



DHARMA E. CORTÉS, Ph.D.
Instructor



The Cambridge Hospital
Department of Psychiatry

July 14, 2017

Dear Mr. Salinas,

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity that your Ricardo Salinas Scholarship gave me to attend Aspen Institute's Spotlight Health. As a Latina public health researcher, I was especially honored to be a recipient of this scholarship, because I believe my work aligns with your commitment to further improve the lives of Latinos in the Americas.

After four phenomenal days attending the festival's talks and activities focused on making the world a better place to live, I returned home reenergized and inspired to do more to contribute to this goal through my work. In addition to attending talks and activities, the festival provided me opportunities to meet in person world renowned leaders and thinkers that I had always admired from a distance. Conversations and interactions with thought leaders and fellow festival attendees have opened doors to establish collaborations that will allow me to further advance my public health work.

Attending Spotlight Health also provided me the opportunity to learn about Aspen Institute's Latinos and Society Program and the important work this program is doing as a platform to not only learn about Latinos but to promote their presence and ideas to further advance Aspen Institute's mission of promoting values-based leadership. I intend to stay connected to the Latinos and Society Program because I believe that this program is critical to expand the presence and contributions of Latino scholars within the Institute and the program is the ideal vehicle to do so.

I hope this note conveys to you how attending Spotlight Health has already impacted me personally and professionally. As I walked across the stunningly beautiful campus emblazoned with the colorful "IDEAS" sculptures I understood why the event is named "Aspen Ideas Festival." It is an opportunity to be surrounded by ideas and, thanks to your scholarship, I had the privilege to experience such once-in-a-lifetime and life-changing experience.

Mil gracias,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dharma E. Cortés'.

Dharma E. Cortés, Ph.D.
Senior Scientist