

# SUMMARY OF RESPONSES FROM LEADERS IN HISPANIC MINISTRY

Part of Hispanic Ministry Survey Project

Compiled for *Equipo Diocesano* – Diocesan Board on Hispanic Ministry

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**1) Describe your strengths and successes in ministry with the Hispanic community.**

- New Evangelization and Formation
  - 2 Knights of Columbus Councils in Spanish provide leadership formation and financial knowledge.
  - St. Mark: mission retreats, marriage encounter, reunions of perseverance. Spiritual enrichment classes.
- New Evangelization and Missionary Option
  - Establishment of bilingual youth group at St. Sabina, brings communities together
  - Establishment of 2 Knights of Columbus councils in Spanish, providing support to families.
  - Sacred Heart-Guadalupe: Prison Ministry, Marriage group.
  - St. Mark: Care ministers
  - Annual Congreso Carismático: Los Del Camino de Emaús
  - St. Anthony: establishment of a youth group
- New Evangelization and Pastoral de Conjunto
  - Sharing leadership roles with Latinos in the Parish helps them feel ownership and to collaborate especially for big events.
  - Relate with the immigrant reality of the Latino community.
  - Some parishes have good websites and face book pages.
  - *Cursillo* in Spanish active at SHG and St. Mark.
  - Our Lady of the Presentation: Fiesta Hispana
  - Integrating communities at St. Sabina: RCIA is held in conjunction with RICA.
  - St. Sabina has a 3-year formation program in Spanish: 1<sup>st</sup> year RICA, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Talleres de Oracion y Vida, 3<sup>rd</sup> year Comunidades de base.
  - St. Mark: committed Hispanic Ministry Council.
- New Evangelization and Liturgy and Prayer
  - Most importantly, the Holy Mass
  - Eucharistic devotion in prison ministry
  - Sacred Heart-Guadalupe: Music ministry, Matachines
  - St. Sabina: Romero events.
  - Celebrations of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Posadas
  - St. Mark: very committed choir, sacrament preparations.
  - Knights of Columbus of Holy Cross: annual mass and hour of adoration for knights.
  - St. Anthony: Confirmation preparation has improved.

**2) Describe your *weaknesses or areas for improvement* in ministry with the Hispanic community.**

- New Evangelization and Formation
  - The Office of Hispanic Ministry organizes opportunities to exchange resources, education and parish experiences.
- New Evangelization and Missionary Option
  - Last year the Offices of Human Rights and Hispanic Ministry have been more involved in Jail ministry.
  - Catholic Radio in Spanish 1190AM (now only via Internet.)
- New Evangelization and *Pastoral de Conjunto*
  - The fact that there is an Office of Hispanic Ministry that it is trying to grow.
  - The Office organizes the parishes to shares plans.
  - Miguel does a wonderful job with the Hispanic Ministry and community, A special angel to this community that needs so much from our Catholic Church.
  - I see much interest, goodwill, dedication and talent throughout the Diocese.
  - It is good that we have several Spanish-speaking priests.
  - The community is growing and is being welcomed in the Church.
  - Having our Bishop being so supportive helps.
  - Miguel has done good work in offering Diocesan-wide events to gather the Hispanic Ministry into one body like the Encuentro Dicoesano.
  - The *Encuentro Diocesano* Feb 2017 was better in giving a time of renewal and prayer to those that are active in Hispanic Ministry.
  - The fact that we have an annual *Encuentro Diocesano* for all of the Parishes.
  - The support to movements and groups like the Charismatic Renewal in Spanish.
  - It is good that Hispanic Ministry is an office of its own now, and not a branch of another office.
- New Evangelization and Liturgy and Prayer
  - The Latino community attends mass by the thousands.
  - Large participation in mass and sacraments by children and families with young people.
  - Beautifully rich cultural celebrations, traditions, and popular religiosity.

### 3) What are your plans or goals for your ministry with the Hispanic community?

- New Evangelization and Formation
  - Identify and develop leaders.
  - Continue formation plan at St. Sabina: beginning with RCIA, then “*Talleres de Oracion y Vida*”, then to “*Pequeñas Comunidades Crisitanas*”. [3-yr process]
  - Develop a pastoral plan for formation in Catholic Doctrine for Los Del Camino de Emaús.
  - Create a lay formation program with the Office of Hispanic Ministry.
- New Evangelization and Missionary Option
  - Increase Knights of Columbus exposure with parishes.
  - Strengthen existing councils with the help of establishing Columbian squires groups and mentoring programs.
  - Grow prison ministry.
  - Grow missions group at St. Marks.
  - Develop more apostolates in the Parish.
- New Evangelization and *Pastoral de Conjunto*
  - Organize plans and points of contact and communication.
  - Listen to the people and their needs.
  - Continue to unite English and Spanish speaking groups in the Parish: build bridges, not divide it.
  - Promote participation of parishioners.
  - Work together with all the pastoral ministry groups and as a team with the pastor.
  - I hope for the parish to be a place where people feel at home.
  - For the community to grow stronger, and strengthen parish identify.
- New Evangelization and Liturgy and Prayer
  - Continue to promote devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. He is alive!
  - Grow ministries of Matachines, bible study, rosary group at St. Mark’s.
  - Renewal of the ministry of EMHC at least once per year.

#### 4) What do you see as strengths and successes in the Diocese with Hispanic Ministry?

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  - The Latino community attends mass by the thousands.
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## 5) What do you see are weaknesses or areas for improvement in the Diocese with Hispanic Ministry?

- New Evangelization and Formation
  - Lack of pastoral formation for the laity in Spanish.
  - Lack of pastoral institute in English let alone in Spanish!
- New Evangelization and Missionary Option
  - We need more exposure in the area of youth, for example a sports (soccer) team. And youth activities needed.
  - We need more help with Immigration concerns.
  - We need more counseling for those that speak Spanish at free or low cost.
  - We more resources and help for parishioners dealing with immigration issues.
  - Financial contributions to the Parishes.
  - The frustration of many pastors is “you are on your own” in designing programs and responses especially to immigration.
  - Lack of direction from Diocese on Immigration.
- New Evangelization and *Pastoral de Conjunto*
  - The ministry requires more full time staff and exposure.
  - Us Latinos need to learn how to give back (exposure).
  - Lack of coordination among different parishes and disconnected from Diocesan Office.
  - We need more young priests open to Hispanic Ministry.
  - We need a bigger Diocesan team and more resources. It is the Future of our Church in the USA.
  - We need a Pastoral Plan for all the Parishes of the Diocese.
  - More involvement with other clerics and hear their feedback.
  - We need more outreach to the Mexican Americans, Chicanos, there is a division, especially with our Youth.
  - Better communication. An assistant for Miguel.
  - Lack of a Pastoral Plan.
  - Pastoral Plan (there isn't one!)
  - We don't have a Pastoral Plan.
  - Not enough support and help from the office of Hispanic Ministry.
- New Evangelization and Liturgy and Prayer
  - The Latino community attends mass by the thousands.
  - Large participation in mass and sacraments by children and families with young people.
  - Help promote Religious Education: it is something I want the Dicoese to take more interest in supporting.
  - I feel alone in insisting on support for convalidations and increased reception of communion at Mass. We need a Diocesan-wide effort to correct these issues.

## 6) What are your expectations of goals for the Diocese with Hispanic Ministry?

- New Evangelization and Formation
  - Develop pastoral formation program for the laity in Spanish.
  - Orientation for parish coordinators of Hispanic Ministry
  - Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers (BICM) training for all.
  - Look into possibilities for collaboration with local Catholic colleges in formation of leaders in Spanish.
- New Evangelization and Missionary Option
  - Involved more priests in Jail/prison ministry. Raise awareness of the need.
  - I want the Diocese to be a resource for Hispanic Ministry: for example, if we have a parishioner w/o documents that needs surgery or chemotherapy, I would like to be able to call the Diocese to see if they know of any place that could help with resources, etc.
  - Use the Catholic Radio to reach out to youth.
  - To have local live Catholic Radio and EWTN programming in Spanish.
  - To have the radio localized with the participation of the Parishes.
  - Open Spanish-language services in Catholic Charities.
- New Evangelization and *Pastoral de Conjunto*
  - Better organization of Diocesan-wide ministry.
  - Stronger engagement of younger clergy.
  - Organize-communicate-construct the resources, personnel and material for the next 23 years
  - Keep growing in awareness of what Hispanic Ministry needs to be to the different parishes around the Diocese.
  - Continue support to the parishes so we can grow in faith.
  - Strengthening Hispanic Ministry in other parishes like St. Regis, which had a mass on Dec 12th.
  - To make a Pastoral plan for the Diocese and Hispanic Ministry.
  - For the Hispanic Ministry Office to have its own resources and minister to help the community to grow in faith and formation.
  - Keep promoting Hispanic Ministry as a part of Diocesan-wide events and ministry.
  - Strengthening relationships with Latin American Sister-Parish Movement here in the Diocese.
  - Celebrate the good that is brought to the community by the Latinos.
  - Strengthen unity among Parishes and banish jealousy and competition.
- New Evangelization and Liturgy and Prayer
  - Every Diocesan event and liturgy should be bilingual and culturally authentic (ex: a reading in Spanish, song in Spanish, etc.)
  - Get a choir from a Hispanic ministry parish and invite them to share a song or two that they know and commonly sing for Diocesan-wide events, instead of choosing a song that just has one Spanish verse and nobody knows.
  - Develop list of approved Spanish-language materials and curriculums for leadership trainings of Sacramental prep.