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This document summarizes:

McGarvey, Craig. "Networks in a New 'Gateway.'" *National Civic Review*, Spring 2005: 62-64.

As the Hispanic and immigrant population in the United States continues to grow, public officials must find new ways to rise to the challenge of managing any subsequent tensions in their communities. In this article, Craig McGarvey looks how public officials in Durham, North Carolina, help alleviate these tensions.

The El Centro Hispano, on Main Street, is home to the Latino Community Credit Union, a bilingual police sub-station, the Café De Mujeres, and the Latino Community Development Center. El Centro Hispano achieved its current form as a result of networked leadership within the Durham community. One example of this alliance came as a result of a 1997 crisis focused on criminal activity in the immigrant Latino community. Kohar Ivan Parra, a Colombian immigrant and founder of the center, organized forums with police and City Council members, which led to hiring bilingual police officers. Another example of community management is El Pueblo, which sponsors programs in leadership development, youth leadership, health and safety for the Latino community.

Through El Centro Hispano and various programs, Durham officials can integrate the immigrant community into the city while simultaneously lessening tensions. With an emphasis on bringing together leaders in the Latino community and promoting collective responsibility, Durham, North Carolina serves as an example for other cities currently dealing with a growing immigrant and Spanish-speaking population.