I. Mission:
The Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries’ (CPOHM) mission is threefold: to offer pastoral care to Hispanic ministers and congregations; to advice and counsel the different manifestations of our denomination about Hispanic ministries; and to be an advocate for Hispanic people, congregations and issues.

II. Personnel
The CPOHM currently has two persons working: the National Pastor and an Administrative Assistant to assist, manage, communicate, do development, financial, and programs to more than 200 Hispanic churches.

III. Pastoral Commission for Hispanic Ministries Members (2014-16)
The members of the Pastoral Commission for Hispanic Ministries are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Convention</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joel Saucedo</td>
<td>Moderator, National Hispanic and Bilingual Fellowship (NHBF)</td>
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<td>Servando Perález</td>
<td>Moderator Elect, NHBF</td>
<td>MW Convention</td>
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<td>Sammy Ramirez</td>
<td>Moderator, NHBF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lori Tapia</td>
<td>First Vice-Moderator</td>
<td>AZ Convention</td>
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<td>Lorna Hernández</td>
<td>Secretary, NHBF</td>
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<td>Milly Semprit</td>
<td>Sub-Secretary, NHBF</td>
<td>Pacific Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guillermina Perález</td>
<td>Representative at Large</td>
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<td>David Cortés</td>
<td>Representative at Large</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alicia Rodríguez</td>
<td>Moderator, SE Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosy Ricart</td>
<td>Moderator, MW Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Almodóvar</td>
<td>Representative, MW Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Tapia</td>
<td>Moderator AZ Convention</td>
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<td>Alicia Rodríguez</td>
<td>Moderator, SE Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>Representative, SE Convention</td>
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General Board Representatives
- Absent
- Regional Minister
- Theresa Dulyea-Parker
- Regional Minister, IL-WI Region
- Dawn Robinette
- General Board Representative, Detroit, MI
- Eliezer (Eli) Rolón
- General Board Representative, Nashville, TN
- Héctor Velázquez
- Representative of the Hispanic Board of Director – Obra Hispana

Ex-Officio Members
- Sharon Watkins
- General Minister and President
- CCDC in USA and Canada

Huberto Pimentel
- National Pastor
- for Hispanic Ministries

Invitees of the National Pastor
- Plácido Vega – Northeast
- Edith Mendoza – Kansas City
IV. Theological Education

CPOHM in joined partnership with Brite Divinity has celebrated the following program:

CPOHM co-sponsored the 2014 session of the Brite Institute for Latino/a Ministries, which was held on June 8-13 2014. Over 60 students participated in this event. One important goal in the Summer Latina/o Program is to better equip lay pastors with theological and practical pastoral studies that will help them comply with the new study requirements for all licensed pastors in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This is a four day and three hour class module. Students will accumulate in one class a total of 12 hours of continuous studies. The Summer Latino Program was structured in 3 courses opportunities in the morning session and 2 courses opportunities in the afternoon session

A. Pastoral Care of Marriage and Family from a Hispanic Perspective – Rev. Dr. Luis Bernard
B. Protestant Heritage from a Hispanic Perspective – Dr. Carmelo Álvarez
C. The women their call and the church – Dr. Zaida Maldonado
D. Spirituality, Worship & Christian Mission – Dr. Carlos Cardoza
E. The Psalms and the Pastoral Care – Dr. Greg Cuellar
F. Ruth, Migration & Latin Hermeneutics – Dr. Timothy Sandoval

As far as our understanding and the communication from Brite Divinity President, Dr. William Newell, the Summer Latino Program will no longer be offered. The will be reaching out to the Region to explore some possibilities.

The Christian Theological Seminary Summer Theological Program was not offered on 2014 due mainly to lack of participation and other factors.

The Certificate of Ministry Program (CMS) is another program joint effort with Disciples Seminary Foundation in Los Angeles and San Diego, California, offered in Spanish for the Commissioned Hispanic Pastors and Lay Leaders. Rev. Xosé Escamilla is the Director of the program.

The Certificate of Ministerial Studies (“CMS”) is designed for adults who are interested in an introduction to the kind of studies found in seminary and is for the purpose of completing the educational requirements for licensed or commissioned ministry, learning more about advanced theological education, enrichment for lay leaders, or any combination of reasons. CMS is a unique program focused on contextual learning for ministry today. Part of the richness of the CMS is that individuals bring their personal experiences and/or professional considerations to the program. The purpose of CMS is, above all, to give its participants a basic theological framework for evaluating and developing knowledge for ministry and at the same time consider the contributions and knowledge that each person brings to the program.

As I moved in a transition toward ending my tenure on April of 2016, my heart is burden by the closing of two great theological educational opportunities for our pastoral and lay leaders in our Hispanic churches.

I want to express my gratitude to Brite Divinity and Christian Theological Seminaries for the initiative of offering a serious and critical theological learning experience in the past years. Many internal factors like: Budget-money, lack of participation, Board decisions, and internal issues within the academic institutions were some factors within others that lead to the closing of the Summer Latino Theological Programs. We are in debt and have gratitude to this distinguish Disciples Seminaries and pray in the hope tough times will bring new venues and other Theological Summer Latino Programs in the near future. We are determined to seek out for help from our Disciples partner’s in mission, as we will envision the future of theological education in new ways.

CPOHM is committed to grant scholarships for M.Div. seminarians

CPOHM has allocated $4,130 for scholarship support. Each seminarian under the care of a Commission on Ministry is granted +/- $40.00 per credit hour in an ATS Seminary. There are 8 Hispanic Seminarians studying in Disciples Seminaries and other ATS Seminaries where there is no Disciples Seminary presence. The allocation for 2011 will be 2/3 of 2010 due to the economic impact to our CPOHM.

V. The CPOHM & the Church-at-Large

CPOHM supported the goals and vision of our Church:

1. Pro-Reconciliation: The National Pastor is part of the Reconciliation Commission.
2. New Church: CPOHM supports the growing number of Hispanic new congregations and networking with New Church Ministries. We are requesting from NC Ministries a conversation on how to improve and make clear the transition of new Hispanic Churches to the Obra Hispana.

3. Transforming congregations: The different educational ventures of the CPOHM seek to empower and transform our existing congregations, particularly by helping our ministers to be better pastoral leaders.

4. Forming and reforming leadership: CPOHM continues its emphasis on leadership development, as demonstrated by the programs developed in 2014. CPOHM also organizes and resources ministerial retreats, workshops and assemblies for Latino and Latina ministers. Many of these workshops and Seminars take place during Hispanic Convention Assemblies and others during pastoral visits from the National Pastor where some Hispanic churches group together for a Saturday Workshop.

5. The Hispanic Board of Directors approved on the December Board meeting of 2014, a document named: Identity, Mission and Witness. This document has the intention for prayer, dialogue and reflection on our identity, the Mission of God and the Witness in our communities. A massive Email was sent to all the pastoral body with specific instruction’s and a video link that explain how to use and have a better understanding on the purpose of the document. "Obra Hispana" will have as a goal to engage in the Mission discussion during 2015. It will also be the main discussion on our next Hispanic Assembly on Coral Gables Christian Church on July 14-16, 2016 (Theme: Chosen with an Identity, mission and Witness). Another practical document was sent to the pastoral body: “The seven marks of a Hispanic Disciples Church” that will help them with their identity, Mission and Witness.

**VI. Audited Annual Financial Statements**

No audit for 2014. On our Hispanic Board of Directors meeting, Nancy Pickell, the person who handles the CPOHM finances explained in details the financial challenges and projections for Hispanic Ministries. A significant cut in the projected Budget for 2015 reveals new ways to continue Hispanic Ministries (As the expected ending income projected for 2014 is of 222,125. in 2014, we are a projecting an income budget of 206,233 for 2015.

**VII. Conclusion**

CPOHM is committed to serve the growing Hispanic Disciples constituency. We are confident the changes in leadership will energize our ministry, enabling the CPOHM to better serve our Church as a whole.

**Recommended Action:**

The General Board receives the report from the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries and forwards the report to the 2015 General Assembly for consideration and discussion.