



Mario Vargas

Mario Vargas was born in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico. He immigrated to the United States in 1980 and moved to Minnesota in 1992 to pursue undergraduate studies in Environmental Science but switched to Sociology his freshman year.

His career in the charitable and governmental sectors spans over twenty years, having served in various capacities including nonprofit chief executive and Board director, community outreach director, community and political organizer, social justice advocate.

He has volunteered for a variety of government advisory committees, commissions and nonprofit agency Boards including the offices of Minneapolis Mayors, R.T. Rybak and Sharon Sayles Belton, on Hispanic civic affairs related public service accessibility and census education. He also served a four-year gubernatorial appointment to the state agency on Hispanic affairs, the Chicano Latino affairs Council and as a Board member of the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota.

Currently, Mario serves as an independent consultant managing a socially conscientious cross-cultural public engagement and communications firm. He provides consulting services to nonprofit organizations and governmental, tribal, philanthropic, and private agencies in public engagement and civic affairs, strategic planning, fundraising, ethnic media & communications, and public relations.

For his public service, Vargas was awarded the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Minnesota's [25 on The Rise Latino Leadership Award] and the Community Collaborator Award by Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES).

Mario holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology from University of Minnesota at Morris. He received a Mini-M.B.A. certification in Non-profit Management and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation FastTrac Entrepreneurship certification both from the University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis.