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## **Politicians and Faith Leaders to Discuss Immigration at National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast**

*Esperanza to Host Historic Conference June 12-14, 2018 in Washington, D.C.*

**WASHINGTON, DC. (May 30, 2018)** – While the immigration debate intensifies in Washington, top political leaders are expected to address hundreds of Hispanic faith leaders at the National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast and Conference from June 12th-14th in Washington D.C.

Esperanza, the premiere Hispanic Evangelical faith-based network in the country, will host the 12<sup>th</sup> NHPB. The conference has been attended by every sitting president of the United States since 2002, including **President Barack Obama** and **President George W. Bush**. This year, U.S. House of **Representatives Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI)**, **Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)**, **Senate Minority Leaders Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senator Tim Scott (R-SC)** are expected to address important issues facing the country such as immigration, religious freedom, economic empowerment, and education. The event will also feature Evangelist Luis Palau and other prominent faith leaders.

**President Donald Trump** along with members of his Cabinet, Congress, and other distinguished guests are invited to the event which is being held for the first time in his presidency.

“Esperanza is incredibly grateful that while the country continues to navigate these unique and challenging times, leaders of faith and our national politicians can come together to have a productive dialogue on issues like religious freedom, immigration, and economic empowerment,” **said Rev. Luis Cortés Jr., President and CEO of Esperanza**. “The National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast offers a platform for the nation’s most influential Hispanic clergy and community leaders to engage strategically on faith and to advance the welfare of their communities.”

Led by Rev. Cortés since 1987, Esperanza is prepared to bring together 700 Latino faith and community leaders from 35 states as the Hispanic population has grown to the second-largest ethnic group

population in the U.S. and 40 percent of the Catholic Church in the United States in 2016. Hispanic voters and Catholic voters are key demographics for many political candidates heading into a highly-anticipated 2018 midterm Congressional election.

- Highlights of this year's conference include: Hispanic Advocates Awards Dinner, Advocacy Training Sessions, Congressional Hill Visits
- National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast
- Immigration Policy Expert Jaime Lizarraga, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of House of Representatives Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi
- Advocacy Panel on Religious Freedom with Stanley Carlson-Thies, Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance and formerly President George W. Bush's White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships.
- Networking dinner presenting the latest research on the growth and impact of the Hispanic community
- Discussion with members of Congress on Capitol Hill about current issues pertaining to the community

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*Esperanza, the premiere Hispanic Evangelical faith-based network in the country, was founded in 1987 by the Rev. Luis Cortez Jr. and the Hispanic Clergy of Philadelphia and vicinity. With a national network of over 13,000 Hispanic congregations, faith and community-based agencies, Esperanza is a leading voice for Hispanics in America. To read more, please visit [www.esperanza.us](http://www.esperanza.us).*