



Rey B. Gonzalez

Position

President and Chief Executive Officer, El Valor

Profile

Rey B. Gonzalez is president and CEO of El Valor, a multicultural, multipurpose, nonprofit organization serving Chicago's Latino population.

Rey and El Valor

Gonzalez served as chair of El Valor's board of directors for 33 years before becoming president in 2015. During his tenure as chair, Gonzalez connected the organization to national leaders in corporations, government, universities, media, and the community. Through his leadership, El Valor flourished and is ranked among the 25 largest Hispanic-serving organizations in the country. As president, he continues to push the organization in innovative directions and champion El Valor's mission.

Professional History

Early in his career, Gonzalez was the regional Midwest director of the National Council of La Raza and worked at the Chicago Urban League, where he placed more than 4,000 women and minorities in skilled, high-paying jobs in the construction and building trades in three years.

Providing opportunities for the advancement of Latinos and minorities continued throughout his time in leadership at the corporate level. For example, Gonzalez was the vice president of Diversity for the McDonald's Corporation, and later became vice president for legislative and community affairs at ComEd, an Exelon Company, where he built and stewarded relationships with statewide legislators and community organizations, and was involved with Exelon's national diversity initiatives.

Civic Engagement

Gonzalez is a co-founder and the board chairman of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, a Chicago-based national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that promotes education, civic participation, and leadership development for Latinos and other similarly disenfranchised groups. He also serves on the board of directors for the Puerto Rican Arts Alliance, an organization that increases awareness of and access to Puerto Rican art.

Education

Gonzalez earned a master's in Educational Administration from Northern Illinois University and a bachelor's in Business Management from St. Joseph's Calumet College in Indiana.