

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate distribution:

January 26, 2009



Contact: Aida McCammon, President/CEO
Indiana Latino Institute, Inc.
445 N. Pennsylvania Street, Suite 800
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 472-1055

amccammon@indianalatinoinstitute.com

www.indianalatinoinstitute.com

www.LatinoTobaccoControl.org

Indiana Latino Institute, Inc. Congratulates President Obama and his Administration

INDIANAPOLIS, IN – Last week, the people of the United States experienced the result of an unprecedented political process that culminated with the oath into office of President Barack Hussein Obama, Jr. All over the world, people of diverse race, color, culture, religion, socio-economic backgrounds and political views watched and celebrated the historical moment as our first African-American President came into power. There is no doubt that this event projected a myriad of positive emotions (anticipation, happiness, optimism) and a sense of healing and unity that has rippled from our Indiana state capitol, throughout our cities and towns, and even far beyond our U.S. borders to all corners of the world. The Indiana Latino Institute, Inc. (ILI) shares this contagious “Hope” with the rest of America and the world, and we welcome and congratulate our new President, his Administration and his staff.

President Obama faces numerous challenges ahead while attempting to restore our economy, bring our troops home from Iraq, change outdated government policies, and address the issues which plague our health system with inequalities. As it has been proclaimed and promised, this new era must bring relief to the health educational disparities which exist in our society.

ILI was created, over eight years ago, to tackle the inequalities that hinder the well-being of the Latino communities of Indiana. Last year, thanks to a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) appointing ILI as the lead agency for the National Latino Tobacco Control Network (NLTCN), ILI was able to expand on a national level its mission to address the use of tobacco and its impact on Latino health. ILI and the members of the NLTCN look forward to working with the Obama Administration to reduce tobacco related health disparities nationwide.

ILI, the NLTCN and a broad range of organizations serving Latino communities are optimistic and have high hopes that the new administration will work with the Congress and experts, advocates and community based organizations to move a comprehensive Health Care Reform forward, assuring that prevention is also included and addressing education and other socio-economic issues relevant to Latinos across the nation. It is with great enthusiasm that we commend and support the diligent efforts of our new President and commit to doing our part to make change possible.

###