

CULTURALLY SPECIFIC EMERGENCY SHELTER SERVICES for LATINA SURVIVORS of DOMESTIC and SEXUAL VIOLENCE AVAILABLE IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY

A culturally specific Latina emergency shelter with room for six women and their children each night will open in April in Clackamas County providing safety and shelter for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Oregon City, Oregon March 23, 2009 – Clackamas Women’s Services and Los Niños Cuentan announce the opening of the only culturally specific Latina emergency shelter in the State of Oregon.

After a two year partnership Clackamas Women’s Services and Los Niños Cuentan have responded to a growing need in Clackamas County with the dedication of **Casa Hogar**, an emergency shelter specific for Latina Women.

Services such as shelter, case management, advocacy, children’s services and counseling will be provided in Spanish and honoring Hispanic culture. These services will allow Latina women the ability to heal and grow in an environment most meaningful for them.

"We are excited for this opportunity to provide these very vital services for Latina women" said Michele Eberle, Executive Director of Clackamas Women’s Services. "This is a dream come true for many of us and a crucial support for Latinas and their children who because of language and culture are at greater risk of greater harm. The first shelter of its kind for Latina women Casa Hogar will provide all services in Spanish and in an environment that honors their culture with a family focus." Said Lorena Connelly, Executive Director of Los Niños Cuentan.

About Clackamas Women’s Services:

Clackamas Women’s Services was incorporated in 1985 as Clackamas County’s only shelter for women and children escaping family violence. The organization currently operates two emergency shelter facilities, a 24/7 domestic violence hotline, transitional housing, children’s services, case management, referral and advocacy, mental health counseling, support groups, legal advocacy, youth prevention and education programs and extensive outreach and education.

About Los Niños Cuentan:

Los Niños Cuentan has been providing services to Latino families and children impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault and addictions since 2000. Through community relationship building, and increased access for Latino families, LNC has established itself as a reputable agency in responding to domestic violence, and sexual assault victimization and addictions of Latino families.

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