

Aviso Newsletter

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April 2026

[Latino Unity Day 2026](#)

Latinx In State Government Panel - May 5, 2026 1p

One of the key areas of focus along with increasing Latinx front line as well as bilingual staffing is expanding Latinx representation in government leadership roles. Joining the panel will be Executive Officers from IL Dept of Human Services and IL Department. of Financial and Professional Regulation.

The Hispanic Employment Plan Advisory Council plays a crucial role in these advocacy efforts. The council is dedicated to developing and implementing strategies to increase Hispanic employment in state government. These strategies include outreach programs, recruitment initiatives, and support systems aimed at fostering an inclusive work environment.

Panelist

Diane Casas, President IAHSE

Carlos R. Charneco, Chair Hispanic Employment Plan Advisory Council

Dulce Quintero, Secretary IL Dept. Of Human Services

Mario Treto JR. Secretary IL Depart. of Financial and Professional Regulation

Recuerdos:

- When transferring into a new state agency, members must resubmit a new IAHSE membership form to continue their membership. Payroll deductions do not transfer with members. Please keep this in mind when moving to another state agency & resubmit a new [IAHSE membership form](#).
 - Are you a recent retiree? Congratulations on your retirement and thank you for your service to the State! Please resubmit an updated membership form with your updated preferred method of deductions to continue being a member. Deductions can be removed from your pension check or you may submit an annual amount to IAHSE. Please see the [membership form](#) for more information or e-mail us IAHSE.Assoc@illinois.gov.
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Latino Unity Day - May 5-6 - Springfield

Latino Unity Day celebrates a remarkable 16-year journey of advocacy, empowerment, and unity within the Latino community.

<https://latinopolicyforum.org/event/latino-unity-day-2026/>

IAHSE - 38th Annual Job Fair & Conference - October 2 - Northbrook

Legislative Updates

Please join us for an engaging and thought-provoking evening at the historic Brinkerhoff Mansion on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 5:00 PM.

This plática in partnership with IAHSE will focus on Advancing Workforce Policies that Strengthen the State of Illinois. The program will feature a brief panel discussion between IAHSE (Board Member, Carlos Charneco) and ILLCF (Sen. Celina Villanueva, Rep. Dagmara Avelar, and Sen. Graciela Guzman), covering topics such as:

- *Bilingual Pay & Language Access Policies*
- *Workforce Representation Across Agencies & Leadership Levels*
- *Civil Service Structures & Their Impact on Workforce Mobility*
- *Workplace Policies Shaping Employee Experience & Growth*
- *Legislative Priorities Impacting the State Workforce*

Following the discussion, guests will have the opportunity to connect with peers while enjoying tapas and refreshments. We hope you can join us for this meaningful conversation and networking opportunity. You all should have a calendar invitation, but please RSVP.

Conozca a tu IAHSSE Compañero(a)

Grecia Tures, Board Member

Current State Agency & Title:

Workforce Coordinator at the Illinois Department of Public Health.

City Based In: Chicago

How long have you worked for the State of Illinois?

I have worked for the State of Illinois for nine and a half years.

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

After the 2016 elections, I wanted to become more involved in government. The opportunity arose to join the Illinois Office of Comptroller and I made the difficult decision to leave my Americorps position with the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights. My current position caught my attention because it focused on workforce development, which I was interested in pursuing more. I wanted to refine my strategic management and data analytics skills and this seemed like a good fit for me.

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy reading and going thrift store shopping.

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

I don't know how to ride a bike.

I've received a Congressional and Presidential Service Award. I've been appointed to a taskforce for my local township. I've led campaigns and trained volunteers. I'm proud of all these achievements. However, something that's brought me profound pride was when my kiddos declared that I make them feel safe and loved. I'm very proud of that.

Anything else you wish to share with your IAHSSE colleagues?

I am always happy to connect! If you find me on LinkedIn and/or in person, say hi!



We will be featuring IAHSSE members in our monthly newsletter highlighting our diverse and talented Latino/a/e/x membership. If you wish to be highlighted or nominate another IAHSSE member, please email us at IAHSE.Assoc@illinois.gov.

Join IAHSSE! Scan QR code or click on the link below:
iahse.org/joiniahse

