

The Rev. Albert R. Rodriguez

Rev. Rodriguez has been involved in Hispanic/Latino ministry for the past thirty year on a local, diocesan and national level, working with a broad cross-section of Latino nationalities within Episcopal Church circles. He is currently the Interim Director of the Latino/Hispanic Studies program at Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas where he received his M.Div. in 1996. This seminary role involves teaching the cultural and linguistic dynamics associated with the worshipping needs and pastoral care of first generation and the multi-generational, American born Latinos.

With the Episcopal National Office of Latino/Hispanic Ministries, he is part of the Council of Advice helping the national director to formulate program policies and help design ministry initiatives to grow and promote Latino ministry in the U.S. He is also part of the New Caminos training team with the Office of Latino/Hispanic Ministries' goal of equipping congregational and diocesan leaders to reach out to all generations of Latinos. Most recently, a three-year grant provided by the Episcopal Church Foundation under their Fellowship Partners Program has enabled Al to further develop an enhanced model and expanded ministry focused on the more acculturated, multi-generational Latino/Hispanics.

The Rev. Al Rodriguez is a third generation, bicultural and bilingual Mexican American from San Antonio, Texas. His background includes Episcopal parish and social ministry assignments, including a 15-year tenure as rector of a dual language congregation in Austin. His previous consulting and a governmental career involved community economic development, starting with his role as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Venezuela. His other educational background includes completion of course requirements (sans thesis) at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh and a B.B.A from St. Mary's University in San Antonio.