

Chicana/o Studies 100SL

Barrio Service Learning

Professor

Paula Cruz Takash, Ph.D.

A 239 Bunche Hall, Rm B

Phone: 310-849-4092

Email: paulect69@aol.com

Teaching Associate

Veronica Velez, M.A.

Doctoral Candidate

Office: 7375 Bunche Hall

Email: vnvelez@ucla.edu

Community Partner Profiles Spring 2008

Bienestar Human Services Inc., Buenanueva Foundation Inc., Central American Resource Center (CARECEN), Casa Libre/Freedom House, Chicano Youth Leadership Conference (Angeleno Communities Initiative), Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA), Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamerica (COFEM), Federación de Clubes Jaliscienses, Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE), Homies Unidos Instituto de Educación Popular del Sur de California (IDEPSCA), Lambda Legal, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), Multi-ethnic Worker Organizing Network (MIWON), Mundo Maya Foundation, PALS for Health, Pico Youth & Family Center, Reach for the Top Inc., The Salvadorean American Leadership and Educational Fund (SALEF), Southwest Voter Registration Education Project (SVREP), The William C. Velasquez Institute (WVI), Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC), The Cesar E. Chavez Foundation, United Farm Workers (UFW), Venice Family Clinic, Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Youth Speak Collective

BIENESTAR Human Services, Inc.

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|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Noe Zuñiga nzuniga@bienestar.org (323) 727-7896 (323) 727-7985 (FAX) | Website | www.bienestar.org |
| Address | East Los Angeles Center 5326 E. Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90022 | | |

MISSION

BIENESTAR is the largest Latino community-based organization in the United States that meets the social services, health education and prevention needs of Latino men, women, and children living with HIV/AIDS, and those most at risk of HIV, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and other infections. BIENESTAR is committed to enhancing the health and well being of the Latino community and other underserved communities. BIENESTAR accomplishes this through community education, prevention, mobilization, advocacy, and the provision of direct social support services. BIENESTAR serves the residents of the Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego County areas.

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1989 as a grassroots organization based in Los Angeles, BIENESTAR has grown tremendously, both in geography and scope of work. BIENESTAR currently provides services through its ten centers located throughout southern California including East Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, El Monte, Hollywood, Long Beach, Pomona, Van Nuys, San Bernardino, and San Diego. BIENESTAR's early focus on the HIV/AIDS education needs of gay and bisexual men has broadened to address a myriad of health and social services issues facing southern California's Latino community. These issues include, but are not limited to: sexually transmitted diseases, alcohol and substance abuse, gang violence, domestic violence, women's health, homelessness, and nutrition.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The majority of the clients served by BIENESTAR are underserved and indigent Latinos. The staff and peer volunteers of BIENESTAR are bilingual, bicultural, and share a genuine concern for providing its clientele with competent and appropriate information and services. There are no cultural or language barriers that the clients need to overcome before accessing services at BIENESTAR. More than 35,000 people are served yearly from all of BIENESTAR services, programs and community centers. Though BIENESTAR primarily serves the Latino community, other ethnic and racial communities are also served.

BUENANUEVA Foundation, Inc.

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Aracelly C. Alvarez aalvarez@buenanueva.org (323) 795-7055 (323) 795-7644 (FAX) | Website | www.buenanueva.org |
| Address | 2500 E. Foothill Blvd. Suite 502 Pasadena, CA 91107 | | |

MISSION

Our mission is to help young people in need develop into respected, self-dependent, and productive members of our community by supporting and implementing teen pregnancy prevention with mentoring, educational assistance, and childcare programs.

BACKGROUND

The Buenanueva Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization that was established in 1982 to improve the quality of life in the community by helping children and their families develop into healthy productive citizens. The goals of the Foundation are to focus on supporting primary and secondary adolescent pregnancy prevention programs through a series of activities in collaboration with school districts in Los Angeles County. Providing child care, mentoring, and financial aid gives the young people a reason to continue their education beyond the high school diploma and to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

On April 2005 we launched a Prevention Based Mentorship Program (PBMP) to benefit teen parents attending Montebello Unified School District high schools and Rowland Unified School District high schools. Mentors' responsibility is to commit to a minimum of two visitations at the school site twice per month for one semester or one school year, attend a one-time 6 hour training session, motivate and serve as a role model, assist in setting educational goals and provide academic support, monitor and record students' progress, and carry a genuine desire to making a difference in the life of the Mentee. The interns will end this program feeling a sense of fulfillment that they made a difference in their mentees' life.

CARECEN

Central American Resource Center

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Aracelly C. Alvarez aalvarez@buenanueva.org (323) 795-7055 (323) 795-7644 (FAX) | Website | www.buenanueva.org |
| Address | 2500 E. Foothill Blvd. Suite 502 Pasadena, CA 91107 | | |

MISSION

To empower Central Americans by defending human and civil rights, working for social and economic justice and promoting cultural diversity.

BACKGROUND

The Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) in Los Angeles is a non-profit community based organization founding in 1983 currently serving more than 40,000 individuals and families annually through its four main program areas: Academic, Cultural, and Technology Enrichment; Civic Participation; Immigration Legal Services; and Economic Development. Our mission is to empower Central Americans by defending human and civil rights, working for social and economic justice, and promoting cultural diversity. We accomplish this through service, education, advocacy, and organizing.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The Academic, Cultural, and Technology Enrichment program provides academic services for students ranging from 2nd grade to 10th grade. We currently have an ongoing after school tutoring program, a day program for students on vacation, and an introduction to high school program. Our purpose through our education programs is not only to enhance the skills of our students but also to give our volunteers enriched opportunities to utilize their time and talents. We accomplish this by providing an opportunity for meaningful service to and direct participation with students in our educational programs.

CASA LIBRE / Freedom House

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Peter Schey pschey@centerforhumanrights.org (213) 235-5822 (213) 386-9484 (FAX) | Website | www.casa-libre.org |
| Address | 256 S. Occidental Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90057 | | |

MISSION

The overall goal of the program is to assist youth without homes admitted into the program to achieve stable and safe living conditions. This goal is reached through the provision of a continuum of care aimed at equipping youth with the necessary skills to remain in safe and permanent housing. The continuum of care includes a range of services to encourage and enhance participants' educational and vocational abilities, self-esteem, and leadership and inter-personal skills.

BACKGROUND

CASA LIBRE is a historic mansion purchased by the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law, Inc. in 1996. The program opened to serve as a shelter for homeless children in December 2002. Prior to the opening of the CASA LIBRE, the Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law operated a homeless youth shelter for over ten years at the Safe Haven Shelter, a six-bed shelter located a few blocks away from the CASA LIBRE site. Today, CASA LIBRE is an emergency and long-term shelter for minors without homes, including unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

CASA LIBRE currently offers two distinct but related programs. The Emergency Shelter Program has up to 10 beds and it is available to residents for up to three months. The Transitional Living Program has up to 6 beds and it is available for resident care for up to two years. Both programs are provided at the CASA LIBRE site and are available to homeless children under the age of 18 years. The program strives to identify and provide services for youth of diverse backgrounds, including ethnic diversity, sexual orientation, and children with physical disabilities. Services are provided to youth without homes regardless of immigration status. CASA LIBRE also offers its residents a range of cultural and creative art activities, including photography, music lessons, monthly "Film Night at Casa Libre" with presentations by the film-makers, and routine weekend outings to sporting events, museums, parks, etc.

CHIRLA

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Caitlin Patler cpatler@chirla.org Whelma Cabanawan wcabanawan@chirla.org (213) 353-1348 (213) 353-1344 (FAX) | Website | www.chirla.org |
| Address | 2533 W. 3 rd St., #101 Los Angeles, CA 90057 | | |

MISSION

CHIRLA was formed in 1986 to advance the human and civil rights of immigrants and refugees in Los Angeles; promote harmonious multi-ethnic and multi-racial human relations; and through coalition-building, advocacy, community education and organizing, empower immigrants and their allies to build a more just society.

BACKGROUND

For the past twenty years, CHIRLA has been at the forefront in the fight for immigrant and refugee rights in Los Angeles and across the state and nation. The 1980s were a turbulent time in the social and political struggles of the immigrant community.

In March and May of 2006 millions of us marched in the streets demanding our rights and that legislators stop the criminalization of immigrants. But mobilizing was not enough. Draconian anti-immigrant bills are still on the table. Now, in partnership with hundreds of groups across the country, CHIRLA is involved in an initiative to show the political power of the immigrant community through civic participation.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Your service learning will consist of helping us carry out the Southern California work of the Mobilize the Immigrant Vote collaborative. This means that you will work with low-wage workers and undocumented youth to create a platform for pro-immigrant voters. You will then educate and mobilize immigrants and their allies to be more active civic participants through political action and voting. Activities include community forums, presentations to organizations, training of individuals, precinct walking in Latino and Ethiopian communities.

COFEM

Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica

Contact Person Adrian Maldonado **Website** www.cofem.org
adrian@cofem.org
(213) 417-8384 / (562) 205-6331
(213) 625-0909 (FAX)

Address Placita Olvera “Instituto Cultural Mexicano” Building
125 Paseo de la Plaza
Suite 101
Los Angeles, CA 90012

MISSION

The mission of COFEM embraces a community-centered approach to promote the advancement of the Latino community through public policy advocacy, educational and cultural programming, strategic mobilization, community organizing, and binational economic development.

BACKGROUND

COFEM is a council of organizations whose members can trace their heritage back to the same town or region of origin in Mexico. These organizations are best known as Hometown Associations (HTAs) in the United States. Currently, COFEM is made up of fourteen *Federaciones*. COFEM is interested in forging bridges with institutions interested in the advancement of the Latino immigrant community through focused collaborations and strategic partnerships that can positively impact the HTA organizational network and surrounding immigrant community. Committed to the American principles of equality and justice, COFEM will work to ensure equal opportunities and civil rights for immigrants through public policy advocacy, educational and cultural programming, strategic mobilization, and community organizing. The organization fully embraces the immigrant-led, bottoms-up oriented model of community organizing that has led to the rapid expansion of HTAs throughout the nation over the last three decades.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Service learning will consist of providing program support in the areas of: civic engagement and public policy advocacy, education, health and environment, bi-national economic development and organizational development. Duties include but are not limited to conducting translation of documents (English to Spanish to English), research, preparing materials, participant outreach, updating records, and assist with coordination of forums, conferences, and cultural activities.

**Hours: Monday-Friday from 9:00AM-5:00PM
Sat & Sun. Occasionally on special projects**

Homies Unidos

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|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Alex Sanchez homiesunidos@homiesunidos.org (213) 383-7484 (213) 383-7482 | Website | www.homiesunidos.org |
| Address | 1625 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 706 Los Angeles, CA 90015 | | |

MISSION

Homies Unidos recognizes the capacity for positive transformation in all human beings. Therefore, we believe in the inalienable human right of all marginalized youth, families and their communities to pursue their dreams and achieve their full potential free of violence and discrimination

BACKGROUND

Homies Unidos works to end violence and promote peace in our communities through gang intervention, promotion of humane treatment of marginalized youth, providing alternatives to gang involvement and destructive behavior, empowering youth to change, and providing positive and productive alternatives for them to do so in both El Salvador and Los Angeles. To support the prevention of social violence, rehabilitation and construction of a culture of peace among the Central American community through the implementation of prevention and intervention programs and by strengthening families.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

HOPE

Hispanas Organized for Political Equality

Contact Person Fanny Arroyo Oliveira
latinas@latinas.org
(213) 622-0606 x5
(213) 622-0007 (FAX)

Website www.latinas.org

Public Transit

Public Transportation and/or parking is Reimbursed up to \$6/per day for students volunteering at least 5 hours/per day

Address 634 S. Spring St.
Suite 920
Los Angeles, CA 90014

MISSION

HOPE is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed to ensuring political and economic parity for Latinas through leadership, advocacy, and education to the benefit of all communities and the status of women.

BACKGROUND

For eighteen years Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) has been working to provide a critical voice to Latinas to develop their personal growth, prosperity, and political clout. Throughout the years, HOPE has served the Latina community with innovative programming that provides leadership development, statewide networking opportunities, experiential learning, and one-on-one interaction with local, state, and federal officials and agencies. To date, HOPE estimates that over 20,000 Latinas have been served by HOPE's programming.

Programs include (but not limited to) the **HOPE Leadership Institute**, established to train Latina leaders in advocacy skills enabling them to foster healthy communities statewide; the **Youth Leadership Through Literacy Program**, established to provide Latina teens with the skills necessary for self-empowerment; **Latina History Day** established to celebrate historical accomplishments of Latinas and to present forums on issues such as health, education, and economic empowerment; **Latina Action Day – Sacramento and Washington, D.C.** established to mobilize professional, civic, and community Latina leaders from across California to voice concerns at the state and national level on issues that most impact Latinas and their communities.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Our commitment to the Barrio Service students is to provide an open-door work environment where students can share their knowledge, skills and abilities and at the same time develop new skills that will enable them to succeed in a professional setting. We hold high standards of work ethic and we expect interns to work towards advancing HOPE's mission of empowering Latinas. Some of the available project we have right now include: 1) **YLTLP** – assist in the development of an outreach and tracking plan of former and current community partners and assist the program manager in curriculum development; 2) **LATINA DATA CENTER** – Research demographic and other data on Latinas in California and in the Nation for the development of a "Latina Data Center" on the HOPE website; 3) **LATINA VOTER LIST** – Research the availability and possible utilization of a Latina registered voter database.

Hours: Monday-Friday, from 10:00-5PM

IDEPSCA

Instituto de Educacion Popular del Sur de California

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Raul Borbon raul_borbon@idepsca.org Susana Zamorano szamorano@idepsca.org (626) 628-5585 (213) 252-2953 (FAX) | Website | www.idepsca.org |
| Address | 1565 W. 14 th St. Los Angeles, CA 90015 | | |

MISSION

The Institute of Popular Education of Southern California (IDEPSCA) is a non-profit community-based educational organization incorporated in 1991. Our mission is to create a more humane and democratic society by responding to the needs and problems of disenfranchised people through leadership development and educational programs based in Popular Education methodology. Specifically, our goal is to organize and educate members of low-income Latina and Latino immigrants concerned with solving problems in their own communities.

BACKGROUND

Our roots trace back to 1984 when a group of students and parents met in Central Park in the City of Pasadena to confront racism, educational inequalities, and the lack of affordable housing. Stories of joy, struggle, and hope became mirrors for our educational and organizing processes. This experience, and systematic practice that evolved from it, has given the Institute the tools and methods to successfully work with low-immigrant workers and others groups committed to solving problems in their own communities.

IDEPSCA practices Popular Education in its daily activities. Its manifestation goes by the following: "Popular Education is a process of analysis, critical and participative reflection through economic, political, and sociocultural realities that arise from the impoverished organized groups. Groups that struggle to be able to build a stronger and inclusive force to transform society so that it is just and democratic and based on the interest of the oppressed..."

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

IDEPSCA offers a variety of programs in the areas of human and immigrant rights, education and youth, and economic development. In the area of human and immigrant rights, IDEPSCA has several day laborer programs, a health program, and a domestic worker program. In the area of education and youth, we have the East Los Angeles Literacy Project, our youth group known as Teens in Action, our parent group known as the Pasadena Parent Association Advocating for Equitable Education (APPLE), and La Escuelita. And finally, in the area of economic development, IDEPSCA recently founded the *colectiva* MAGIC CLEANERS. We are hoping Barrio Service Learning students will help us initiate a new project – developing a popular education school for children grade K-3 known as *Aprendamos*. Specifically, students would help us develop the school's mission and purpose, vision, possible curricula, and recruit families and students to the program.

Lambda Legal, *Proyecto Igualdad*

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|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Francisco Dueñas fduenas@lambdalegal.org (213) 382-7600 (213) 351-6050 (FAX) | Website | www.lambdalegal.org |
| Address | 3325 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 1300 Los Angeles, CA 90010 | | |

MISSION

Lambda Legal is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education, and public policy work.

BACKGROUND

In 1973 Lambda Legal was officially founded. Our strategy: taking on vital legal battles to create building blocks that would allow more gay and lesbian people to live openly and honestly as we fought for full equality in all aspects of our lives. From the outset, we complemented our legal work with educational programs for the general public and our own community.

Throughout the 1970s, Lambda Legal fought — and won — some of the nation's first cases on behalf of gay parents and gay couples. We successfully fought for gay student groups and gay employees who faced blatant discrimination from state-funded universities. We took on the federal government for penalizing gay people and gay groups through discriminatory FBI and IRS practices, and prompted the government to stop barring gay immigrants from entering the country.

In the 1980s, we stepped up our efforts against government discrimination, while focusing more on antigay bias in corporations and established community institutions. Lambda Legal won the first AIDS discrimination case in the nation in 1983, helping establish that under disability laws it's illegal to discriminate against people who have HIV. We also went on the offense to establish greater protections for lesbian and gay families. We filed the first-ever domestic partnership benefits case in a federal court, and we won some of the first victories in the nation that defined gay couples as "families." In the early 1990s, Lambda Legal won some of the first legal victories recognizing the role of lesbian and gay parents who had no biological or established legal relationships with the children they helped raise.

Also in the 1990s, Lambda Legal won tremendous victories for LGBT and questioning youth. We won a historic legal precedent holding schools responsible for harassment and violence against LGBTQ students and successfully defended the right of gay-straight alliances to exist in schools. These victories forced people across the country to recognize the fact that LGBTQ youth exist and have the same needs as all other young people.

As the 21st century begins, Lambda Legal is stronger than ever, with our well-honed strategy that has brought success in all 50 states. Over the last 30 years, life for LGBT people has changed significantly — and Lambda Legal has changed with it. We've learned more and more about how to use the court of public opinion to win for our community even when we can't prevail in the court of law. In addition to our marriage and relationship work, we are pushing forward with aggressive efforts to create a world where LGBT people can be out at work and not fear being fired. A world where LGBT parents — biological or not — are fully recognized. A world where young people can live and attend school free of discrimination and abuse. A world where people living with HIV can access medical care, pursue a career, become a parent and live free from discrimination based on decades-old stereotypes about the disease.

MALDEF

Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Ana Paula Noguez anoguez@maldef.org Sara Zapata Mijares Szapata-mijares@maldef.org (213) 629-2512 (213) 629-0830 (FAX) | Website | www.maldef.org |
| Address | 634 S. Spring St. Los Angeles, CA 90014 | | |

MISSION

MALDEF's mission is to foster sound public policies, laws and programs to safeguard the civil rights of the 40 million Latinos living in the United States and to empower the Latino community to fully participate in our society. MALDEF achieves its mission by concentrating its efforts on the following area: employment, education, immigration, political access, language, public resource equity issues.

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1968 in San Antonio, Texas, MALDEF is the leading nonprofit Latino litigation, advocacy and educational outreach institution in the United States. Through the years, MALDEF has been at the forefront of civil rights litigation, setting precedent in many cases and establishing new systems to elect officials, hire and promote employees and educate children. On the non-litigation side, MALDEF works extensively on the issues of redistricting and census adjustment and has undertaken a nationwide media outreach campaign to ensure that all Latinos were counted in the 2000 census. Additionally, through its leadership development programs, MALDEF trains and empowers Latinos to serve on policy-making boards and commissions at the local and, state, and national levels. Through the skills and training taught in its parent leadership programs, MALDEF also provides parents with the knowledge and tools necessary to advocate for a quality education for their children.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Service Learners will have the opportunity to work on upcoming projects within the Domestic Violence Prevention program, a new program at MALDEF that is still under formation or the Hometown Association Project. If interested in the Domestic Violence Prevention Program, please contact Ana Paula Noguez at anoguez@maldef.org. If interested in the Hometown Association Project, please contact Sara Zapata-Mijares at Szapata-mijares@maldef.org.

MIWON

Multi-Ethnic Immigrant Worker Organizing Network

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|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Betheny Leal bleal@miwon.org (323) 449-7358 | Website | www.palsforhealth.org |
| Address | 3465 West 8 th Street Los Angeles, CA 90005 | | |

MISSION

MIWON (Multi-ethnic, multi-industry network of immigrant worker-based organizations) builds political consciousness and participation of immigrant workers in our fight for better living and working conditions. It is comprised of the following organizations: CHIRLA, KIWA, Pilipino Workers Center, and IDEPSCA. Key strategies: fight for legalization and worker rights; act as a collective voice for low-wage immigrant workers in Los Angeles. Objectives: 1) support one another in our struggles; 2) build unity/develop political consciousness through collective political education, 3) wage local, regional, national legalization and worker rights campaigns, 4) build bridges between immigrant and non-immigrant works for a more just society.

BACKGROUND

MIWON has empowered Korean, Latino, Chinese, and Pilipino immigrant workers laboring in different low wage industries to send up and fight for their rights as immigrants. MIWON started the first immigrant workers school called the School of Education, Empowerment, and Determination (SEED) in May 2006. It is a year-long program that consistently brings together low-wage immigrant workers across language, culture, geographic location, work industry and generation. It was the first pilot year in creating a diverse, Los Angeles wide advanced leadership development school. Through multi-ethnic collaboration and coordination, MIWON is able to confront and take action on large-scale issues at a much broader level than any of the organizations individually. Since its inception, MIWON has successfully advocated for the rights of immigrant workers and enjoyed tremendous successes. On May 1, 2004, International Workers Day, MIWON spearheaded its fifth annual day of action with a "Caravan for Justice" busing immigrant workers and their families to protest at the federal building. Low-way immigrant families were able to bring together their frustration at the federal, state government, and the local exploitation they fell from their employer.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Service Learners will have the opportunity to work first hand in strategizing and planning the Los Angeles area May Day march and other campaigns to bring attention to the immigrant-based work movement. MIWON is also spearheading a campaign to bring attention to the LAPD violence that occurred on May Day of 2007.

Mundo Maya Foundation & Federación de Clubes Yucatecos

Angeleno Communities Initiative

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Sara Zapata sara@yucatecos.org (562) 505-6023 | Website | www.yucatecos.org |
| Address | 9638 Greenleaf Ave. Whittier, CA 90605 | | |

MISSION

MUNDO MAYA's mission is to promote and preserve the Maya Yucatec culture. It also serves to support the development and well-being of Yucatec immigrants, their families, and the Peninsula of Yucatán. Our objectives are the following: 1) To unify and strengthen our communities; 2) Education and cultural enrichment; 3) Immigration and Citizenship; 4) Health and housing; 5) Social Get-togethers; 6) Social and Economic projects in Yucatan; 6) Transnational projects to preserve the Mayan culture and community

BACKGROUND

As an organization, MUNDO MAYA began on October 3, 2002. Since then MUNDO MAYA has achieved the following: organize the first Maya Yucateco club, Club Yucatan de California, in order to respond to the natural disaster that occurred on the Peninsula of Yucatan following Hurricane Isadoro; to create the first Yucatec folklorico dance troupe in Los Angeles, and develop the program 3x1 in Yucatan in November of 2003.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

PALS for Health

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|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Tania Trillo tania_trillo@yahoo.org (213) 553-1818 (213) 553-1822 (FAX) | Website | www.palsforhealth.org |
| Address | 605 W. Olympic Blvd, Suite 600 Los Angeles, CA 90015 | | |

MISSION

PALS for Health's mission is "To improve the health care system's understanding and support of Limited English Proficient (LEP) patients and families; to increase its capacity to provide quality interpretation/translation services; and to inform LEP patients and families of their right to these services and how to access them." PALS for Health provides interpretation and translation services, interpreter training, patient and provider education and patient leadership development.

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1993 as a program of Special Service for Groups, PALS for Health works to improve the health of LEP communities by providing an array of services that breaks down cultural and linguistic barriers to health care access for immigrants in Southern California. Our organization's objectives are to 1) provide quality language services by training bilingual individuals in health care interpreting and translating; 2) educate patients on their civil right to receive no-cost language assistance in health care; 3) raise awareness among health care providers on their federal obligation to provide competent interpretation services and language assistance for LEPs, and 4) empower LEPs to share their story with policy makers and media, and to educate other LEPs on their right to language assistance.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The following are some ways that student service learns could support PALS for Health:

- Assist in coordination of trainings
- Conducting field evaluations of interpreters
- Conduct evaluations with patients who have used our services (if bi-lingual)
- Assist in coordinating interpreter and translation requests
- Provide community outreach and patient leadership development

Pico Youth & Family Center

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Oscar de la Torre odelatorre16@yahoo.com Michael Alfred Jackson mjacksonsm@yahoo.com (310) 396-7101 | Website | www.picoyouth.org |
| Address | 828 Pico Blvd. Suite 9 Santa Monica, CA 90405 | | |

MISSION

The Pico Youth & Family Center (PYFC) is a non-profit organization in Santa Monica committed to preventing youth violence. Our services target youth ages 16-24 who are most at risk, such as youth who are out of school, are on probation and/or failing academically. Since opening in 2002, we have served hundreds of youth through case management, music production training, counseling, tutoring, job readiness, and computer training.

BACKGROUND

In October of 1998, a series of shootings prompted residents in Santa Monica's Pico Neighborhood to organize the largest demonstration against youth violence in Santa Monica's history. Residents responded to the shootings by organizing the Vigil for Peace on November 2, 1998. Through this event, community leaders in the Pico Neighborhood revealed that between 1989-1998, twenty-two youth lost their lives on the streets of the Pico Neighborhood in Santa Monica. More than 1000 residents, family and friends marched through the heart of the Pico Neighborhood to call for an end to the violence and to support families who have had to suffer for many years due to the neglect of this social problem. After months of planning and advocacy, the youth and families of the Pico Neighborhood won a decisive victory. On June 12, 2001 the PYC in partnership with Woodcraft Rangers was awarded a grant to deliver services to youth and their families

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

This coming year with our relationship with UCLA, the Barrio Service Learning class students will have the opportunity to serve in three areas:

- (1) ***Event Planning***: Students will have the opportunity to help in the production of the 2nd annual Hip Hop Unity Summit. Also, the 1st annual PYFC awards dinner. The Hip Hop Unity Summit meeting occurs every Tuesday night from 7-9pm
- (2) ***Tutoring***: Students will be able to help high school students achieve academic progress. This will be happening on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6:30PM.
- (3) ***Women Empowerment Project***: Students will be able to help plan, implement, and participate in the group activities. Student will need to be committed and willing to share themselves and most of all to share their own resiliency in furthering their education with these young women. This group will be meeting from 3:30 to 5:00PM on every Thursday.

Reach for the Top, Inc. Housing Specialists

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Contact Person | Ivonne Guzman ivonne.a.guzman@hotmail.com (310) 399-6042 (310) 503-0269 | Website |
| Address | 2100 S. Orange Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90016 | |

MISSION

Reach for Top, Inc., supports homeless families and individuals by provides and facilitating needed services and transitional housing. The goal is to stabilize clients as quickly and efficiently as possible to help them obtain permanent housing. Reach for the Top aspires to create social change, communities with hope and opportunities where there seems to be none.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Service Learners will have the opportunity to work directly with founder and director, Ivonne Guzman to research and write grants to support new shelters. The year, so far, BSL students have helped Reach for the Top secure \$350,000 for a shelter to house domestic violence victims.

SALEF

Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund

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| Contact Person | Mario Escobar mescobar@salef.org (213) 480-1052 (213) 487-2530 (FAX) | Website | www.salef.org |
| Address | 1625 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 718 Los Angeles, CA 90015 | | |

MISSION

SALEF's mission is to advocate for the educational advancement, civic participation, leadership and economic prosperity of Salvadoran and other Latino communities in the U.S.; and to advance democracy and social justice in the U.S. and El Salvador.

BACKGROUND

SALEF's Civic and Community Programs are focused on the civic participation and community involvement of Central Americans and Latinos. To educate and empower the Central American community in the Westlake – Pico Union district in the City of Los Angeles, our program's objectives are met through the VoTE Project, ¡Padres en Acción!, and other Advocacy projects. SALEF's programs are dedicated to provide capacity building to the community and to empower parents through leadership trainings for their children's higher education. We advocate for immigrants rights and legalization, and through community partnerships provide a wide range of legal services.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

As an integral member of our communities, parents need to be involved with schools and in the community to create the kind of social change that produces greater opportunities for their children and future generations. Understanding parent's critical role, SALEF developed *¡Padres en Acción!* – a leadership development and organizing program. In an effort to promote closer relationships between home and school, SALEF's *¡Padres en Acción!* builds the knowledge and leadership skills of parents through a 13 week training program that includes important themes such as helping their children reach academic success, safety in our communities and schools, the high school drop-out crisis, quality education, communication skills, financial literacy, civic and community organizing. Parents engage in meetings, community forums, and volunteer and leadership opportunities whereby they enhance their capacity and skills facilitating their interactions with teachers, school administration and governmental agencies in general.

Southwest Voter Registration Education Project

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Acuzena Maldonado amaldonado@svrep.org (323) 343-9100 | Website | www.svrep.org |
| Address | 2914 N. Main St. 2 nd Floor Los Angeles, CA 90031 | | |

MISSION

SVREP'S mission is to empower Latinos and other minorities by increasing their participation in the American democratic process. We do this by strengthening the capacity, experience and skills of Latino leaders, networks, and organizations through programs that consistently train, organize, finance, develop, expand, and mobilize Latino leaders and votes around an agenda that reflects their values. Thus, SVREP's motto: "Su Voto Es Su Voz."

BACKGROUND

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Southwest Voter Registration Education Project

William C. Velasquez Institute

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|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Celia Brugman cbrugman@wcvl.org (323) 222-2217 (323) 222-2011 | Website | www.wcvl.org |
| Address | 2914 N. Main St. 1 st Floor Los Angeles, CA 90031 | | |

MISSION

The William C. Velásquez Institute (WCVI) is a non-profit, non-partisan public policy analysis organization chartered in 1985. The purpose of WCVI is to: conduct research aimed at improving the level of political and economic participation in Latino and other underrepresented communities; To provide information to Latino leaders relevant to the needs of their constituents; To inform the Latino leadership and public about the impact of public policies on Latinos, and; To inform the Latino leadership and public about political opinions and behavior of Latinos.

BACKGROUND

Chartered in 1984, the Southwest Voter Research Institute was established to seek the opinions of the Latino electorate and to make those findings known. Founder, Willie Velásquez felt Latino leaders should be held accountable to their constituencies. As part of the institute, he set out to collect and distribute information on public policy issues ranging from income and poverty to U.S. and Latin America relations. In 1995 President Bill Clinton awarded Velásquez The Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor any civilian can receive - and only the second Latino ever to earn that honor.

In 1997, the Southwest Voter Research Institute was changed to the William C Velásquez Institute (WCVI) as a way to honor and perpetuate Velásquez' vision and legacy.

But Velásquez did not get to see the fruits of his dreams, he passed away on June 15, 1988 of complications from kidney cancer. The ongoing activities of SVREP and WCVI serve as proof of the continued strength and merit of Velásquez.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

SPARC

The Social and Public Art Resource Center

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Betty Marin betty@sparmurals.org (310) 822-9560 x13 (310) 827-8717 | Website | www.sparcmurals.org |
| Address | 685 Venice Blvd. Venice, CA 90291 | | |

MISSION

As a cultural organization working citywide in Los Angeles with diverse communities and on a grass roots level, SPARC is proud of its rich legacy of artwork that stands as a testimony to communities that make up the ethnic face of our city. SPARC's intent is to examine what we choose to memorialize through public art, to devise and innovate excellent artworks; and ultimately, to support communities to develop solutions to difficult issues they face through participatory processes of creative visualization and collaboration with local residents sometimes excluded from civic discourses.

BACKGROUND

The Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC) is recognized as one of the country's most respected community based nonprofit organizations with a 30 year long track record in working in community cultural development practices. Founded in 1976 by Chicana muralist and educator Judith F. Baca, filmmaker/director Donna Deitch and Artist/Teacher Christina Schlesinger SPARC has remained dedicated to working in Los Angeles' poor and immigrant communities with youth, children and their families as participants in the production of educative public monuments that make our stories evident to local, national and international audiences.

SPARC's public projects, which are national in scope, now number in Los Angeles alone in the 100's and are considered among the most important landmarks of our city. These works are never simply individually authored endeavors, but are instead collaboration between artists and local residents, resulting in permanent monuments, which rise from within the community rather than being imposed upon it. SPARC has remained committed to its values as a socially responsible organization utilizing art to bring about social change, and to provide educational opportunities for youth, families and the community at large. We also remain committed to helping youth and their families find their voice, giving it public expression, and having others hear it; while breaking down barriers, real and perceived, between and within communities. What we do is as much about community transformation and creating permanent sites of public memory as it is about public art.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

SPARC will consider internships in the following areas: 1) Art Administration ; 2) Mural Resource and Education Center (MREC); 3) Mural Program; 4) Digital Mural Lab.

The Cesar E. Chavez Foundation

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Eric Arnold earnold@cecfmail.org (818) 265-0300 x13 (818) 265-0312 (FAX) | Website | www.chavezfoundation.org |
| Address | 634 S. Spring St. Suite 400 Los Angeles, CA 90014 | | |

MISSION

The mission of the Cesar E. Chavez Foundation, a non-profit charitable foundation, is to maximize human potential to improve communities by preserving, promoting and applying the legacy and universal values of civil rights leader Cesar E. Chavez.

BACKGROUND

In 1993, Cesar's family and friends established the Cesar E. Chavez Foundation to educate people about the life and work of this great American civil rights leader, and to inspire individuals and communities to carry on his values and timeless vision for a better world. Since its inception, the Foundation has grown from a start-up organization to one that now has an annual budget of \$25 million. In addition, the Foundation has increasingly been recognized as a national institution with an ecumenical and ambitious programmatic goals.

Today, from the fields of the Southwest to urban centers across the nation, Cesar's struggle for justice, equality, and civil rights and the work of the Foundation he inspired are resonating with American from diverse walks of life.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

UFW

United Farm Workers

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| Contact Person | Irv Hershenbaum irvhershenbaum@hotmail.org (213) 381-5611 x40 (213) 383-0772 (FAX) | Website | www.ufw.org |
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| Address | 2130 W. James Wood Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90006 |
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MISSION

UFW's mission is to provide farm workers and other working people with the inspiration and tools to share in society's bounty.

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1962 by Cesar Chavez, the United Farm Workers (UFW) of America is the nation's first successful and largest farm workers union currently active in 10 states. The UFW continues to organize in major agricultural industries across the nation. Recent years have witnessed dozens of key UFW union contract victories, among them the largest strawberry, rose, winery and mushroom firms in California and the nation. 75% of California's mushroom industry is now under union contract. In 2007, the UFW signed its first contract with Salinas, Calif.-based D'Arrigo Bros., California's third-largest vegetable company. The agreement covers 1800 farm works in the Salinas and Imperial valleys. The UFW signed a contract, also in 2007, with Three Mile Canyon Farms, America's largest dairy-and the first major union contract protecting farm workers in Oregon. They soon signed up another nearby dairy, Willow Creek. Many recent UFW-sponsored laws and regulations aide farm workers; in California, the first state regulation in the U.S. prevents further heat deaths of farm workers. The UFW is also pushing its historic bipartisan and broadly backed AgJobs immigration reform bill.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Assist in research of companies where UFW workers are organizing and struggling for a union uontract. Research includes phone surveys, contacting organization leaders, faxing and emailing information.

Venice Family Clinic

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Ruby Rivera rubyrivera@ucla.edu Ingred Trejo itrejo@mednet.ucla.edu (310) 664-7942 | Website | www.venicefamilyclinic.org |
| Address | 604 Rose Ave., Venice, CA 90291 | | |

MISSION

To improve the health of people and communities through accessible, quality care.

BACKGROUND

Since its founding in a borrowed dental office on Lincoln Blvd. in 1970, the Venice Family Clinic has grown into the largest free medical clinic in the United States. This success is redefined every day, however, as more Americans become uninsured and struggle for one of the most fundamental human rights: access to health care. While the current economic climate pushed employers and county, state, and federal governments to pull back their support of health coverage, the Clinic's response is –and must be – just the opposite: expansion in the face of crisis.

We currently provide services to low-income men, women, children, teens and senior who lack private health insurance. Our patients live primarily in Venice, Santa Monica, Palms, Mar Vista, Inglewood, Culver City and other areas throughout Los Angeles County. Please visit our website for a detailed list of the services we provide.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

WIC

Women, Infants, and Children

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact Person | Charlene Walters charlenew@phfewic.org (626) 856-6618 x259 (626) 337-9436 (FAX) | Website | www.phfewic.org |
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| Address | 12781 Schabarum Ave. Irwindale, CA 91706 |
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MISSION

Our mission is to provide nutrition education and services to pregnant women, infants, and children within low-income families.

BACKGROUND

WIC has been in existence for over 30 years, serving over 300,000 families per month in the Los Angeles and Orange County Area at one of our 62 locations.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

To work on projects at some of our locations in the Los Angeles area to help increase and maintain caseloads.

Youth Speak Collective

Contact Person

David Andres Kietzman
david@youthspeakcollective.org
Whitney Kasserman
whitney@youthspeakcollective.org
(818) 834-5181
(818) 834-5186 (FAX)

Website

www.youthspeakcollective.org

Address

111243 Glenoaks Blvd.
Suite #3
Pacoima, CA 91331

MISSION

Youth Speak Collective is a youth driven initiative empowering low-income communities with the skills necessary to pursue higher education and create strong communities.

BACKGROUND

Youth Speak Collective was founded in 2005 to create a community a youth and adults working together, that encourage the spirit of initiative and enterprise in young people to eliminate all forms of discrimination. We offer various project-based media arts programs including community mentoring, leadership development activities, media advocacy projects, and academic counseling. We serve youth, ages 13-19 living in Pacoima and the Northeast San Fernando Valley.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES