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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrating 10 Years of New Opportunities for Low-Income Entrepreneurs in Southern Colo.

PUEBLO, Colorado – Mi Casa Resource Center extends a cordial invitation to members of the Southern Colorado media to be our guest at *11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 6, 2010*, for the Spirit of Success Luncheon at Pueblo Community College. The event a celebration of Mi Casa’s Southern Colorado Women’s Business Center and a decade creating new opportunities for underserved entrepreneurs in Southern Colorado through self-employment and business ownership.

The Spirit of Success Luncheon will feature inspiring stories from small business owners who have benefited from Mi Casa’s business development services, as well as a keynote address by Greg Lopez, Colorado District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Since 2000, Mi Casa Resource Center has provided bilingual entrepreneurial training, business counseling and networking opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners in Pueblo and elsewhere in Southern Colorado. Mi Casa’s support of small businesses plays a key role in the health in the Southern Colorado economy. Since 2009, Mi Casa has helped launch 68 small businesses in Southern Colorado, which have created over 100 jobs.

At the luncheon, guests will hear from Laura Espinoza, a young mother of two and business owner who, with help from Mi Casa’s business development programs, revitalized Pueblo’s Imagination Station childcare center and launched a business that now provides high-quality childcare for nearly 100 children in Pueblo – most of them from low-income families.

Laura credits Mi Casa with helping her and her mother/business partner, Pat Ortiz, tighten their business plan, obtain the necessary licenses and permits, and apply for business loans. “Mi Casa had answers to all of our questions and I think without their advice, I would still be spinning in circles and feeling overwhelmed by the whole process.”

Recently, Mi Casa helped Laura and Pat secure a \$250,000 loan in order to purchase the building where their business is located at 2102 S. Prairie Ave. in Pueblo.

We hope to see you this Wednesday to celebrate the entrepreneurial successes of the past decade and to look forward toward the next 10 years of thriving business development, economic prosperity and personal growth in Southern Colorado!

For more information, contact Louella Cook or Liz Candelario at the Mi Casa Resource Center Southern Colorado Women's Business Center - 719-542-0091.

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About Mi Casa Resource Center

Mi Casa is among the oldest and largest Latino-serving organizations in Colorado. Mi Casa was founded in 1976 by eight Head Start mothers who understood that education and employment were essential for women to achieve personal and economic success. Mi Casa was established to create new opportunities for women and their children to succeed. For more than 30 years, Mi Casa has been committed to advancing the economic success of Latino and low-income families. For more information visit www.MiCasaResourceCenter.org.