



Houston Department of
Health and Human Services

Speaker Biography



Bolivar M. Fraga
Community Developer
Ripley House Neighborhood Center

Bolivar Fraga was born and raised in Houston, growing up in the East End and attending HISD schools. After graduating high school in 1992, he attended the U.S. Air Force Academy, completing a BS in History and being commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force in 1996. Bolivar served 6-1/2 years as an Intelligence Officer, and during his time in the military he earned an MA in Latin American Studies from the University of Florida and supported Air Mobility Command missions worldwide while stationed at Scott AFB in Illinois, including missions into Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom following 9/11.

Upon completing his active duty service commitment at the end of 2002, he began a new career in community work, starting with a dual degree program in St. Louis, Missouri. He earned a MSW and an MA in Pastoral Studies and worked as a faith-based organizer there for Metropolitan Congregations United.

Bolivar returned to Houston in 2009 and is currently serving as the Community Developer for Ripley House.