

Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy

FY14 Abstract Narrative

NON SEA CSP

The leaders of the Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy (IJLA) of Instituto del Progreso Latino (Instituto) respectfully request support for the school's provision of successful pathways for out-of-school youth to reengage their education through innovative curriculum and its goals to implement a seamless assessment system through technology. IJLA directly aligns with the goals of the Federal Charter School Program (CSP) by reaching youth from high-poverty communities who have disengaged from education, thus increasing graduation and college enrollment rates among hard-to-reach populations. IJLA has never before received support through the CSP.

IJLA is located at 2570 S. Blue Island Ave., Chicago, IL 60608. IJLA's Principal, Cynthia Nambo, can be reached at (773) 890-0055 or c.nambo@idpl.org. IJLA is a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2012 by its parent non-profit organization Instituto (The Institute for Latino Progress). Since 1977, Instituto has operated with the mission to contribute to the fullest development of Latino immigrants and their families through education, training, and employment that fosters full participation in the changing United States society while preserving cultural identity and dignity. Today, Instituto serves over 11,500 participants annually, and operates IJLA in its tradition of providing solutions to urgent community needs.

IJLA of Instituto was established in 1996 to serve youth in immigrant families, operating successfully within a separate charter network. Instituto established IJLA's independent charter to ensure its ability to evolve and meet the growing needs of out-of-school youth. The school enrolls 165 students annually, offering smaller class sizes than others in the surrounding area and a unique curriculum focusing students on restorative justice and their ability to master skill development as the key for them to control of their future success.