



La Fe Policy Research and Education Center

Bienestar Platform and Policy Priorities

La Fe Policy Research and Education Center (*La Fe PREC*) engages advocates in Texas and across the country who demonstrate a commitment to the *Bienestar* (well-being) of the Latino community. *Bienestar* affirms our cultural experience and quality of life that reflects the interdependence of health resources, education, employment, and housing in contributing to the health and welfare of our family and community.

La Fe PREC adheres to the philosophy that social and health policies should help empower communities, families, and individuals toward self-sufficiency further enabling self-determination in their lives.

Bienestar is the framework and platform which guides La Fe PRECs legislative and other policy-making research, education and advocacy efforts. Our commitment is that policy-making be responsive to the values, beliefs and perspective of the diverse Latino Community. Our strategies and collaborative work to impact state and national policy-making, plus our interaction with the private sector strives to:

Improve Healthcare Resources which are accessible, equitable, affordable and culturally appropriate such as:

- Working toward comprehensive universal health insurance coverage for all.
- Improving access for small business to health insurance.
- Reauthorizing and expanding CHIP to all children regardless of legal status.
- Retaining and expanding Medicaid programs that insure comprehensive quality health care.
- Increasing reimbursement fees to Physicians, particularly those in primary care.
- Improving access to “health care homes (medical and dental)” that prioritize preventive and primary care.
- Expanding mental health services.
- Language and culturally responsive health prevention and chronic disease management initiatives.
- Supports health and financial security for all.

Improving Education Opportunities

- Support new strategies to address low educational attainment of Latino students.
- Identity effects of school finance and taxation to the quality of education for Latino children.
- Bilingual Education
- Charter Schools
- Increase access to Higher Education.
- Support workforce development particularly in the health professions.

Improving Economic Security and reducing poverty

- Raising the Minimum Wage so families and workers can share in living wages that improves their quality of life.
- Protecting the security of worker and providing safe workplaces.
- Economic Development strategies that are in the best interest of the Latino community.

Reforming the Immigration System

- Comprehensive Immigration Reform that encompasses a path to citizenship, fair to immigrant families, and business, prevents worker and other abuses, responsive to objective security concerns, and furthers the productivity and economy of our country.

Invest in Early Childhood Development and Adolescent Bienestar

- Support child and adolescent initiatives and policies that nurture and equalize opportunities.

Housing

- Create access to Affordable Housing.
- Community Development strategies that are in the best interest of the Latino community.