



Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.

A PROMISE OF OPPORTUNITY

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CPLC's Maria Parra Honored as One of 40 Hispanic Leaders Under 40

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- Phoenix, September 9, 2009 – Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC) is proud to announce that CPLC Director of Prevention Maria Del Carmen Parra has been selected as one of 40 Hispanic Leaders Under 40 by the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Univision Radio-Phoenix.

Parra, alongside others, will be honored at a luncheon September 23 at the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa.

Maria has served as CPLC Director of Prevention Services for six years. In this leadership position, she manages two community drop-in centers for youth and families and oversees all CPLC Prevention programs. Prior to assuming this role, Maria worked as a CPLC prevention specialist educating youth in the area of prevention and substance abuse. Her previous experience includes working as recreation leader overseeing youth activities at Cesar Chavez High School's after-school program and at Playa Margarita Park for the City of Phoenix.

"We are so proud that Maria was selected for this honor," said CPLC President and CEO Edmundo Hidalgo. "Under her leadership, hundreds of youth in our community are empowered to continue along a path to success. We congratulate her and look forward to seeing all that she will achieve in the future."

Outside of her role at CPLC, Maria is a student and community activist involved in social and political issues affecting migrant and indigenous people. She began her work as an activist at age 17 as a member of MEChA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlan) at North High School and later at Arizona State University. Maria has a Bachelors Degree in Occupational Studies and is pursuing a second Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Nonprofit Management from Arizona State University.

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC), is a statewide community development corporation committed to building stronger, healthier communities as a lead advocate, coalition builder and direct service provider. The organization promotes positive change

and self-sufficiency to enhance quality of life for the benefit of those it serves.