



Pete Ricketts
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Latino American Commission
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DANIEL CASTILLO APPOINTED TO NEBRASKA LATINO AMERICAN COMMISSION BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LINCOLN – Daniel Castillo of Lincoln has been appointed by Governor Pete Ricketts to serve on the Latino American Commission’s Board of Commissioners.

Castillo replaces Commissioner Gisella Muñoz who served as a Commissioner for almost six years. He will represent the Lincoln metro area.

Castillo is a Medicaid and Long Term Care Social Worker with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). His work includes processing requests for children and adult Medicaid and the CHIP Program, reviewing applications and making sure applicants meet the state’s requirements for Medicaid and CHIP.

He grew up in Newark, New Jersey after he and his family immigrated to the United States from Santo Domingo, the capital city of the Dominican Republic and largest city in the Caribbean, when he was 2-years-old.

Castillo said he has always known that he wanted to help the Latino community, which led him on a path to become a certified social worker.

“Ever since I was young, it has always been my dream to work within my community and help others,” said Castillo. “Over the years, through my education and career, I have been able to do just that: help those whose voice is at times the least heard.”

He received his Associate’s degree in 2008 in Human and Social Services from Essex County College in Newark, and his Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from Rutgers University, also in Newark, in 2012. In 2008, while working as a Rutgers intern at Maria L. Varisco Rogers Charter School he earned the Volunteering Excellence award from AmeriCorps. As an intern, he provided supportive counseling to individual students in accordance with their IEPs.



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“I have worked for two Hispanic based non-profit organizations in New Jersey, ‘La Casa de Don Pedro’ and ‘FOCUS Hispanic Center for Community Development,’ at both I worked on afterschool youth education and enrichment programs,” he said.

Castillo worked at FOCUS for two years as an Assistant Program Coordinator where he successfully developed and implemented lesson plans, and provided staff trainings. Prior to FOCUS, he had worked at La Casa De Don Pedro Inc. as a Site Coordinator with responsibilities including program design and implementation, student recruitment, staff and student supervision, attendance management and creating an enriching after school curriculum.

He was at FOCUS until 2013 when he moved to Lincoln and began working at DHHS the same year.

Castillo believes he can help the Latino community by serving as an NLAC Commissioner:

“Now, as a Commissioner, I want to take my dream to the next level. This position will give me the tools and resources I feel are important to help Latinos throughout the State of Nebraska. I looked forward to the next few years of services and hope that I make the voice of the people heard when it is most needed.”

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