

OSCAR E. CRUZ

- ◆ Visionary Leader ◆ Robust Fundraising Experience ◆ Excellent Public Relations Skills
- ◆ Strong Nonprofit Board Development Experience ◆ Extensive Organizational Development Skills
- ◆ High-Impact Advocacy ◆ In-depth Cultural Competency ◆ Bilingual: English/Spanish

WORK EXPERIENCE

Families In Schools – Los Angeles, CA

President & CEO (2011-Present)

- Oversees the overall operation of FIS with an average annual budget of 3 million dollars.
- Manages a staff of 16 full-time and part-time employees.
- Manages communication with the Board of Directors on issues of governance, program development and financial planning.
- Manages fundraising efforts from diverse funding sources, totaling more than 15 million since 2011.
- Leads public relations efforts that promote the mission and values of FIS.

Director of Advocacy / VP of Programs (2009-2011)

- Led advocacy efforts to improve policies and practices that supported parent engagement in LAUSD
- Oversaw the effective and quality implementation of programs across all department areas.
- Led public relations efforts to inform the broader community about FIS work.

Community Partners – Los Angeles, CA

Program Director (2008-2009)

- Directed projects that help communities reap the civic and economic benefits of technology.
- Managed a state-wide network of organizations working for the promotion of community technology programs.
- Coordinated coalition-based advocacy and lobbying activities for the promotion of community technology programs.

Center for Civic Education – Los Angeles, CA

Senior Program Manager, International Programs (2002-2008)

- Managed civic education programs for students and youth in Latin America with an annual budget of 1.5 million dollars.
- Managed the development and administration of budgets; reviewed and approved grant proposals and contracts from subcontractors; monitored the status of projects; and developed annual programmatic/financial reports for funders.
- Managed an international network of civil society organizations, school districts, universities, and foundations working to implement civic engagement programs for students and youth in the United States and Latin America.
- Coordinated the development and implementation of evaluation and data collection strategies for all international programs.

Guatemalan Unity Information Agency — Los Angeles, CA

Program Associate (2001)

- Coordinated community development/engagement workshops for youth and parents.
 - Facilitated General Education Classes (GED) and US Citizenship classes for youth and adults.
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National Democratic Institute — Washington, DC

Program Assistant (2000)

- Assisted in the coordination of Political Leadership Program, a program aimed at strengthening the leadership skills of emerging political leaders in Latin America.
 - Coordinated the Political Party Network Document Clearinghouse Program, a database of political documents aimed at assisting political parties from Latin America in their democratization, and development processes.
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Central American Resource Center — Los Angeles, CA

Senior Intern (1999 Summer)

- Conducted community “*charlas*” on immigration resources and provided translation to families seeking legal support

EDUCATION

Georgetown University (1999-2001)

Master of Arts, Latin American Studies

University of California Los Angeles (1994-1999)

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and Latin American Studies

ASSOCIATIONS/ACTIVITIES

- Member of the National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE) Board of Directors (2016-present)
- Member of the Education Leaders of Color national association (2015-present)
- Member of the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Awards Selection Committee (2013-present)
- Member of the Institute for Local Government Public Engagement Panel of Advisors (2012-present)
- Member of the Education Advisory Board at UCLA Extension (2012-present)
- Chaired the Parent’s Bill of Rights and Responsibilities Workgroup as part of the LAUSD Parent As Equal Partners Taskforce (2010)
- Coordinated the World Congress on Civic Education (Russia, 2002; Mexico, 2003; Hungary, 2004; Jordan, 2005; Poland, 2006); Coordinated the Inter-American Seminar on Education for Democracy (Dominican Republic, 2002; Washington D.C., 2004; Chile, 2006)
- Official International Electoral Observer in Mexico’s federal elections (2000 and 2006)