



La Fe Policy Research & Education Center

Jan 12, 2007

Legislative Priorities

La Fe Policy Research & Education Center (*La Fe PREC*) is a developing organization engaging advocates from across the country that demonstrates a commitment to the *Bienestar* (well-being) of the Latino community. *Bienestar* affirms our cultural experience and quality of life that reflects the interdependence of health resources, education, employment, and housing in contributing to the health and welfare of our family and community.

La Fe PREC adheres to the philosophy that social and health policies should help empower communities, families, and individuals toward self-sufficient and further enabling self-determination in their lives.

It is with a *Bienestar* framework that the La Fe Policy Research & Education Center legislative platform seeks to address the health values and needs of the Latino Community. In this 2007 Legislative session, *La Fe PREC will strive to:*

Improve Healthcare Resources that are accessible, equitable, affordable and culturally appropriate such as:

- Working toward comprehensive universal health insurance coverage for all.
- Improving access for small business to health insurance.
- Reauthorizing and expanding CHIP to all children regardless of legal status.
- Retaining and expanding Medicaid programs that insure a comprehensive health care.
- Increasing reimbursement fees to Physicians, particularly those in primary care.
- Improving access to “medical homes” that prioritizes preventive and primary care.
- Expanding mental health services.

In collaboration with allies and partners, La Fe PREC will address other critical components of a healthy wellbeing and improve the *Bienestar* of the Latino Community through:

Improving Education Attainment

- Support new strategies to address low educational attainment of Latino students.
- Identity effects of school finance and taxation to the quality of education for Latino children.
- Bilingual Education
- Charter Schools
- Increase access to Higher Education.

Improving Economic Security and reducing poverty

- Raising the Minimum Wage so families and workers can share in living wages that improves their quality of life.
- Protecting the security of worker and providing safe workplaces.
- Economic Development strategies that are in the best interest of the Latino community.

Reforming the Immigration System

- The *Bienestar* and health status of the Latino community is being largely influenced by the broken system and requires a Comprehensive Immigration Reform strategy.

Ensuring Children and Families Security

- Support initiatives and policies that nurture and rehabilitate youth not criminalize.

Housing

- Create access to Affordable Housing.
- Community Development strategies that are in the best interest of the Latino community.

Promoviendo Bienestar Para Familias y Comunidad ♦ *Promoting Family and Community Wellbeing*

• 1327 Guadalupe Street, Suite 102 • San Antonio, TX 78207 • 210.208.9494 • (Fax)210.208.9493

www.lafepolicycenter.org