

July 31, 2024

I am honored to extend my warmest greetings to the health care professionals, students, and distinguished guests gathered for the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) 49th Annual Conference.

For decades, NAHN has remained steadfast in its commitment to improving health care access for Hispanic communities, advocating for a more just future, and cultivating community for its many members. I am grateful for your tireless efforts to champion diversity and opportunity while providing resources and support to Hispanic nurses.

President Biden and I are proud to have taken historic action to expand access to affordable, high-quality health care. We increased Latino enrollment in health care coverage through the Affordable Care Act, and we have recently expanded access to coverage to DACA recipients; created the first-of-its-kind United States Playbook to Address Social Determinants of Health; and made historic investments in nearly 1,400 community health centers, which predominately serve Latinos and other communities of color.

President Biden and I also know that our country needs more nurses, physicians, behavioral health care providers, community health workers, and other health professionals—especially those who look like and share the experiences of the people they serve. And so, we have invested over \$1 billion to grow and diversify the Nation's health care workforce through programs like the National Health Service Corps, where we support providers like you in serving millions of otherwise underserved patients.

While we have taken historic steps, there is still much more work to be done. Together, we can continue to build a brighter and more equitable future for generations to come. Thank you for all that you do.

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