



micronoticias

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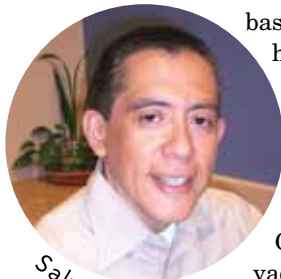


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Our Annual Donation Drive Because There's Always Hope...

Casa Central's annual donation campaign, La Semana de la Esperanza, or "Week of Hope," is scheduled for June 3rd through the 10th, 2012. During that week, many media outlets will put the spotlight on Casa Central's work in building stronger communities, one family at a time.

Salvador Mata is the patriarch of one such family. Casa Central was the first community-based organization



Salvador Mata

he sought out as he arrived with his wife Elizabeth and two children from México. Once he joined Casa Central, Salvador became a leader in the parent advisory committee for our Head Start Program in which his two sons, Arturo and Salvador Jr., participate.

He even helped organize a mini-business fair for parents

who run home-based businesses. "We are and will always be grateful to Casa Central for the work it does," says Salvador.

From June 3-10, Casa Central will present Salvador's story and many stories of hope from among our thousands of clients. You can contribute to the success of our network of 22 social service programs. Our print partner, Hoy Newspaper, will once again display the "Page of Hope" in five editions from June 4th

through the 8th. The group of four Univision Radio stations – La Qué Buena, Máxima, La Tremenda and Pasión – and Univision TV will feature interviews and public service messages about our clients and services.

Please join us on Saturday, June 2nd from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

CASA CENTRAL WEEK of HOPE JUNE 3-10, 2012

We Welcome Your Donation During The Week of Hope

Will you contribute and support our mission to transform lives and strengthen communities? You may donate in one of three ways:

Call toll-free: 1-877-825-2272 (825-CASA). When calling after hours, be ready to leave a message with your name, address, daytime phone number, your form of payment and the amount you'd like to pledge.

Visit our website: search for www.casacentral.org and click on the "Network for Good" link. Please designate your donation as "Week of Hope."

Visit our main office: stop in at 1343 North California Ave. in Chicago and ask for assistance at the reception desk.

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Founder and President of Casa Central Honored

The Institute for Psychoanalysis and North Park University recognizes Casa Central's President and Founder, respectively, with awards for community service.

On April 28th, President Ann Alvarez will be honored by the Institute for Psychoanalysis with their "Human Spirit Award" at their spring benefit dinner at the Standard Club in Chicago. Ms. Alvarez has served Casa Central as President and CEO for 22 years.

Ed Kaufman, Director of the Institute's Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Training Program, said "Ann Alvarez has been a leader in this very



Ann Alvarez, President and CEO of Casa Central, and Rev. Daniel Alvarez, the agency's founder, presented "Miracle in Progress," their book about the history of Casa Central.

"Ann Alvarez has been a leader in this very successful working relationship since 2008"

—Ed Kaufman

successful working relationship since 2008. We are very pleased to celebrate this relationship."

Both Ms. Alvarez and Rev. Daniel Alvarez will be recognized with North Park University's "David Nyvall Medallion Award" for Service to the People of Chicago. They will accept the award during the university's spring commencement ceremony at North Park's Anderson Chapel on May 12th. Previous recipients include former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and The Rev. C.T. Vivian, the civil rights

leader and colleague of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"At commencement, our students will leave North Park University with a guide to glean from you, as our graduates identify what it means to 'live a life of significance and service,'" said David Parkyn, President of North Park University.

Rev. Alvarez founded Casa Central and served as its executive director for over three decades. He remains as President Emeritus and as an active volunteer. Under his leadership and the leadership of Ms. Alvarez, Casa Central grew from a staff of three employees and a \$26,000 budget to an acclaimed model agency with a staff of over 500 employees and a budget of approximately \$17 million.



Physical fitness is one of the many important values propelling activities at the School Age Program.



Special Recognition for School Age Program

Our School Age Program received its own letter of accreditation from the Council on Accreditation (COA), following COA's detailed review and analysis of Casa Central's operations and practices for service delivery.

In a letter from COA President Richard Klarberg, the School Age Program was cited as an "outstanding provider" for committing to deliver high quality services. The accreditation process looks at a variety of standards for accessibility, cultural responsiveness, and other variables.

The School Age Program engages more than 60 children each school day in many educational, cultural and recreational activities after school. The program offers supervised, quality care while parents are working, attending school, or attending a training session approved by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Since 2000, Casa Central has maintained agency accreditation for COA, indicative of best practice standards in all facets of operations and services.

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Ann R. Alvarez
President & CEO

Gladys Santiago

Frank Diaz
Editors

Casa Central is a United Way Member agency. For more information about our programs, please call (773) 645-2300 or fax to (773) 645-2475, or visit www.casacentral.org.



"Like" us on Facebook and find us on YouTube as Casa Central Chicago; Follow us on Twitter as Casa Central.

thank you

We are grateful to the following donors for their commitment to Casa Central: (donations made from October 1, 2011 to March 21, 2012)

Donors over \$100 or more

Abbott Laboratories Employee Giving Campaign . Advocate Charitable Foundation . Rudolph Albores . Alfred G. Ronan, LTD. . Allstate Giving Campaign . Rev. Daniel and Ann R. Alvarez . Amsted Industries Foundation . Elizabeth Anderson . Aon Corporation . Mike Aponte . Rev. Alberto Radames Arias . Emilia Arroyo . AT&T United Way Employee Giving Campaign . Autotime . Kim Beard . Beermann Swerdlow LLP . Mike Bell . Blue Cross BlueShield of Illinois . Bob Briggs . Cheryl Burton . Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC . Jefferson Caldeira . Domingo J. Carreira . Cashel Foundation . Center for Student Missions . Center Home for Hispanic Elderly . Chicago Board Options Exchange . Chicago Carriage Cab Co. . Chicago Community Trust . Circle of Service Foundation, Inc. . CNA . ComEd . Robert and Winnie Crawford . Crown Family Philanthropies . Pam Dean . Dean L. and Rosemarie Buntrock Foundation . Virginia Diaz . Frank DiLeonardi . Dominick's Foundation . Donald P. & Byrd M. Kelly Foundation . Megan Donnelly . David and Eileen Donnersberger . Laurie J. Elm . Rahm Emanuel . Equivoice, Inc. . James and Lori Ertmann . Michael Escobar . Jose Antonio Fernandez . Elizabeth Fiden . John and Sally Filan . First Congregational Church of Des Plaines . First Congregational Church of La Grange . First Congregational Church of Western Springs . First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest . First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville . Joyce Fisher . Karen G. Fisher . Ward Fisher . Lee Francis . Jose L. Frausto . Mark and Cindy Fuller . Yolanda V.

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STANDING UP TO VIOLENCE support group at Casa Central

This year, the week of April 15-22 was designated as "Prevent Childhood Exposure to Violence Week. "Our Violence Prevention and Intervention (VPI) program and Heartland Alliance teamed up to organize their first art contest for children, as a way of creating awareness about violence and peace.

The Safe Start component of the VPI program works with

very young children, ages 5 and under, and their families, who have been exposed to violence in their homes or communities. Highly specialized interventions, such as Safe Start, are needed as early as possible for children experiencing toxic stress, so children and their families can build a safe and healthy life.



Our new annex to Casa Central will allow our VPI program to serve more clients in a safe, comfortable and confidential setting. However, added space brings additional overhead; repairs are in order for the building's HVAC system, at an estimated cost of \$18,000.

Will you help us improve our services by sending a tax-deductible contribution today? For information, call Gladys Santiago, Resource Development Director, at (773) 645-2476, or write to her at gsantiago@casacentral.org.

Corporation . General Growth . Sandra Gonzalez . Miranda Govea . Johnny Gutierrez . Dennise Hernandez . Jennifer Hernandez . Trinidad Hernandez . Kraft Foods North America . Gabriela Lagunas . Lake Forest Academy . Magda Lamesch . Lincoln Park Preschool . Carmen R. Lopez . Megs Foundation . John and Michelle Mele . Newell Rubbermaid . Northfield Community Church . Northwestern Memorial Hospital-Lynn Sage Breast Cancer . Leslie Okamura . Michelle Pagan . Park Ridge Presbyterian Church . Evelina Pereira-Weber .

Sylvia Perez-Blasdell . Teresa Perez . Kevin and Elizabeth Quevedo . Candace N. Ramirez . Angela Reyes . Maria Rivera . Miriam Rodriguez . Violeta Santillan . Alba Santillan-Betana . Marlaine Selip . Stan Sieczka . SingleHop, Inc. . Jane Smith . Marguerite Solari . The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago . The Northern Trust Company . United States Marine Corps . United Way of Metropolitan Chicago . Walt Disney Pictures . Rebecca Wells . Z - Property Management

Join us and celebrate spring!

The Board of Directors of Casa Central will host "Spring into Action," a networking reception on Wednesday, May 16th at 6 p.m. The event will be held at the Blue Star Bistro and Wine Bar, 1209

**SPRING
INTO
ACTION**
on May **16**

North Noble St. in Chicago. All proceeds benefit Casa Central.

The first 30 paid registrants will receive two tickets each to a Chicago Cubs game in late May. You can purchase

tickets online at www.casacentral.org. Click on the "Network for Good/Donate Now" link at the top of the front page, and enter the designation "Spring into Action." For information, call Cheryl Debusmann-Serra at (773) 645-2465.



In for the Long Run

For the third consecutive year, Casa Central sent a team of runners, walkers and supporters to the Wrigley Early Start Run on Saturday, April 21st.

The event was held in Hutchinson Field at Chicago's Grant Park. Along with 5K and 10K races, the event included a one-mile walk and a "Kids' Dash" for children under age 10. All of the pledges collected for Casa Central will go to the agency.



Week of Hope

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for the Week of Hope official kick-off, when a music festival featuring top local talent will be held at Casa Central's Bitia Alfonso Auditorium, 1335 North California Avenue. Also during that week, Casa Central

pays tribute to our family of volunteers with a recognition ceremony on June 6th. On June 7th, Casa Central South will offer an open house at its offices at 5101 South Keeler Street.



OUR MISSION

Casa Central transforms lives and strengthens communities, with a special focus on Hispanics. Our network of social services propels a diverse population of all ages toward self-sufficiency and a higher quality of life.

Casa Central
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