



## **National Hispanic Leadership Agenda**

November 9, 2017

Mr. Gara LaMarche Democracy Alliance P.O. Box 18607 Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. LaMarche:

On behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA), a coalition of the nation's preeminent Latino advocacy and constituency organizations, we write to express deep dismay about the virtual absence of investment in the Latino community by the Democracy Alliance. NHLA notes with great concern that once again the Democracy Alliance has excluded Latino led organizations at the forefront of electoral change within the Latino community from its list of organizations recommended for support by its members.

Following the underfunding of Latino organizations during the 2016 election cycle, particularly those that are dedicated to engaging our community in civic participation, it is of utmost importance in seeking to achieve a more robust civil society, that efforts include those organizations dedicated to and expert in bringing Latinos into our democracy.

It is time to make a serious investment in the Latino community and to collaborate strategically to ensure that Latino organizations have the resources necessary to further engage our community members, allied organizations, members of Congress and the federal government. We are seeking to open a meaningful, actionable dialogue to establish a fresh start, grounded in an accurate understanding of the Latino community and its place in politics. We strongly urge you to consider the importance of providing convening opportunities and resources for Latino organizations long active in civic engagement. As members of NHLA's Civic Engagement Committee, we welcome the opportunity to sit with you to further discuss. You may reach Hector Sanchez Barba, Chair of NHLA, via email at hsanchez@lclaa.org or phone at 202.508.6918.

Sincerely,

Hector E. Sanchez Barba Chair, NHLA

Executive Director, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)

Thomas A. Saenz Vice Chair, NHLA

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President and General Counsel

**MALDEF** 

Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network
Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute
Farmworker Justice
Green Latinos
Hispanic Association of
Colleges & Universities
Hispanic Federation
Hispanic National Bar
Association

American G.I. Forum ASPIRA Association Avance Inc.

Inter-University Program for Latino Research Labor Council for Latin American Advancement LatinoJustice PRLDEF League of United Latin American Citizens MANA, A National Latina

Organization
Mexican American Legal

Defense and Educational Fund
Mi Familia Vota

National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures

National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives

National Association of Hispanic Publications National Day Laborer Organizing Network NALEO Educational Fund National Association of Latino Independent Producers

National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc. National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators

National Hispanic Council on Aging

National Hispanic Environmental Council National Hispanic Foundation for the Arts

> National Hispanic Media Coalition

National Hispanic Medical Association

National Institute for Latino
Policy

National Latina/o Psychological Association

National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health Presente.org

SER Jobs for Progress National Southwest Voter Registration Education Project UnidosUS

United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce United States Hispanic Leadership Institute

United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce

U.S.- Mexico Foundation

Voto Latino

Brent Wilkes

Brent Wilkes Treasurer, NHLA CEO of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Manateresakerman

Maria Teresa Kumar Co-Chair, NHLA's Civic Engagement Committee President and CEO of Voto Latino

Ben Monterroso Co-Chair, NHLA's Civic Engagement Committee Executive Director, Mi Familia Vota Janet Murguía President and CEO UnidosUS

Janet Murquia

Arturo Vargas Executive Director NALEO Educational Fund