



The Strategic Plan for Hispanic/Latinx Ministries



3 Core Areas of Ministry Support



Ways to Connect with Hispanic/Latinx Ministries

# Hispanic/Latinx Ministries

The Portfolio of Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos, MDiv, CDC

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The Greater Northwest Area of The United Methodist Church

## **OVERVIEW**

As Director of Hispanic/Latinx Ministries for The Greater Northwest Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church (GNW), I serve as a resource and connector for districts, local churches, and emerging leaders engaged in ministry with Hispanic/Latinx communities. I work closely with the Office of Connectional Ministries, Church



**Development**, and the **Extended Cabinet** to support the growth, vitality, and sustainability of **contextual and culturally grounded ministries**.

In partnership with the Plan for Hispanic/Latinx Ministry of The United Methodist Church, I foster leadership formation, congregational development, and missional innovation. I also assist District Superintendents by presiding at Charge Conferences for Hispanic congregations and support churches and districts in securing grants to strengthen financial capacity. Additionally, I guide the process of launching new Hispanic/Latinx faith communities and community ministries throughout the GNW Area.

# VISION

A church called to be united and diverse in God's love that changes lives and transforms communities.

# VALUES

# Respect

We recognize the inherent value and dignity of all God's creation and all people.

#### Love

Inspired by the compassion and grace of our God, we seek to joyfully embrace and serve with all people.

# Community

We commit to live with our neighbors united in loyalty, family, solidarity, and inclusivity.

## Justice

We strive to live into the equality of God's provision in a world where every need shall be met.

# **MISSION**

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, love Boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.



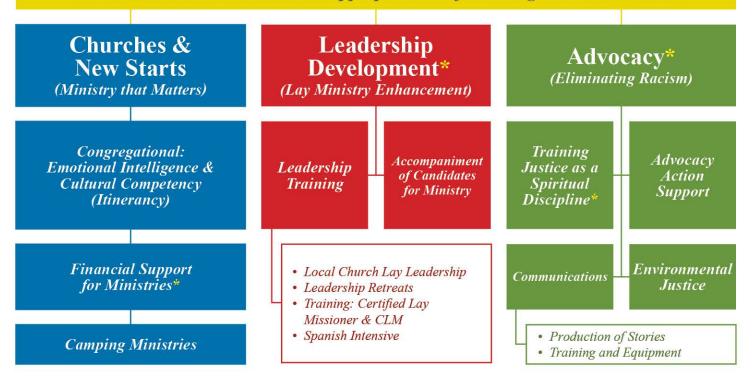
# The Strategic Plan for Hispanic/Latinx Ministries



The Office of H/L Ministries

# HISPANIC MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Coordinates in consultation with appropriate Conference agencies and leaders





Projects for which the GNW is receiving funding from the National Plan for Hispanic/Latinx Ministries



# "To harm one is to harm all, to heal one is to heal all."

"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Hebrews 13:2 (NIV)

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Galatians 3:28 (NIV)

"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household."

Ephesians 2:19 (NIV)

# **Core Areas of Ministry Support**





# 1. Collaboration with Superintendency Teams

- Develop **non-colonial**, **contextual models** for Hispanic/Latinx ministries across districts.
- Provide coaching and strategy support for community-based ministry approaches.
- I.D. opportunities for **mutual learning**, partnerships with existing churches and new faith expressions.
- Act as a bridge between GNW leadership and grassroots Latinx communities.
- Preside at Charge Conferences for Hispanic/Latinx congregations, as requested.
- Assist churches and districts in writing and submitting grants; expand financial resources for H/L Ministries
- Establishment of new Hispanic/Latinx faith communities, community ministries for districts.

# 2. Leadership Development

- Identify and mentor emerging Hispanic/ Latinx leaders: CLMs, LLPs, elders, deacons, planters, and community organizers.
- Provide pastoral care and mentorship to current and aspiring leaders.
- Offer leadership formation programs, such as Encuentros, Lay Minister Courses, Licensing School, and retreats.
- Promote the connection and empowerment of youth and young adult leaders.





# 4. Program Development & Accompaniment

3. Immigration & Justice Ministries (25%)

during crisis and transitions.

immigrant rights.

- Develop and support GNW-wide programs for Hispanic/Latinx faith communities and leaders.
- Coordinate and evaluate strategic events such as leadership training, cultural competency workshops, intercultural retreats, and camps.
- Promote language acquisition, cultural sensitivity, and resilience through education and formation.

Collaborate with **immigrant advocacy networks** across the GNW Area. Provide spiritual, pastoral, and logistical support to immigrant families

Organize education, advocacy, and accompaniment initiatives focused on





#### 5. Administrative & Connectional Work

- Report to and maintain communication with the Director of Connectional Ministries (DCM).
- Supervise program and committee finances, including the Hispanic/ Latinx Ministry Committee.
- Provide regular updates to superintendency teams and participate in Cabinet conversations.
- Share ministry stories and updates through conference channels and media platforms.

# 6. Broader Church & Connectional Engagement

- Collaborate with the National Plan for Hispanic/Latinx Ministry (UMC) to access resources, leadership development, and funding opportunities.
- Connect GNW efforts with **general church entities** (GBGM, GBCS, GBHEM, Discipleship Ministries, Jurisdictional Councils).
- Facilitate collaboration between Hispanic/Latinx leaders and other ethnic leadership within GNW.
- Build ecumenical and community partnerships with both faith-based and secular organizations.

# 8. Advocacy and Communication

- Lead the **communication strategy** for **Hispanic/Latinx Ministries** in the GNW Area, ensuring **visibility**, **connection**, and **storytelling** across platforms (e.g., newsletters, social media, videos).
- Develop **culturally relevant** and **bilingual content** reflecting the lived experiences and spiritual life of Hispanic/Latinx communities.
- Advocate on behalf of immigrant and Hispanic/Latinx communities
  within the church and public spheres, addressing issues such as
  immigration justice, equity, and inclusion.
- Represent the GNW in collaboration with **national** and **jurisdictional** advocacy partners, including The Plan for Hispanic/Latinx Ministry, the WJ Hispanic/Latino Council, the WJ Immigration Taskforce, and community-based organizations.
- Equip leaders and congregations to engage in faith-rooted advocacy and public witness for social
  justice grounded in Wesleyan theology.



- Serve as assigned staff to the Commission on Ethnic Ministries in the Pacific Northwest Conference.
- Act as a liaison between ethnic pastors and leaders and the Conference to ensure their ministries are resourced, their voices are heard, and their concerns are represented in Conference decision-making.
- Support cross-cultural collaboration and facilitate communication among diverse ethnic communities within GNW.
- Identify common needs and opportunities for joint ministry efforts across ethnic groups.



