Curriculum Vitae

# **Martha Gonzalez-Cortes**

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Education

**1998 MA** **Cultural Anthropology**

Stanford University, Stanford, California

\*Master’s thesis: “Mushrooms, Marching Bands, & Beauty Queens --- Mexican Farmworkers in the 1994 Mushroom Festival Parade”

\*Curriculum emphasis on transnational migration, political economy, immigration law, nationalism & ethnicity, and U.S./Mexico area studies.

1. **1994 BA Anthropology**

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

\*Magna Cum Laude with Honors in Anthropology

\*Honors thesis: “The Kaolin Workers’ Strike --- Discourses of *Necesidades* (Needs)”

\*Curriculum emphasis on U.S./Mexico border studies, farmworker labor history, poverty and welfare studies, alternative educational methodologies, and Latin American cultural theory.

Fellowships & Awards

2009 Woman of Influence recognition, *Grand Rapids Magazine*

2008 National Farmworker Advocate of the Year, “Plate of Bounty Award,” National Migrant Head Start Association, Washington, D.C.

2006-2007 Fellow, Michigan Education Policy Fellowship Program (EPFP), MSU

2004 Champion of Diversity, Project Blueprint, United Way, Grand Rapids

2001 Woman of Achievement Award, YWCA Tribute Awards, Grand Rapids

1. Robert Bayard Textor Award (for Creativity in Anthropology)

Department of Anthropology, Stanford University

* 1. National Science Foundation (NSF) Pre-Dissertation Fellowship
  2. Needmore Foundation Research Fellowship
  3. Marshall Neppar Fellowship, Bryn Mawr College
  4. Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship, Bryn Mawr College
  5. Bryn Mawr Alumnae Regional Fellowship, Bryn Mawr College

Professional Experience

Dec 2013-Present CEO, Gonzalez-Cortes & Associates, LLC, Grand Rapids, MI

Feb 2008-Dec 2013 CEO, Hispanic Center of Western MI, Grand Rapids, MI

April 2003-Feb 2008 State Director, Office of Migrant Affairs, DHS, Lansing, MI

June 2000-March 2003 Executive Director, Hispanic Center of Western MI, Grand Rapids, MI

July 1995-June 2000 Paralegal & Statewide Outreach Coordinator, MI Migrant Legal Assistance Project (MMLAP), Grand Rapids, MI

May 1993-June 1995 Farm Labor Organizer, CATA (Farmworker Support Committee), Kennett Square, PA

**Teaching, Research, and Fieldwork Experience**

Summer 1998 Fieldwork on Domestic Farmworkers & Foreign Guestworkers (H2A/H2B workers), Benson, North Carolina

1997-1998 Teaching Assistant, Stanford University

\*EDGE (Ethics of Development in a Global Environment), “War & Peace”

\*EDGE, “Trade & the Environment”

* 1. Legal Services Community Educator & Project Coordinator, MMLAP, MI

1994-1995 Research on Farm Labor Organizing Effectiveness & Transnational Migration, Needmore Foundation Grant, CATA (Farmworker Support Committee): Pennsylvania, New Jersey, North Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico & Dominican Republic

Summer 1993 Research Assistant, Professor Miguel Diaz-Barriga, Department of Anthropology, Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania

Summer 1992 Research Assistant, Professor Miguel Diaz-Barriga, Department of Anthropology, Swarthmore College, Pennsylvania

1992-1994 Fieldwork on Farm Labor Organizing, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

Summer 1991 Fieldwork on Border Culture & Women in the *Maquiladora* Industry: El Paso, TX and *Cuidad* *Juarez*, Mexico

Summer 1991 Research Assistant, Professor Alejandro Lugo, Department of Anthropology, Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania

* 1. Community Educator, Migrant Health Promotion, Michigan

**Elected Leadership & Appointed Positions**

July 2014 – Present Appointed Chair, St. Mary’s Hospital Community Benefit Ministry Committee.

Aug 2010-2013 Appointed Member, Michigan Department of Education, Title III Advisory Committee

July 2010-Dec 2013 Elected Midwest Representative, Affiliate Council, National Council of La Raza (NCLR)

Feb 2010-Dec 2013 Elected Steering Committee Member, Heart of West Michigan United Way, Partner Agency Director’s Group, Grand Rapids, MI

April 2013-Nov 2013 Appointed Member, Mayor’s Election Taskforce, City of Grand Rapids, MI (focused on improved voter access to the polls, poll worker recruitment, and improved election process in the city)

Jan 2012-May 2013 Appointed Member, Kent County Commission’s Community Collaboration Workgroup (focused on streamlining units of government)

May 2011-Oct 2013 Elected Board Secretary, Alliance for Health, Grand Rapids, MI.

Feb 2010-Sept 2012 Elected Board Secretary, Hope Network Corporate Board, Grand Rapids, MI.

May 2010-2011 Appointed Farmworker Representative, State Cabinet Workgroup on Migrant & Seasonal Farmworker Civil Rights, Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Lansing, MI.

April 2003-Feb 2009 Chair, Interagency Migrant Services Committee (IMSC), Lansing, MI.

Dec 2004-Feb 2010 Chair, IMSC Migrant Child Taskforce, Lansing, MI.

Nov. 2001-2008 Elected Executive Committee Member, MI League for Human Services Board, Lansing, MI.

March 2008 Michigan Delegate, *National Farmworker Medicaid Portability Workgroup* *Meeting*, Washington D.C.

Sept. 2003 Governor Appointed Michigan Delegate, Department of Health & Human Services’ *National Consultation:* *Addressing Health Care Disparities – A Workshop for Senior State Policymakers*, New Orleans, Louisiana

Dec. 2007 Michigan Delegate, *Breaking Down Barriers National Summit: Improving Access to Early Care and Education for Immigrant Families*, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), Chicago, IL

Aug. 2006 Michigan & US Delegate, *International Consultation for Elected Officials and Public Policy Makers* - *Jornada Informativa*, Institute for Mexican Exterior Relations (IME), Mexico City, Mexico

**State, National, & International Events**

Aug 2014 Participant, WK Kellogg Foundation Racial Equity Think Tank Meeting: “Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for Racial Equity, Racial Healing Grassroots Organizations,” Detroit, MI

July 2014 Facilitator, Black Brown Relationship Building & Racial Equity Dialogue, Watts/Century Latino Organization, Los Angeles, CA

Feb 2014 Selection Committee Member, WK Kellogg Foundation Fellows Program, Michigan

July 2013 US Delegate & Presenter, WK Kellogg Foundation & Initiatives of Change (IOC) International Racial Equity Convening, Caux, Switzerland

\***Immigration** **Workshop Facilitator**, Caux, Switzerland

Dec 2013 Participant, NCLR & Raza Development Fund trial of NCLR Affiliate community development training, Phoenix, AZ

Nov 2013 Participant, Urban Core Collective (UCC) CEO training in *Disruptive Leadership* at NYU Stern School of Business, NY, NY

Nov 2013 Grantee Participant, WK Kellogg Foundation’s national Civic Engagement Convening, Detroit, MI

April 2013 Organizer & Moderator, *Immigration Town Hall* with Congressman Justin Amash (R-MI) and Congressman Raul Labrador (R-ID), Grand Rapids, MI

July 2012 Organizer & Moderator, *Roundtable on Latinos & the Economy* with USDOL Secretary Hilda Solis, Grand Rapids, MI

2012-2013 Grantee Participant, WK Kellogg Foundation’s national *America Healing* Racial Equity Conference

- April 2013 Ashville, North Carolina

\***Workshop Presenter**

- April 2012 New Orleans, LA

2010-2013 Grantee Participant, WK Kellogg Foundation’s *Michigan Grantee Convening*

* Oct 2013 Grand Rapids, Michigan
* Sept 2012 Detroit, Michigan
* Aug 2011 Traverse City, Michigan

2010-2013 Elected Midwest Representative, **Co-Convener & Moderator**, *Midwest Affiliate Meeting*, National Council of La Raza (NCLR)

* Oct 2013 Cleveland, OH
* Oct 2012 Minneapolis, MN
* Oct 2011 Chicago, IL
* Oct 2010 Milwaukee, WI

2010-2013 Elected Midwest Representative, Participant at National Conference & *Affiliate Council Meeting*, National Council of La Raza (NCLR)

- July 2013 New Orleans, LA

\***Conference** **Presenter at Affiliate CEO Leadership Breakfast**

- July 2012 Las Vegas, NV

- July 2011 Chicago, IL

- July 2010 San Antonio, TX

2010-2013 Elected Midwest Representative, Participant at Latino Advocacy Days & *Affiliate Council Meeting*, National Council of La Raza (NCLR)

* March 2013 Washington, D.C.
* March 2012 Washington, D.C. (State Delegation Lead)
* March 2010 Washington, D.C.

Jan 2012 Grantee Participant, national OVW - US Department of Justice Conference on *Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services to Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Assault*, Washington, D.C.

Feb 2010 Grantee Participant, national OVW - US Department of Justice Conference on *Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services to Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, and Sexual Assault*, Tucson, Arizona

Oct 2009 Organizer & Facilitator, WK Kellogg Foundation’s Meeting of Immigration Experts in the Midwest, Lansing, MI

Dec. 2004 Participant, National OVW - US Department of Justice Conference on *Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Among Immigrant Women*, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2003-2008 Convener & Moderator, MI Annual Farmworker & Grower Conference, Lansing, MI

Community Service

Jan 2010-Present Board Member, Saint Mary’s Hospital (Trinity Health), Grand Rapids, MI.

\*Appointed Chair, Community Benefit Ministry Committee

(July 2013- Present)

Sept. 2003-Present Member, Farmworker Legal Services Advisory Board, Michigan.

Feb 2003-Dec 2013 Member, Interagency Migrant Services Committee (IMSC), Lansing, MI.

2004-2008 Member, Michigan Head Start State Collaboration Advisory Board, Lansing, MI.

Sept. 2005-Jan 2012 Corporate Board, Hope Network, Michigan.

\*Elected Board Secretary (2010-2012)

Dec. 2008-Jan 2012 Board Member, Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce, Grand Rapids, MI.

Oct. 2004-2008 Member, State Bar of Michigan’s State Planning Body, Lansing, MI.

Sept. 2004-2008 Member, State Bar of Michigan’s SCJI Equal Access Initiative, Lansing, MI.

Aug. 2005-2008 Member, Support Services Committee of the Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes (MIAAHC), Lansing, MI.

Oct. 2005-2008 Stakeholder Advisory Board Member, Michigan State University’s College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Lansing, MI.

Oct. 2003-2008 Board Member, Heart of West MI United Way, Grand Rapids, MI.

Dec. 2005-2008 Member, Telamon Migrant Head Start’s Statewide Policy Council, Lansing, MI.

July 2005-2006 Member, Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force, U.S. Attorney’s Office - Department of Justice, Lansing, MI.

June 2005-2006 Taskforce Member, Michigan Food Policy Council, Lansing, MI.

Oct. 2005-2006 Board Member, Secretariat for Social Justice, Grand Rapids Diocese, Grand Rapids, MI.

Language Skills

Spanish (fluently bilingual).

**References**

Available Upon Request.