AHSIE Overview

The Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators (AHSIE) exists to support the work of the nation’s Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) as they seek to provide quality, relevant educational opportunities to large and growing numbers of underserved populations, particularly Hispanic students. All of the Alliance’s activities directly benefit practitioners and educators at HSIs through measures that involve cooperation, networking, partnerships, information-sharing, technical assistance, and collaboration. AHSIE specifically focuses on the professional development of HSI practitioners, scholars, and researchers at HSIs nationwide. The leadership of AHSIE has drawn heavily from the ranks of those professionals directing programs to support Latinx students at HSIs.

AHSIE’s strengths are:

- Focus on project management and grant development and grant development/writing skills.
- Networking for middle managers.
- Sharing and implementing best practices connecting theory to practice.
- A representational support approach for practitioners (for us, by us).
- Praxis offers institutes throughout the year leading up to the annual conference (i.e., data, writing, and HSI eligibility institutes).

In addition, the Alliance also acts as a liaison between federal agencies and its member institutions.

AHSIE’s Annual Budget

Approximately $250,000 per year

Impact to Hispanic-Serving Institution Community

AHSIE was founded 15 years ago (2007) to provide professional development and networking opportunities to HSI practitioners (faculty, staff, grant administrators). During a time when only Title V funds were available, and later Title III, the founders of AHSIE understood that cultivating the professional growth of practitioners was a primary and direct way of supporting student success. AHSIE has grown significantly in the past 15 years, with the most notable growth in our Praxis offering and Conference.

- 2018–2022, >500 participants from dozens of different HSIs at the best practices conference.
  - Over 200 peer-reviewed presentations and 40 invited speaker presentations.
- Collaboration with National Science Foundation, Department of Education, USDA, HACU, and Excelencia in Education.
  - Help provide practitioners information on policy, upcoming grants, and funding opportunities.
• Expansion of Communities of Praxis Offering post and pre-conference (2019-present).
  • Project management, data analysis, writing, and grantsmanship (grant-writing) institutes provide needed professional development to change campus policies and structures.
  • HSI Eligibility Waiver Workshop for emerging HSIs increases numbers of newly minted HSIs.
• Communities of Praxis, outside of conference serve ~150 practitioners annually.
• AHSIE Seed to Tree Scholarship—fund up to 6 students annually to attend the AHSIE conference and provide an additional $500–1,000 for students to use on their academic endeavors.

Conference Overview

The annual AHSIE Best Practices Conference, provides practitioners from current (>25% Latinx) and emerging (19–24% Latinx) Hispanic Serving Institutions a forum through which they can share best practices, develop ideas, build partnerships through networking, and influence the development of policies designed to increase student success and institutional effectiveness. The conference features an array of peer-reviewed sessions that examine high-impact practices that elevate student success at HSIs and emerging HSIs providing practitioners with the professional development necessary to lead/move HSIs from enrolling to serving (Garcia, 2018). Servingness is central to the model of AHSIE and the AHSIE conference. Each year, student scholars are invited to the conference as scholarship recipients and participate in the AHSIE Student Leadership Institute. This investment in student leaders is core to AHSIE’s mission, and enables the organization to foster future HSI leaders.

Conference Profile

• 500+ attendees from over 400 HSI institutions across the country.
• Over 50% of conference attendees are Administrators, Department heads, and Faculty/Staff.
• 3-day comprehensive program with major keynote speeches, panel discussions, breakout sessions, specialized speakers and multiple networking opportunities.
• Post-conference events that focus on HSI Leadership in Servingness, Student Leadership and more.