

L A  C A U S A



Winter 2007

Arizona Commission Recognizes Calli Ollin Academy Schools

COA Schools received an Honorable Mention

CPLC President/CEO honored by AARP

Page 2

9th Annual Esperanza Awards Honors Top Latino Educators

Six exemplary AZ Hispanic teachers are honored at 2007 Esperanza Awards

CPLC Employees Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Page 3

CPLC Housing Department Projects

Page 4

Parenting AZ Delivers Gifts for 1,500 Children Through Our Holiday Heroes Program

CPLC and APS Organize 12th Annual Seminarios y Exposición de Negocios en Español

Page 5

A Collection of Art Through the Eyes Of Youth Rethinking-Drinking

This is a collection and depiction of alcohol in the media

Mr. David E. Riedel is Honored

Page 6

Congressman Pastor Visits Early Childhood Development Center

Value Options Donates to De Colores

They presented De Colores staff with a \$35,000 donation

Page 7



Long Time Latina Activist Lorraine Lee Loses Battle to Cancer

Lorraine Lee, a respected voice of Arizona’s Hispanic community, passed away at the age of 51. She was a community leader and a nationally recognized social activist who made it her life’s work to raise racial awareness and to champion the causes of the poor and disenfranchised.

Lorraine was a builder of coalitions and a formidable force in labor and political circles, continually challenging and impacting the development of Tucson. While viewed as persistent and tenacious, she will always be remembered with the utmost respect for her compassion and her passion for social change.

As the child of immigrant Mexican and Chinese parents, Lorraine experienced the pain of discrimination throughout her youth. As a result, she vowed to affect systemic change for social justice to ensure that others would not have to suffer the same degradation she endured.

Lorraine, a native Tucsonian, earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology from the University of Arizona in 1983. Following the completion of a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning from UCLA, she began working for Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC), Arizona’s largest community development corporation. Through her leadership Chicanos Por La Causa Tucson’s programs evolved from a staff of three to its current staff of seventy five.

“Lorraine has been a resounding voice in efforts to empower the disenfranchised through her work at CPLC”, said Edmundo Hidalgo, COO. “I can think of no other individual who demonstrated such drive and passion. She will be greatly missed.”

Lorraine is survived by her husband, Alonzo Morado and three daughters, Rita, Anisa and Sophia.

Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education Recognizes Calli Ollin Academy Schools

Calli Ollin Academy Schools (COA Schools) received an Honorable Mention from the 2007 Pathways to Higher Education Awards, given by the Arizona Commission for Postsecondary Education. The METAS – Make Education Translate into Advancement and Success program at COA Schools was recognized as an “outstanding effort to guide and support youth through transitions into postsecondary education.”

In partnership with Pima Community College (PCC), the METAS program allows students to enroll in college and complete coursework while attending high school. For many first generation college students, the METAS program provides the essential tools for success in higher education. This year, 80% of the Calli Ollin Academy Schools’ graduates enrolled at PCC for postsecondary education.

Vicente Fuentes, Director of Academic Services for COA Schools, noted that “This is a great recognition, but there is still a lot of work to be done. We want to expand the program to grades 9-12. Improving the college readiness of our students provides additional opportunities for them after they leave high school.”

COA Schools, an affiliate of Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc., operates three charter high schools in the Tucson area – Calli Ollin Academy, Toltecalli Academy and Hiaki High School in partnership with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

Submitted by Melanie A. Mizell

CPLC President/CEO Honored by AARP



Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc., (CPLC) President/CEO Pete C. Garcia has been selected as an Inspire Awards Honoree by AARP The Magazine. The Annual Inspire Awards (formerly known as Impact Awards) pay tribute to ten extraordinary people age 50 and over who have made the

world a better place through their innovative thinking, passion, and perseverance. Other 2008 honorees include Caroline Kennedy, Gladys Knight, and Gary Sinise.

“The Inspire Awards showcase people who are using their passion for action to make the world a better place,” said Steven Slon, editor of AARP The Magazine. “These leaders who innovatively support and spark change within their communities are an inspiration to us all.”

Honorees received their Inspire Awards during a private

luncheon hosted by Barbara Walters at the New York Public Library on December 3, 2007. Their profiles appear in the January/February 2008 issue of AARP The Magazine, released at the end of November, and at www.aarpmagazine.org.

Under Garcia’s guidance and leadership, CPLC has grown into one of the nation’s largest Community Development Corporations, developing social service programs and economic development ventures that have positively impacted thousands of lives throughout the State of Arizona and across the country. Today, his guidance is sought from organizations as far as Great Britain and France. CPLC is a major contributor for inspiring, supporting and training leaders among immigrant and low income communities. Few organizations in the world can rival the 39 year record of CPLC, which Pete has led for 23 years.

Garcia formally stepped down at the end of 2007 after serving as the agency’s President & CEO for the past twenty-three years. He will transition to The Victoria Foundation to serve as the Founding President & CEO effective January 2008.

9th Annual Esperanza Awards Honors Top Latino Educators

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC), in partnership with SRP and Wells Fargo honored six exemplary Arizona Hispanic teachers at its 2007 Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards. This year's event was held Wednesday, October 24th, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel located in downtown Phoenix. Over 450 people were on hand to celebrate the night's honorees.

Established in 1999, the Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards was created to recognize Arizona Hispanic educators and their contributions to the education community. To date, the Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards is the only acknowledgment in Arizona established specifically to honor and pay tribute to these significant individuals.

The 2007 Honorees included: Mary Lou André (Wilson Primary School – Wilson Elementary School District);

Silvia Edgerton (Herrera Elementary School – Phoenix Elementary School District); Marilú Neave (Joseph Zito Elementary School – Isaac School District); Alejandro M. Rios (James Green Continuing Education Academy – Tolleson Union High School District); Felicia Calderon Tew (Marcos de Niza High School – Tempe Union High School District); Jo An Varela – Maxine O. Bush Elementary School – Roosevelt School District).

Each of this year's honorees was presented with a trophy, a \$250 gift certificate donated by The Perry Monge Salon and a \$5,000 cash stipend. We would like to extend our thanks to all the sponsors who have generously supported the Esperanza Awards Program. For more information or to nominate an educator, please contact Allisia Lopez at 602.257.0700 x 2121.



CPLC Employees Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Today, there is more hope than ever for people touched by breast cancer. However, there is still much work to be done to promote early detection and to help those impacted by the disease. To help make a difference, Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC) employees participated in the American Cancer Society Walk. "We were able to raise money and get our staff moving, what an awesome event," said Dottie O'Connell, Quality Improvement Coordinator.

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers among women in the United States. It is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among nearly every racial and ethnic group. However, the rates of contracting the disease and the fatality rate differ. Some of the reasons for the differences include lack of awareness about mammography, cost of health insurance and lack of access to screen-

ing facilities. The American Cancer Society offers free programs and services in more than 3,400 communities across the county to ensure that cancer patients and their loved ones do not face cancer alone. To learn more about the American Cancer Society's programs and services, visit <http://www.cancer.org/>.

Submitted by: By: Lamar-Renee Bryant



CHICANOS POR LA CAUSA PRESENTS



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Parenting Arizona Delivers Gifts for 1,500 Children Through Our Holidays Heroes Program



Parenting Arizona (PA), a subsidiary of Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. has helped children in Child Protective Service (CPS) custody for over a decade through its Holiday Heroes program. This year, Holiday Heroes brightened the lives of 1,500 children by providing them with gifts found on their wish list.

Although the holiday gifts are distributed in December, Parenting Arizona began their efforts in the month of September. Lourdes Rodriguez, PA's Holiday Heroes Coordinator, collected over 1,000 unwrapped toys and 500 gift cards. Enabling PA to create a dream holiday for these special Arizona children. The process of recruiting for the toy drive continued through the middle of December, all participating group homes and shelters picked up their gifts for the children at PA's central office.

This event was a huge success with the community rallying behind the program to get toys and gift cards. Every year the program serves more CPS children. The year was a record breaking year; over 1,500 children were served. Without question the Holiday Heroes Program supports PA's vision of Safe Children, Strong Families.

A huge thanks goes out to all of the CPLC staff and PA donors that participated in this wonderful program!



CPLC and APS Organize 12th Annual Seminarios y Exposición de Negocios en Español

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC), in conjunction with Arizona Public Service (APS) invited the community to join them for the 12th Annual Seminarios y Exposición de Negocios en Español. The annual event attracted more than 2,500 attendees statewide. The goal is to provide the community's monolingual entrepreneurs with vital business information, networking opportunities, product information, as well as services that will be applicable to their private businesses. This year's seminar was held on Thursday, October 18, 2007 at the Phoenix Convention Center.

For the past 12 years, Seminarios y Exposición de Negocios en Español has contributed to the success of Arizona businesspersons and is a great opportunity for small businesses to promote and recognize its branding within the Latino Market. Attendees had the opportunity to network with over 100 small businesses who exhibited their products. Individuals needing help on how to start a business, financing, marketing or information on the Employer Sanction Law were able to attend a series of workshops that provided them with essential information.

For information on next year's event please call José Cortez at 602-257-0700 or visit the website at www.prestamosloanfund.org.



The Truth About Alcohol: Social & Cultural Pressures Within The Media A Collection of Art Through The Eyes Of Youth Rethinking-Drinking

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc., along with the Excelencia Drug Prevention Community Coalition (EDPCC) in collaboration with the youth and community members from the Carl Hayden Community Center, provided a depiction of alcohol used in the media within Latino Communities. This collection of art has been compiled by the families and youth in the Carl Hayden community. It is their goal to raise awareness of underage drinking within their community, an issue identified as a priority area based on problematic drinking and the high volume of liquor outlets.

CPLC staff has created the Peer Leadership Initiative, a component of the Carl Hayden Community Center. The Carl Hayden Peer Leaders focus on engaging young people and outlining the benefits and the impact of young people as agents of change. Through youth empowerment initiatives, young people are involved in every conceivable way - as volunteers, community organizers, as facilitators and trainers, as conference planners and as full fledged members of Carl Hayden Community Center.

“The Truth about Alcohol: Social and Cultural Pressures of Alcohol” is a collection that depicts alcohol in the Latino

communities. It is viewed through the eyes of young Latinos, sending a message that communities and families must draw the line when it comes to underage drinking. The displays will allow the viewer to understand the scope of teen and pre-teen alcohol use, by demonstrating to the viewer the gravity of the problem and increasing the awareness about the wide variety of prevention and intervention programs.

Submitted by Maria Parra



CPLC Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Center Dedicated in Honor of Mr. David E. Riedel

In early November, 2007, approximately 60 people, comprised of civic, private, and political leaders as well as CPLC corporate and local staff attended the dedication of the David E. Riedel Migrant and Seasonal Head Start center in San Luis, AZ.

Originally named the San Luis “G” Migrant and Seasonal Head Start center, the building was renamed and dedicated in honor of David E. Riedel who passed away two years ago. Mr. Riedel and his wife, Nieves Riedel, of Riedel Construction, donated the land where the center stands and co-owned the company that built the center in 2001.

The center dedication ceremony was part of a full-day celebration of Yuma County CPLC programs scheduled to

coincide with the 30th anniversary of the first CPLC office in Somerton, AZ.

Local dignitaries in attendance included Ms. Nieves Riedel, former and current San Luis Mayor, Guillermina Fuentes and Juan Carlos Escamilla. Also present were Yuma County Board Member, Marcos Antonio “Tony” Reyes, Monsignor O’Keefe, and representatives from all local CPLC programs (ECD, Immigration Office & Behavioral Health). CPLC Corporate staff who attended included CFO, Martin Quintana, CHHS Executive VP, Domingo Rodriguez, VP of Child and Family Welfare, Andrea Martinez, VP of IT, Frank Gallardo, and Human Resources Generalist, Ruby Hernandez.

Submitted by: Sharon Skinner

Congressman Pastor Visits Early Childhood Development Center

Staff and clients at the Yuma Early Childhood Development Center received special visitors on November 27, 2007. Congressman Pastor and his wife Verma, a member of the CPLC Board of Directors, paid an informal visit to the center. During their visit, Congressman Pastor and his wife were given a tour of the center and had the opportunity to meet some of the children participating in the program.

The group spent two hours at the center visiting classrooms and engaging with children and teachers. The staff had prepared a small buffet of Mexican delicacies for the occasion. At the conclusion of the event, Congressman Pastor requested the presence of all staff and provided some words to the group. The Congressman shared his enthusiasm for being part of CPLC's Head Start program. Additionally, he indicated that he had wanted to visit the center since he had not been able to attend the center's dedication, which took place in Fall, 2005. As a special surprise, the Congressman and his wife, presented staff with a \$1,000 check. The donation was used for the Yuma Center Christmas party.

The Congressman's visit to the Yuma area was primarily to attend an event in his honor at the local Army Base. The ECD staff was appreciative that he took the time to visit the center.

Value Options Donates to De Colores

Value Options is no longer the Maricopa County Regional Behavioral Health Authority, but concern for the community is still part of their mission. However, concern for the community is still part of their mission. CPLC was on the receiving end of their most recent display of generosity. Sue Dess, CEO of Value Options, presented De Colores staff with a donation in the amount of \$35,000 to support services for behavioral health clients that come to the shelter seeking assistance.



Value Options donated four laser quality printers and four computers with monitors. The printers are especially helpful at a time when the Behavioral Health Services programs are implementing ClaimTrak as their client data base and management information system. The computers will go to Prevention Programs to support their worthwhile activities with youth.

In yet another generous donation, ValueOptions gave the Via De Amistad site five chairs and two end tables as furniture for the lobby area. The old furniture had seen better days and was ready for retirement. The new gently used furniture will be an uplift to the lobby and we are excited about the new look.

Our appreciation goes out to the staff of Value Options, in particular Sue Dess and Tony Mundy, who shared time with our De Colores staff, having lunch and touring the shelter. The CPLC partnership with ValueOptions remained strong even at the end!

Submitted By Argie Gomez

2008 Events

CPLC Golf Tournament

Thursday, February 21, 2008
Whirlwind Golf Club
5692 W. North Loop Road
Phoenix, Arizona

39th Anniversary Dinner

Thursday, May 1, 2008
Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort
5594 W. Wild Horse Pass Blvd.
Chandler, AZ

10th Annual Esperanza Latino Teacher Awards

Thursday, October 23, 2008
Wyndham Phoenix Downtown
50 East Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ

Angeles del Barrio Children's Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 6, 2008
Sylvestre Herrera Elementary School
1350 S. 11th Street
Phoenix, AZ

Angeles del Barrio Children's Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 14, 2008
Joe Orduño Park
San Luis, AZ

Seminario en Español

(Date TBD)
Phoenix Convention Plaza
111 N. 3rd Street
Phoenix, Arizona



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 Phoenix, Arizona 85034-4043

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 (602) 257-0700 / (602) 256-2740 Fax

Agudo Development

(602) 307 - 0334
 (602) 307- 0336 Fax

Calli Ollin Academy

(520) 882-0018
 (520) 884-9007 Fax

CPLC Federal Credit Union

(602) 262-2752
 (602) 262-2202 Fax

Affordable Housing Services

(602) 253-0838
 (602) 253-4203 Fax

Prestamos Lending Co.

(602) 258-9911
 (602) 307-0336 Fax

DeColores Shelter

(602) 269-1515
 (602) 352-5992 Fax

Westside Workforce Development Center

(602) 269-6485
 (602) 352-5985 Fax

Tiempo, Inc. Multi-Family & Elderly Housing

(602) 252-0482
 (602) 252-0482 Fax

CPLC Tucson

200 North Stone Ave. Tucson, AZ 85701
 (520) 882-0018 / (520) 884-9007 Fax

Carl Hayden Youth Center

(602) 269-2578
 (602) 269-2814 Fax

Centro De Familia Clinical Counseling Cntr.

(623) 247-0464
 (623) 247-3875 Fax

Corazon Substance Abuse Treatment Facility

(602) 233-9747
 (602) 352-5989 Fax

CPLC Women's Care Center

(602) 271-4644
 (602) 254-2474 Fax

Mothers Against Gangs

(602) 235-9823
 (602) 235 -9174 Fax

Cultural Pride Linking Communities

(480) 967-3602
 (480) 967-3612 Fax

MHSP & Early Head Start Administrative Offices

(602) 254-4827
 (602) 307-9752 Fax

La Causa Construction

(520) 882-0018
 (520) 882 -4191 Fax