

INSIDE Report

A Mi Casa E-Newsletter

MI CASA
RESOURCE CENTER®

Advancing Economic Prosperity of the Latino Community



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Inside Mi Casa.....1
- Coming Soon.....2
- Community Success.....3
- En la Comunidad.....4, 5
- Meet Our Staff.....6
- Board Spotlight.....7
- 2023 Events.....8
- Connect with Us8

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Inside Mi Casa

Summer has been full of hail, community impact, and celebrating our latest graduates. The Mi Casa Resource Center® team has been working hard in the community to bring new innovative ways to create opportunities for change-seekers. We are launching two new stackable credential models, which have been in the works for over a year. These new models aim to get individuals into the healthcare and human resources fields.

In June, Mi Casa launched our Medical Office Administration Training credential program with our partners Arapahoe Community College and Metro State University to forge a pathway from the Mi Casa training to Community College, eventually ending at a traditional four-year university. The first cohort celebrated its graduation on August 15, with many graduates moving forward with our educational partners to continue their education. Mi Casa and our academic partners will launch our Human Resources Training by the end of August.

Mi Casa has also been progressing with our outreach efforts at local community events. We have had the opportunity to share our work, business, career, and wraparound opportunities with the community. Through these events, we can listen to the community's needs and bring that back to our staff and board to share.

Thank you for supporting Mi Casa. When the community invests in itself, we create a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant community. We could not do our work without you. On behalf of the whole Mi Casa team, thank you for advancing economic prosperity alongside us!

Gracias,



CEO, Mi Casa Resource Center®

Coming Soon

2023: August - September Programming at Mi Casa

Sign up for these opportunities at: www.micasaresourcecenter.org



AUG 

- August 23:** Open Computer Lab, EOC Volunteer FAFSA Coaching , Human Resources Essentials Training
- August 26:** Taller de Marketing
- August 28:** La Receta® Lanzar
- August 29:** La Receta® Launch
- August 23:** Open Computer Lab, ITIN Educational Series Part 1



SEP 

- September 5:** Leadership for Women, Liderazgo Para Mujeres, Business Success® Plan, Éxito Para Negocios® Planear
- September 6:** Open Computer Lab, Career Readiness®
- September 11:** Medical Administration Training
- September 12:** Social Media Workshop for Small Businesses in East Colfax, Financial Services Training, English as a Second Language, Business Legal Night
- September 13:** Open Computer Lab, EOC Volunteer FAFSA Coaching, ITIN Educational Series Part 2
- September 20:** Open Computer Lab
- September 27:** Open Computer Lab, EOC Volunteer FAFSA Coaching, ITIN Educational Series Part 3



Volunteer with Us!

Looking to support Mi Casa's programs? Consider volunteering! Our Medical Administration and Human Resources trainings are new to Mi Casa, and we are looking for employers to provide feedback, make sure the curriculum is the best it can be, and hire qualified candidates from our programs. We also love volunteers to serve as guest speakers, support mock interviews, and act as mentors across Career and Business Pathways. Contact volunteer@micasaresourcecenter.org for more information.

Community Success

Career Participant Story

Mi Casa Resource Center® and Goodwill partnered to place two individuals who came to our center seeking to join the workforce. Our Senior Career Coach, Joe Alfaro, contacted Leslie Mendoza, Transitional Employment Case Manager, from Goodwill's Rehire program to find an opportunity for these two job seekers. The program's main objective is to get people back into the workforce and explicitly target help for people 50 years or older, veterans, and non-custodial parents, who make up 70 percent of the people in the program. This program is an 11-week transitional employment opportunity with four training days and the fifth day focusing on professional development talks. At the program's conclusion, an individual will be hired by a Goodwill partner or possibly hired by Goodwill.



Senior Career Coach Joe Alfaro

Joe and Leslie had the same goal: finding an easily accessible opportunity for John and Elsa. They were each placed in a goodwill location near where they lived and could easily take public transportation to training daily. Joe and Leslie opened up about the challenges of finding work for their clients: transportation and access to a computer hooked up to a scanner were the main obstacles. Leslie complimented Joe for taking the time to fill out online applications, scan the necessary documents, and help every step of the way, John and Elsa.

As Leslie looks towards the future, she wants the community to know that behind Goodwill's storefronts lie opportunities and programs to help people find work. She hopes to expand Goodwill's presence in the Latino community and hopes that Mi Casa can provide ample opportunities to work together to serve the local community.

Stackable Credential Programs

Mi Casa has launched two new stackable credential programs in Medical Office Administration Training and Human Resources Essentials Training on top of our Financial Services Training. We work closely with our educational partners to help create a continuous educational path to help train a new generation of career-ready individuals. Our team has been working for the last year getting all the pieces together to help create these new opportunities. We are very grateful to provide meaningful career training and post-secondary credits that can continue to a full-time degree.

This summer, Mi Casa celebrated the graduations of two training courses. The Financial Services Training had a graduation on August 2nd and the Medical Office Administration Training held its graduation on August 15th. The next Human Essentials Resources cohort will have their first training session on August 23rd.



Financial Services Training Graduates



Medical Office Administration Training Graduates

Mi Casa en la Comunidad

Open House



On June 22, Mi Casa Resource Center® hosted its first Open House of 2023. The event featured the Mi Casa staff presenting our center's resources. We held two workshops about career potential in English and one workshop in Spanish. Close to 30 community members came to our event to learn about our work, interact with our staff, and share their ideas. The event was a success and we had people express interest in enrolling in our courses and for our one-on-one consultations with our business and career coaches. We hope to attract more interested individuals as we continue hosting more open house events.

Outreach Events



The Mi Casa team has been out and about at various local events in the Denver Community. Our Staff objective is to share our work, our upcoming programming, and find the best way that Mi Casa can assist an individual. In addition, we have had many people share their stories of utilizing our Business and Career services with heartwarming anecdotes. Our staff constantly shares how wonderful it is be out of the office and to enjoy some major events such as the Colombian Independence Festival , Westwood & Jobs Plus Community Cookout, Lucha Libre, and the PASCO summer picnic.

Mi Casa en la Comunidad

2nd Annual Golf Classic



Mi Casa held its second annual Golf Classic on August 5 at Raccoon Creek Golf Course in Littleton. The Golf Classic is an opportunity that allows people who love to play golf and support worthy causes to connect with each other, as well as make a lasting difference in the local community. On the golf course, Mi Casa staff had a chance to learn about the game and to meet two golf professionals who play on the PGA tour. This event raised a significant amount of funding which will greatly support our mission of advancing the economic prosperity of the Latino community. We are grateful for everyone who attended.

The Golf Classic will return on July 27, 2024, and we hope that you will be able to join us. We want to thank our sponsors: Comcast, FirstBank, Partner Colorado Credit Union, Coors, UPS and in addition Argonaut Wine & Liquor, Kyle Burns, Maria Empanada, and Back Swing Golf.



Thank you!



Meet Our Staff

Rochelle

What is your role at Mi Casa?

I am the Data & Evaluation Coordinator at Mi Casa, and as part of the Impact Strategy team, we seek to move Mi Casa toward making stronger data informed decisions. My role is to collaboratively create better data flow and to establish best practices for more reliable data collection. By tracking both Mi Casa outputs and participant outcomes, we can better understand where there may be opportunities to remove barriers to better support our community toward economic growth.



How did you come to work here?

When I wanted another set of eyes on the business plan that I was writing, the SBA referred me to Mi Casa. A year later after making an informed decision not to move forward with the business, I began to look for full time work and came across the job posting for a Data & Evaluation Coordinator. I knew that I had to apply right away because I knew Mi Casa provided services that I would be proud to stand behind and that Mi Casa embodies the DEI values that are very important to me. I am a long-time advocate for lifting others up, strengthening the community through education, and appreciate that working at Mi Casa offers me an opportunity to continue to keep my skills and experience relevant.

What is your favorite Mi Casa memory?

There used to be a group of young adult students housed in our building that invited Mi Casa for a meet-and-greet. I really enjoyed learning about the kids and teachers that day, but it was great because there were days after then where we'd pass in the halls and the kids would make my day by stopping to chat or wave "hello".

What does being part of Mi Casa mean to you?

Being part of Mi Casa means that I am supporting economic growth and stability for many families in our community. Its tough out there, and with out foundational skills and a support system, it can be so hard to get ahead. Mi Casa offers a support system and navigation to resources that can change people's lives.

Please share a fun fact about yourself.

I love to travel and experience new places with its own unique architecture, art, food, dress, or customs. Recognizing our similarities in combination with celebrating our differences is one of the most beautiful things that humankind has to offer.

What do you wish every person knew about Mi Casa?

I wish everyone knew how hard Mi Casa has worked to develop and grow our programming to reach and support more of the community's needs. Mi Casa has so much to offer and is a fantastic resource for building financial security and so much more!

Spotlight on our Board

An Introduction to Margaret Nevarez, M.Ed., Mi Casa Board Member

Margaret is a senior HR leader for Dessert Holdings, a leading manufacturing desserts company with manufacturing facilities in the United States and Canada. Prior to joining Dessert Holdings, Margaret served as Vice President of Operations, Human Resources leader for real estate investment company specializing in multi-family development and property management.



Margaret holds a master’s degree in education in organizational development from Colorado State University and a bachelor’s degree in business management. Margaret completed the University of Denver’s Latino Leadership Institute leadership program.

Margaret joined Mi Casa Resources Center® Board in 2021.

“As a female Latina, it was important for me to join a nonprofit board that works on shaping and improving the lives of our community members. Mi Casa Resource Center® mission addresses the needs and challenges faced by Denver’s diverse community by contributing to social and cultural empowerment and promoting education and business opportunities.

20 years ago, as a young professional, I was part of a volunteer group at Mi Casa Resource Center® and now I am part of the board of MCRC. I believe in the Mi Casa Resource Center® mission then and now. I am proud to have the opportunity to make a meaningful difference and create lasting change for a community that I deeply care about”.

Upcoming Events



Las Jefas and Jefes in the Making 2022

Las Jefas and Jefes in the Making Thursday, September 21 | 5 PM

Please join us on September 21 for Mi Casa Resource Center®'s Las Jefas and Jefes in the Making event hosted at Raices Brewery. At Las Jefas, you'll have the chance to network with professionals and leaders in the Colorado Latino community. We'll be joined by our guest panelists, the Founding Mothers of Mi Casa Resource Center®, who came together to improve the assembly of the Denver Metro Area. They will speak to the challenges of creating a resource center, the inspiration behind their vision, and the outcomes of Mi Casa's work



CO Gives Day Tuesday, December 5

Mi Casa is looking forward to this year's Colorado Gives Day. We will highlight stories from the participants we served in 2023, from our Board of Directors, our excellent staff, and our donors like yourself. We look forward to sharing our work with more of the Denver community.

We would like to thank all our past supporters, and we look forward to reaching out to you in the future with more opportunities to get involved with Mi Casa!

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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