Flor Giusti  
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Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

How long have you been at Johns Hopkins and what do you do?
I have been at Johns Hopkins for six and a half years and I work as a social worker in the Johns Hopkins Bayview pediatrics outpatient clinic. I serve our families to help them take advantage of resources—that includes helping to ensure that they can negotiate better housing, good education and a healthier environment in which to raise their kids. I also empower my patients to engage better with their health care providers.

What do you feel are some of the biggest misconceptions about the Latino community?
I feel that the biggest misconceptions about Latinos are that as immigrants they feel entitled to free services, take other people’s jobs and are a burden on society. The Latino community is proud, works hard, pays taxes, and aspires for a better life and a path to obtain legal status. Importantly, Latinos contribute to the land of opportunity.

What are some fun things about you that you want readers to know?
I have a lot of energy and I am a very enthusiastic person, so I tend to take on a lot. Besides my job, I serve on multiple Hopkins subcommittees and external public services such as the Hispanic Commission at the Mayor’s Office. So I juggle a lot! As for things that I enjoy, I love reading literature (I read a lot of literature in Spanish), going to the movies (I go to The Charles every weekend!), and I love the concerts of the Baltimore Classical Guitar Society (these concerts make me feel at total peace).