

Building a Multicultural Alliance for Immigration Reform & The Immigrant-Friendly City

February 21, 2013

Welcome!

Thanks for joining us for the inaugural “**Multicultural Happy Hour**” to help build awareness and intercultural networks around federal immigration law reform and local “immigrant-friendly” policies in Greater Cleveland.

Tonight’s agenda is simply to **have fun, share some ideas, and encourage all of us to take action.**

Your co-hosts tonight (listed below) are leaders from Northeast Ohio’s minority, labor, non-profit and immigrant communities who have come together to raise awareness on the opportunities to grow our local economy through immigration reform and welcoming new immigrants.

We hope that you not only make new friends tonight, but that you take some time at home to read the attached materials. The accompanying information will help you understand why immigration reform is critical to our local and state economy. There is a lot of misinformation floating around out there --- and we want to change that.

You will also find suggestions on what *you* could do to help **change the conversation** on immigration in Washington, D.C. and Cleveland, Ohio.

Together, as immigrants and American-born, we help make our cities stronger.

Here is how tonight’s event will unfold:

4:30 to 5:30 Networking

5:30 to 6:00 Short Program

Richard Herman, The Immigrant Entrepreneur Association (TIE)

Reverend Max Rodas, Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center

Velimir Lucic, Immigrant Entrepreneur, Tomo Sushi & Hibachi

Norma Guitierrez, “Dreamer”

Richard Romero, *Latinos Magazine*

6:00 to 6:30 Networking

Thanks again for joining this rich conversation.

As we move forward, please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Warm Regards,



Richard Herman, Esq.

Herman Legal Group

The Immigrant Entrepreneur Association (TIE Ohio)

216-696-6170

Richardtmherman@gmail.com

Co-Hosts of Event

Richard Herman, Herman Legal Group, TIE Ohio (The Immigrant Entrepreneurs)

Lee Fisher, CEO for Cities

John Barnes, Ohio House of Representatives

Joe Cimperman, Councilman, City of Cleveland

Mamie Mitchell, Councilwoman, City of Cleveland

Brian Cummins, Councilman, City of Cleveland

Max Rodas, Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center & Guatemalan Immigrant

Lute Harmon, Inside Business & Cleveland Magazine

Eduardo Gonzalez, Ferragon Corporation

Richard Romero, Latinos Magazine

Ivan Gomez, Vocero Latino

Mansfield Frazier, Neighborhood Solutions

Jan Vilcek, Vilcek Foundation

Johnny Wu, Organization of Chinese Americans- Cleveland

Donna Dabbs, Urban Film Festival

Dan Hanson, ClevelandPeople.com

Deb Hanson, ClevelandPeople.com

Alton Tinker, Society of Urban Professionals

Alan Schonberg, Ohio Israel Chamber of Commerce

Joy Roller, Global Cleveland

Ruben Castilla Herrra, LGBT LULAC

Michael Byun, Asia Service in Action

Camilo Villa, SEIU Local 1

Karin Wishner, International Services Center

Nick Torres, Latino Policy Action Network

Pierre Bejjani, Cleveland American Middle East Organization

Prakash Sinha, India International

Lucian Fogoros, Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America

Dennis Seaman, Seaman Garson

Derek Ng, China Great Lakes Innovation

Hasan Bakia, Albanian Association of Cleveland

Connie Atkins, Consortium of African American Organizations

Jonah Weinberg, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Business Center

Brian Hoffman, Innovation Ohio

Henry Guzman, HG & Associates
 Gary Convertino, VP, Diversity, Cleveland Society of Human Resource Professionals
 Susan Lohwater, Cuyahoga Community College
 Patty Quinonez, LATINA, Inc.
 Lou Acosta, Northcoast Minority Media
 Arooj Ashraf, LaPrensa Newspaper
 John Ramos, LULAC Ohio
 Maritza Motino, LULAC Columbus
 Velimir Lucic, Tomo Hibachi Restaurant & Lounge
 Benny Yang, Tomo Hibachi Restaurant & Lounge
 Anthony Yen, Confucius Institute, CSU
 Luis Cartagena, Young Latino Network & Convencion Hispana 2013
 Sanjiv Kapur, Jones Day
 Jack Story, Saving Cities
 Rachel Ng, MotivAsians
 Jennifer Luu, MotivAsians
 Patrick Valente (TIE: The Immigrant Entrepreneur Association)
 Asim Data, Federation of India Community Associations, Cleveland
 Joe Nava, Cincinnati Latino Community & Unity Prime Construction
 Jason Lin, Lin's Omni Plaza
 Henry Luu, Lin's Omni Plaza
 Steve Tobocman, Global Detroit
 Kenneth Kovach, International Services Center, ICC
 Pradip Kamat, Indus International and TIE
 Angel Galvan, Galvan Concepts
 Gene Sasso, Professor of Public Relations, KSU
 Syed Ali, Second Chance Immigration
 George Burke, International Education Consultant
 Maria Galindo-Dasilvo, Hispanic Cultural Center of Cleveland
 Josue Vicente, Ohio Hispanic Coalition
 Joe Cole, TIE
 Rico Neller, La Prensa & La Revista
 Olga Sonis, US Together
 Helen Tarkhenova, US Together
 Gia Hoa Ryan, Friendship Foundation of American-Vietnamese
 Joseph Meissner, Friendship Foundation of American-Vietnamese
 Masao Yu, Taipei-Cleveland Sister City Committee
 Craig Siplin, Cleveland Classic TV
 Ye-Fan Glavin, China Invests in America
 Alfonso Cornejo, Cincinnati Latino Community
 Bharat Kumar, INDIA Festival USA
 Deb Roy, INDIA FESTIVAL USA
 Dina & Michael Ferrer, Coalition for Hispanic/Latino Issues & Progress
 David Bowen, Richard L. Bowen & Assocs., Northeast Ohio District Export Council

Alex Machaskee	Paramjit Singh	Gilbert Torres Ruiz	Georg Abakumov
Eduardo Romero	Malak Jadallah	Laura McShane	Kimberly Chen
Vi Huynh	Raj Aggarwal	David Lubell	Sandra Morgan
Harry Weller	Truc Cao	Michael Sreshta	Jack Craciun
Maria Pujana	Gerardo Colon	Vania Stefanova	Ron & Anila Nicklos
Becca Kopp	Maria Colon	Bob Rosing	Valentina Lucic
Richard Eastburn	Joe Thomas	Diana Centeno-Gomez	Hugo Urizar
Ratanjit Sondhe	Elaine Tsai	Luis Gomez	Larry Miller
Barbara Hawkins	Abraham Bruckman	Connie Cook	Yary Cora
Benito Lucio	Charmaine Rozario	Andrew Thomas	
Len Calabrese	Joseph Mas	Vivian Borromeo	

What Can I Do to Help

Promote Immigration Law Reform & Local Immigrant-Friendly Polices?

- 1.) **Learn** how smart immigration policies can actually *create American jobs*, lift up our cities, and raise the standard of living for all. The attached toolkit of materials is a great place to start learning.
- 2.) **Contact your Congressional representatives** and let them know that Comprehensive Immigration Law Reform is critical to your city's economic growth and vibrancy.
- 3.) **Contact your mayor, city council president and city council representatives** and share your ideas on becoming an "immigrant-friendly" city.
- 4.) Join the new state-wide committee, **Ohio Welcomes Immigrants**, by contacting Richard Romero (romero@centurytel.net and 440-213-7329) or Richard Herman (richardtmherman@gmail.com and 216-696-6170). There is a sign-up sheet at today's event.
- 5.) **Start your own local municipal committee** "_____ Welcomes Immigrants." Contact Richard Romero or Richard Herman for assistance.
- 6.) Volunteer to host the next "**Multicultural Happy Hour**" or other event for immigrants and American-born to connect and meet each other.
- 7.) Personally, or through one of your organizations, **host a community discussion** on immigration reform and the "immigrant-friendly city." This can be public, or can be simply a private gathering at one's home.
- 8.) Share the information you are learning about immigrants, immigration reform, and the immigrant-friendly city with your **social networks on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter**, etc.
- 9.) If you own a business or help run a city, then join the bipartisan **Partnership for a New American Economy**. It's free and powerful. www.RenewOurEconomy.org
- 10.) **Start an on-line petition** in support of immigration law reform and/or local immigrant-friendly policies.
- 10.) **Share the immigrant stories in your community with the local media & with each other.**
- 11.) And, above all.....have **FUN with the rich mix of global diversity!**