Advancing Excellence and Inclusiveness in Local Government

2016 Report of Accomplishments

The International Hispanic Network is the primary voice of Hispanic/Latino professionals within ICMA. The purpose of the association is to encourage professional development among Hispanic/Latino local government administrators and those local government officials working in communities with significant Hispanic/Latino populations, to improve the management of local government, to provide unique resources to Hispanic/Latino local government executives and public managers, and to advance the goals of professional, effective, and ethical government administration.

It is with great pleasure that I share with the IHN and ICMA membership the accomplishments of our organization over the past year. It is my hope that you will join us in addressing issues impacting the quality of life in our communities, as well as diversifying the local government workforce.

Veronica Briseño, President

Increased Membership

The IHN board of directors set a goal of increasing membership to 500 by the year 2020. Membership in 2016 increased 24% over the previous year and has increased 43% since 2013. The majority of growth was in the local government membership category, which increased 33% between 2015 and 2016.

IHN Membership Growth

IHN is coordinating with ICMA to increase student memberships by offering free membership to any student in an ICMA University Chapter to provide resources and mentoring to attract more young professionals into the local government profession, with an emphasis on attracting more people of color.

Formalizing IHN Chapters

IHN has had an informal relationship with Austin and Phoenix, both having formed local chapters. The membership committee is working with both organizations to formalize the relationships between the local chapters and IHN. The agreement being developed will be used to develop similar chapter relationships throughout the U.S. The program will be completed by the end of the year.
Events

• IHN and Women Leading Government co-hosted a seminar on “How to Diversify Executive Search Results,” in the San Francisco Bay Area, with search firms as the featured speakers.
• IHN representatives developed panel presentations at the annual Miami-Dade County League of Cities Best Practices Conference.
• IHN participated in the NFBPA conference in Portland, OR emphasizing the importance of the recently approved affiliation agreement between the two organizations.
• ICMA Conference in Kansas City
  o Presented “Building Diverse Leadership in Your Community and Your Organization” at the ICMA conference in Kansas City
  o Hosted the annual IHN dinner
  o Co-hosted the annual IHN/NFBPA/CalNAPA reception
• IHN National Conference, November 3-5 in Austin, TX
  o Approximately 200 attendees
  o The conference was successfully executed within budget
  o 98% of attendees were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall conference
  o The City of Phoenix has announced they will host a national conference in 2018

Awards

• The first annual IHN Civic Engagement Award was given to Chandler, AZ for their “For our City” program.
• Presented the Joel D. Valdez Legacy Award to A. J. Ojeda, Jr., Miami Dade County, FL
• Presented the Emerging Leaders Award to Gabriel Rodriguez, Adams County, CO and Angelita Palma, National City, CA

IHN Rebranding

The IHN board initiated a review of perceptions of the organization and reached out to the membership to determine if an image change was warranted. The outreach included a survey of the membership, and forums at the ICMA and IHN national conferences. The process will be completed in 2017.

Website Redesign

IHN completed redesign of the website: www.ihnonline.org. In addition to a new look, the website is designed to be easier to navigate and better communicate the mission and value of IHN as a professional development organization.

ICMA Board Nominations

IHN nominated Maria Hurtado, Assistant City Manager in Hayward, CA to the 2017 ICMA Executive Board as Regional West Coast Vice President, and supported the nomination of Wally Bobkiewicz, City Manager of Evanston, IL (IHN local government member) for Midwest Regional Vice President.

Administrative

• Updated the IHN Bylaws
• IHN renewed the contract with Management Partners for administrative support
• IHN renewed the contract with ICMA-RC for financial support
• IHN and ICMA held their annual leadership meeting at the ICMA conference in Kansas City

For additional information about IHN programs and membership, contact Karen Davis, Executive Director at kdavis@ihnonline.org or by calling 408-392-0232.