



AVISO NEWSLETTER

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WWW.IAHSE.ORG

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Join us for our 36th annual conference, with this year's theme: Latine Representation in Government Matters. For more information & registration, [click here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of IAHSE is seeking volunteers for our 36th annual conference. The event will take place at the Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center on October 11, 2024. We need volunteers for the evening before the conference, the day of the conference, and the reception. As the Board is responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing the conference each year, in addition to other board duties, we deeply appreciate any volunteer work members are willing to provide. Volunteer coordination calls with select board members will be required for planning. If you are interested in helping, please contact us at IAHSE.Assoc@illinois.gov.

EVENTS

IAHSE will be participating in two 5K events to bring awareness to two major causes. We are inviting you to join us in these events! While donations for these events are appreciated, they are completely optional. If you choose to register and join us, please make sure that you join IAHSE's teams.

- **Out of the Darkness Community Walk for Mental Health - Saturday, September 14th.**
- **St. Jude Children's Research Hospital - Saturday, September 28th.**
- **IAHSE Conference Kick-Off & Hispanic Heritage Night:** Join us for an IAHSE members and family baseball game night on Friday, September 13. The game will be at Guaranteed Rate Field, Chicago White Sox VS Oakland Athletics. For more information, [click here](#).
- **The Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus Foundation** will be hosting their annual **Raíces Public Policy Conference** on September 19th, 2024, at the Rosemont Convention Center. For more information, [click here](#). Board Members of IAHSE will be present to represent and advocate on behalf of membership.
- Our **36th Annual Conference** will be October 11, 2024 at the Hilton Chicago/ Oak Brook Hills Resort & Conference Center. For registration, [click here](#).

BOARD UPDATES

For several years IAHSE has organized the agency Directors' meeting during Latino Unity Day. One of the recommendations from the IAHSE board to the state agencies was to increase the number of bilingual supervisors in state government. Supervisors play an important part in state government from addressing public concerns to advising and implementing government policy. One agency reviewed our recommendation.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) went back after the discussions and conversations with IASHE and created four new bilingual Spanish speaking Field Officer Supervisors. There are now two in the Pilsen Local Office, one in the Springfield Call Center and one in the Peoria Local Office.

Before creating and hiring these four Spanish speaking positions, IDES did the same with IAHSE and previous recommendation from the Hispanic Employment Plan Advisory Council, i.e., to create and hire bilingual auditors in our Revenue Division. To quote IDES "This exemplifies the power of partnership between IAHSE and State agencies. We truly appreciate your support and guidance as we navigate the best ways to create access for those in the communities we serve." The IASHE board members appreciate the effort put forth by the Illinois Department of Employment Security to acknowledge the need for more bilingual supervisors in state government.

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Members of the Board attended Governor's Day during the State Fair on Wednesday, August 14. Agency Directors and elected officials were present during the festivities. Board Members were advocating on IAHSE's mission and membership.



RECOGNITION

The board would like to recognize former IAHSE members that continue to be active in the community and make a difference. One such example is Carmen Rance, a former IAHSE board president, who has been serving the Humboldt Park community for over a decade at San Lucas Church of Christ. Carmen is dedicated to feeding the local homeless population and helping others with paperwork for LIHEAP and various assistance programs. She is currently working on a Latino cultural heritage initiative called the Tiple Project. If you're interested in learning more, please contact San Lucas at 773.227.5747.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

On June 25, 2024 Governor Pritzker signed Senate Bill 1 creating a new cabinet-level state agency dedicated to early childhood education and development.

Senate Bill 1, now Public Act 103-0594, states: “It is the purpose of this Act to provide for the creation of the Department of Early Childhood and to transfer to it certain rights, powers, duties, and functions currently exercised by various agencies of State Government. The Department of Early Childhood shall be the lead State agency for administering and providing early childhood education and care programs and services to children and families. This Act centralizes home-visiting services, early intervention services, preschool services, child care services, licensing for day care centers, day care homes, and group day care homes, and other early childhood education and care programs and administrative functions historically managed by the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Department of Human Services, and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Centralizing early childhood functions into a single State agency is intended to simplify the process for parents and caregivers to identify and enroll children in early childhood services, to create new, equity-driven statewide systems, to streamline administrative functions for providers, and to improve kindergarten readiness for children.”

Furthermore, Section 80-5(b) of the Act states: “(b) Personnel employed by the Department of Human Services or the Department of Children and Family Services who are engaged in the performance of functions transferred to the Department or who are engaged in the administration of a law the administration of which is transferred to the Department shall be transferred to the Department of Early Childhood. The status and rights of the employees and the State of Illinois or its transferring agencies under the Personnel Code, the Illinois Public Labor Relations Act, and applicable collective bargaining agreements, or under any pension, retirement, or annuity plan, shall not be affected by this Act.

On August 2, 2024 Governor JB Pritzker signed SB376, the Language Equity and Access Act, into law. The bill requires the Governor’s Office of New Americans (ONA), in partnership with the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), to craft, implement and oversee statewide language access requirements. The legislation seeks to ensure that language proficiency is not a barrier for Illinoisans seeking to access state agency resources. The legislation requires ONA and IDHS to prepare a Language Needs Assessment Report to be updated every 10 years in order to assist State agencies in the creation of language access plans for state resources. The ONA will also provide oversight and central coordination to State agencies in the implementation of language access requirements and ensure that each State agency develops an internal complaint and review process specific to the provision of language assistance services in addressing complaints in a timely manner. The Act, which is effective immediately upon signing, also includes a requirement of an annual compliance report to the Governor’s Office and the Illinois General Assembly.

CONOCE A TU IAHSE COMPAÑERO@

We will be featuring IAHSE members in our monthly newsletter highlighting our diverse and talented Latino/a/e/x membership. This month's edition, we will be featuring our member Edgar Revuelta. **If you wish to be highlighted or nominate another IAHSE member, please email us at IAHSE.Assoc@illinois.gov.**

Name: Edgar Revuelta

Current State Agency & Title: Illinois Department of Employment Security, Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker and Foreign Labor Certification Program Manager

What city are you based in? Springfield

How long have you worked for the State of Illinois? 9 years



What interested you in working for the State of Illinois & the current agency you are working for?

As a first-generation immigrant, what drew me to working for the State of Illinois was the chance to give back to the community that welcomed and supported me upon my arrival in this country. I saw working within state government as an opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of others who, like me, may encounter similar challenges and opportunities. The prospect of working in departments focused on human services, healthcare, and employment deeply resonated with my commitment to enhancing the well-being and rights of vulnerable populations across Illinois. In my current role at the Illinois Department of Employment Security, I've been fortunate enough to be in a position to advocate for the migrant and seasonal farmworker community by increasing awareness of available services and resources while safeguarding their labor rights.

What are your hobbies? I enjoy cooking, reading sci-fi and graphic novels, and spending time with my wife, Michelle, and our three dogs: Mason, Wesley, and Belle.

Fun fact about you? My wife loves coffee, especially espresso! So, I just recently learned how to make latte art. It's a lot harder than it looks!

Any achievements that you wish to share? Professional and/or personal?

I consider myself fortunate to work alongside a dedicated team at IDES that truly understands the needs of both foreign and domestic migrant and seasonal farmworkers. This collaboration has allowed me to improve their working and living conditions across Illinois, ensuring that this vulnerable population feels safe and protected while they contribute to providing the food we all rely on.

Anything else you wish to share with your IAHSE colleagues? Always remember that public service is not just about what we do for others, but how we uplift the dignity and well-being of our communities through every action and decision we make.

If you wish to be highlighted or nominate another IAHSE member, please email us at IAHSE.Assoc@illinois.gov.



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