

Iowa Commission of Latino Affairs
Emergency Meeting
April 23, 2020
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Commissioners Present:

Jeannette Brown
Marlu Abarca
Al Perex
Lorena Gingerich
Caleb Knuston

Commissioners Absent:

Gilbert Nunez
Valerie Nolte

DHR Staff Present

Sonia Reyes

Others Present:

Dalila Sajadian
Michelle Schott
Susan Vileta
Jake Riley
Nancy Fregoso
Kate Klefstad
Olga Esparza
Louis Moreno
Joe Henry
Nicole Novak
Stephanie Morris

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Public Comment
 - A. People will die if nothing is done to help them
 - B. There is not equity in services for Iowa Latinos
- III. Addressing the needs and concerns of the Latino Community
 - A. Workers are being taken advantage of at the meatpacking plants
 - B. Sioux City is being threatened by the pandemic
 - C. There are 18 meat processing facilities in the state. Leaders need to push for more testing and language access with the Testlowa site
 - D. The Governor's press conferences need to be translated

- E. There are funds at helpdsm.com for people in polk county
- F. La Tapatia grocery store donated funds to help immigrant families
- G. The Commission needs to meet with the Governor and talk about the needs of the Latino community.
- H. The state of Iowa must provide the following to Latino Iowans:
 - 1. Meeting with the Governor
 - 2. Language access in multiple languages
 - 3. Support for Latino businesses
 - 4. Address that the positive numbers are not going down
 - 5. Testlowa is not accessible to ELL Iowans or to people who don't have a computer
 - 6. There needs to be PPE provided for essential workers
 - 7. 211 doesn't work for Iowans that are not white and English speakers
 - 8. There must be a shelter in place

IV. Plan moving forward

- A. The commission will issue the attached letter to the governor

Motion: Jeannettee Brown

Second: Caleb Knutson

All in favor

V. Adjourn