



CHICANOS POR LA CAUSA, INC.

CHILDREN DO WELL WHEN THEIR FAMILIES
DO WELL, AND FAMILIES DO BETTER WHEN
THEY LIVE IN SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES

2005 FAMILY STRENGTHENING AWARDS

A STRONG CULTURE

Students who enroll in the youth development programs of Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. (CPLC) probably don't expect their parents to take similar classes. But CPLC's focus on helping parents support their children in developing bright futures makes that a real possibility.

CPLC's strong family programs—Querer Es Poder, a scholarship program for 8th graders; Xinachtli, a one-day leadership conference; Corazón de Aztlán, a drop-out prevention program; and the Youth Drop-in Center—bring parents and children together through education and training, personal development and family activities.

"We've seen entire families transformed by our youth programs; youth show a new commitment to their communities and families tell us they feel stronger," says Lorraine Lee, Vice President of CPLC. "These families point to how we have helped put their lives into perspective and inspired their commitment to each other."



A STRONG FAMILY IS A YOUNG PERSON'S
GREATEST ASSET.

—Lorraine Lee, Vice President, Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.

HELPING WHOLE FAMILIES

CPLC's largest youth program, Corazón de Aztlán, is part of the curriculum at several Tucson high schools. More than 500 students a year take classes designed to help them pursue a college education, plan a career and improve their self-esteem. School and CPLC staff visit with families at home to help parents address students' academic and behavioral issues and to set goals for improvement. Parents can enroll in adult versions of the classes their children take on job readiness, coping with emotions and family communication.

All of CPLC's youth development programs take a cultural approach that connects young people to the deepest roots of their communities. "Through an appreciation for a community's past struggles," says Lee, "our young people understand the commitment needed to keep moving forward."

CPLC also puts parents in touch with resources in their communities that can strengthen their families. Social work majors from the University of Arizona connect parents to programs for treating substance abuse, job counseling and HIV/AIDS prevention. Parents learn how to build a stronger financial base through credit unions, the Earned Income Tax Credit and rent subsidy programs. "In order for families to be successful, they must have access to services and supportive networks that enhance their economic viability," says Lee.

FAMILIES COUNT FAMILY STRENGTHENING AWARDS

Through a joint venture of the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the FAMILIES COUNT Family Strengthening Awards recognize NCLR Affiliates with outstanding programs that work to give children what they need most—strong, capable and economically successful families. Responding to the varied needs of the families they serve, these organizations improve the economic prospects of working men and women and create the services and networks of support that all families need to realize their aspirations for themselves and their children.

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. demonstrates the partnership that the Affiliates of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) form with Latino families. Nationally, nearly 300 of these organizations provide community and workforce development, education, social services, immigration, citizenship and other services. Collectively, the Affiliates serve millions of Hispanic Americans and immigrant families. “Day in and day out, our Affiliates work to strengthen families and communities,” says Janet Murguía, President and CEO of NCLR. “Together, we are creating more opportunities for Latino parents to build a better future for themselves and their children.”

CHICANOS POR LA CAUSA, INC.

Award-winning Programs:

Querer Es Poder, Xinachtli, Corazón de Aztlán, Youth Drop-in Center

Pete C. Garcia, President & CEO

Lorraine Lee, Vice President

200 North Stone Avenue

Tucson, AZ 85701

520-882-0018

www.cplctucson.org