

2023

Symposium
Outcomes
Report

Greetings,

The seventh iteration of the MOLA Latino Health Symposium was a success! not only in record numbers of attendees, sessions, and poster presentations, but also in the widening reach, quality, and impact of our work. This is evidenced by the participation of posters from the Wisconsin MOLA chapter, as well as from Latino/a/e/x, Hispanic (hereafter LHS+) researchers from all over the country and even Córdoba, Argentina. A pivotal development emerging from this symposium is the establishment of strategic partnerships, notably with the National Association of Medical Spanish (NAMS), an interdisciplinary group of language and medical professionals working together to achieve health equity by Improving clinician's communication in Spanish. NAMS' mission aligns seamlessly with our mission to enhance healthier communication and improve health equity, patient safety, and the quality of care for Spanish-speaking patients. This partnership not only broadens the reach of our initiatives but also solidifies our commitment to fostering linguistic and cultural competency within the medical community.

Our national impact continues to expand with the Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA), an association that exists to unite and empower current and future LHS+ physicians through mentorship and education. The symposium's impact extends far beyond the confines of a single event, promising a lasting legacy of collaboration, knowledge exchange, and advancements in LHS+ healthcare initiatives. Through this comprehensive report, we invite you to delve into the intricacies of our achievements, recognize the challenges addressed, and chart a collective course toward a more equitable and inclusive future for the LHS+ community.

Cordial Saludo,

President
Óscar Iván Zambrano MBA, MPH, CDM
Medical Organization for Latino Advancement MOLA

Report

VII MOLA LATIN **2023**
HEALTH SYMPOSIUM
IV MEDICAL SPANISH SUMMIT

**Outcomes
Report
2023**

Latino Health Symposium Learning Objectives:

- **Identify** issues and barriers experienced by our Latinx community that lead to gaps in both health equity and the overall healthcare experience.
- **Propose** strategies in healthcare practice that pursue equity through innovations in medicine and education for health professionals.
- **Utilize** the unique skills, experiences, and assets of Latinx communities, such as multilingualism, cultural diversity, protective health behaviors, and connectedness, to overcome structural barriers and improve Latinx health outcomes, effectively bridging the gap.
- **Apply** strategies to increase the representation of Latinx individuals in healthcare, research, and education careers through connections and collaboration that improve health outcomes for the Latinx population.

Medical Spanish Summit Learning Objectives

- Integrate mental health and social justice into medical Spanish education.
- Enhance medical Spanish through interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Identify future directions in medical Spanish education.

Participation:

652 Registered attendees

- **30%** Medical Students
- **21%** Practicing Physicians
- **20%** Faculty & Educators
- **11%** Researchers
- **10%** Undergraduate & Graduate Students
- **8%** Clinical Professionals (non-physician)
- **Other < 1%**
 - 49 Moderators and Volunteers
 - 25 Speakers
 - 12 oral presentations

Latino Health Symposium Tracks

- **Cancer:** Towards Health Equity: Cancer Outreach Strategies for Latinx and Hispanic Communities.
- **LGBTQ+:** Communicating effectively and safely in LGBTQ Health.
- **Immigrant Health and Wellness:** Furthering Health Equity.
- **Communicating in the Media.**

Medical Spanish Tracks

- **Understanding Language Access & interpreting Experiences.**
- **Connecting curriculum to research and culture.**
- **Improving Curriculum & assessment.**

65

Poster Presentations Themes

-
- Education MOLA (9), NAMS (5)
 - Medical Spanish (7)
 - Public Health: MOLA (19), NAMS (4)

- Clinical, Basic, or Translational Research (13)
- Systematic Review/ scoping/ narrative review MOLA(4), NAMS (1)
- Case Report MOLA (2), NAMS(1)

Pilar Ortega MD Scholarship Recipient

In recognition of his passionate leadership, intellectual curiosity, and for being an agent of change to make an impact in the community, Devin Barzallo, a Medical Student was awarded the 2023 Pilar Ortega MD Scholarship.

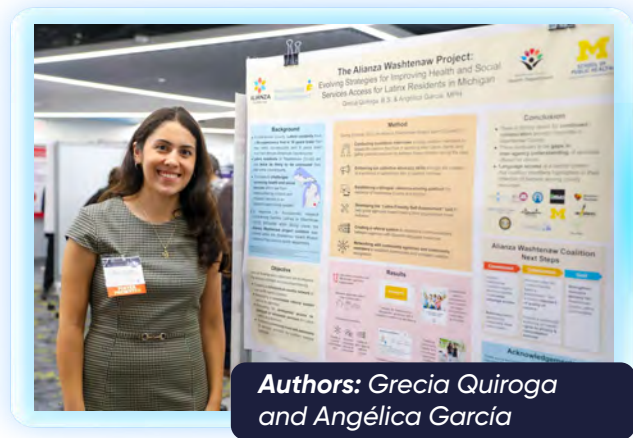


MOLA Poster Presentation Awards

First Place

Project Title: *The Alianza Washtenaw Project – Evolving Strategies for Improving Health and Social Services Access for Latinx Residents in Michigan.*

Institutional Affiliation: *University of Michigan Medical School.*



Authors: *Grecia Quiroga and Angélica García*

Second Place

Project Title: *Exploring Barriers and Challenges Faced by Latinx International Medical Graduates in Academic Career Development and Research in the US: A Comprehensive Survey.*

Institutional Affiliation: *Universidad Espíritu Santo, Samborondon, Ecuador. Division of GI/Hepatology, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana. Indiana University Health.*

West Lafayette, Indiana. Department of Health Sciences. Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja (UTPL), Loja, Ecuador. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland. School of Medicine, Universidad Católica Santiago de Guayaquil, Av. Pdte. Carlos Julio Arosemena Tola, Guayaquil.



Authors: *María F. Osorio, MD; Janeth Cristina Castaño Jiménez, MHA, MD; Josselyn Velepucha-Iñiguez, MD; Bernardo Donery López Samayoa, MD; Evelyn Frías-Toral, MD, MSECR, MHA.*

Third Place

Authors: *Lisa Aponte-Soto, PhD, MHA, Pamela Vergara-Rodriguez, MD, Geraldine Luna, MD, Maite Zapata-Ortiz, MPH, Marina Del Rios, MD, Melissa Simon, MD, Aida Giachello, PhD.*

Project Title: *Illinois Unidos: Commitment of Community Health Workers during COVID-19.*

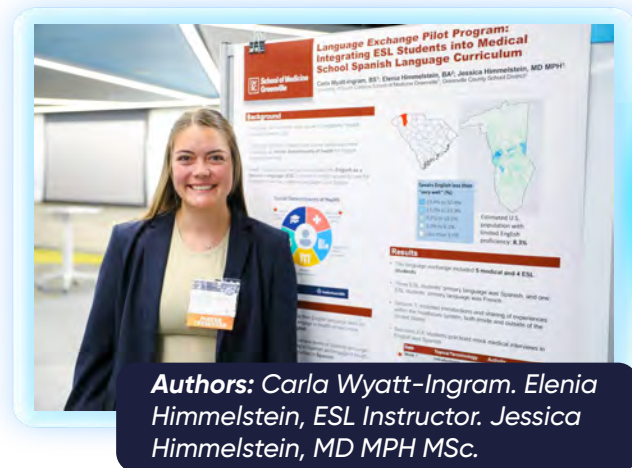
Institutional Affiliation: *DePaul University.*

NAMS Poster Presentation Awards

First Place

Project Title: *Language Exchange Pilot Program: Integrating ESL Students into Medical School Spanish Language Curriculum.*

Institutional Affiliation: *University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville.*



Second Place

Authors: *Alejandra Patino, Carmen Rauh, Leonor Corsino, MD, Liza Genao, MD.*

Project Title: *Medical Students as Standardized patients: A Case for Improving Empathy in the Delivery of Bad News in Spanish.*

Institutional Affiliation: *Duke University.*

Third Place

Project Title: *Characterizing Healthcare Workers Ad-hoc Interpreter Usage and Barriers to Professional Interpreters for Hospitalized Limited English Proficiency Patients.*

Institutional Affiliation: *McGovern Medical School; UTHealth Houston School of Public Health.*



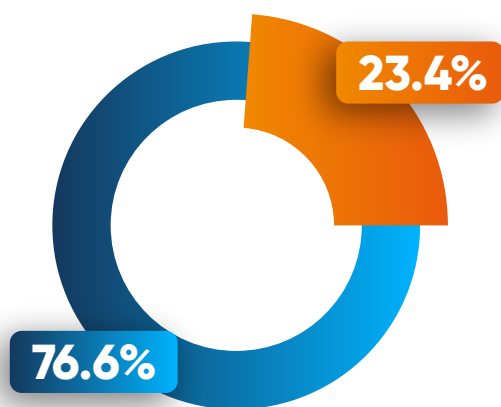
Survey

Post-Event Survey Responses

- **71%** first-time attendees.
- **20%** attended one or more previous Latino Health Symposiums.
- **9%** attended one or more previous Medical Spanish Summit.

Did the MOLA Latino Health Symposium meet the stated objectives?

- **100%** of participants strongly agreed or agreed that the MOLA objectives were met.



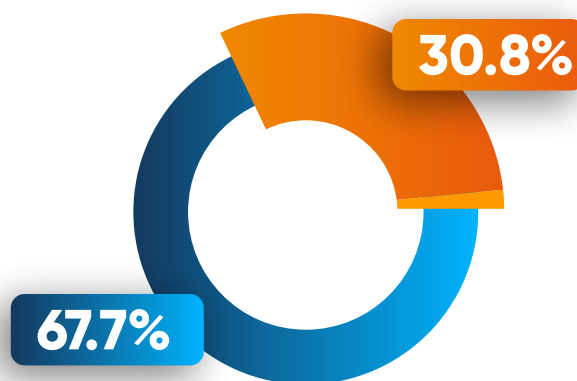
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Participants particularly valued the following aspects of the Symposium:

- Identification of systemic issues that the Latino/e/a/x community faces in healthcare.
- Proposed strategies to address these barriers, to pursue health equity through innovations in medicine, collaboration, and education for health professionals.
- The speakers were engaging and focused on indicating the barriers experienced.

Did the NAMS Medical Spanish Summit meet the stated objectives?

- **99%** of participants strongly agreed or agreed that the Medical Spanish Summit objectives were met.



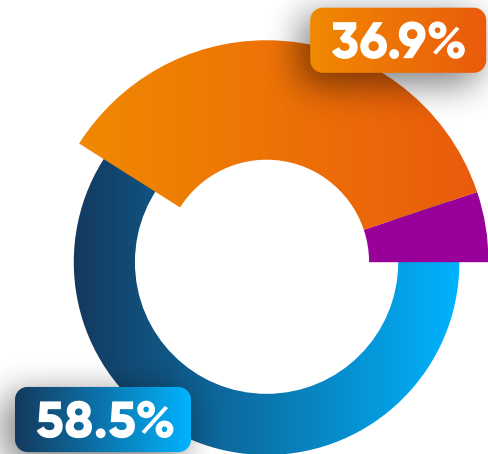
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Participants particularly valued the following aspects of the Medical Spanish Summit.

- An engaging and highly professional program fostering continued education in Medical Spanish.
- Learned how other institutions are integrating medical Spanish opportunities in their curricula and how to implement the program in my institution.
- Enhancing medical Spanish through interdisciplinary collaboration, specifically the new tool to test healthcare providers' aptitude for providing language concordant care for Spanish-speaking patients.
- Standardization of curriculum, integration of mental health, and social justice into the medical Spanish curricula.

At the Latino Health Symposium/Medical Spanish Summit, I obtained new knowledge which can impact my competence (skills, abilities, or strategies) in my profession or training.

- **95%** of participants strongly agreed or agreed they obtained knowledge that will impact their profession and training.



- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I did not attend any of the tracks or engage with enough of the poster presenters

Participants particularly valued the following skills and strategies taught at the Symposium:

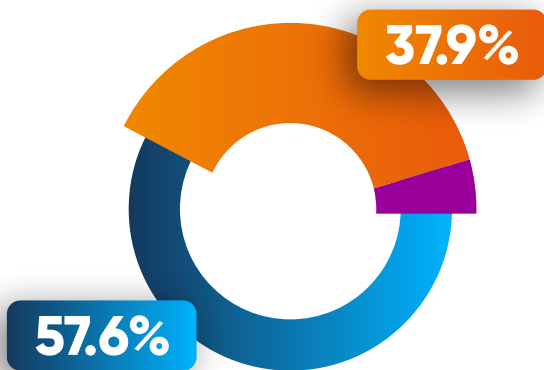
- Physician Oral Language Observation Matrix (POLOM).
- Speak up to inspire others to act. Being a leader/advocate for medical Spanish in my school/community, and working with leaders to push forward efforts to improve Spanish health.

- The importance of intersectionality in caring for individuals with multiple minoritized identities.
- Future Directions in Medical Spanish to apply in our own institutions: Additional knowledge and arguments in cultural issues. Ways of engaging my students in meaningful research. How to interact with medical school deans to implement Spanish into medical school curriculum.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I did not attend any of the tracks or engage with enough of the poster presenters

I plan to apply what I learned in a way that will impact my patient care and/or performance.

- **95%** of participants strongly agreed and agreed that they will apply what they learned to impact the patient care/ or performance.



Participants particularly identified the following aspects of the MOLA Symposium/NAMS Summit as aspects they will apply in their practice:

- Advocating at school to integrate Medical Spanish into the curriculum and offer a more intensive and longitudinal Medical Spanish path. Advocating in personal practice, for the betterment of the patients.
- Teaching the need for multilingualism and cultural competence
- Implementing the POLOM and adapting it to the course content. Implementing the information in different settings (Hospitals/ School of Medicine, and undergraduate institutions).
- Implementing a more compassionate and culturally centered approach.

Keynote Speakers

In alphabetical order by last name.

Arthur Acevedo, MS, JD



Professor of Constitutional Law, Income Tax, and Business Corporations at University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) Law School. Mentor and faculty advisor to the Latino Law Student Association at UIC Law.

David Ansell, MD



Professor of Internal Medicine and Senior Vice President/Associate Provost for Community Health Equity at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

María Magdalena Llabre, PhD



Professor of Psychology and Cooper Fellow in the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Miami.

Pilar Ortega, MD, MGM



Vice President, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), and Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Illinois Chicago Departments of Emergency Medicine and Medical Education.

Presenters

In alphabetical order by last name.

Hugo Balta



Adjunct Professor in the School of Media Arts, Journalism department, teaching Reporting II, TV Newsbeat, and creating the TV News Package at Columbia.

Ricardo Correa MD, EdD, FACP, FACE, FAPCR, FACMQ, CMQ



Clinical Professor of Medicine, Director for Diversity, equity and Inclusion, for mentoring and Belonging and Director for Longitudinal Curriculum and LLG at The Lerner College of Medicine and the School of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University.

Jorge DeSantiago



Weekend Anchor and News Reporter for Noticiero Telemundo Chicago, and on Telemundo Chicago.

Mervin Dino, MPH



Assistant Commissioner in the Bureau of Community Health at the Chicago Department of Public Health.

Manuel Estopinan, BA



Multimedia Journalist at 13 WREX.
Bachelor's Degree of Arts in
Political Science with a
specialization in Latin American
Studies from the University of
Florida.

Evelyn Frías Toral MD, MSECR, MHA



Clinical Research Associate
Professor and member of the
Editorial Council for Universidad
Católica Santiago de Guayaquil
(UCSG), Ecuador.

Jeanette González Santana, MS



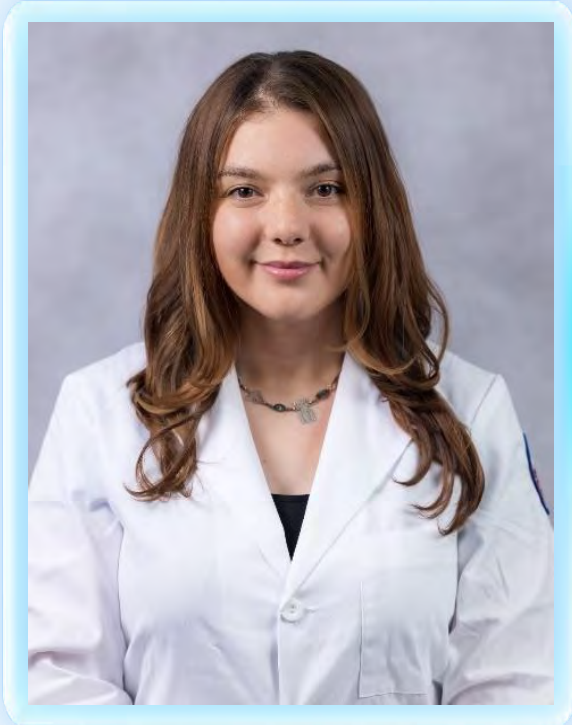
Program consultant for ALAS-Wings, a Latina-led organization whose mission is to advocate for and improve the lives of breast cancer survivors through education, mental health programs, and emotional support groups for Hispanic/Latina women and their families.

Cecilia Teresa Hardacker, MSN, RN, CNL



Director of Education at Howard Brown's Center for Education, Research and Advocacy.

Sara Izquierdo



Second year medical student at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine.

Ervin Kocjancic, MD



Professor of Surgery/Urology at the University of Chicago.

Geraldine Luna, MD



Medical Director at the Chicago Department of Public Health Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Bureau, President of the Executive Board of Directors of Illinois Unidos Coalition, and Executive Board Director of the Medical Organization for Latino Advancement.

Erika Maldonado



Star anchor of Noticias Univisión Chicago, who joined the news team in July 2004 as a general assignment reporter.

David Márquez, PhD



Professor and Interim Department Head of Kinesiology and Nutrition and Director of the Exercise Psychology Laboratory at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC).

Juanita Mora, MD



Attending physician at Illinois Masonic Medical Center.

Alicia Olave-Pichón, MD, MPH



Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellow at the University of Rochester Medical Center, and founder of the American Association of Peruvian Physicians (AAPP).

Emma Olivera, MD



General pediatrician in the suburbs of Chicago, Illinois.

Charoh Ortiz, BA



National Hispanic Outreach
Manager of the Leukemia &
Lymphoma Society.

Estefania Pérez-Luna, BA



Third-year medical student at the
University of Illinois at Chicago,
College of Medicine.

Aksim Rivera, MD



Site Director for the General Surgery residency and Associate Professor in the Departments of Surgery and Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Israel Rocha, MPA



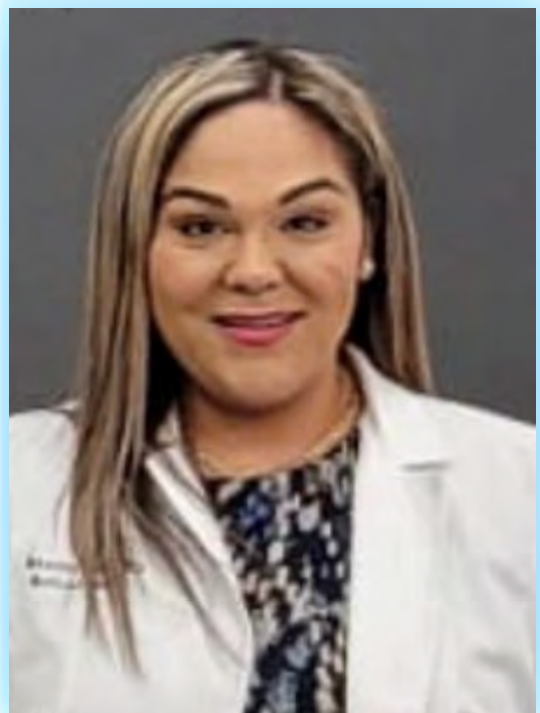
Chief Executive Officer of Cook County Health.

Gladys Rodríguez, MD



Medical oncologist specializing in caring for patients with gastrointestinal cancers at Northwestern Medicine, Feinberg School of Medicine.

Nereida Rojas, MD



Geriatric Medicine specialist, who opened Beauty at First Sight, a med spa in the North Center neighborhood of Chicago.

Claudia Téllez, MD



Clinical Assistant Professor and
Medical Oncology Specialist,
Feinberg School of Medicine.

Tovia Siegel, MA



Director of Healthy Illinois.

Oral Presenters

In alphabetical order by last name.

Julio César Aguilar, PhD



Language professor at Baylor University.

Daniela Bresciani Padilla, BA



Medical student at University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine.

Bazif Bala, BA

Medical Student at Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

Ann Cheney, PhD

Associate Professor at University of California Riverside.

Ingrid Cobos López, PhD



Associate Professor at the University of Córdoba (Spain).

Alejandro Dauguet, BS



Student at the University of California San Diego.

Diana Galarreta-Aima, MA, PhD



Associate Professor of Spanish at James Madison University.

Gilberto García, PhD, MEd, MA



Language professor at Texas Tech University HSC El Paso.

Kelly Guzmán, LMSW



Bilingual Mental Health Clinician and Social Worker at Wichita State University.

Rafael Iglesias, PhD

Professor of Spanish at Benedictine University.

Alexandra López Vera, MPH, PhD



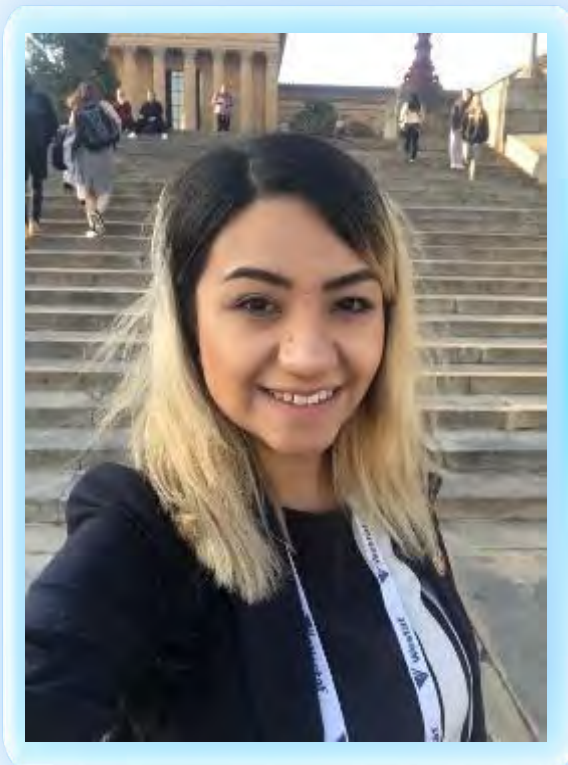
Medical Education professor, and MPH at California University of Science and Medicine.

Diana Martínez García



Research Assistant at University of Wisconsin - Madison / UW Health.

Michelle Martínez, MD, MPH



Clinical Instructor at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Laura E. Mendoza, MA, PhD



Assistant professor of instruction at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Alyssia Miller De Rutté, PhD



Assistant Professor of Spanish for Specific Purposes, Director of Languages for Specific Purposes, Graduate Teaching Assistant Coordinator at Colorado State University and University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Rose Molina, MD, MPH

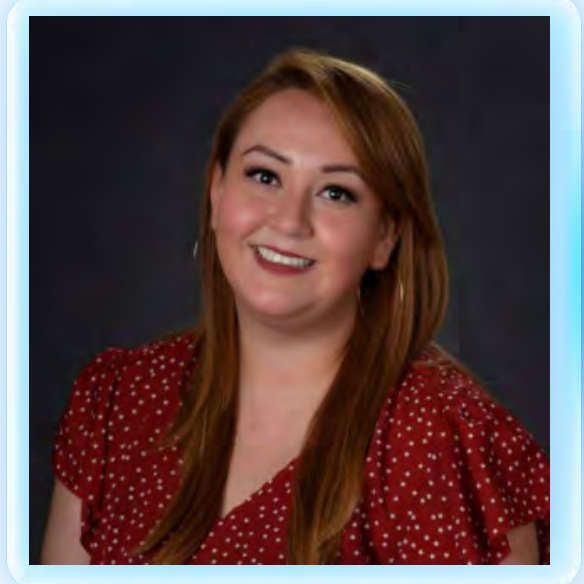


Medical Language Program
Director and attending physician
at Harvard Medical School, Beth
Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Paloma Moscardó Vallés

Language professor at Princeton
University.

Arely Muñoz, BA



Language Professor at Texas Tech
University HSC El Paso.

Carmín Muñoz



Student at RUSH Medical College.

Judith Navarro, MA



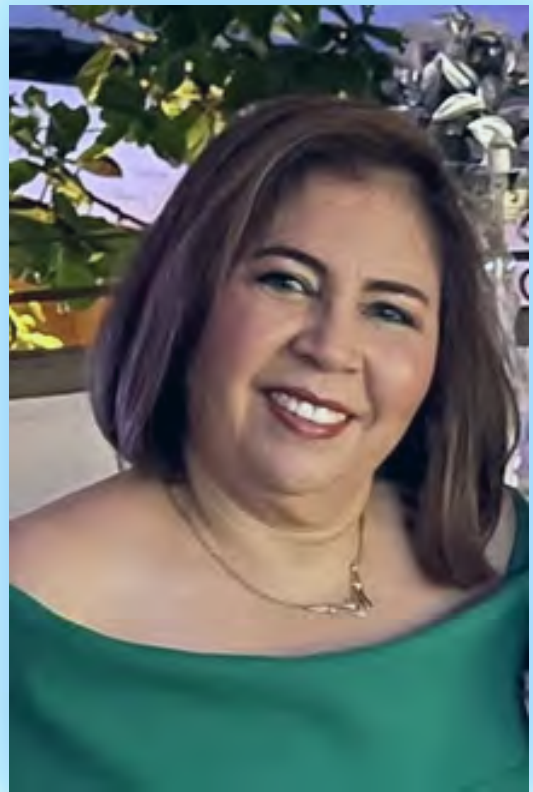
Language professor at Texas Tech University HSC El Paso.

Maya Osman-Krinsky, MPH



Graduate student at Columbia Mailman School of Public Health.

Yolanda Pineda-Vargas, MA



Language professor at University of California.

Mónica Rojas Chávez, MD



Language professor at Arkansas
Colleges of Health Education
ACHE.

Bahareh Sharafi



Medical Student at Ross University
School of Medicine.

Jeri Sias, MPH, Pharm D



Clinical Professor at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Rommy Vargas-Bezzubikoff, MA



Director of Education and Engagement of Interpreters of Alce Su Voz at Wichita State University.

Annabel Vila, MD

Associate Professor of Pathology at Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

A dark blue background with a faint, light blue network diagram consisting of interconnected nodes and lines, resembling a web or a complex system.

Sponsors & Exhibitors

Thanks to the support of the following institutions, our 2023 Symposium was a successful educational conference and community-building experience. Together, we're advancing LHS+ health professionals and improving health equity in our community. Thanks to our sponsors!



Outcomes Report 2023

Report prepared by Josselyn Velepucha-Iniguez, MD
and David Martínez Vicenttin, MHA Candidate and
reviewed by Pilar Ortega, MD, MGM