



National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers

PRESS RELEASE

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2012 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH THEME ANNOUNCED

Washington, D.C., May 17, 2012 — The National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers (NCHPEPM), announced today the 2012 Hispanic Heritage Month theme: “**Diversity United, Building America’s Future Today.**” The theme promotes the benefits of a united and diverse workforce by encouraging a reflection of Hispanic American contributions in the development of our Nation.

The announcement was made in a NCHPEPM monthly meeting hosted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Washington, DC. NCHPEPM members from various Federal Agencies and affinity groups in attendance selected the theme through a voting process. Luis Rivera Rios from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Louisville, Kentucky submitted the winning theme.

Ismael Martinez, Chairman of the Council, announced the theme, stating “The challenges faced by the Hispanic community to find Federal employment is a serious concern that will require multiple organizations to unify their efforts to increase the participation rate of Hispanics in the Federal government. This theme reflects our need to come together as one to build a future that is inclusive of our Hispanic talent.”

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

The Hispanic Heritage observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.

The NCHPEPM is a membership-based organization consisting of an executive board, members, associates, and partners from multiple Federal agencies and other organizations from across the United States, advocating for the improvement of Hispanic participation in the Federal Government.

For more information about the Council, please visit www.nationalcouncilhepm.net

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