



# Clergy Leadership Program

of Central Pennsylvania

## Speakers for Seminar One: “Community and Diversity”

(October 26, 2015)

### Seminar Coordinator

**Kevin Villegas** is a 1998 graduate of Messiah College and a 2012 graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary. He is currently Director of Student Involvement and Leadership Programs at Messiah College, having previously served as the Director of International Student Programs.

### Other Speakers

**Daniel Betancourt** is President/CEO of Community First Fund, an organization that has grown under Dan’s leadership to become a regional Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) attracting multi-million dollar investments. Dan also serves on the board of Community Action Program in Lancaster County (CAP) and the Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

**The Honorable Rick Gray** is Mayor of the City of Lancaster. After attending American University and Dickinson Law School, Rick began his law career in 1969 as a VISTA attorney assigned to the Neighborhood Legal Services in Pittsburgh, PA. He came to Lancaster in 1972 as Director of Legal Services. In 1976, he entered private practice and began a 30-year career as a defense attorney. He was elected mayor in 2005.

**Tish Hernandez** is a Social Worker in the Lancaster School District. Tish grew up in Lancaster City and graduated from McCaskey High School. She has a Bachelor’s in Social Work from Millersville University and a Master’s in Couples and Family Therapy from Drexel University.

**Jessica Knapp** is the Site Director at the Lutheran Children & Family Services refugee resettlement office in downtown Lancaster and also serves as the Coordinator of the Lancaster County Refugee Coalition. She has also worked for the International Rescue Committee in Washington, DC. Jessica has a B.A. in International Studies from Otterbein College and an M.A. in International Studies/African Studies from Ohio University.

**Radames Melendez** is the founder and President/CEO of *Esperanza* Hope for the Future Counseling Services Inc., an organization that provides counseling services for children, adolescents, adults, parents, and families in the Lancaster Spanish-speaking Latino community. Radames is also Vice President of the School Board of the Lancaster School District and is an active member of *Iglesia Católica San Juan Bautista*.

**Rita Nuam**, a young Burmese woman, is a leader in the Lancaster immigrant community. She was resettled into Lancaster when she was a teenager, worked with Lutheran Refugee Services as a Case Aide, and now works at the health center that is located in the Reynolds Community School and Refugee Center.

**Tim Shenk** is the Community Education Program Director for Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13, where he has been employed for 20 years. Tim’s former roles at IU13 included Adult Education supervisor and English as a Second Language instructor. Tim has a Master’s of Education Degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from Temple University.

**Miriam Soto** is Home Ownership Center Director at the Lancaster Housing Opportunity Partnership. She is responsible for providing education to prospective home buyers, administering the Home Buyer Loan program, and promoting LHOP’s programs and services to community organizations, realtors, lenders, employers, and others. Raised in Lancaster City public housing, Miriam is committed to advocating for and bringing financial knowledge to under-served markets.