

Mental Health Access & Ending Criminalization of Mental Health



Over 300 leaders from **Justice United** and the **NC Latino Congress** gathered to celebrate commitments to Latino Mental Health Services

- **Organizing to Expand New York City Crisis Stabilization Centers:** Metro IAF NY launched a campaign to press New York City Mayor Eric Adams and NY State Governor Kathy Hochul to decriminalize mental health by creating crisis stabilization centers/diversion units throughout Brooklyn and Queens, where there are currently none. These centers are staffed and equipped to provide immediate assistance to someone in the throes of a mental health episode. **Read more**
- **First Crisis Stabilization Center Opens in Chicago Exurbs:** **Fox River Valley Initiative** organized and won the funding for the first crisis stabilization center at Ascension Mercy Hospital, now open in Kane County in the exurbs of Chicago. **Read More**
- **\$1.5 Million for Latino Mental Health in Orange Co, NC:** **Orange County Justice United** won \$1,5 million in investments for Latino mental health services from Alliance Health to train bilingual community health workers to provide intervention and services, to increase the reimbursement rate for bilingual providers by 50%, and to support the revival of the only bilingual therapy practice in the area. **Read more**
- **Funding for Bi-Lingual Mental Health Workers in Durham, NC:** The **NC Congress of Latino Organizations (NCCLO)** organized and won funding from the City of Durham to increase by 20 percent the bilingual (Spanish/English) staff working at a crisis response unit aimed at connecting people experiencing non-violent mental health crises or quality of life concerns with the proper care. **Read more**

- **\$20 Million for bilingual school staff in Forsyth Co, NC: NC Congress of Latino Organizations (NCCLO)** won a \$20 million investment in bilingual teachers, interpreters, community liaisons, social workers, and counselors to address the growing mental health need in the Latino community in Forsyth County, NC.



Pictured here are the Spanish-speaking Community Mental Health Workers who will be serving in Orange County, NC, to provide mental health services to the area's residents. Their employment is a direct result of the campaign with NC Congreso Organizaciones Latinas and Orange County Justice United (OCJU) winning \$1.5 million in investment in mental health in the Latino community from Alliance Health.