



Dr. Giberto Zelaya  
Community Empowerment/Public Information Officer  
Montgomery County Board of Elections

Gilberto Zelaya has taken his academic endeavors and life experiences to seek creative ways to challenge the institutional inadequacies that exist in relation to Montgomery County’s multicultural community. He firmly believes that, “community mobilization and empowerment cannot rest on the pillars of procrastination.” Dr. Z, as known in the community, is the Community Empowerment/Public Information Officer, responsible for managing community relations and empowerment activities with an emphasis on Section 203 compliance. His signature initiative is Future Vote, a program he developed in 2004 to increase current and future voter knowledge, educate and strengthen ties related to civic participation for Montgomery County’s youth and families by actively providing an opportunity for civic duty, while emphasizing the importance of preserving participatory democracy. Prior to joining the BOE, Dr. Z served as the Epidemiological Program Officer at the Self-Reliance Foundation developing and implementing mobilization efforts throughout Africa, Latin and North America.

