

Abel Núñez joined CARECEN as its Executive Director in March 2013. Prior to CARECEN, he was Associate Director of Centro Romero in Chicago, IL, and was primarily responsible for the day to day operations, fiscal management, program administration, and communications.

Mr. Núñez migrated from El Salvador to the United States with his family in 1979 and grew up in the District of Columbia. Mr. Núñez has a Bachelor's of Business Administration from Hofstra University. Before he moved to Chicago, he worked in D.C. for the Latino Civil Rights Center. From 1998 to 2000, he was also on the staff of CARECEN serving first as its Citizenship and Civic Participation Project Coordinator and later as its Deputy Director.

Mr. Núñez' volunteerism reflects his lifelong pursuit of justice and empowerment for immigrants in the U.S. He served as Co-President of Organization of the Northeast (ONE), a nonprofit agency that aims to build a successful multi-ethnic, mixed-economic community on Chicago's northeast side. He also served as Community Co-Chair of the Alliance for Research in Chicago Communities, a project of Northwestern University that supports community-based participatory research. He worked tirelessly with city and state coalitions to pass the Illinois Dream Act.

Nationally, Mr. Núñez has been one of the founding members of the *Residency Now* campaign (now known as the National TPS Alliance) which was launched in January 2012. He also co-founded the DC-MD-VA Coalition in Support of Children Fleeing Violence which responded to the incoming wave of unaccompanied children in the summer of 2013. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of La Clinica del Pueblo, Alianza Americas and also serves on the Community Advisory Board of Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical and Translational Science (GHUCCTS). In 2017 Mr. Núñez has been the recipient of Georgetown University's John Thompson, Jr. Legacy of a Dream Award and the Hispanic Bar Association of DC Hugh A. Johnson Jr. Memorial Award, The Social Enterprise Scholarship Award for Harvard Business School Club of Washington DC. In 2018 her receive the Community Service Enrichment Award from the Salvadoran American Chamber of Commerce.