

MARIO S. VARGAS

Mr. Mario S. Vargas is a public member of the New Jersey Schools Development Authority. He has served since his appointment in 2010.

Currently Mr. Vargas is the Owner/Agent of the Vargas Group Insurance Agency with Farmers Insurance providing protection to individuals and families through coverages on auto, home, life and business. In addition, Mr. Vargas is a Broker/Agent at Senior Health Advisors where he assists Medicare recipients with their health insurance needs.

Prior to building his own insurance business, Mr. Vargas had a lengthy and successful career in the nonprofit sector. Notably, Mr. Vargas served as the Executive Director of the Puerto Rican Action Board (PRAB) where he grew the organization's budget from \$5.7 million to \$15.1 million within a 3 year period, and its workforce from 82 to 240 employees during his tenure. PRAB is a nonprofit organization that provides services to improve the quality of life of the low income population of central New Jersey in a bilingual and bicultural setting, and continues its historic role as an advocate for the Latino community.

Prior to joining PRAB, Mr. Vargas was employed by New Brunswick Tomorrow as the Director of Operations and Communications, a non-profit organization established over 45 years ago to foster public/private networks of agencies, institutions, and organizations to help improve the quality of life for the people in the City of New Brunswick. In addition, Mr. Vargas was employed by INROADS/Central New Jersey, Inc., an international career development organization that places talented minority college students in the business industry.

Prior to that, Mr. Vargas was employed by Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital as a Patient Representative. Mr. Vargas graduated from Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Arts, and was conferred a Master's Degree in Public Affairs and Politics from the Edward J. Bloustein School of Public Policy and Planning.

Mr. Vargas also served as the Chairperson of the Hispanic Director's Association of New Jersey. The association's mission is to further the progress of New Jersey's Hispanic Community through cooperation among its members and collaboration with other organizations. In addition, Mr. Vargas was a co-founder of the Rutgers Latino Student Council and the University's Center for Latino Arts and Culture. He also served on the Board of Directors of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (now RWJ Barnabas) leading various committees including becoming secretary of the board. He is alum of the Center for Hispanic Policy, Research and Development at the Department of Community Affairs.

Mr. Vargas is an ordained Elder and the Vice President of the Consistory (Board Chair) at Suydam Street Reformed Church located in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the First Reformed Church of Long Branch. Mr. Vargas resides in Highland Park, New Jersey.