



February 25, 2020

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Poder NC Action Announces 2020 Primary Endorsements

As a values-led organization dedicated to building intentional Latinx political power in North Carolina, Poder NC Action seeks to support candidates who are aligned with our pro-Black, pro-LGBTQ, pro-choice, and pro-Latinx values. To the best of our knowledge, the candidates below share those values. We look forward to the opportunity to support -- and push -- them, both in their campaigns and if elected, to use their platform and power to advance policies that will tangibly improve the lives of our community.

For U.S. Senate, Poder is endorsing two candidates -- Erica Smith and Cal Cunningham.

Both candidates appear dedicated to supporting the Latinx community and generally share our progressive values. However, both also have room to improve in their analysis and understanding of the Latinx community in our state. We look forward to the opportunity to educate and engage whichever candidate ultimately emerges from the Primary.

For NC Senate District 48, Poder is endorsing Cristal Figueroa. Cristal's strong commitment to the Latinx community came through in our endorsement process, and we encourage her to build a broad, multiracial coalition to help her win this fall. Our communities are strongest when we work together.

For Durham County School Board At-Large, Poder is endorsing Alexandra Valladares. Alexandra's strong commitment to the Latinx community and Durham schools came through in our endorsement process, and we look forward to seeing her use her role to advance our shared values.

ABOUT OUR SELECTION PROCESS

This is the inaugural year of Poder NC Action, and our first endorsement process. Our Endorsement Committee was a combination of our Board of Directors and staff. The races where we decided to endorse will either have a broad impact on our Latinx community, as is the case with the US Senate race, or have Latinx candidates running in the Primary. We created an endorsement questionnaire and sent it to all the candidates in each race. We then reviewed the responses and voted on each candidate. When assessing a candidate's response, we attempted to gauge whether they (1) shared our values, and (2) were committed to using their elected office to advance those values, as well as the voices and interests of North Carolina's Latinx community. We opted not to endorse in the US Presidential race, due to a lack of response from all but one candidate.