



For Immediate Release:
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STATEMENT: Chicago-Area Latino Leaders Call for Transparency and Accountability of Migrant Shelters, Safety Should be Top Priority

CHICAGO - The following is a statement from the [Illinois Latino Agenda \(ILA\)](#), a coalition that advocates for the wellbeing of Latinos throughout Illinois and for representation of Latinos in all sectors, in response to the [ongoing investigations](#) into [the death of Jean Carlos Martinez](#), a 5-year old who was living in the city's largest migrant shelters with a history of complaints about the living conditions:

"We mourn the death of Jean Carlos Martinez Rivero and share our condolences with his family. We call for accountability and full transparency on the results of the investigations into his death and Favorite Healthcare Staffing's management of the migrant shelter where he was living, an audit of all the migrant shelters, and greater access to the shelters by volunteer advocates and service providers.

"Safe housing for migrants must be our city's top priority to ensure their health and wellbeing. We cannot be satisfied with [clearing police stations](#) if our new neighbors are being moved to environments that are more dangerous and less hospitable.

"The shelters should be a safe haven for migrants as they look for opportunities to make Chicago their home. We stand firm in demanding justice and accountability, and will continue advocating that our city leaders prioritize the safety and dignity of all of our newest neighbors who place their trust in shelter administrators."

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