The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives & The National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health Present Our

2006 Annual Healthcare Diversity Awards Gala

"Expanding our National Governance with Regional Leaders"

Friday, June 16, 2006, 6:00-12:00AM

At

Landmark on the Park, New York City

Acknowledgement
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di·ver·si·ty
Main Entry: di-ver-si-ty
Pronunciation: di-ˈvər-sə-tē
Function: noun
Inflected Form(s): plural -ties
1: The condition of being diverse, variety.
2: HCA and its commitment to meeting the healthcare needs of all.
3: Differing from one another.

in·clu·sion
Main Entry: in-clu-sion
Pronunciation: in-ˈklu-zhən
Function: noun
Etymology: Latin inclusion-, inclusio, from includere
1: The act of including: the state of being included.
2: To foster an environment that allows and encourages all individuals to contribute at their full capacity towards the achievement of goals and objectives.
3: To include all. See HCA.
is pleased to support The Association of Healthcare Executive & The National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce & The 2006 Honorees

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J. Emilio Carrillo, MD, MPH
President and Chief Medical Officer & Vice President, Community Health Development

Salute
Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives
In celebration of its 2006 Healthcare Diversity Awards

Herbert Pardes, MD, President and CEO
William A. Polf, Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Office of External Relations
Emilio Carrillo, MD, Vice President, Community Health Development
Helen Morik, Vice President, Government and Community Affairs
Andy Nieto, Director, Community Health Outreach and Marketing
Julio Batista, Coordinator, Community Relations
Migdalina Onofrietti, Coordinator, Community Physician Relations

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Dear Friends:

Welcome to our Sixth Annual Healthcare Diversity Awards Gala celebrating the achievements of Latino health professionals, and their institutions, which are setting the standards for multicultural diversity in the hospital, pharmaceutical, managed care and medical sectors. Our honorees this year represent a cross-section of exceptional leaders from throughout the United States and we will be working closely with them to expand our national governance. I am also particularly grateful to our keynote speaker, Kevin E. Lofton, FACHE, for rearranging his schedule to join us this evening.

After our event last year, we formed our Hospital Trustee Council, under the leadership of Henry Calderon of The Mount Sinai Medical Center and Shirley Rodriguez-Rumenenski of Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center. They have held preliminary planning meetings and you will also hear from them during the program. Additionally, we have been discussing strategic partnerships with a variety of national organizations to address the executive management pipeline and nursing recruitment.

We want to give particular thanks to our two national partners, Prudential Financial and Hospital Corporation of America, for their long-term support of our efforts. Their support has been crucial to the progress we have been able to achieve. This year, they are joined by our new Regional Partner, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and the NewYork-Presbyterian Community Health Plan. They represent a new membership category which we have developed in order to grow our organizations at a regional level.

Lastly, I would like to thank the members of our Gala Committee, Kenneth E. Raske, and Marife Hernandez, as well as Aldo Silvera, Luis A. Vazquez, Daniel Garcia, Christian Batres, Christopher Rodriguez, Nelson Vega-Garcia and Jeannette Marrero for their work in making this event a success. To the Board of Directors of the Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives and the National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health, your encouragement and advice has been invaluable in helping to grow our organizations and address our mission.

Very truly yours,

George A. Zeppenfeldt-Cestero
President, Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives
and President & CEO,
National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health
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Congratulations to this year’s Honorees!

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The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives & The National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health

on the occasion of their

2006 Annual Healthcare Diversity Awards Gala

WellCare

PROGRAM

MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES
Ms. Monica Morales
Reporter, NewsChannel 4

WELCOME
George A. Zeppenfeldt-Cestero
President, Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives
and President & CEO, National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health

HOSPITAL TRUSTEE COUNCIL
Mr. Henry Calderon
Board of Trustees, Mount Sinai Medical Center

KEYNOTE SPEAKER AND HONOREE
Kevin E. Lofton, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Health Initiatives
& Chair-Elect, Board of Directors
American Hospital Association (AHA)

CHAMBER MEMBER OF THE YEAR
Ms. Pamela S. Brier, President & CEO
Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York

TRUSTEE HONOREE OF THE YEAR
Dr. Cynthia Ann Telles
Board of Directors, Kaiser Permanente, Oakland, CA.
& Director of the Spanish Speaking Psychosocial Clinic
Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital at UCLA School of Medicine, Los Angeles, California

LEGISLATIVE LEADERS OF THE YEAR
Senator Roberto Menendez
United States Senate (New Jersey)

Congressmember Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
U.S. House of Representatives (New Jersey)

New York State Senator Kemp Hannon
Chair, Senate Health Committee

HOSPITAL EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR
Mr. Miguel Fuentes, President
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, Bronx, New York

PHARMACEUTICAL LEADER OF THE YEAR
Andrea Higham
Director of Corporate Equity and the Campaign for Nursing’s Future
Johnson & Johnson Global Marketing Group, New Brunswick, New Jersey

PROFESSIONAL HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR
Maria T. Villut, R.N., BSN, President-elect
National Association of Hispanic Nurses and Manager, Women Veterans Program
Philadelphia VA Medical Center
Philadelphia, PA.

HEALTHCARE BUSINESS LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD
Ms. Juana I. Horton, President and CEO
Horton Interpreting Services, Inc.
Providence, Rhode Island and Chair, Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce of Rhode Island

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PRESENTATION OF AWARDS
BY AHHE AND NHCC CHAMBER MEMBERS

Kevin E. Lofton, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Health Initiatives
& Chair-Elect, Board of Directors
American Hospital Association (AHA)

Ms. Pamela S. Brier, President & CEO
Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York

Dr. Cynthia Ann Telles
Board of Directors, Kaiser Health Plan and Hospitals, Oakland, CA.
& Director of the Spanish Speaking Psychosocial Clinic
Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital at UCLA School of Medicine, Los Angeles, California

Senator Robert Menendez
United States Senate (New Jersey)

Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
U.S. House of Representatives (New Jersey)

New York State Senator Kemp Hannon
Chair, Senate Health Committee

Mr. Miguel Fuentes, President
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, Bronx, New York

Andrea Higham, Director of Equity Programs
Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, New Jersey

Maria T. Villot, R.N., BSN, President-elect
National Association of Hispanic Nurses and
Manager, Women Veterans Program
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Philadelphia, PA.

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President & CEO, National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health

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Shirley Rodriguez-Remenenski
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center
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The 2006 Health Care Diversity Honorees

June 16, 2006

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June 15, 2006

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to have this opportunity to send greetings to each of you attending the 2006 Annual Healthcare Diversity Awards Gala held by the Association of Hispanic Executives and the National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health.

I join my voice with yours in congratulating tonight’s honorees including: Kevin E. Lofton, Pamela S. Brier, Dr. Cynthia Ann Telles, Maria T. Villot, R.N., Miguel Fuentes, Johnson & Johnson, Juanita Horton, Congressman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, Senator Karp Hannon, and my friend and colleague Senator Robert Menendez.

For nearly twenty years, the Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives and the National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health has promoted the inclusion of Hispanics in health administration. I am deeply grateful to organizations such as these that are dedicated to the advancement of diversity in the health care industry. As you come together this evening, you demonstrate how this commitment to diversity enhances not just the health care industry, but also the communities in which they serve.

Again, I send my congratulations to all of the honorees. You have my best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton
United States Senator
United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 16, 2006

Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives
PO Box 230832, Ansonia Station
New York, New York 10023

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather to celebrate The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives' 2006 Annual Health Care Diversity Awards Gala. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the fine work of your organization and tonight's honorees.

Since its inception, The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives has been instrumental in advocating and fostering programs and policies to increase the presence of Hispanics in health administration professions. The success of The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives is measured by the strength and dedication of all its members and leadership. Through your commitment and effective organization, you have created strides in improving access to health care for many in the Hispanic community. Thank you for encouraging greater Hispanic representation in the medical and health-related fields.

Further, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate tonight's honorees, my friends and colleagues, Senator Robert Menendez, Congressmember Rodney Frelinghuysen, and Senator Kemp Hannon. I would also like to thank Pamela S. Brier, Dr. Cynthia Ann Dellos, Miguel Fuentes, Maria T. Villas, and Juana Horten. I commend you all for careers that have and will continue to be marked by outstanding service and dedication. I am honored to join everyone in recognizing the fine work you all do and the commitment you have demonstrated to the people of New York.

Again, congratulations and thank you for your hard work and dedication on behalf of the New York community. I know The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives will continue its efforts for many years to come. Best wishes for a wonderful evening.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator

The Healthcare Association of New York State congratulates

Pamela Brier
Chamber Member of the Year

and

Miguel Fuentes
Hospital Executive of the Year

for their dedication and commitment to improving the quality of and access to health care for all New Yorkers.
Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the Sixth Annual Healthcare Diversity Awards Gala of the National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health.

On behalf of the City of New York, I congratulate tonight’s award recipients on being honored this evening. Their exemplary leadership, combined with their commitment to strengthening New York City’s hospitals and ensuring the well-being of others, is a great benefit to our residents in all five boroughs.

In addition, I commend the National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health for hosting this event. Its tireless efforts ensure that every New Yorker has access to high-quality healthcare, and its commitment to our Latino community is unparalleled. We salute NHCCCH and its members for their outstanding contributions to our City and our nation.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor
George A. Zeppenfeldt-Cesterro
President & CEO, National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health
President, Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives

Mr. Zeppenfeldt has been a leading advocate in health care, small business development, and diversity for over 20 years. His advocacy in these areas resulted in his selection in 1995 as one of the “100 Influential Leaders” by Hispanic Business magazine. Mr. Zeppenfeldt has served on numerous boards of directors where his role has focused on marketing, advocacy, fundraising, and board/membership development.

Mr. Zeppenfeldt received his undergraduate degree from Seton Hall University and graduate training in health administration at Long Island University. In 1998, he completed a certificate program in community relations from Boston College’s Carroll School of Management and later in 1999; he was awarded a Kellogg/Robert Wood Johnson Minority Fellowship in Washington, D.C. His publications appear in Employee Health & Fitness, Risk Management Journal, and El Diario/La Prensa. He has been quoted by numerous publications including the New York Times, Crain’s New York Business, Hispanic Business and Diversity; Allied Health Careers magazine and he has appeared on WNBC (Visiones), WABC (Tempio), and Hispanics Today. He has addressed diversity in the healthcare workforce on the 2004 Congressional Hispanic Caucus Policy Institute health care panel and for the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation where he was keynote speaker for their 2004 Multicultural Celebration.

In 1992, Mr. Zeppenfeldt was appointed to Community Planning Board 7 (CB7-Manhattan) where he currently serves as Co-Chair of the Business and Consumer issues Committee. His most recent assignment was that of Chairman of the Task Force on Community Social Responsibility and Communications. His other committee assignments have included health and human services, land use, housing and an appointment to the Manhattan Borough President’s Health Committee. In October of 2003, Mr. Zeppenfeldt was elected to the position of Third Vice Chairman for Community Planning Board 7. During the last ten years, he has served on a variety of non-profit boards including the Board of Directors for the Lincoln Center Business Improvement District (BID), the Hispanic Public Relations Association of Greater New York (Vice President), the Latino Commission on AIDS, and the Consumer Advisory Council for IPRO, New York State’s Quality Improvement Organization. In 1999, he was appointed as a delegate-at-large to Regional Policy Board II of the American Hospital Association. His career has also included positions as Director of Community and Government Relations at Montefiore Medical Center and Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations for St. Clare’s Hospital and Medical Center. From 1981-1995, he was President and Founder of MarketCare, Inc., a marketing and public relations, certified as an 8(a) firm, specializing in the healthcare industry. During that period, he established the Regional Small Business Coalition and testified on behalf of city, state and federal minority and women-owned business enterprise programs before regulatory agencies and addressed Latino procurements in both the print and electronic media. In 1998, he founded the Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives/East Coast Chapter (AHHE) which now has over 220 individual and 17 organizational members (hospitals, healthcare facilities and manage care organizations) in 14 states. In 2001, he was elected national president of AHHE, and later that year, assumed a national board seat on the National Institute for Diversity in Health Management (IFD), the diversity initiative of the American Hospital Association. Mr. Zeppenfeldt is a member of the Community Partnership to Increase Diversity in the Health Professions (NY), Health Professionals for Diversity Coalition at the Association of American Medical Colleges (Washington, D.C.), and a Steering Committee Member of the National Hispanic Health Professional Leadership Network in Washington, D.C. In 2004, he was sworn in by the Regional Chair of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to the position of President and Board Chair of the newly established National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health which addresses supplier diversity in the hospital, pharmaceutical, managed care, insurance, and health care sectors. He is now President & CEO of the chamber.

In his role as a Latino business leader, he was elected in 2001 to the Board of Directors of the New York State Federation of Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (NYSFHCC) where he served as their 2002-2004 Convention Chairman. In 2003 and 2004, he was a delegate from Region V (NY & NJ) to the US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Annual Convention. In recognition of his business leadership, he was awarded the Chairman’s Strategic Partnership award by the NYSFHCC in 2003, and in 2004 received awards from both the Greater New York Chamber of Commerce and the National Hispanic Medical Association for his leadership in improving the health of Hispanics.
Ms. Monica Morales  
Reporter, NewsChannel 4

Monica Morales joined the NewsChannel 4 team in August 2004 as a general assignment reporter.

Morales came to WNBC from WFTX-Fox 25 News in Boston, MA where she served as an investigative reporter covering stories that included the on-going security problems at Logan Airport and the “Child Sex Abuse Scandal” facing the Archdiocese of Boston. During her tenure there, Morales received recognition for her reports on Fox 25 in New York City which included the September 11th “Attack on America,” the Church Crisis, two Superbowls and the Gay Marriage Vote for Fox 5 in New York City.

Before that, Morales was a reporter at WTVJ-NBC 6 in Miami, FL in 2000. She served as a media director and on-air personality for Fusion Networks in Miami from 1999-2000. Morales anchored and reported for the noon, 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. newscasts on the “CBS 58 News” in Milwaukee, WI from 1997-1999. She began her career as a Senior Political Reporter at GPTV-PBS in Atlanta, GA where, in addition to her reporting duties, she also produced live political reports for two nightly primetime one-hour shows entitled “Lawmakers” and the “Georgia Week in Review.” During her college years, Morales served as a reporter for the “Prime Television News” on the 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. newscasts in Wollongong, Australia.

In 2003, Morales won a breaking news national Emmy in Boston for her coverage of the rescue of dozens beached whales in Cape Cod. She also received an Edward R. Murrow Investigative Award for her undercover investigation on state Lotto workers misappropriating tax payers money in 2002.

Morales graduated from the University of Miami, FL School of Journalism and Communications where she received a Bachelor’s degree with honors in Broadcast Journalism and Psychology and a Master’s in Telecommunications/TV Production.

A native of Miami, Morales currently resides in Manhattan.
Kevin Lofton, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Health Initiatives

Kevin Lofton serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI). Catholic Health Initiatives, based in Denver, Colorado, sponsors 70 hospitals, 44 long-term care, assisted and independent living and residential facilities, and five community health services organizations in 19 states. The organization serves more than 68 urban and rural communities and employs more than 67,000 employees. Catholic Health Initiatives has annual operating revenues of $7 billion. Mr. Lofton joined CHI in February 1998 as Regional President with responsibility for facilities located in Arkansas, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio and Tennessee. He was later appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. In August 2003, he was named President and Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Health Initiatives.

Prior to joining Catholic Health Initiatives, Mr. Lofton served as the Chief Executive Officer of the University of Alabama Hospital in Birmingham. In previous positions, Mr. Lofton served as the Chief Executive Officer of Howard University Hospital, Washington, D.C., and Chief Operating Officer at University Medical Center, Jacksonville, Florida. Mr. Lofton received a master of health administration degree from Georgia State University in Atlanta and a Bachelor of Science degree in management from Boston University.

He is widely recognized at the national level and serves in leadership capacities in many of the major healthcare organizations. Active with the American Hospital Association (AHA), he was elected Chair-Elect beginning 2006 and will be the 2007 Chair of the Board of Directors. He currently chairs the board Strategic Policy Planning Committee. He previously served on the AHA Committee on Nominations, Operations Committee, Health Forum Board, and the Regional Policy Board Four. Mr. Lofton also served on the Catholic Health Association Nominating Committee and the Workforce Diversity Committee. He is a former board member of the Institute for Diversity in Healthcare Management. Mr. Lofton is a Fellow and former Regent at Large in the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). He served on the ACHE Leadership Advisory Committee and chaired the Systems Healthcare Executive Committee. He served as President of the National Association of Health Services Executives (NAHSE), the nation’s largest Black health care executive organization.

In recognition of his outstanding leadership, innovation, and management accomplishments, Mr. Lofton was ranked in the 2005 and 2002 Modern Healthcare Magazine’s “100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare” list. He was awarded the Robert Hudgens Award as the Young Healthcare Executive of the Year in 1993 from the 30,000-member American College of Healthcare Executives. He was named Young Administrator of the Year by the National Association of Health Services Executives in 1987 and received NAHSE’s Senior Executive of the Year Award in 2008. In December 1994, Mr. Lofton was presented the Award of Honor by the American Society of Health System Pharmacists in recognition of his many contributions to the pharmacy profession.

Mr. Lofton was raised in New York City, and graduated from Cardinal Spellman High School in the Bronx. He is married to Maude Brown Lofton, M.D., a child development pediatrician. They have two college age children, Kevin and Johanna.
Ms. Pamela S. Brier, President & CEO
Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, New York

Pamela S. Brier is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Maimonides Medical Center. She has been at Maimonides Medical Center since 1995, for eight years as Chief Operating Officer/Executive Vice President and since 2003, as the leader of this 700 bed major teaching hospital in Brooklyn.

Ms. Brier’s most important goal is to assure the highest standards of clinically excellent patient care that is also compassionate and patient focused. During her tenure at Maimonides, she has worked energetically to position the hospital as a major tertiary care center while remaining true to its community focus. By developing programs that meet the needs of patients who speak at least ten different languages on a daily basis, Maimonides has gained a reputation for its dedication to humane patient care centered on the richly diverse populations it serves.

Ms. Brier’s accomplishments at Maimonides Medical Center reflect her extensive experience as an active part of the healthcare scene in New York. Her career includes senior positions in the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation: as Director of Reimbursement Services, Vice President for Finance and Executive Vice President. She served as Chief Executive Officer of Jacobi Medical Center and Bellevue Hospital Center, two of the largest public hospitals in New York City.

Ms. Brier is widely known throughout the city for her commitment to public health policy and community service. She is an outspoken advocate for assuring humane patient care by taking good care of the many people who take care of patients. In 2003, Ms. Brier was appointed by Mayor M. Bloomberg to serve on New York City’s Board of Health and the City’s Workforce Investment Board. She also serves on the boards of other health care and community organizations.

Ms. Brier holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree with honors from the University of California at Berkeley and a Masters Degree in Health Administration Degree from the University of California at Los Angeles.
Dr. Cynthia Ann Telles
Board of Directors, Kaiser Permanente, Oakland, CA.
& Director of the Spanish Speaking Psychosocial Clinic
Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital at UCLA School of Medicine,
Los Angeles, California

Cynthia Ann Telles, Ph.D., has been a member of The California Endowment’s Board of Directors since April 2001, and was Board Chair from April 2004 through April 2006. She previously served as the Vice Chair of the Board from April 2002 until April 2004.

For the past two decades Dr. Telles has been Director of the Spanish-Speaking Psychosocial Clinic of the Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital at the UCLA School of Medicine, and since 1996, she has been an Associate Clinical Professor with the UCLA School of Medicine.

Dr. Telles has held several governmental and public service appointments that include Commissioner of the City of Los Angeles for 13 years. She was recently the Vice President of the Board of Library Commissioners, and previously Vice President of the City of Los Angeles Ethics Commission, past President of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women, and member of the Commission on Children, Youth and Their Families. Prior public service appointments include being a member of the National Advisory Council of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services), the Ad Hoc Advisory Group to the Presidential Taskforce on Health Care Reform Regarding Latinas and Latino Children. Most notably, Telles was the President and Founder of the Hispanic Health Foundation from 1988-1998.

Dr. Telles currently serves on the boards of the California Community Foundation, Kaiser Health Plan and Hospitals, The National Alliance for Hispanic Health, The Music Center, the Public Policy Institute of California, and the Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic. She is also a member of the Mental Health Task Force at The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Significantly, Dr. Telles served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Coalition of Hispanic Health and Human Service Organizations.

Throughout her career, Telles has published extensively in leading psychology and psychiatric journals and conducted numerous presentations on the issue of mental health. She also has received many commendations from organizations throughout the state, most recently, the “Women of Courage Award” from the City of Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women in Los Angeles, the YMCA “Silver Achievement Award,” a Certificate of Congressional Recognition for Outstanding Community Service from the U.S. Congress, a Certificate of Recognition in Business and Community Service from the California State Legislature, the “Women of Achievement Award” from “Women For…,” and a Commendation for Outstanding Contribution to the City of Los Angeles by the Office of the City Attorney.

Dr. Telles received her doctorate degree from the Clinical Psychology program at Boston University, and her undergraduate degree at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts.

THE SOUTH MANHATTAN HEALTHCARE NETWORK

Salutes

The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives &

The National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health

and the 2006 Honorees,

and congratulates

Ms. Pamela S. Brier
President and CEO of Maimonides Medical Center
for being named

Chamber Member of the Year.
Senator Robert Menendez
United States Senate (New Jersey)

Bob Menendez grew up the son of immigrants in a tenement building in Union City. A product of New Jersey’s public schools and a graduate of the state’s universities, he has served as a school board member, a mayor and a state legislator. Since 1992, he has been fighting for New Jersey families in Washington, where he rose to become the third-highest ranking Democrat in the House of Representatives before taking office in the Senate in 2006.

Bob first entered public service as a 19-year old college student when he launched a successful petition drive to reform his local school board. He learned then the importance of standing up for what’s right, no matter how powerful the opposition.

That same commitment led Bob to stand up to the powerful mayor of Union City when he saw him abusing his office for personal gain. He took on the mayor and testified against him in court, even though it meant wearing a bulletproof vest after receiving threats to his life. Bob stood up to the entire political establishment in his hometown, and led a coalition of reformers that cleaned up the city.

In Congress, he has fought to make health care more affordable for New Jersey’s families and to improve schools so they prepare our children for a successful future. Now he is fighting to make college more affordable for the next generation of leaders.

Bob believes we should honor our parents by making sure they can retire with dignity and has introduced legislation to make it easier for families to care for their aging loved ones. And he has led the fight to stop the privatization of Social Security.

After September 11, 2001, Bob earned national recognition for his leadership in reforming the country’s intelligence and public health systems and for fighting to establish an independent commission to investigate the terrorist attacks on our country. Today, he is working to improve the security of our bus, rail and public transit systems.

Elected by his colleagues in 2002 as the Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, Bob Menendez became the highest-ranking Hispanic in Congressional history. He previously served as the Vice Chairman of the Democratic Caucus and has led key Task Forces on Education and Homeland Security.

After being appointed by New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine, Bob was sworn in to the Senate on January 18, 2006. He serves on the Senate Committees on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Energy and Natural Resources; and Budget.

Bob was born in New York City on January 1, 1954. He received his B.A. from St. Peter’s College in Jersey City and his law degree from Rutgers University. He currently lives in Hoboken and has two children, Alicia and Robert.
Congressmember Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
U.S. House of Representatives (New Jersey)

Rodney P. Frelinghuysen is serving in his sixth term as the Representative for New Jersey’s 11th Congressional District. In the 109th Congress, Rep. Frelinghuysen serves as New Jersey’s senior member of the House Appropriations Committee and on two appropriations subcommittees: Energy & Water Development and Defense, of which he is the Vice-Chairman.

Frelinghuysen represents 56 municipalities in the 11th Congressional District, including all those in Morris County as well as several surrounding communities in Sussex, Somerset, Passaic, and Essex Counties.

Throughout his service in Congress, Frelinghuysen has been a leader and tireless fighter for the people of New Jersey. For his efforts, The New York Times called him “New Jersey’s ‘go-to-guy.’” He continues to focus on critical issues facing our state, including securing our homeland, expanding our mass transportation systems, preserving open space, creating jobs and supporting our veterans.

Frelinghuysen recognizes that there is no higher priority than ensuring our families, schools and places of business are safe. Especially since September 11, 2001, he has worked tirelessly to make the New Jersey/New York Metropolitan Area more secure. He has introduced the Smarter Funding for All of America’s Security Act, which strictly adheres to the 9/11 Commission’s recommendations for changing the federal homeland security funding formula to address critical infrastructure, population density and unique security risks in New Jersey and other high threat areas. He continues to fight for increased funding to protect our ports, trans-Hudson tunnels and bridges, as well as ensuring our first responders have the best possible equipment and training. Frelinghuysen has also introduced legislation to include New Jersey’s Task Force One - a team of very specialized, highly trained, well-equipped responders - as part of FEMA’s National Urban Search and Rescue system. Task Force One was the first team outside of New York City to respond to the events of the September 11 tragedy.

As New Jersey’s only member of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Frelinghuysen continues to fight for increases in America’s defense budget to ensure that our young men and women in uniform have the necessary resources to win the War on Terrorism. Frelinghuysen has made an official visit to Afghanistan to visit troops and to Qatar in the Persian Gulf to meet with General Tommy Franks, then Commander of United States Central Command about military operations and has traveled to Iraq to learn more about our mission through the lens of those New Jerseyans who are serving there. He is also well known for championing the important work being done at New Jersey’s vital military installations, especially Picatinny Arsenal in Rockaway Township, the U.S. Army’s premier research and development facility.

As a veteran himself, Frelinghuysen recognizes how important it is to care for those who risked their lives in the defense of our freedom. To honor our veterans, Frelinghuysen closely supports the mission of Lyons and East Orange VA Hospitals, two healthcare support centers serving many veterans in northern New Jersey, and continues to ensure our veterans received their promised benefits of greater health care, housing, employment and educational opportunities. To make access to VA health care more convenient for our local veterans, Frelinghuysen secured federal funding to open a VA outpatient clinic in Morris County and renovate a facility at the Lyons VA to support homeless veterans. He has also the author of The Veterans Comprehensive Hepatitis C Health Care Act, which would replace the VA’s patchwork approach to testing and treating all veterans for the Hepatitis C virus with a standardized, national policy.

The 11th Congressional District is located at the heart of the most densely populated state in the nation. Understanding that we must protect our remaining open space treasures, Frelinghuysen has been a pioneer in the fight to preserve New Jersey’s Highlands. In 2004, he championed the Highlands Conservation Act through Congress and President Bush signed this historic legislation into law. Along with having already preserved thousands of acres in the Highlands, Frelinghuysen continues to secure millions of dollars in federal funds for the expansion of the Morristown National Historical Park and the Great Swamp Wildlife Refuge, cleanups of toxic waste at Superfund sites, flood protection, wetlands purchases, and the preservation of our state’s 127 miles of...
shoreline. Frelinghuysen has also introduced the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area Act to recognize and preserve New Jersey’s existing American Revolutionary resources and historical attributes.

Frelinghuysen is well known at home and on Capitol Hill for his fiscally conservative views on government spending, taxes and the economy. His focus on helping our economy recover from the attacks of September 11 through greater tax relief and job creation has earned him the “Hero of the Taxpayer” Award from the Americans for Tax Reform as well as praise from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers and the National Federation of Independent Businesses. Frelinghuysen has cosponsored several pieces of legislation to cut taxes including the marriage penalty tax relief, extending the child tax credit and relief from the alternative minimum tax. He has also been commended by the Citizens Against Government Waste for his dedication to limiting government spending.

Recognizing that a more efficient transportation system is critical to a stronger economy, job creation and healthier environment, Frelinghuysen continues to secure critical federal funding for more mass transit opportunities for New Jersey commuters. His focus on reducing congestion on our roadways has led to work on such vital projects as the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail, the Newark-Elizabeth Rail Link, the Lackawanna Cutoff and the Route 22 Sustainable Corridor. For a stronger economy, his efforts have also included critical funding to continue modernizing New Jersey’s port facilities, keeping the New Jersey, New York ports and harbor safe and “open for business,” and the development of plans for a new trans-Hudson tunnel.

Expanding scientific education and research is one of Frelinghuysen’s long-term priorities. For his commitment to the advancement of science - especially in the classroom - Rutgers and Princeton Universities have presented Frelinghuysen with the “Science Coalition’s Champion of Science Award.” He has been a “consistent champion of scientific support in the appropriations process” to ensure that federal funding continues for university-based scientific, medical, engineering and agricultural research, basic science and science education. Additionally, Frelinghuysen has worked on behalf of the county colleges in his district as well as NJIT, FDU, Caldwell College, Drew University, and Centenary College. In 2004, Frelinghuysen received an honorary degree from Drew University for his commitment to higher education.

After graduating from Hobart College in 1969, Frelinghuysen served in the U.S. Army. Following basic training at Fort Dix, he served with the 93rd Engineer Battalion (Const.) in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam. After being honorably discharged in 1971, Frelinghuysen became Morris County’s State and Federal Aid Coordinator and Administrative Assistant. From 1974 to 1983, Frelinghuysen served three-terms as a member of the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders, where he was chosen to be its director in 1980.

Frelinghuysen served in the New Jersey General Assembly for eleven years, beginning with his election in 1983. As Chairman of the Assembly Appropriations Committee during the 1988-89 legislative session and from 1992 to 1994, Frelinghuysen created a record as one of the most fiscally conservative members of the Legislature.

In New Jersey, Frelinghuysen remains focused on his most important priority: constituent service. He holds regular town hall meetings, visits local public and private schools each week, attends hundreds of community events and personally responds to over 75,000 letters, emails, faxes and telephone calls each year.

Frelinghuysen also currently participates in numerous volunteer and charitable organizations. He is a member of the American Legion and a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. His Congressional outreach initiatives include his Youth Advisory Committee, Picatinny Advisory Council, and a Veterans Working Group.

He resides in Harding Township, New Jersey where he lives with his wife, Virginia, and their two daughters. He was born on April 29, 1946.
We Are Proud to Support
The Association of Hispanic Healthcare Executives &
The National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Health
On their 2006 Diversity Awards Gala

We salute tonight’s honorees and would like to pay special recognition to our partners
Ms. Pamela Brier, Maimonides Medical Center
and Mr. Miguel Fuentes, Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center
for their outstanding service to our members
Congratulations and Best Wishes

Senator Hannon is well respected, and highly regarded nationally as an expert in the health care industry. He serves in many capacities with the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) including the Task Force on Streamlining and Simplifying Insurance Regulation. The Senator is a former Chair of the NCSL Health Committee comprised of legislative representatives from each state. Additionally, the Senator is a member of the NCSL Health Forum where he represents New York in the national debate on health care and health care finance.

Active on many fronts within the state, Senator Hannon is recognized as the principal architect of the New York State Health Care Reform Act (HCRA), legislation which vastly improves all aspects of health care delivery and financing for all New Yorkers. The Senator created landmark legislation with the Patient Health Information and Quality Improvement Act, which extends patient’s access to information about healthcare providers, such as physicians and hospitals, ultimately improving patient care. A leader in health care legislation and a champion of reform, Senator Hannon is responsible for numerous laws recognizing the importance of preventative medicine, medical research and treatment of disease. He continues to be committed to supporting significant legislation in the areas of long term care, health insurance, women’s health issues, and organ donation.

Senator Hannon works tirelessly to promote and protect the public health of all New Yorkers. He continually supports legislation to ensure New York State is a healthier safer place for families to live with programs such as Child Health Plus (CHP), and Family Health Plus (FHP), and for seniors, the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program. These nationally recognized programs provide coverage and support for many people otherwise unable to afford medical care and prescription drugs, and all were developed, in part, under his leadership.

Recognizing the critical need for accountability through government, Senator Hannon helped to establish the Senate Medicaid Fraud Task Force. Serving since its inception, the Senator introduced and passed legislation to establish an independent office of Medicaid Inspector General to integrate, consolidate, and coordinate further investigation into Medicaid fraud and determine how the system can be improved. As co-chair of the Senate Medicaid Reform Task Force, he proposed the first comprehensive review of Medicaid and a substantial number of reform recommendations have been proposed and implemented as a result of this work. Today, the Task Force continues to examine, current State and Federal laws, and regulations relating to New York State’s Medicaid fraud detection process by convening public hearings across the State.

In addition to his accomplishments in health care, Senator Hannon has established key laws in the areas of technology, finance and tax reform. As a member of the Executive Committee of the New York State Task Force on Government Reform, the Senator is charged with reviewing all aspects of Senate rules and the legislative process. He continues to propose and implement reforms designed to strengthen the work of the Legislature.

Senator Hannon is the Chair of the Senate Health Committee. He represents the 6th Senator District, located in Nassau County on Long Island. The district covers the communities of Franklin Square, West Hempstead, Lakeview, Garden City South, Garden City, Hempstead, Uniondale, East Meadow, Salisbury, North Bellmore, Levittown, Island Trees, Bethpage, Old Bethpage, Plainview, Plainedge, Farmingdale, Seaford, North Massapequa and Massapequa Park.

Appointed in 1995, Senator Hannon serves as the Chair of the New York State Standing Committee on Health and is the Assistant Majority Whip, a leadership post in the Senate Conference. He is also the Chair of the Health Budget Subcommittee.

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In his capacity as chair of the Council for State Government standing committee on Suggested State Legislation, he works to identify, research and select exemplary state legislation on topics of major interest to states for use as model legislation. As a member of a national advisory panel on "Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities: The States as Catalyst for Change," a joint effort of the Heller School at Brandeis University and the Program to Eliminate Health Disparities at the Harvard School of Public Health, funded by the Commonwealth Fund, Senator Hannon continues to participate in the Reforming States effort sponsored by the Millbank Fund.

Upon entering the Senate, the Senator first served as Chairman of the Committee for Housing and Community Development. Senator Hannon served as an Assemblyman of the 17th District for thirteen years prior to his election to the New York State Senate in 1989. As an Assembly member, he was the Republican floor leader in the Assembly, serving as the Minority Leader Pro Tempore.

An alumnus of Chaminade High School, Boston College and Fordham Law School, Senator Hannon is Special Counsel to the law firm Farrell Fritz P.C. in Nassau County and is active in community and civic affairs. He resides in Garden City with his wife, Bronwyn, and their twin daughters, Alex and Maddie.

Standing Committee Assignments 2006: Health (Chair); Codes, Corporations, Authorities and Commissions; Elections; Finance; Judiciary; Rules.
Mr. Miguel Fuentes
President & Chief Executive Officer
Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center Health Care System, Bronx, New York

Miguel A. Fuentes, Jr. is President and Chief Executive Officer of Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center, an 858-bed, Albert Einstein College of Medicine affiliated health care system with 14 accredited residency and fellowship programs, 4,000 employees and a $600 million annual operating budget. Bronx-Lebanon consists of two major hospital divisions, Concourse and Fulton, a specialized nursing facility for AIDS and geriatrics patients, and an extensive BronxCare network of 70 outpatient medical practices.

Under Mr. Fuentes’ dynamic leadership, Bronx-Lebanon has emerged as a leader in health care. It is now the 4th largest provider of outpatient services in New York City, and also maintains the 2nd largest market share in the Bronx. Bronx-Lebanon continues to be a financially stable institution, especially significant in the current economic environment.

As President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Fuentes has achieved an outstanding record of accomplishments:

• Outpatient visits have grown dramatically to the current level of 898,000 annually as a direct result of the hospital’s BronxCare network. Bronx-Lebanon has truly become the “Doctor to The Community.”

• Inpatient discharges have increased from 25,566 in 2000 to 30,754 in 2005, a 20% increase. The hospital’s overall occupancy rate of 85.4% is more than 10% higher than the citywide hospital average, and its medical-surgical occupancy is at capacity (94%).

• An $8 million modernization has established Bronx-Lebanon’s Emergency Services as among the premier ERs in New York City, and among the largest in the nation. The ER has expanded to 14,000 sq. ft. in response to increased demand.

• A new and expanded Ophthalmology facility has been completed, providing one of the most comprehensive eye care services in the Bronx. Corneal transplant and other sight-saving surgeries are currently performed.

• Renal Dialysis services have been relocated to a new facility, almost doubling capacity to meet the heightened demand for these services. The number of treatments is projected to more than double, from 10,500 to 23,000.

• A Pharmacy Robot and state-of-the-art Management Information Network, including a physician order entry system, are now in place. Only 5% of hospitals in the nation use this advanced system.

• The most advanced diagnostic and treatment equipment are now available, including a Magnetic Resonance Imager (MRI), Linear Accelerator (LINAC), and Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT) machine.

As President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Fuentes has implemented innovative and results-oriented medical programs for the hospital and community.

• Bronx-Lebanon’s Women’s Health Center and birthing spa with whirlpool delivery suites, the only one of its kind in the Bronx, now offers a one-stop shopping approach, including high-risk pregnancy, family planning and a wide range of other essential services. Between 1997 and 2005, visits increased from 6,000 to 45,000.

• Bronx-Lebanon’s unique Child Study Center, the only one of its kind in the Bronx, is widely recognized as a leader in the treatment of behavioral problems, including attention deficit disorder.
• The hospital’s Mental Health program, among the most comprehensive in New York State, includes 164 inpatient beds and an extensive network of outpatient facilities, which accounts for more than 320,000 visits annually.

• A new Palliative Care consultation service is adding an important dimension in caring for chronic and terminally ill patients.

As President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Fuentes continues to be the driving force in Bronx-Lebanon’s growth through major expansion, modernization, and renovation projects:

• A $181 million “New Directions Rebuilding and Modernization Program” was completed on time and within budget, establishing Bronx-Lebanon as one of the premier hospitals in the Bronx and New York City.

• A $32 million Special Care Center, a unique 240-bed nursing facility for AIDS and geriatric patients, was completed. It continues to meet the long-term care needs of the community and remains financially stable.

• $38 million in capital construction projects were completed in the past 2 years, in a difficult budgetary climate.

• Plans are now moving forward to increased the hospital’s medical, surgical and psychiatric bed capacity to meet the major needs of the community.

As President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Fuentes has further reinforced and enhanced Bronx-Lebanon’s competitive edge:

• Full three-year accreditation from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) has been secured.

• Certification for the hospital’s 14 residency programs from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

• A Special Partnership Program with nursing homes, community physicians, and health related organizations has been established, effectively integrating them in the Bronx-Lebanon system.

As President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Fuentes has strategically positioned Bronx-Lebanon as an economic anchor and engine for positive change:

• Bronx-Lebanon’s “New Directions in Community Revitalization” initiative resulted in the completion of 16 homes and 84 condominium units for Bronx community residents and staff.

• An innovative 51 unit Low Income Housing project for senior citizens, located near the hospital’s Concourse Division is now under construction, with a completion date of June 2006.

Miguel A. Fuentes, Jr. is currently the only Hispanic Chief Executive Officer of a major voluntary teaching hospital in New York City. Mr. Fuentes earned a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from Bernard Baruch College (CUNY), Masters Degree in Public Health Administration from New York University, and Certification from Harvard University-Executive Program in Health Policy and Management. In June 1998, he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from Baruch.
Andrea Higham
Director of Corporate Equity and the Campaign for Nursing’s Future
Johnson & Johnson Global Marketing Group

Andrea Higham is Director of Corporate Equity and the Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing’s Future for Johnson & Johnson Global Marketing Group. She is responsible for the advertising, marketing, and communications initiatives relating to the Johnson & Johnson Trustmark, including television and print commercials that help enhance the Johnson & Johnson equity.

Ms. Higham is a key member of Corporate Equity Team where she helps write strategy and execute projects burnishing the “trustmark” of Johnson & Johnson. In November of 2006, Harris Research announced that for the seventh consecutive year, Johnson & Johnson is the most-trusted company in the United States.

In 2002, Ms. Higham helped create The Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing’s Future, a multi-year, $35 million public-awareness campaign designed to enhance the image of the nursing profession, recruit new nurses and nurse faculty, as well as help retain nurses currently in the profession. Campaign elements have included: a national television, print and interactive advertising campaign in English and Spanish celebrating nursing professionals and their contributions to health care; a very visible public relations component; recruitment materials including brochures, pins, posters and videos also in English and Spanish distributed free of charge to hospitals, high schools, nursing schools, and nursing organizations; fundraising for student scholarships, faculty fellowships, and grants to nursing schools to expand their program capacity; celebrations at regional nursing events to excite and empower the local nursing community; a website (www.discovernursing.com) about the benefits of a nursing career featuring searchable links to hundreds of nursing scholarships, and more than 1,000 accredited nursing educational programs; and activities to create and fund retention programs designed to improve the nursing work environment.

The Campaign she directs has now expanded to a few other countries, including Australia, UK and the Caribbean. The campaign has received numerous awards from many major health care, nursing trade and professional organizations – including the prestigious Ron Brown Award for Corporate Leadership from the White House in January of 2006.

She also has responsibility for the JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONSM series. Johnson & Johnson has long supported the creation of quality programming, and through the JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONSM series, the company has partnered with TNT to bring inspirational stories to the American viewing public. 14 HOURS is the sixth TNT Original to premiere under the JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONSM banner. The critically acclaimed, award-winning Door to Door, starring William H. Macy as a successful door-to-door salesman with cerebral palsy, was the first in the series, premiering on TNT in July 2002. It was followed by Miss Lettie and Me, starring Mary Tyler Moore and Burt Reynolds, in December 2002; Wilder Days, starring Peter Falk and Tim Daly, in October 2003; The Winning Season, with Matthew Modine and Kristin Davis, in April 2004; the critically acclaimed The Wool Cap with William H. Macy and Keke Palmer in November 2004; in April of 2005, 14 Hours with JoBeth Williams and Rick Schroder; and in November 2005, The Engagement Ring with Patricia Heaton and Lanie Kazan. Coming up next in the series will be, The Ron Clark Story starring Matthew Perry on August 13, 2006.

Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson Worldwide Advertising Group in April 1997, Ms. Higham worked for non-profit organizations in Washington, D.C., where her initial business focus was in finance and marketing.

Ms. Higham earned a Bachelor of Arts from Rollins College in 1991. In May 2004, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Jefferson College of Health Professions, Thomas Jefferson University. She is also a member of the national boards of the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research and the Nurse Family Partnership. She resides in Princeton, NJ.
Maria T. Villot, R.N., BSN, President-elect
National Association of Hispanic Nurses and
Manager, Women Veterans Program
Philadelphia VA Medical Center
Philadelphia, PA.

Terry Villot is the President-Elect of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN), a registered nurse and Women Veterans Program Manager at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center. She serves as the chair of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses Annual conference, Chair of the Women's Health Veterans Advisory board, member of the executive board for the Philadelphia Health Promotion Council, Timothy Academy, Diabetes Alliance, Employee Assistance program, Philadelphia VAMC Hospital Education committee, National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations and others. Her previous professional activities include working with The Philadelphia Consortium for Latino Health, and The Delaware Hepatitis C Foundation among others.

Ms Villot earned her Bachelors of Science Degree at the Catholic University of Ponce, Puerto Rico in 1982. She will be starting her Master Degree in business administration.
Ms. Juana I. Horton, President and CEO
Horton Interpreting Services, Inc.
Providence, Rhode Island and Chair, Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce of Rhode Island

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce movement in the Hispanic community began in 1979 when the first Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in the country was registered in the state of New Mexico. The founders later opened a chapter in Washington DC that later became the national umbrella for the Hispanic Chambers, the United Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. As part of that rich history, and in recognition of the growth of the Hispanic businesses in Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce was organized and duly incorporated in 2000.

There are over 3,400 Hispanic owned business in Rhode Island and the majority of these were formed from humble beginnings that operate daily with limited resources. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has established a solid foundation with a strong Board of Directors and a growing membership.

As Chair and co-founder of the Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce, and a small business owner, Ms. Horton learned first-hand the importance of understanding and encouraging member-to-member networking and professional development on the latest business management practices.

The chamber also gives voice to its members at the national level, not only through the US Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce, but also through direct programs linking our members directly with our US representatives in Washington.

The Chamber carries out its mission, both independently and in collaboration with partner organizations, by means of services, advocacy, research, and information sharing. A non-profit trade organization, we are managed by an active board of directors. Membership is open to every business, individual and institution interested in the Chamber’s economic and civic development goals.

The strategic role of the Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce in Rhode Island is to connect the dots between our member businesses at the statewide level, to provide strategic connections at the state and national level, and to advocate for the inclusion of this fastest-growing segment of the American population in the mainstream business environment.

Ms. Horton is the Chair and co-founder of the RI Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce. She currently serves on many Boards including the procurement council for the United States Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Boston, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI, Trinity Repertoire Theater, Providence Public Library, YMCA of Greater Providence, Center for Women and Enterprise and the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce among many.

She is also the CEO for Horton Interpreting Services, a full-service interpreting and translation agency, providing over 75 languages to healthcare, the courts and various agencies. In less than ten years, the company grew from a home-based business to become the number one agency in Rhode Island, with over 200 professional translators available 24 hours a day.

Ms. Horton’s awards include the prestigious Small Business Leader of the Year from the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, and Minority Small Business Person, Minority Small Business Advocate and Special Achievement awards from the SBA. She has been featured in many periodicals and magazines including “Small Business Magazine” and “Parade Magazine”. She was also featured in the May 2005 issue of “Rhode Island Monthly Magazine”.