

INSIDE Report

A Mi Casa E-Newsletter



Creating Pathways to Opportunity



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Inside Mi Casa

It’s officially fall in Colorado! The leaves are changing, the air is cooling, and we’re all getting ready for holidays and the winter season. Before we close out the year, I’m reflecting on all the impact made in 2022 thanks to Mi Casa partners. Thank you for taking a time among all that’s happening to focus on our community – we’re grateful for you!

The change of the seasons always brings new opportunity. Just this summer, Mi Casa received a huge opportunity from the Economic Development Administration to expand our work for jobseekers in our community. It’s an investment that will help us expand our programs in new and exciting ways, and you can read more about it later in this newsletter!

We also highlighted the power of opportunity at our 2nd annual signature event, Las Jefas & Jefes in the Making, at Raices Brewery in September. Local elected Latina officials share about their experiences with leadership, discrimination, and community. Your support of that event made it a huge success and an inspirational night for all.

We may be heading into winter, but Mi Casa will keep growing all year. As always, keep an eye on what’s happening at Mi Casa! If you’re looking for a job or starting a business, we’d love to help you take your next steps and celebrate your success. Thank you for all you’ve done in 2022, and we can’t wait to welcome 2023 with excitement, expansion, and even more opportunity.

In gratitude,

CEO, Mi Casa Resource Center®



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Coming Soon

2022: October - December Programming at Mi Casa

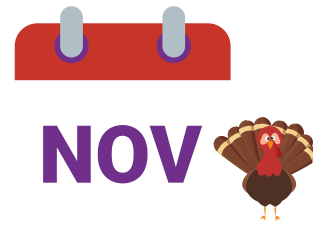
Time to sign up for these opportunities at: <https://tinyurl.com/vpztzpup>



October 19: Considering a Business?® and ¿Considerando un Negocio?®

October 25: Financial Services Training

October 25: Professional Services Training



November 11: Accounting Boot Camp

November 12: Taller de Contabilidad

November 16: Considering a Business?® and ¿Considerando un Negocio?®

November 18: QuickBooks Boot Camp

November 19: Taller de QuickBooks



December 14: Considering a Business?® and ¿Considerando un Negocio?®



Our team is hard at work planning our programming calendar for 2023. Check out our website in a few weeks to see our exciting programming for 2023!



Our new website is coming soon...
Keep in touch to find out when the new website will be launched!



Summer 2022 Graduates

- 9 Business Success® PLAN
- 7 Éxito Para Negocios® PLANEAR
- 6 Financial Services Training

Community Success

Karen's Story

Karen is a mother of two, a one-year-old and a five-year-old. She spent the last few years focusing on her children, but realized that her previous jobs and career experience didn't offer the flexibility she needed to care for her family.

She learned about Mi Casa Resource Center from her ex-husband, who previously took a course with Mi Casa. Karen enrolled in the Financial Services Training class in spring 2022 and was connected to financial coaching through our Caminos financial wellness program. She learned how to write a resume, work with banking systems and products, and manage her own finances. Through Caminos, she was connected with a financial coach and has now achieved her first financial outcome. "Trust the process," Karen said, "and don't allow outside things to affect the outcome." She added, "[This training] has helped me feel empowered and to stop underestimating myself.

Karen's next steps are to keep advancing her goals and follow her passion. "I hope to have a stable career that I love and that I can grow with," she said. "My future plans are somewhere along the lines of investments or contact centers. It just depends on which one inspires me most!"



Mi Casa Update



Mi Casa receives Good Jobs Challenge Grant

This summer, Mi Casa was honored to be chosen as the only Colorado grantee for the Economic Development Administration's Good Jobs Challenge. Funded by President Biden's American Rescue Plan Act, the Good Jobs Challenge grants support workforce development programs that will place over 50,000 Americans in family-sustaining jobs.

Mi Casa is one of two regional leads supporting UnidosUS – the largest Latino civil rights and advocacy organization in the U.S. – in delivering this essential work.

Since 1976, Mi Casa has been creating pathways to opportunity. This funding will allow us to expand our Career Pathways Stackable Credential Model beyond the financial services industry into human resources and medical administration. This program was designed to address a challenging issue in the Colorado job market: how can nontraditional students get the degrees they need for promotion and job security when college credentials are so expensive and difficult to navigate? Mi Casa, alongside Community College of Aurora and Metro State University Denver, built a solution. The Financial Services Pathway helps participants find a job and get credit for college at the same time. With this funding from the EDA, we have the chance to offer the same opportunity to students looking for careers in additional fields. By coming to Mi Casa, participants can find the support they need to develop their own pathways to career and educational success, now with even more choice.

You can read more about the announcement and partnerships at our press release on the "Our Updates" page of our website.

Mi Casa en la Comunidad



This summer, the Mi Casa team participated in several community outreach events such as the Annual Bazaar at San Cajetan Catholic Church, the Westwood Chili Fest, Dragon Boat Festival, and CO Global Fest. In July, Mi Casa also had a successful fundraising night partnering with Cerveceria Colorado for their Cervezas for Causes; our guests and staff enjoyed delicious beer, tasty tacos provided by Grandma's Kitchen Mobile (a Mi Casa alum), and a raffle with fun prizes.

UnidosUS President Visits Mi Casa



Mi Casa was thrilled to host President of UnidosUS (formerly National Council of La Raza), Janet Murguía, along with Affiliates CLLARO, Latino Community Foundation of Colorado, and Del Norte Neighborhood Development Corp., and NEWSED Community Development Corporation, for a discussion about Latino community advancement in Colorado.

Meet Our Staff

Mark Wideman



What is your role at Mi Casa?

I am a Senior Bilingual Business Advisor & Instructor. My role is to assist, help, teach, and mentor business clients both in English and Spanish to open their own businesses as well as help them solve issues they may be having in their businesses. I mentor, do bilingual consultations, and I teach the Business Success® Plan and Launch classes.

How did you come to work here?

I had never worked for a non-profit before, but always wanted to. When I saw the opening at Mi Casa and the work that I would be doing, I was very excited, because it gave me a chance to use a lot of skills that I have learned over the years. I had also heard of Mi Casa because of my work with the immigrant community in Colorado.

What is your favorite Mi Casa memory?

I would say that my biggest memory are the clients that I work with and seeing their personal and professional growth, as well as their confidence as business entrepreneurs grow. There have also had quite a few students that I have gotten to launch their businesses, via grand opening, getting their first sale, purchased something for their business, registered their business and a plethora of other things that show their steps forward and success. It makes the work I do very rewarding.

What does being part of Mi Casa mean to you?

It means to be part of an organization that honors and respects women and BIPOC communities as well as anyone who may be underserved or not given fair opportunities like others are given. It is also important that I am working with a group of people who are working towards creating and empowering communities in Colorado, and that we all have the same goals to help them succeed.

Please share a fun fact about yourself.

I play rhythm guitar and sing as well as write a few songs here and there and have played in a couple of bands before. I have played 8 different instruments in my life.

What do you wish every person knew about Mi Casa?

That everyone knows Mi Casa is an organization that honor and empowers those underprivileged or who may have been left behind. It is also important to know that we are fighting for fair opportunities for all people.

Join the Mi Casa Familia!

We are passionate about our work & experts in our field. If you feel the same, join us!
Visit www.micasaresourcecenter.org/careers to view current opportunities!



Spotlight on our Board

A Personal Note from Alexis Menocal Harrigan, Mi Casa Board Member

Alexis Menocal Harrigan serves as Treasurer on the Mi Casa Board of Directors. She is the Director of Institutional Partnerships at Code.org, a nonprofit focused on expanding access to computer science education. Alexis' career has focused on coalition building and advocacy. She has worked on education policy at the local, state, and federal levels.



I grew up just a few blocks from Mi Casa's Westwood office and later moved to Adams county. At a young age, I understood how educational opportunities can a person's trajectory and lift families out of generational poverty. As a Latina, I am especially aware of how systems have historically left women of color out of pathways to accelerated economic opportunity. I am proud to serve on the board of Mi Casa because I believe the impact the team is making will last generations within families.

I took a class at Mi Casa several years ago, which helped give me the confidence to start a small business during the pandemic. I am continually inspired by both the participants and the team serving them. I am happy to see other Latinos giving back and supporting Mi Casa using their unique gifts and I hope collectively we will work with our broader community to ensure the organization is around to serve many future generations of aspiring entrepreneurs and professionals.

Las Jefas & Jefes in the Making

Mi Casa's 2nd annual Las Jefas & Jefes in the Making event was a huge success! Thank you to all our sponsors, attendees, and especially our panelists for your support and collaboration. After launching this event virtually last year, it was a joy to celebrate with you in person. We raised \$12,554 that will go directly toward supporting Mi Casa's mission to create pathways to opportunity for Latinas and Latinos in Denver.

The Las Jefas panel consisted of co-hosts **Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval, Representative Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez, City Council President Jamie C. Torres, Senator Julie Gonzales**, and moderated by Mi Casa Board member Alexis Menocal Harrigan.



Thank you to our Las Jefas Sponsors!



COMING SOON: Colorado Gives Day

COMMUNITY FIRST
FOUNDATION

COLORADO
GIVES
DAY



December 6, 2022

Save the Date!

The most exciting day of the year is just around the corner! You can make a difference in the lives of Mi Casa participants by supporting Mi Casa for Colorado Gives Day. If we've learned anything from 46 years of community service, it is that one life – and one gift – can change the world. Your donation to Mi Casa will help someone get back on their feet and pay that success forward to their families and communities.

Colorado Gives Day is on December 6th, but don't wait!

Make your gift to Mi Casa today at

<https://www.coloradogives.org/MiCasaResourceCenter/overview>.

Mi Casa Es Su Casa. Connect with us!



DONATE



There are many ways to donate to Mi Casa. For more information, visit: <https://micasaresourcecenter.org/donate>

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