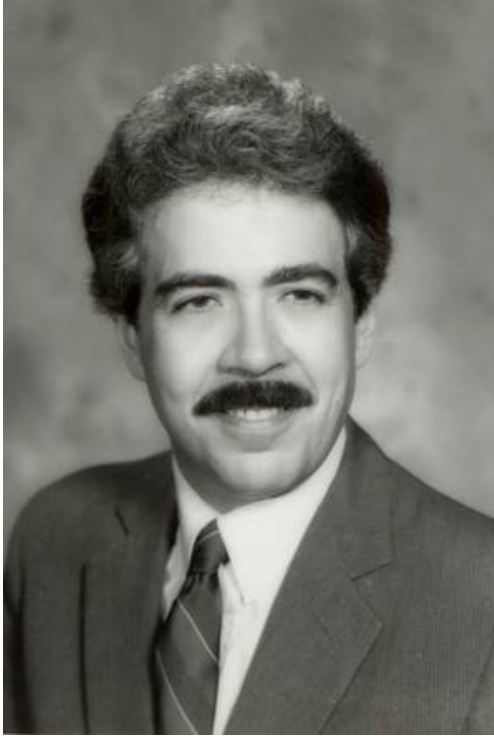


William Diaz



William Diaz, the first Latino program director for the Ford Foundation and a senior fellow at the University of Minnesota's Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, died May 18, 2002 at his home in St. Paul. He was 56. Diaz joined the Humphrey Institute in 1994.

Diaz was active in a variety of civic organizations and served on the boards of the Sister of Kenny Institute, the Courage Center, Outward Bound, the St. Paul Foundation, Family Services of St. Paul, the Council on Foundations and El Fondo Diversity, among others.

Diaz was a nationally recognized expert on the U.S. Latino population and was vice chairman of the Minnesota State Chicano Latino Affairs Council. Diaz was a native of New York and received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Fordham University. He joined the Ford Foundation in New York in 1983 and published an influential booklet titled "Hispanics: Challenges and Opportunities."

Diaz helped found the Puerto Rico Community Foundation while at the Ford Foundation and served on the board of the fledgling foundation.