

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension and Outreach

¡Salir Adelante! Pathways for Our Future

Connecting families, schools and communities to prepare Latino youth for the future.



Background

By 2025, Future Ready Iowa states that over two-thirds of Iowa jobs will require training or education beyond high school. However, not all Iowans are prepared. According to the Iowa Department of Education and the State Data Center, Latinos are at less likely than other Iowans to graduate from high school or enroll in higher education, which means they are more likely to have financial and health struggles later in life and may not become highly engaged in the community. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, over a lifetime, college graduates earn 84% more than those with only a high school diploma, and they are about half as likely to be unemployed. Those with degrees tend to smoke less, exercise more and have lower levels of obesity than those without degrees. They also are twice as likely to volunteer and three times as likely to serve as school, community, and religious leaders. All of this is linked to Iowa's economic prosperity.



High school graduation rates are lower among Latino than Iowa youth overall.

81.0% **90.2%**
LATINO IOWA OVERALL



Latino youth drop out of high school almost twice as often as Iowa youth overall.

4.9% **2.85%**
LATINO IOWA OVERALL



One-fourth fewer Latinos age 25+ completed high school and further training compared to all Iowans age 25+.

70.3% **93.3%**
LATINO IOWA OVERALL



By 2050, the Iowa Latino population will more than double, making it even more important to invest in education for Latino youth.

6.8 to 14.8%

About ¡Salir Adelante! Pathways for Our Future

¡Salir Adelante! Pathways for Our Future is a culturally tailored and family focused curriculum that helps 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade Latino youth and their families develop the knowledge, skills, and connections that will help young Latinos succeed in school and pursue education and training beyond high school to prepare for the future and reach their potential. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach partners with schools and local organizations to implement ¡Salir Adelante!, strengthening families, unifying communities, and preparing Latino youth for a brighter future.

Program Details

- ◆ Families come together for six 2 hour workshops.
- ◆ Workshops are in Spanish or English.
- ◆ **Topics include:** mobilizing our values and strengths, partnering with schools for youth success, exploring education and careers, financing post-secondary education, pursuing our hopes and dreams, navigating difficult situations, and celebrating our strengths and achievements.

Results

¡Salir Adelante! Pathways for Our Future is grounded in research that included over 1,000 Iowa Latino youth, parents, and professionals. In 2022, over 250 Iowa Latino youth and their families participated. Surveys from before and after the six-week program showed improvements among two-thirds of youth and parents:

- ◆ Youth problem-solving
- ◆ Parent involvement in their youth's education
- ◆ Family communication

Partners

Contribute time, talent, and funding to ¡Salir Adelante! to ensure a bright future for youth

- ◆ Middle schools
- ◆ League of United Latin American Citizens
- ◆ Latino family resource centers
- ◆ Churches
- ◆ Community action agencies
- ◆ Community colleges
- ◆ 4-year colleges and universities
- ◆ State Farm Insurance
- ◆ GreenState Credit Union
- ◆ Latino owned restaurants, stores, newspapers

Goals

By 2025, ¡Salir Adelante! aims to help 500 Latino youth and their families explore paths to higher education and careers to reach their hopes and dreams and be prepared for the future.

Get Involved

Contact your county Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office to help bring ¡Salir Adelante! to your community!

- ◆ Become a workshop facilitator
- ◆ Recruit families
- ◆ Secure resources (e.g., child care, transportation, food, supplies).
- ◆ Plan family visits to community colleges, trade schools, four-year colleges/universities, family events (art and fishing nights), youth and family mentoring activities



“Salir Adelante is fun. It helped my family grow closer and learn ways we can afford college.”

—Youth

“¡Salir Adelante! is helping us better understand how to be in the lives of our children in a way that we can help them get ahead and have a career.”

—Parent

“Salir Adelante helped us connect with families we haven't been able to connect with.”

—School Principal

Contact

Kimberly Greder
*Professor of Human Development
and Family Studies and State Extension Specialist*
kgreder@iastate.edu
(515) 294-5906

Rosa Gonzalez
Human Sciences Specialist, Family Wellbeing
rdegonza@iastate.edu
(515) 993-4281

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/salir-adelante>

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