



**COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT MENTAL HEALTH 2020-2021 CONVENING SERIES**

**March 12, 2021**

***COVID-19's Impact on Immigrant and Refugee Communities Part 1: Latinx Immigrants Access to Health Care and Mental Health Services***

**Agenda**

**9:50am-10am** Join the waiting room and greet each other

**10:00am-10:05am:** **Welcome: Ané Mariñez-Lora, PhD.**  
Research Assistant Professor  
University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice;  
Chair, Coalition Convening Planning Workgroup

**10:05am – 11: 30am** **Panel Discussion**

**Luvia Quiñones**  
Health Policy Director  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

**Jesus Perez**  
Co-Chair Undocumented Immigrant Communities  
Working Group, CIMH

**Dr. Lizette Solis-Cortes**  
Director of Residential Services  
Riveredge Hospital

**Jimena Flores**  
CDVP Domestic Violence Program Director  
Mujeres Latinas en Acción

**Moderators**  
Oliver Camacho and Daysi Diaz-Strong (CIMH)

**11:35 am-12:00pm** **Wrap-up Mindfulness Activity**

**Dr. Dulce Lopez, Psy.D**  
Facilitator, Presenter, and Motivational Speaker  
Metamorfosis: thru Love



## A LITTLE INFORMATION ABOUT SPECIAL GUESTS

**Jesus Perez** is a member of the Coalition for Immigrant Mental Health and Co-Chair of the Undocumented Communities Workgroup. Last spring, he graduated from Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) with a bachelor's of social work. During his time at NEIU, he dedicated his extracurricular time advocating for immigrant students at his school. Moreover, while completing the final year of his social work degree, he interned at Logan Square Neighborhood Association, supporting their immigration department's operations. After graduating, he found an opportunity to become a contact tracer for Howard Brown Health. Throughout his eight months of doing contact tracing, Jesus was trained and advised by medical practitioners and infectious disease prevention specialists at HBH to best support the patients he contacted. Furthermore, his position as a contact tracer gave Jesus an insight into the way COVID-19 is affecting Latinx communities around the Chicago land area. Jesus has recently switched roles as a contact tracer to become a paraprofessional at Haven middle school in Evanston. He also works as a part-time private music instructor at School of Rock Evanston.

**Luvia Quiñones** serves as the Health Policy Director at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR). In this role, Luvia oversees the Immigrant Health Care Access Initiative and in collaboration with ICIRR's members develops ICIRR's health policy agenda with a special focus in access to health care and on health care reform. Preceding ICIRR, Luvia worked at City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) under the Community Relations Department. There she played an integral role in creating and launching the new department. Prior to working at CCC, she oversaw the first state-funded citizenship program at ICIRR, the New Americans Initiative. Luvia has a Master in Public Policy (MPP) from the University of Chicago and a BA in International Studies from DePaul University. She is the daughter of Mexican Immigrants from Durango, Mexico and is an active community member in her parish, St. Sylvester. Currently, she serves as a board member of the Illinois Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (IAFCC) and alumni council member of the Harris School at the University of Chicago.

**Lizette Solis-Cortes, PhD**, is the Director of Residential Services at Riveredge Hospital the largest stand-alone behavioral health hospital in Illinois. In her current role, Dr. Solis leads patient advocacy; diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives; and service excellence training. Dr. Solis has experience in progressive leadership roles with leading for-profit and non-profit organizations, that have focused on providing social, behavioral and mental health services, human rights advocacy, and have promoted thriving communities. Dr. Solis has a solid background in executive leadership, working across various settings including businesses, schools, community-based programs, and international development. She is committed to promoting social justice, human rights, and equity by working with underserved communities through research, teaching, and practice.

**Jimena Flores** grew up in Mexico City, Mexico and moved to the United States with her family in 2002. Adapting to a new culture was a challenge for Jimena, however she believed she could make a difference in her community by continuing her education in the United States. Jimena has a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Spanish from University of Illinois at Chicago. She served as an AmeriCorps where she mentored and supported youth at risk in McHenry County.

Currently, Jimena is the Domestic Violence Program Director at Mujeres Latinas en Acción. Jimena Flores has seven years of experience providing case management, crisis intervention services, group counseling to survivors of domestic violence, and community education. She started her career at Mujeres as the Domestic Violence Volunteer Supervisor and became the Domestic Violence Program Director in 2017. She is certified with the Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professional Board and has completed Domestic Violence Training, Partner Abuse Intervention Training, and Sexual Assault Training. Jimena is aware of the barriers Latinas face coming to the United States. She hopes that through her work in the Domestic Violence Program she is able to empower Latinas and their families to access services which reflect their values and culture and support women to make a difference in their lives.

In her spare time, Jimena enjoys traveling, music, art and spending quality time with her family and friends.

**Dulce Lopez, Psy.D.**, a first generation Mexican-American, is a Licensed Psychologist whose life's purpose has been to empower individuals to transform thru Love. Often referred to as Doctora Corazon (Doctor of the Heart), Dr. Lopez has been a practicing clinician for over 15 years in California. She is a motivational speaker and facilitator, speaking regularly on the subjects of Love and Transformation. METAMORFOSIS and LOVE 101 are her two core programs designed for individuals as tools of self-discovery toward harnessing their inner Love and personal Power.

Dr. Lopez studied and worked in London, Mexico City, and Chennai, India. The enriching experiences abroad shaped her life's journey and helped her to uncover her life's mission. As such, she went on to receive her doctorate in psychology from Alliant International University, Irvine. She currently works for Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services as a bilingual-Clinical Review Specialist. Dr. Lopez resides with her husband, a Social Worker, her son and daughter in the Bay Area of Northern California.

