May 12, 2017

Dan Berger Acting Administrator Administration for Community Living 330 Independence Ave SW #4760 Washington, DC 20237

Dear Acting Administrator Berger:

The National Alliance for Hispanic Health (the Alliance) is pleased to submit comments on the draft **National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants.** The Alliance is the nation's foremost science-based source of information and trusted non-partisan advocate for the best health outcomes for all. Our community-based members deliver quality health and human services to more than 15 million Hispanics throughout the U.S. and our national members provide services to more than 100 million people annually.

Overall, the Alliance supports the ACL's efforts to understand utilization of programs and include both a care recipient and caregiver perspective. We are supportive of the survey design, including that racial/ethnic demographic data is being collected in the two-step process required by OMB Policy Directive 15 with a separate demographic question included on gender.

Some specific recommendations are:

- (1) Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Consistent with DHHS LEP policies, each module of the survey should include a question about the language preference of the service recipient and whether services were provided in their preferred language. The demographic section should also include a question on language preference.
- (2) Sampling Design. The survey sample size and power calculations should be constructed to ensure separate reporting of findings by race, ethnicity, and gender. Furthermore, the design should consider community characteristics, such as greater use of mobile phones in Hispanic communities, in constructing an adequate sampling and analysis plan.
- **(3) Reporting.** The survey should include a design to report back to communities in a manner that is consistent with standards of community based participatory research.

If we can provide any additional information, please feel free to contact Adolph P. Falcón, MPP Executive Vice President, at afalcon@healthyamericas.org or 202-797-4341. We look forward to implementation of the National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants.

Jane L. Delgado, Ph.D., M.S.

President and CFO