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# The Alliance

*The Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony is dedicated to promoting unity, justice, equal opportunity, ethnic awareness, cross-cultural understanding, and appreciation for diversity.*

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## **A 501c3 organization**

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## **A RIGHT TO HOUSING RALLY: NO MORE TENTS!**

Winter's coming. No one should be living in a tent or a car. We need more affordable housing in Holland. We need housing choices for everyone. ACEH is hosting this Housing Rally to keep the issue in the public eye. **Come on out Friday, October 25, at 6 pm in Centennial Park downtown and let's make our voices heard!**

We'll have speakers and signs. We'll listen to people's housing stories. We'll put up tents at the park to make a visual statement. Supportive churches and individuals will join in with tents on their properties. You can, too! More info at:

[www.harmonyalliance.org](http://www.harmonyalliance.org) . Facebook Events for Oct. 25  
ACEH – Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony on Facebook





## Meet These New Leaders at Upcoming Open Houses

### ***Gloria Lara Chosen to Lead Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance***

Gloria Lara has been named executive director of the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance. She has experience in finance, marketing, sales, strategy, and project management from executive positions at IBM, Chrysler Corp., Jervis B. Webb Co., Delphi Corp., United Technologies Automotive, and TRW as well as at nonprofit organizations.

Most recently, Lara was executive director of Michigan Career Hub, a new website platform to match job seekers and employers with reduced recruiter and candidate bias. Prior to that, she served as CEO of the Detroit-area based Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

She was CEO of the Grand Rapids-based Michigan Shore to Shore Girl Scout Council for nearly six years.

Lara is a member of the Spectrum Health System board of directors and the board of directors for the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids. The West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce also honored her as the Hispanic Businessperson of the Year in 2013.



LEDA, a non-profit organization based in Holland, works to dismantle barriers to ensure people of all ethnic backgrounds have equal access and opportunity to participate fully in the life of the community.

**On Tues, Oct 29, from 4 to 6 pm at Holland City Hall, 270 South River, the Holland Human Relations Commission will host an open house for community members to meet Gloria Lara.**

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### **Out On The Lakeshore Names Sorenson as its First-Ever Director**



Jeffrey Sorenson has been named the first-ever director of Holland's Out On The Lakeshore LGBTQ+ Community Center. **An open house to meet him will be Tues, Oct 22, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at OOTL, 451 Columbia Ave, Suite C, Holland.**

Sorenson is a graduate of GVSU, where he earned a bachelor's degree in advertising and public relations before working for several years in community relations and charitable giving at an area casino. He has been active on several boards, including the Wayland Area Chamber of Commerce, Grand Rapids Young Professionals, and Delta Tau Delta International Fraternity's "Delt Pride" LGBTQ+ affinity group.

He will be responsible for day-to-day operations of the community center, along with increasing OOTL's visibility, enhancing fundraising, and creating a more consistent and active presence in the larger community.

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**SAVE THE DATE:** ACEH will host a discussion of the community's **Big Read** book selection: "In the Time of Butterflies" by Julia Alvarez. Come join us at 7 pm, Friday, Nov 8, at the Holland Museum, 31 West 10<sup>th</sup> St, Holland. Adults and teens are welcome! Big Read event list is at [www.hope.edu/bigread](http://www.hope.edu/bigread)

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*Bringing People  
Together from Worlds Apart*

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**African Women in Concert Here Nov. 1**

Nobuntu, an a cappella quintet of young women from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, who “celebrate and preserve the beauty of their culture and heritage through art,” will perform in the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts, 221 Columbia Ave, Holland, on Friday, Nov 1, at 7:30 pm.

The group is internationally acclaimed for its performances, which range from traditional Zimbabwean songs to Afrojazz to gospel. The ensemble’s concerts are performed with pure voices, augmented by minimalistic percussion, traditional instruments, and dance movements. The name Nobuntu “is an African concept that values humbleness, love, purpose, unity, and family from a woman’s perspective.”

For tickets, contact the Hope Ticket Office at 100 East 8<sup>th</sup> St, Holland, or call (616) 395-7890.