## Richardson, Orriel

From: Martinez, Gloria <gmartinez@txstate.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, November 27, 2019 12:43 PM

**To:** WM Dem R&U Health Task Force

**Subject:** Rural Urban Health Issues

Dear Rural and Underserved Communities Health Task Force.

I live in San Marcos, Texas in Hays County in Central Texas. It is mostly a rural area located just outside of Austin, Texas. Our county has been one of the fastest growing counties in the country in the last decade and we are medically underserved area. Undocumented immigrants don't have access to quality and adequate health care because many do not have health insurance and most doctors and hospitals do not want to serve them. They go untreated for major chronic illnesses. Our local county health care system tries to do its best with promoting preventative community health, in fact, there is one physician, Dr. Richardson, who is a wonderful person who uses everything he can (email and telemedicine, provide translators) to reach out and assist his patients in Hays County. We need more health care providers that are Spanish speakers, more funding for telemedicine and broadband access in rural health care areas.

Thank you, Gloria

## Gloria Martinez-Ramos, Ph.D

Professor of Sociology | Director of the Latina/o Studies minor gm21@txstate.edu, Office: UAC 457

<u>Link</u> to Latina/o Studies Minor follow us on social media @txstlats

Office: 512-245-2470 FAX 512-245-8362