

## MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

HOAC membership consists of no more than 20 voting members, and an unlimited number of general members who are non-voting but may serve on subcommittees and be active in helping HOAC achieve its mission. At the time they are nominated and appointed to HOAC, voting members must be:

- Active Duty Commissioned Corps (CC) Officers who meet Office of Force Readiness Deployment (OFRD) basic readiness standards; or
- Full-time Civil Servants within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); and
- Interested in Hispanic issues to further the HOAC mission

## NOMINATION PROCESS

Annually, HOAC will solicit nominations for voting members among Commissioned Corps officers and civil service personnel. A membership application and current CV are required. Inclusion of a narrative describing one's interest in helping to achieve the HOAC mission is recommended. Please visit the HOAC website to download an application or for more information.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

We invite you to partner with us to fulfill the HOAC mission and further expand our legacy. The expertise, training, experience, and dedication each officer brings to HOAC are highly valued and utilized to support our projects and activities.

Opportunities exist to network across professional disciplines, mentor and support career development, create programs to educate others about public health issues affecting the Hispanic community, and build professional bonds, camaraderie and esprit de corps.

Your investment as a HOAC member provides long-term benefit to the Hispanic community and furthering the mission of the USPHS.

To learn more about HOAC and apply for membership, please visit:

[www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/HOAC/](http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/HOAC/)



Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee  
(HOAC)



<http://www.usphs.gov/corpslinks/HOAC/>

## **HISTORY**

The United States Public Health Service (USPHS) Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC) was formed in 1989 and became fully operational in 1990 when the Surgeon General approved its charter. HOAC is administered under the Office of Surgeon General (OSG) and serves as one of the four Chartered Minority Advisory Groups (CMAG) within the Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC), which provides information, advice, and consultation to the OSG on issues affecting minority officers.

Hispanics have made lasting contributions to the mission of the USPHS. Dr. Juan Guit eras (1852-1925) collaborated with Dr. Juan Carlos Finlay (1833-1915), discoverer of the aedes mosquito, disease vector, to eradicate yellow fever. Dr. Antonia Novello was the first woman and first Hispanic appointed to serve as Surgeon General from 1990-1993. She convened a workshop leading to the emergence of a Latino/Hispanic Health Initiative. Dr. Richard Carmona who served as Surgeon General from 2002-2006 laid the foundation for the current Transformation of the Corps. Today Hispanic Officers in the Commissioned Corps continue to add their contributions to our living history.

## **GROWING FORCE**

According to the US Census Bureau, the Hispanic community is the largest and fastest growing minority group in the United States. Latinos accounted for 12.5 percent of the total US population in 2000. As a clear Growing Force, Latinos are projected to account for 16 percent of the US population in 2010 and for over 30 percent by 2050. The Commissioned Corps derives its strength from the diversity of its officers. Diversity infuses the USPHS with varied perspectives and creative approaches critical to the development of new solutions to tackle global public health challenges. Every officer has an opportunity to make a unique contribution to the USPHS mission. HOAC offers a forum in which officers can impact the USPHS and Hispanic health.

## **MISSION**

The HOAC promotes professional development of and advocates for the recognition of contributions made by Hispanic officers in the USPHS.



## **OBJECTIVES**

The HOAC serves in a resource and advisory capacity to assist in the development, coordination, and evaluation of activities related to Hispanic officers in all categories with these specific objectives:

1. Advocate and promote the professional development and career advancement of Hispanic Officers.
2. Coordinate and facilitate communication among Hispanic Officers, the MOLC, other CMAGs, Chief Professional Officers (CPOs) Professional Advisory Committees (PACs), agencies, and Operational Divisions (OPDIVs) to which officers are assigned.
3. Identify and facilitate resolution of issues of concern to Hispanic Officers and provide consultation and advice to the OSG through MOLC.
4. Support the mission of the USPHS through recruitment and promotion of Hispanic officers in leadership and management positions.