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Local Latino-Serving Organization Wins Prestigious National Award

*Mi Casa Resource Center will be honored this weekend
at the 2010 NCLR National Affiliate Luncheon in San Antonio*

Denver, CO — NCLR (National Council of La Raza), the largest national Latino civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States, will present the 2010 NCLR Family Strengthening Award to three NCLR-affiliated community-based organizations, including Mi Casa Resource Center in Denver. Awardees will be honored at the NCLR National Affiliate Luncheon hosted at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio on Saturday, July 10 at 12:30 p.m.

“These extraordinary organizations work on the frontlines every day to provide Latinos with essential services, and NCLR is proud to highlight the transformative impact that community-based organizations are making in the Latino community,” said Janet Murguía, NCLR President and CEO.

Aligned with NCLR’s mission of strengthening America by promoting the advancement of Latino families, each organization offers an array of unique services and programs that provide access to education, health, and financial services in Hispanic communities. Honorees include the following organizations:

- **Mi Casa Resource Center** (Denver, CO)
Mi Casa Resource Center was founded in 1976 to give low-income Latinas in Denver new opportunities to help them achieve financial stability and a better life for their children. Mi Casa’s winning Youth & Family Development programs offer enrichment programs during out-of-school time for Latino youth and their families. The focus is on academic success, technology training, leadership development and career education for youth, and continuing education opportunities for adults, including ESL, GED, parenting classes, and computer and financial literacy seminars.
- **La Clínica del Pueblo** (Washington, DC)

La Clínica del Pueblo provides primary health care, mental health and substance abuse services, HIV/AIDS care, social services, interpreter services, and health education and outreach to Latinos in the Washington, DC area. La Clínica practices an integrated approach to health care, taking every aspect of a family's well-being into consideration. Its *Mi Familia* program engages children, adolescents, and parents in counseling, therapeutic exercises, and workshops to reduce the negative impact of traumatic stress and improve overall family stability.

· **Youth Development, Inc.** (Albuquerque, NM)

Youth Development, Inc. (YDI), founded in Albuquerque by a small group of concerned community activists wanting to address the conditions promoting substance abuse, educational disparity, delinquency, and poverty, works through a holistic strength-based approach to provide family solutions. YDI's Head Start/Early Head Start programs provide comprehensive services to children from six weeks to five years old. The program provides a continuum of care under the YDI umbrella through comprehensive services for the children including multicultural education; medical and dental screenings including follow-up treatment and preventative health practices; nutritious meals and snacks and nutrition education for parents; and evaluation, diagnosis, and special services, along with a nurturing mainstreamed classroom environment for children with special needs.

Along with the award, the award-winning programs will each receive a cash prize of \$16,500 during the National Affiliate Luncheon. Mi Casa Resource Center Executive Director, Christine Marquez-Hudson, as well as Mi Casa's Director of Youth & Family Development, Karen Fox, will also lead a workshop at the NCLR conference showcasing their best practices to other community-based organizations.

For more information or to read a testimonial from a family Mi Casa has served, please visit www.MiCasaResourceCenter.org.

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