

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE ON RECREATION, LIBRARIES, AND YOUTH  
AFFAIRS  
PERFORMANCE OVERSIGHT HEARING  
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004**

January 4, 2024

Mr. Eduardo Perdomo  
Mayor's Office of Latino Affairs  
2000 14th St NW  
Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Mr. Perdomo:

The Committee on Recreation, Libraries, and Youth Affairs ("Committee") will hold performance oversight hearings on agencies under its purview between Monday, January 15 through Friday, March 1, 2023. The Mayor's Office of Latino Affairs ("MOLA") hearing will be held on **[date not yet determined]** via a virtual platform. In addition to your attendance at the hearing, the Committee is sending the following questions for your response.

Please submit your responses by no later than **2:00pm, Monday, January 22, 2024**, in Word or Excel format, as applicable, and minimize the use of attachments. If you need to discuss any of the questions, please contact Kyle Yeldell, Committee Director, at [kyeldell@dccouncil.gov](mailto:kyeldell@dccouncil.gov) or (202) 417-1046.

**Questions**

1. Please provide the legislative history for the creation of the Office, which includes the following information:

- a. The legislative vehicle by which the Office was created (Mayor's Order, Resolution, or Statute).

**Answer:** MOLA was created under the LAW 1-86, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LATINO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT , Chapter 13. Latino Community effective September 29, 1976. For more information please see vehicle at:

<https://code.dccouncil.us/dc/council/code/titles/2/chapters/13/>

- b. What powers the Office has been delegated through the Mayor's Order. c. The legislative vehicle by which the Director was appointed (Mayor's Order, Resolution, Statute).

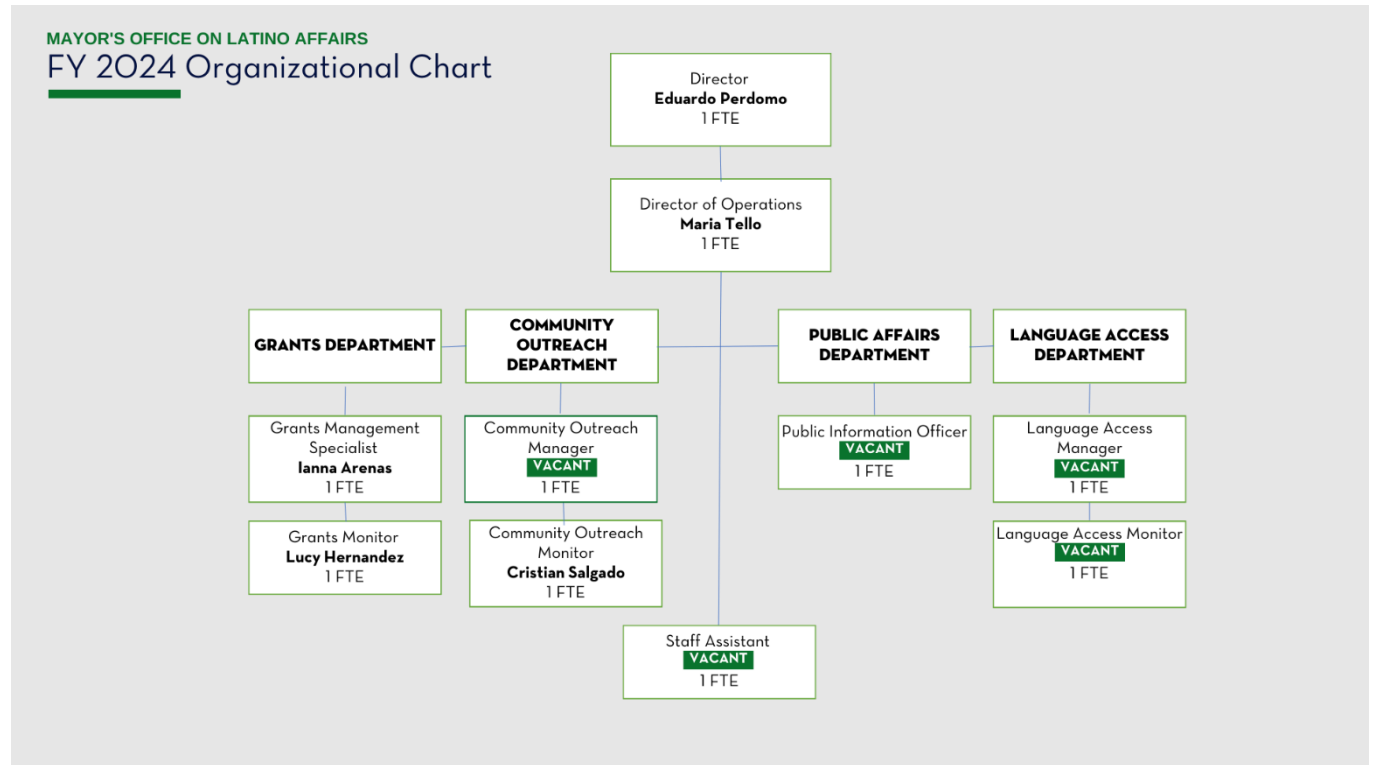
**Answer:** The Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs has grant making authority. For information about this power, see the Office on Latino Affairs Grant-Making Authority Amendment Act 2010.

2. Please provide the mission of your Office.

**Answer:** The mission of the Mayor’s Office on Latino Affairs (MOLA) is to improve the quality of life of Latino residents of the District of Columbia by addressing a broad range of social and economic needs through strategic management, public and private partnerships, supporting the creation of policies, promoting community relations, civic engagement, and community-based grants.

3. Please provide a complete, up-to-date organizational chart for each division within the office, including an explanation of the roles and responsibilities for each division and subdivision?

**Answer:**



a. Please provide a list of all employees (name and title) for each subdivision and the number of vacant positions.

Director: Eduardo Perdomo

Director of Operations: Maria Tello

Grants Manager: Ianna Arenas

Grants Monitor: Lucy Hernandez

Outreach Specialist: Cristian Salgado-Nunez

Outreach Manager: Vacant

Language Access Manager: Vacant

Language Access Monitor: Vacant

Public Information Officer: Vacant

Staff Assistant: Vacant

- b. Please provide a narrative explanation of any organizational changes made during the previous year.

**Answer:** MOLA did not have any organizational changes during the previous year.

4. Have any roles or responsibilities changed within the staff since the previous year? If so, please list the division and subdivision.

**Answer:** MOLA did not have any changes on roles or responsibilities during the previous year.

5. Please provide a complete position listing for your office for FY24 to date, including the following information.

**Answer:**

Title	Name	Hire Date	Status	Grade	Step	Salary
Language Access Monitor			Vacant	5	0	\$83,200.50
Grants Monitor	Lucy Hernandez Romero	1/22/2019	Filled	11	0	\$73,677.00
Community Outreach Specialist			Vacant	11	0	\$65,285.00
Staff Assistant			Vacant	9	0	\$61,353.00
Language Access Manager			Vacant	6	0	\$94,850.00
Grants Management Specialist	Ianna Zaroubine Arenas	8/15/2022	Filled	6	0	\$78,015.93
Director of Operations	Maria Y. Tello Palacios	1/3/2023	Filled	6	0	\$91,865.97
Executive Director	Eduardo Perdomo	4/18/2016	Filled	E1	0	\$124,368.15
Community Outreach Specialist	Cristian Salgado-Nunez	8/16/2021	Filled	11	1	\$65,285.00
Public Affairs Specialist			Vacant	5	0	\$83,200.50

6. During last fiscal year's performance oversight, the Office stated that two positions were vacant: Staff Assistant and Language Access Monitor. Have those positions been filled? If so,

how long has each person served in their respective position?

**Answer:** They were filled. Staff Assistant positions was filled 8 months and Language Access Monitor position was filled for 6 months and promoted to the Grants Department.

7. Does the office conduct annual performance evaluations of all its employees? If so, who conducts such evaluations? What steps are taken to ensure that all office employees are meeting individual job requirements? MOLA conduct one on one evaluation of its staff based on assigned work plans. MOLA's Director and Director of Operations conduct the evaluations.

**Answer:**

8. Please provide a list of employees detailed to, or from your office. Provide the reason for the detail, the detailed employee's date of detail, and the detailed employee's projected date of return.

**Answer:** MOLA does not have detailed staff.

9. Please provide the Committee with:  
a. A list of all vehicles owned, leased, or otherwise used by the Office and to whom the vehicle is assigned.

**Answer:** MOLA leased a Dodge Caravan 2015, exclusively for programmatic outreach purposes.

b. A list of employee bonuses or special award pay granted in FY23 and FY24, to date

**Answer:** in FY23 to date MOLA has not awarded bonuses to its employees.

c. A list of travel expenses itemized by employee.

**Answer:** MOLA's staff did not conduct any work travel during FY2023.

d. A list of the total overtime and workman's compensation payments paid in FY23 and FY24 to date.

**Answer:** In FY23, MOLA did not pay overtime to its employees.

10. Please provide a chart showing your office's approved budget and actual spending, by division, for FY23 and FY24 to date. In addition, please describe any variance between fiscal year appropriations and actual expenditures.

	FY23	FY24 (through 12/31/2023)
Approved budget	\$6,433,625.60	\$6,326,352
Actual Spending	\$6,305,692.01	4,200,900.66

11. Please list any reprogramming, in or out, which occurred in FY23 or FY24 to date. For each reprogramming, please list the total amount of the reprogramming, the original purposes for which the funds were dedicated, and the reprogrammed use of funds.

Fiscal Year 2023			
Budget Reprogramming			
Amount of Reprogramming	Original Purpose of Funds	Reprogrammed Use of Fund	Rationale
\$75,000.00	Continuing Full-Time, Regular Pay and Fringe Benefits.	Other Services and Charges	Use vacancy savings to provide vital language access services for limited and non-English speaking constituents.
\$103,000	Continuing Full-Time, Regular Pay and Fringe Benefits.	Other Services and Charges	Use vacancy savings to provide vital language access services for limited and non-English speaking constituents.

Fiscal Year 2024	
Not reprogramming yet	

12. Please provide a complete accounting for all intra-District transfers received by or transferred from the office during FY23 or FY24 to date.

**Answer:**

Fiscal Year 2023			
From Agency (Buyer)	To Agency (Seller)	Purpose	FY2023 Budgeted Amount of Transfer
Department of Employment Services	Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs	Summer Youth Employment Program	\$297,937.40
Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs	Department of Small and Local Business Development	Access to Lightning Platform Starter Unlimited Edition	\$480.00
Office of the State Superintendent of Education	Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs	Administration of CTE Advanced Internship Program and the Career Ready Internship Program (CRI)	\$37,500.00

Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs	Executive Office of the Mayor, Support Services	Transportation and courier services	\$8,000.00
Department of Energy and Environment	Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs	Latinos Go Solar / Solar for All	\$30,000.00

<b>Fiscal Year 2024</b>			
<b>From Agency (Buyer)</b>	<b>To Agency (Seller)</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>FY2023 Budgeted Amount of Transfer</b>
Office of the State Superintendent of Education	Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs	Administration of CTE Advanced Internship Program and the Career Ready Internship Program (CRI)	\$65,950.00
Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs	Executive Office of the Mayor, Support Services	Transportation and courier services	\$8,000.00

13. Please identify any special purpose revenue accounts maintained by, used by, or available for use by your office during FY23 or FY24 to date. For each account, please list the following:

**Answer:** MOLA does not have any special purpose revenue accounts.

14. For FY23 and FY24 to date, please provide the number of contracts and procurements executed by your agency. Please indicate how many contracts and procurements were for an amount under \$250,000, how many were for an amount between \$250,000-\$999,999, and how many were for an amount over \$1 million.

**Answer:**

Contracts and Procurement	FY23	FY24
Under \$250,000	4	2
Between 250,000-\$999,999	0	0
Over \$1 million	0	0

15. Please provide the typical timeframe from the beginning of the solicitation process to contract execution for:

a. Contracts and procurements under \$250,000

**Answer:** MOLA's issues a public call for proposals with a scope of work comprised with the expected deliverables. The process could take up to 60 days and ends with the provision of good of services. .

b. MOLA's post a public call for proposals to respond the agency's needs. The request for proposal is listed in the Procurement Automated System (PASS)

c. Contracts and procurements between \$250,000-\$999,999

**Answer:** MOLA does not have contracts between \$250,000-\$999,999

d. Contracts and procurements over \$1 million

**Answer:** MOLA does not have contracts over \$1 million.

16. In cases where you have been dissatisfied with the procurement process, what have been the major issues?

**Answer:** MOLA is satisfied with the current contracting and procurement policies, practices, and systems.

17. What changes to contracting and procurement policies, practices, or systems would help your agency deliver more reliable, cost-effective, and timely services?

**Answer:** MOLA is satisfied with the current contracting and procurement policies, practices, and systems.

18. Did the Office participate in any ethics training in FY23 and FY24 to date? Are they taken annually or as requested?

**Answer:** Yes, MOLA employees participated in ethics trainings, Hatch Act, Cyber Security and Sexual Harassment Prevention trainings.

19. Please provide a list of types and dates of training/information sessions the Office has planned for FY23 and FY24 to date.

**Answer:**

Trainings to be scheduled between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of FY24

1. Project Management training program
2. CPR training program
3. Public Speaking
4. Microsoft Office Certificate
5. Ethics training
6. Cyber security
7. Sexual Harassment

20. Please list any new and innovative ways your office is using to collect accurate data as it relates to constituent needs.

**Answer:**

MOLA has its database of DC residents that have engaged with the agency and the list of services these individuals have been connected to.

21. How does the Office solicit feedback from customers? Please describe.

**Answer:** MOLA’s request feedback through surveys implemented after events hosted by the agency.

a. What has the Office learned from this feedback?

**Answer:** Individuals want to receive more information about the services provided by DC Government and community-based organizations.

b. How has the Office changed its practices because of such feedback?

**Answer:** MOLA constantly provides information to the community about programs and services available to them. In addition, MOLA has implemented continuous outreach efforts to meet individuals out in the community.

22. How does the agency assess whether programs and services are equitably accessible to all District residents?

**Answer:** The fact that MOLA’s mission is to improve the quality of life of DC Latinos every single program executed by MOLA or its partners must have components of cultural competence and should be accessible in English and Spanish. MOLA assesses its program through a thorough monitoring process.

a. What were the results of any such assessments in FY23? Delivered over 194,000 units of direct services were delivered in FY23. Over 700 thousand pounds of free food distributed,

b. What changes did the agency make in FY23 and FY24, to date, or does the agency plan to make in FY24 and beyond, to address identified inequities in access to programs and services? The agency is planning to conduct more outreach efforts in the community to connect with more DC residents.

c. Does the agency have the resources needed to undertake these assessments? What would be needed for the agency to more effectively identify and address inequities in access to agency programs and services? The agency currently has the necessary tools to effectively continue to serve the Latino communities in Washington DC.

23. Please provide a complete list of the Office’s current programs, community events, and initiatives. Include a brief description and general time frame for each item.

**Answer:**

Event/Initiative	General time frame	Description
MOLA Black History Month 2023 Campaign	February 2023	To highlight stories of Afro-Latinos in the District with the purpose of celebrating the diverse Latino communities in DC.
Black and Brown, Salsa & Go-Go Panel Discussion	Throughout Fiscal Year 23	Connecting Afro-Latinos with DC African American community.
Voices of America	Summer-Fall	Promote inclusion through documentaries and films.
Free food distribution and community service	Monthly	To promote healthy lifestyles.
Women’s History Month	March 23	To promote women’s excellence.



Tax Preparation Clinic	March-April 23	MOLA will be holding a Tax Preparation Clinic to support DC Latino residents on how to file their taxes with the help of community partners. This event will be in person at the MOLA office from March 22-April 1st.
Multicultural FY23 Summer Youth Employment Program	April-August 23	To promote structure activities for DC youth ages 14 to 24.
Latinos in Government	Throughout FY23	To promote networking among DC Government Latino employees
Afro-Latino Fest	Every June	The purpose of the DC Afro-Latino Fest is to highlight, celebrate, and elevate the diversity of the Latino communities in the city. The DC Afro-Latino Fest will serve as the closing ceremony of the DC Afro-Latino Summit and feature cultural performances from Afro-Latino artists.
Multilingual Hiring Fair	Throughout FY23	To promote an inclusionary hiring process in the District of Columbia.
Pequeño Salvador Festival	Every June	This event highlights the contributions Salvadorians have made to the Mount Pleasant neighborhood.
Queerceañera (Latino Pride)	Every June	This event magnifies the voices of DC's Latino LGBTQ+ residents. Uplift the LGBTQ+ Latino community and foster equity, inclusion and diversity. #DCvalues #SomosDC
Latin American Book Festival	September	To promote diversity in the Latino culture.
2024 Mayor Bowser Summer Soccer Cup	July-August	To promote leadership and sportsmanship among DC Latinos.
Fiesta DC Parade and Festival	September 23	Each year, the parade is a lively display of culture featuring traditional costumes and entertainment from a variety of Latino countries. The family-friendly parade is a great way to learn about the varied Latino cultures that come from Central and South America.
Hispanic Heritage Month	September 23	To promote the diversity of DC residents and DC Latinos.
Celebrating our Seniors	September 23	To promote an inclusionary city where seniors can age friendly.

24. During the last fiscal year, the Office discussed the implementation of a newsletter to disseminate information. Please update the progress of the newsletter. Since last year's POH MOLA has released one newsletter per month reaching over 11,000 DC residents. MOLA has issued.
- a. What has the outcome and community engagement rate been with these programs, events, and initiatives?
  - b. What are your plans to always increase the engagement rate?

The MOLA issues a monthly Newsletter informing the community about the latest updates of the upcoming month as well as a report of the last month. In addition, MOLA inform the community about its activities through social media, text messages and quarterly reports.

25. What collaborations, initiatives, or programs have been successful in FY23 and FY24 to date? How were they successful?

**Answer:** MOLA collaborated with DOES Office of Youth Programs to provide access to the Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program ("MBSYEP"), which offers a six-week summer employment experience for youth ages 14 to 24. This program was successful because it provided a safe, positive work environment that allowed youth to develop necessary skills and training needed to be employable in the future. MOLA will continue this collaboration during FY2024. SYEP FY23 had 240 students applying to become participants of the program, and selected 136 of those youth were selected to participate.

On the other side, MOLA collaborated with the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) in a program called "Latinos Go Solar" that aims to bring the benefits of solar energy to 250 moderate income Latino families in The District.

26. Please provide a list of all studies, research papers, and analyses ("studies") the Office requested, prepared, or contracted for FY23 and FY24 to date. Please state the status and purpose of each study.

**Answer:** MOLA did not do studies, research papers, or analyses during the previous year.

27. How many community-based grants were awarded in FY23 and FY24 to date?

**Answer:**

Fiscal Year 2023

123 community-based grants were awarded in FY23

Fiscal Year 2024

89 community-based grants were awarded in FY24

28. How many community-based grants have been or will be awarded in FY23 and FY24 to date?

**Answer:**

Fiscal Year 2023

123 community-based grants were awarded in FY23

Fiscal Year 2024

89 community-based grants have been awarded in FY24

29. Please list each contract, procurement, lease, and grant (contract) awarded or entered into by your office during FY23 and FY24 to date. For each contract, please provide the following information where applicable.

**Answer:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1	Accessibility Inc.
2	An Open Book Foundation
3	Ayuda
4	Bread for the City, Inc.
5	Capital Area Assets Builders
6	Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
7	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc.
8	City Blossoms
9	Collaborative Solutions for Communities
10	Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital
11	Day Eight
12	DC Affordable Law Firm
13	DC Bilingual Public Charter School
14	DC SCORES
15	DC Volunteer Lawyers Project
16	Dialogue on Diversity
17	District Bridges
18	Following Francis dba Francis on the Hill
19	FreshFarm Markets, Inc.
20	Gala Hispanic Theater
21	Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation
22	HOLA CULTURA
23	Housing Counseling Services
24	IN Series
25	Jubilee Housing, Inc.
26	Jubilee JumpStart
27	Junior Tennis Champions Center
28	Kid Power, Inc
29	La Clinica del Pueblo
30	Latin American Youth Center

31	Latino Student Fund
32	Legal Counsel for the Elderly
33	Life Asset
34	Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care, Inc.
35	MOVEIUS Contemporary Ballet Inc.
36	Multicultural Career Intern Program
37	Multicultural Community Service
38	My Sister's Place
39	National Hispanic Council on Aging
40	National Housing Trust
41	One Common Unity, Inc.
42	Open Goal Project
43	PEN/Faulkner Foundation
44	Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities
45	Reading Partners
46	Salvadoran Cultural Institute/Casa de la Cultura El Salvador
47	San Miguel School
48	Sitar Arts Center
49	Spanish Education Development
50	Latino Student Fund
51	Survivors and Advocates for Empowerment, Inc.
52	Teatro de la Luna
53	The Dance Institute of Washington, Inc.
54	The Family Place
55	The Family Place Public Charter School
56	The Hamilton Group
57	The Washington Ballet
58	Thrive DC
59	Trabajadores Unidos de Washington DC
60	Tzedek DC, Inc.
61	University Legal Services
62	Uptown Community Initiative
63	Vida Senior Centers
64	Washington English Center
65	Words Beats and Life Inc
66	Young Playwrights' Theater, Inc.
67	Latino Student Fund
68	African Communities Together (ACT)
69	American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee Research Institute

70	Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center
71	AsylumWorks
72	Ayuda - Community Legal Interpreter Bank
73	Ayuda - Consultation and Representation Expansion Program
74	Bread for the City, Inc.
75	Briya Public Charter School
76	Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition
77	Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
78	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc.
79	DC Affordable Law Firm
80	DC Volunteer Lawyers Project
81	Empowerment Legal Services
82	Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
83	KIND Inc
84	Latin American Youth Center
85	Latino Student Fund
86	Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
87	Many Languages One Voice - MLOV
88	Mil Mujeres Inc.
89	Nigerian Center Inc.
90	Renaissance Center for Culture and Education
91	Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition International
92	Trabajadores Unidos de Washington DC
93	US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
94	Whitman-Walker Health
95	Vida Senior Centers
96	Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
97	Latino Student Fund
98	GALA Hispanic Theatre
99	Bancroft Elementary PTO
100	Centro de Alfabetizacion en Espanol (CENAES)
101	Mi Casa
102	ByteBack
103	Latin Economic Development Corporation
104	Teatro La Luna
105	Metro D.C. Hispanic Contractors Community Services, Inc.
106	GALA Hispanic Theatre
107	Metropolitan Office Products
108	Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)

109	Gala Hispanic Theater
110	LAYC Career Academy
111	Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care, Inc.
112	Open Goal Project
113	Latino Student Fund
114	Trabajadores Unidos de Washington DC
115	Latin American Youth Center
116	Multicultural Career Intern Program
117	The Hamilton Group
118	Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
119	Latino Student Fund
120	Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
121	GALA Hispanic Theater
122	Fiesta DC
123	National Hispanic Council on Aging
124	Carlos Rosario International School
125	Multicultural Career Intern Program
126	Martha's Table
127	Latino Student Fund
128	Vida Senior Centers

<b>No.</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1	African Communities Together (ACT)
2	American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee - Research Institute (ADC-RI)
3	Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center
4	AsylumWorks
5	AYUDA - Community Legal Interpreter Bank
6	AYUDA - Consultation and Representation Expansion Program
7	Bread for the City, Inc.
8	Briya Public Charter School
9	Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition
10	Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
11	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc.
12	DC Affordable Law Firm
13	DC Volunteer Lawyers Project
14	KIND Inc
15	Latin American Youth Center
16	Latino Student Fund

17	Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
18	Many Languages One Voice - MLOV
19	Mil Mujeres, Inc.
20	Nigerian Center, Inc.
21	Renaissance Center for Culture and Education
22	Torture Abolition and Survivors Support Coalition International
23	Trabajadores Unidos de Washington DC
24	US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
25	Whitman-Walker Health
26	826dc
27	An Open Book Foundation
28	Bancroft Elementary PTO
29	Capital Area Assests Builders
30	Central American Resource Center (CARECEN)
31	Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School
32	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, Inc.
33	City Blossoms
34	Collaborative Solutions for Communities
35	DC Affordable Law Firm
36	DC Bilingual Public Charter School
37	DC SCORES
38	District Bridges
39	District of Columbia Arts Center
40	Following Francis dba Francis on the Hill
41	Gala Hispanic Theater
42	Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation
43	Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington DC, Inc.
44	HOLA CULTURA
45	Housing Counseling Services, Inc.
46	Jubilee Housing, Inc.
47	Jubilee JumpStart
48	Junior Tennis Champions Center
49	JusticeAccess
50	Kid Power, Inc.
51	La Clinica del Pueblo
52	Latin American Youth Center
53	Latino Economic Development Corporation of Washington DC
54	Latino Student Fund
55	Legal Counsel for the Elderly

56	Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care, Inc.
57	Metro DC Hispanic Contractors Association
58	Mi Casa, Inc.
59	MOVEIUS Conemporary Ballet Inc.
60	Multicultural Career Intern Program
61	My Sister's Place
62	National Housing Trust
63	Open Goal Project
64	PEN - Faulkner Foundation
65	Reading Partners
66	San Miguel School
67	Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League (SMYAL)
68	Social Good Fund
69	Spanish Education Development
70	Survivors and Advocates for Empowerment, inc.
71	Teatro de la Luna
72	The Dance Institute of Washington, Inc.
73	The Difference Society
74	The Family Place Public Charter School
75	The Family Place
76	Thrive DC
77	Trabajadores Unidos de Washington DC
78	Tzedek DC, Inc
79	University Legal Services
80	Uptown Community Initiative
81	Vida Senior Centers
82	Washington English Center
83	Young Playwrights' Theater, Inc.
84	Fiesta DC Inc
85	Gala Hispanic Theater
86	Teatro de la Luna
87	Latino Student Fund
88	National Hispanic Council on Aging
89	Centro de Alfabetizacion en Espanol (CENAES)
90	The Hamilton
91	ZOOMGrants



30. Did the Office conduct oversight of the organization to which it awards grants to ensure funds are used as intended? If so, please describe the oversight

**Answer:** MOLA conducted site visits to all its community-based grants awarded in FY23. MOLA will start its site visits to all community-based grants awarded in FY23 in March 2024.

31. Of the organizations that received a community-based grant in FY23, how many also received community-based grants in FY24?

**Answer:** 70 Programs from returning grantees were awarded in FY23. In FY24, 69 programs from returning grantees were awarded.

32. Please detail and explain how the community-based grants are determined, eligibility, and process. Is this information being advertised for the community? If so, how?

**Answer:**

Every fiscal year MOLA releases to the public a request for proposal via its social media, DC Grants Clearinghouse, DC Funding Alert to receive proposals to serve DC Latino community in several areas of interest.

#### Eligibility Criteria

Organizations that meet the following eligibility requirements at the time of application may be eligible:

- Be a Community-Based Organization (CBO) with a Federal 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or evidence of fiscal agent relationship with a 501 (c)(3) organization;
- The organization or program serves the District's Latino residents or business owners;
- The organization's principal place of business is located in the District of Columbia;
- All services and programming to receive funds must be provided in the District of Columbia;
- The organization is currently registered in good standing with the DC Department of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs, Corporation Division, and the Office of Tax and Revenue;
- Current grantees must be current on any reporting obligations for the previous grant cycle and progress towards deliverables will be considered.

#### Review Process

MOLA uses an independent review panel that will submit recommendations for funding. The review panel is composed of neutral, qualified individuals selected for their experiences with health, education, housing, legal, public safety, business, employment, and other related expertise, or grants administration and non-profit management. The panel members will review and score applicant proposals and submit recommendations for awards.

An internal review panel comprised of the Directors from the Mayor's Office on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs, the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs and the Mayor's Office on African Affairs

will prepare an assessment that will be submitted to the Grant Advisory Review Board (GARB), after taking under consideration the external independent review panel's recommendations.

Based on the external and internal review panel recommendations, the Mayor's budget priorities, the financial resources available, and to achieve a balance as to communities served and the goals of the program, GARB will make the final funding decision. The GARB is the Grant Advisory Review Board (GARB), which is composed by the Mayor's General Counsel, the Director of the Mayor's Office on Community Affairs and the Director of the Office of Partnerships and Grant Services (OPGS). GARB's final funding decisions cannot be contested.

Final decisions will be made based on the scores and such other factors and considerations as the district deems relevant at the time of award, which may include updated consideration of how well the applicant has performed on prior grants; grant administrators with prior experience with applicants; and the input and expert opinion of relevant agency Directors.

33. Did the Office receive any grants in FY23 or FY24 to date? If so, what was the source and duration of the grant(s), and what was it used to accomplish?

**Answer:** No grants have been received by the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs.

34. Has the Office sought any grant opportunities in FY23 or FY24 to date?

**Answer:** No. MOLA did not seek grant opportunities.

35. What are some challenges that the Office faces with running various number of programs and initiatives?

a. What can help make these programs run effortlessly?

MOLA has an adequate level of staffing to enable the agency to properly run its community programs.

**Answer:**

36. Does the Office ever request internal or external audits to be conducted on the operation of your office as a precautionary tool?

**Answer:** MOLA follows all record keeping and fiscal requirements and will participate in any audits that may be required. MOLA has not requested an internal or external audit be conducted for the Office.

37. What are the Office's goals going forward in FY23 and FY24 to date?

**Answer:**

1. Improve the lives of DC Latino residents by supporting the provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate programs implemented by DC Government Agencies and Community Based Organizations in all 8 wards in the area of education, health and

wellness, jobs and economic development, arts and creative economy, housing, public safety.

2. Facilitate greater access to economic development resources among DC Constituents resident and/or Business owners in all 8 wards.
3. Assist Latinos in acquiring workforce skills that help them succeed in and foster the growth of the new economy in the District.
4. Improve the quality of Life among DC Latinos residents of ward 7 and 8 by connecting them to services provided by District's Government Agencies and/or community based organizations.
5. Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent, and responsive District government.

38. Please detail the Commission on Latino Community Development meeting schedule and the capacity that they have worked with your office in the past fiscal year.

**Answer:** The Latino Commission holds a meeting every other month. Commissioners have supported MOLA in disseminating information about initiatives and programs available to DC Latinos. Additionally, Commissioners have volunteered their time to support MOLA's programmatic activities to provide support in free tax preparation clinics, free food distributions, organizing cultural events.

39. What are your top five priorities for the Commission? Please provide a detailed explanation for how the Commission expects to achieve or work toward these priorities in FY23 and FY24.

**Answer:**

1. Improve the lives of DC Latino residents by supporting the provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate programs implemented by DC Government Agencies and Community Based Organizations in all 8 wards in the area of education, health and wellness, jobs and economic development, arts and creative economy, housing, public safety.
2. Facilitate greater access to economic development resources among DC Constituents resident and/or Business owners in all 8 wards.
3. Assist Latinos in acquiring workforce skills that help them succeed in and foster the growth of the new economy in the District.
4. Improve the quality of Life among DC Latinos residents of ward 7 and 8 by connecting them to services provided by District's Government Agencies and/or community based organizations.
5. Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent, and responsive District government.

40. How many people serve on the Commission and how many vacancies are there currently?

**Answer:** 9 commissioners are serving and 6 vacancies.