

Legacy of Empowerment: 50 Years Strong



Mary Lou de Leon Siantz, PhD, RN, FAAN
Past President (2000-2002)

Key Initiatives/Achievements

- Co-founder of National Association Hispanic Nurses
- Helped to establish the collaboration & partnership with the NIH to facilitate development of a post doctoral appointment for a doctoral student at the national clinical center that led to facilitating appointment to the National Advisory Council to the NINR. This resulting in funding to NAHN,
- Established National Hispanic Nurses Day in Washington D.C in partnership with Congressman Rubén Eloy Hinojosa (15th District, TX).
- Appointed an accountant and developed fiduciary responsibility of the president for the budget, accounts and finances of NAHN.
- The development of Hispanic Health International which represents the voice of Hispanic People. The impact factor has grown over time.

Final thoughts

"Things I would advise you to look for moving forward~ always look to the mission of NAHN. Although visions will change depending on the President and administrative team and looks at what's needed and applying the mission, but the mission remains to represent the health of all Hispanic people and to be the voice of Hispanic Nurses and to advocate the education and professional leadership and opportunities for Hispanic Nurses. That will never change, that is the essence of what we have always been. For all those coming into NAHN, look & think about the mission and vision and how you can lead in those areas. Develop leadership, look for mentors to build your skillset".

