

Angel Fernández-Chavero

Career Biography

Angel Fernández-Chavero is the Managing Director and founder of Aspire Praxis, LLC, a firm that offers consulting services in the areas of nonprofit strategic planning, development, and management assistance, as well as philanthropic advising, major gifts, planned giving and endowment development.

Professional

Previously, he was **Senior Philanthropic Officer** for **The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven**, with responsibilities in development, strategic planning, and grants, advising and cultivating high net worth individuals, their advisors, and nonprofits regarding charitable giving and investment options. Raising over \$18 million, he handled major gifts, including the largest gift from living; planned giving (gift annuities, remainder trusts, etc.), reestablishing the program and overseeing selection of a new trustee; marketing to professional advisors, including implementing the Merrill Lynch and American Fund advised fund partnerships; launched an effort for nonprofits to build endowments and planned giving with the Foundation; which included technical assistance for endowment and planned giving campaigns; and with its leadership, launched Progreso Latino, the Foundation's most successful emerging market fund. He has expertise on the law, policy, and tax advantages regarding charitable giving, trusts, grants, as well as endowment investment and management. He is versed on the global competitive market for philanthropy, especially the impact of the for-profit sector and technology, focusing on cost analyses and the challenge to balance return, charitable mission, and market demand. He was a member of two Connecticut DEP committees: the Long Island Sound Fund and the Landscape Stewardship Initiative.

Prior, he was **Program Officer for Regional and Community Economic Development** (which included related environmental and arts issues), proposing and implementing overall strategy, policy and distribution recommendations. He vetted and oversaw \$5.4 million in grants, coordinated to support brownfield remediation, regionalism and smart growth; the statewide supportive housing PILOTS project; the capitalization of eight major arts organizations, loan pools for nonprofit affordable housing and cash flow loans; and the first Citizens Forum. He designed and ran a \$1.2 million project for 6 commercial corridors in New Haven, leveraging over \$8 million. He chaired the Community Foundation Leadership Project for the national Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities, served on the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy's Advisory Council for its Community-Based Public Foundations Research Project, co-founded the Connecticut's funders' collaborative to build the capacity of Latino nonprofits as part of Hispanics In Philanthropy national effort, and served on the Connecticut Advisory Council of the Corporation for Supportive Housing, the board of the Community Economic Development Fund, and the Connecticut State Treasurer's Task Force on Individual Development Accounts.

Formerly, he was **Director of Fund Distribution and Community Planning** for the **United Way of Greater New Haven**, where he staffed its overall strategic realignment; oversaw the redesign of its \$1.1 million fund distribution and agency membership systems, the establishment of its Community Response Fund, and led its participation in the Healthy Communities initiative. Prior, he opened the New Haven program of the **Local Initiatives Support Corporation**, investing over \$4 million, which produced 156 units of housing, 90,000 sq. ft. commercial (over half was for LISC's first supermarket investment), a day care center, and leveraged \$30 million in private and public investment. He was also the assistant director of a New Haven housing development corporation, and a program manager in New Haven's Office of Housing and Neighborhood Development.

Civic

He chairs the Greater New Haven Green Fund (an environmental endowment), is 1st Vice President of the Cornell Scott Hill Health Center and chairs the Yale Latino Alumni Association's Development Committee. He is a board member of Connecticut Humanities (the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities) and the Shubert Theater. He serves on Governor Malloy's Emergency Communications Taskforce and Mayor Toni Harp's Procurement Taskforce and served on Mayor Harp's Transition Team. He was a leader in CONECT's successful campaign for Connecticut driver's licenses for undocumented immigrants. He helped his church, St. Rose of Lima, win a federal takeover of the East Haven Police Department and the conviction of 4 officers for racial profiling and beating Latinos. For this, he and his pastor were honored with National Council of La Raza's 2012 Graciela Olivarez Raza Award "for the betterment of the Hispanic community that is national in scope [and] recent and relevant to contemporary Hispanic America." They also shared the Robert Eisner Award for Community Service from The Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven for "exceptional courage and vision in defense of the human rights of the immigrant community of New Haven." In 2013 he was named to the Centennial Honorary Committee of Clifford Beers Child Guidance Center. In May 2010 he was appointed by New York City's Israeli Consulate to a mission to Israel of national Latino leaders. He co-chairs the immigration committee of Greater New Haven's Jewish Community Relations Council, helping to write its immigration policy position, which was adopted nationally.

Former volunteer work includes: chair of the Connecticut Housing Coalition; founding board member of the Connecticut Fair Housing Center and the Regional Data Cooperative (now Data Haven); treasurer of Casa Otoñal; chair of LULAC Head Start, where he guided the funding and building of its Fair Haven day care center and the first program combining for-profit and public/nonprofit components; and member of the Greater Dwight Development Corporation, the Greater New Haven Community Loan Fund, and Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven. He was a co-founder of the New Haven Latino-Jewish Dialogue, and worked with ADL's A World of Difference program as co-chair of the Diversity Committee for Vision for a Greater New Haven. He wrote a regular column for the **New Haven Register** on local and Latino affairs.

Born in Mexico City and raised in Los Angeles, California, he moved to the New Haven area for his undergraduate studies in English Literature at Yale University. He is married and has two daughters.