in a wrong fashion, neighborhoods that are suffering from gang activities.

The Chief said that we may not directly be able to change it but as a team effort we can educate each other and other agencies. We can't change everyone's mind over night, but as we progress we can make things better. With a lack of education and effort we will not succeed. The Chief of Police is happy to get out and meet members of the community and give the Police Department an opportunity to meet the Police Leadership.

The Chair reiterated that this should be a topic of one of our meetings and invite leaders to talk about questions directed to the Police.

The Chief of Police said that the jurisdiction ends at the city limits.

Ms. Diaz said that it is the perception of "police," many don't know what branch of law enforcement; some don't know if it is Sheriff, State Police or ICE.

The Chief said that it might be as simple as providing identification.

The Chair expressed her thanks to the Chief of Police and we will follow up with the Chief to get him back and meet members of the community.

Ms. Diaz: 1) Secure Communities – Finger Printing Program – the state of Illinois, NY and Mass., all of their Governor's and State Legislators are going to end their MOU's with ICE. 2) San Francisco Sheriff was quoted in the Washington Post, he became the second county to honor ICE holds for those who are true criminal aliens. He said he was following by the policy we had implemented in NM. The jail work started here in this community.

Ms. Hemmer asked if we have done any work with Rio Arriba. Ms. Diaz said that we have not done any work with Rio Arriba County.

Captain Wheeler said we should continue to stimulate discussions that show the progress of the work of the committee related to Immigration. If we can show the results from the cooperation between the city police and the immigration population.

Garage Sale at SOMOS, bring your things to them to sell. No more clothes.

## **VI. Old Business**

### **a. Southside Planning Focus Group**

Mr. Acosta said that they called a meeting. The person calling the families did not speak Spanish. Mr. Acosta said that he spoke to City Council Carmichael and in the future they will contact Mr. Acosta to assist. They are looking for a liaison to work on the airport project and Mr. Acosta is going to submit his name for this position.

### **b. Cop logic/bilingual aspect**

This project is fully capable of being translated in to Spanish. The Police Department would have to buy new software to translate it back from Spanish to English. It will be user friendly for Spanish Speakers.

### **c. Report on soccer league for immigrant children, City, Mr. Acosta & Ms. Guerrero**

Mr. Acosta said that the city was very helpful. Mr. Fabian Chavez from the City and the School Representative identified a field that the children could use. It will accommodate about 150 kids, 12 leagues and they are volunteering their time. It looks like the YMCA is going to sponsor them and provide the insurance. Once all the requirements are met they will extend the invitation to other children to participate. Ms. Lopez reported that Sevastian had also found another option for insurance. She also asked for a phone number for Luis so he could contact him.

### **d. Wage Theft Complaints to the City of Santa Fe**

Sevastian Gurule stated that none were filed. Ms. Diaz clarified that the group had not said they were going to file with the city as they have filed with the state. These are the employees from China Star. There was a story in the New Mexican today, and she was a non-immigrant and she had received \$212 of lost wages.

Somosunpueblounido.wagewatch - website – shows how to file a claim and other resources.

### **e. Drivers licenses for immigrants update**

Governor wants to discuss this topic in the special session.

There is an interim committee meeting on 6/21/11 – Tax Policy Committee – TRD and MVD. We encourage people to attend, we are not sure if they will allow the public to comment. We would like to bring someone in nationally to talk in a positive manner. This meeting will start at 2:45 pm, Room 322, State Capitol. All we can do is let people know that fraud happens in all states, we need to know that driver's licenses aren't the only cause of fraud.

## **VII. New business – Jewel Cabeza de Vaca**

Thank you to all who have come to the meeting tonight. She asked for an introduction from the honored guests.

Greg Smith, Project Manager for the County Health Care Assistant Program

(Does not provide health care but works with the contract providers)

Has an obligation to all claims from hospitals that pertain to all residents in Santa Fe County. They also contract with UNM Hospital, Presbyterian Health and Heart Hospital.

John Cassidy, CEO at La Familia Medical Center.

As of today they have 4-sites, primary site is Alto Clinic, there is one on the south side and the dental services are out at the Community College, 4<sup>th</sup> site is healthcare for the Homeless which is around the corner from the St. Elizabeth Center.

We work with young woman and prepare them to become mothers. Sometimes parents of the pregnant mom will participate. We have also started a diabetes program and the program person is bi-lingual. We also have a behavioral health program supported by two part time Psychiatrists, one volunteer and one part time psychiatrist. Mr. Cassidy said they are opened to anyone who comes to their front door.

Loretta Fernandez, Santa Fe Public Schools, Adelante Program

Gail, Adelante Program

Work with runaway children. We work with children infant up to 21. 30% of their population is children whose mom or dad are incarcerated and have been left alone or are living in over-crowded conditions. Services range from material aid to clothing, to advocacy in the schools in the community, tutoring, and evening programs. There is an evening where a family dinner is provided for about 100 individuals mostly children. They also have a food pantry, clothing and art for the kids. There is also a financial literacy in the evening and there is a lot of case management. 80% of the families that they serve suffer from both medical and mental health services and more so for immigrant families. They have fed these families at Cesar Chavez but next year they are looking for another school.



Bruce Baser, Healthy Tomorrow Health Van

Attending as a citizen. This program doesn't have identity and we want to call it the Healthy Tomorrow Van Partners which would include the hospital and PMS. The original program was that we take the program to the kids. There use to be an Executive Leadership Council and through a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant we identified the five schools that had the less fortunate. He explained that they would have a campaign to buy a van which would cost about \$200,000. They will be looking for support to raise this money. We make 1000 visits per year and last year we made 1300 visits. It was identified for kids, but we moved on to the kids and their patients, and now it is generational, we now have the grandparents. The program was keeping them out of the hospital and helps them if they were in the verge of having a health problem. Some of them are afraid to go to the hospital but they weren't afraid to go to the Van. The repaired van will be up and running when school starts but the van isn't going to live for long.

Nancy Adelsheim, Director at Women's Health Services

Primary care and behavioral health services. ½ staff is bi-lingual, we are a community health center. We do provide service to the uninsured. We have internal medicine, family health, alternative healing, outreach on education, behavioral health, a lot of work with the schools. We go out to the schools and do nutritional programs, programs on contraception and education, part of the northern residency programs. Justina Trott has been the leader of this center for years. We have received a coalition grant for the first phase and we are applying for the second phase grant. We are going to focus on women who have experienced trauma in their lives. We want to work with the Native American women and women in Santa Fe.

Question and Answers:

Do immigrants without identification qualify for indigent fund? How can we change that.

No. It can only be changed by the Commissioners. One commissioner wanted to re-open this discussion and it failed through the commission 4:1. There is a residency requirement, you must be a resident/citizen of Santa Fe County 90 days prior to the date of service. Someone who is a permanent resident that it not a citizen could also qualify. There are a lot of immigrants here that are permanent residents but not citizens. Clarification is: Citizen of the United States, permanent resident of Santa Fe County.

This has been a big issue in the past and went to the Health Policy Commission. There were several that made recommendations to the County, one requirement was a social security card. It was asked that it be taken off. The CEO from La Familia had been asked to attend the County Commission meeting and the vote failed. The funds for this service come from gross receipts tax.

The barrier was that in order to qualify for Indigent Fund you had to be a resident of Santa Fe County and the United States and a social security number.

Greg: First he clarified that it is health care assistance, not indigent. You have to have social security verification. There were a handful of factors, 1) the financial status, regardless of personal feelings, the gross receipts tax, is gross receipts tax, but the primary driving force is property taxes. By state statute it says that there are different pools of money, we can only pull certain thirds of money for the health care assistance program. The county, only two priorities to pay, hospital claims and burial claims. Ambulance, alcohol, the commission can select to do. If they had done away with the requirement of social security and opened it up to everyone, there would be a big chance that the two providers at this table would not be receiving money from the county. The Commission every year must indicate a soul provider, and it has been Christus Vincent's hospital. The county puts up \$10 million dollars and Christus St. Vincent's receives \$35 million.

The question was asked what happens when they hospitals run out of money, who pays the claims? Greg said that they stack the claims and the county still makes payments for these claims. Note that the closest trauma center is at UNM Hospital. Both La Familia and Women's Health Services serve the immigrant population.

Ms. Diaz asked if there is a long term fix for this. Is it the undocumented immigrant that doesn't have social security card. Greg said it is never a time to throw up your hands you show we are stuck somewhere. As far as the program goes we have tried to be creative with our funding. We gave our money to St. Vincent's and hoped that they would offer the service. We are legally one of 1 of 12 counties regarding MOA's with St. Vincent's in a law suit.

Even though the County budget was cut we didn't take it from the providers. Commissioner Stefanie was very adamant about this and she concurs we did the right thing budget wise.

What are the other categories Santa Fe County offers services.

Ambulance Services and they contract with the City of Santa Fe and Espanola Ambulance Service and Substance and Alcohol centers.

Nancy from Women's Health Services expressed her thanks to Greg, he does an amazing juggling act, they are fortunate to have someone like Greg who is honest and works hard to support the Women's Health Services.

Greg: Burial Assistance – every county must follow state statute. A family that meets the local county indigent funding requirements says that they are eligible up to \$600.

Gail asked about Project Access which assists with grave medical issues and wanted to know what is going on. Greg said they are funded by Christus St. Vincent Hospital. Nancy said that they will be getting funding, they are a program running out of Women's Health Services. Project Access is for extreme purposes.

Thank you to Greg for his presentation and information provided. Greg stated that Santa Fe County is probably the best run indigent county management program. He stated that as of this year they have already paid over 10,000 claims and they still have 2 more months to go compared to about a total of 7200 in a full FY. The commission members are very diverse and they are very committed to this program.

Nancy added that they do free health education on various health topics and they would be glad to go to any location that would draw the community. They could have a bilingual physician available and this is something they take pride in doing. Mr. Acosta asked about the promotoras.

Ms. Diaz asked about Substance Abuse Prevention work and DWI prevention work?

Santa Fe Underage Drinking Alliance

Each school has their own SWAT team.

Shelly Mann-Lebb (Contact)

Ms. Diaz would like to bring in more allies to work with SOMOS on these programs. Captain Wheeler said that he has worked with Shelly to identify the population of who would need the most help in order to provide them education. The demographics are mostly those that have dropped out of school.

Gail said it would be helpful to have an evening program focused on health. Adelante has done that in the past with a grant they had received. It was done based on what immigrant families told them. Dentist came and other health providers. It was really successful; many found a clinical home for the first time. Gail said that this would be one topic that could be written into the grant and she would be happy to partner with Women's Health Services. Nancy said that their grant is pre-determined with the other 4 associations as they have been doing this planning for over a year but Women's Health Services would be happy to provide service in the community.

Gail said that there are many children under the age of 16 and they can't get any health care service. Some can't get the permission and this is a need we have to work on to get them good health care. Sometimes they will go to the teen health centers. The youth that are out on the street and disconnected from the schools, they have health care issues that aren't getting met. La Familia said that if there are specific names of those individuals, please, contact Mr. Cassidy and he will provide assistance. You need to be able to deal with the health care issue. Gail said that Health Care for the Homeless is in need of a pediatrician. That is a real barrier for the families. Mr. Cassidy said that La Familia does not have a pediatrician and they have no plans to hire any pediatricians and that should not be a barrier to provide service.

Ms. Diaz asked about the Health Care Dialogue last night: Did anyone speak to immigrant issues, no. It was more of a union representation with issues regarding Christus purchase of the hospital and other topics and it was not sponsored by the City, it was sponsored by a Union. Ms. Diaz who would be qualified to speak at forums such

as this. Ms. Diaz said if the city were to sponsor or have presence at a forum of this type, who would be the appropriate person. SOMOS cannot be an advocate. This is a voice that isn't being heard.

Mr. Cassidy said that the two biggest providers are Christus and La Familia and Women's Health Services.

Nancy from Women's Health Services said that once we have identified a representative they should go and present to the Health Policy Committee at Santa Fe County.

a. **Health Care Options for Immigrant Families**

b. **Letters to the Mayor requesting reappointment to the Committee**

Reappointment letters need to be provided to the Chair and if you do not want to serve please provide a suggestion.

VIII. **Communications from Staff**

**None**


IX. **Communications from Committee**

We can ask Charlotte Roybal who is doing health advocacy for immigrants.

Thank you to Jewel for hosting.

X. **Adjourn**

*There being no further business to come before the Immigration Committee the Mr. Acosta moved to adjourn at 8:30 pm, second by Ms. Hemmer, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

Minutes submitted by:  Fran Lucero, Stenographer

Minutes approved by: Maria Cristina Lopez, Chair