



Mano a Mano Family Resource Center

A look at what we are achieving

Winter 2010 Vol 4, Issue 1

Greetings!

Welcome to the winter issue of the Mano a Mano Family Resource Center electronic newsletter. It is our goal to provide information on programs, events and news.

For more information, go to our website www.manoamanofamilyresourcecenter.org

New Grant to Help with Fundraising



Recently Mano a Mano received a grant for \$23,800 from HIP (Hispanics in Philanthropy), a transnational organization that builds connections between philanthropic organizations and Latino nonprofits throughout the Americas. It aims to build stronger Latino communities and to resolve inequities in funding Latino nonprofits and communities.

The grant will be used to fund a new position for a part-time development director. The development director's goal will be to help the center to improve its fundraising efforts and diversify its funding sources. Among the new director's duties will be establishing relationships with new donors, cultivating relationships with current donors, writing grants, and planning fundraising events. Currently, those duties are performed by Mano a Mano's executive director. By obtaining greater funding, Mano a Mano can expand its services to Lake County's rapidly growing Latino community.

According to HIP's website, although Latinos comprise 14 percent of the population in the United States, making them the second largest ethnic group, Latino charitable organizations receive only 1.5 percent of foundation grants. Through its Funders' Collaborative for Strong Latino Communities, HIP has raised nearly \$35 million and has made grants to 427 Latino-led nonprofits across the Americas.

For more information on HIP (Hispanics in Philanthropy) visit www.hiponline.org.

Dates to Remember

Saturday April 17th, 2010-Hats off to Mano a Mano Gala Dinner, Round Lake Beach Cultural and Civic Center.

Sunday August 29, 2010-7th Annual Kermes and Health Fair, Round Lake Beach Cultural and Civic Center

Meet Ada Silverio—New Case Manager for the Information & Referral Program

One of the many services Mano a Mano offers to Lake County residents is the Information and Referral (I & R) Program. Residents in need of assistance may meet with a case manager who can provide information on public benefits; interpretation and translation services when communicating with government agencies; informational workshops; and a number of other services.

In August, a new case manager joined the Mano a Mano staff—Ada Silverio of Round Lake Beach. Silverio, who comes to the center with a background in customer service, said she wanted to do more to help people in her community. "This is my community, and it is very obvious many people need help and there are not many who are willing to offer it," Silverio said. "Also, I grew up with my mom doing some social work, besides her job, and I felt somewhat drawn to it. I just had not had the opportunity to do much in this field, until now."

As a case manager of the I & R program, Silverio said her role is to be for clients "someone to turn to in any moment of uncertainty or lack of knowledge, and they have someone who will make sure their questions are answered and they're being helped."

Although the majority of Mano a Mano's clients are Hispanic, mostly from the Round Lake area, Silverio stressed that the center's services are not limited to Hispanics. "There is a misconception that our services are only offered to the Hispanic community, but it's not," she said. "All of our services are open to everyone. Also, if there's something that Mano a Mano cannot help with, we can certainly refer them to a person or program that will."

In these tough economic times, Silverio said the most requested services are "for SNAP (food stamps), All Kids (medical insurance), and many need help with their loan modifications."

And, the need for help is urgent. "On a slow week I see about 30 people, on a good week more like 50. These numbers are just of people who make appointments and actually come. I would say I get about 20 to 25 a week as walk-ins," Silverio said. To have more information or to make an appointment contact Mano a Mano at 847-201-1521





Mano a Mano congratulates long-time board member Diane Emerson, who received the Chicago NBC5 2009 Jefferson Award for Public Service.

"It is an award that is given to 5 to 6 local volunteers in the Chicago area for their volunteer efforts," Emerson said. "I received the award for my work with Mano A Mano. I felt honored to receive this award and am glad that Mano a Mano was given the opportunity to get some expanded publicity with this award."

Emerson is External Affairs Manager for Com-Ed. She has served on Mano a Mano's board of directors since 2001, a year after the center's founding. Emerson focuses on fundraising for Mano a Mano. Her projects include the annual fund drive and the Friendraiser Capital Campaign, the goal of which is reduce the debt Mano a Mano took on to buy its current facility.

Emerson, a resident of Cary, IL., has served Mano a Mano with insight and knowledge gained through many years of experience on the boards of numerous other non-profits throughout both Lake and McHenry Counties. Among the many organizations besides Mano a Mano that Emerson is serving or has served with are the United Way of McHenry County, Cary-Grove Rotary, the Salvation Army, the McHenry County College Foundation, the Lake County Chamber of Commerce, and Lake County Partners.

"I heard about Mano A Mano from the former mayor of Round Lake Park, Ila Bauer, and felt it was a very worthwhile 'fledgling' organization that I could help in the area of fundraising," she said.

Emerson is proud of her many years of voluntarism and strongly encourages others to get involved in their communities. She noted that, "the two hardest things in working on not-for-profit boards is getting volunteers and raising funds. Both of these are the lifeblood of any successful not-for-profit in achieving their goals of serving their clients in the community."

"Any time spent volunteering, and/or any size of donation, helps not only those that need a 'helping hand up' but can make the difference in whether someone gets that chance to better their lives or not," Emerson said. "No matter how large or small the donation of time or money, the feeling of helping another less fortunate is the greatest feeling of helping another less fortunate is the greatest feeling in the world!"

Mano a Mano Thanks Loyal Supporter

Brian R. Budil is a strong supporter of Mano a Mano. This year he helped fund Mano a Mano's health education program. Mr. Budil provided Mano a Mano with a \$2,000 grant that was matched by the Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County.

Budil, a Grayslake resident and State Farm Agent, owns the Brian Budil Insurance Agency, Inc., in neighboring Hainesville. Budil gives two reasons why helping Mano a Mano is important. "First, at the personal level. Very simply, you are helping people achieve a better quality of life by educating them on preventative care issues, like diet and exercise, and encouraging early detection of illnesses, like cancer and diabetes," he said.

"Second, at an economic level. Rising healthcare costs are a huge issue and a current topic in our nation. Educating people on preventative care (keeping them healthy) and pushing early detection, by seeing doctors, will help reduce overall medical costs," Budil said.

Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County also gave Mano a Mano a \$35,000 grant to help expand the center's health education program. One of the center's new initiatives is to train 10 new promotoras de salud, or community health educators, all lay people who live in the communities they will serve.

The promotoras will meet a critical need of Lake County's Hispanic population. Their role will be to provide residents of the local community with important health-related information through quarterly seminars, small group meetings, and workshops. Some of the topics to be covered include wellness, nutrition, breast cancer, reproductive health, diabetes, emotional and mental health and domestic violence.

According to Mano a Mano's executive director Carolina Duque, the promotoras will acquire valuable skills as trainers and leaders while the community gets new role models. She said she hopes these promotoras will be inspired to continue their education in health care.

"I've always been proud of Mano a Mano. It's not easy to do what they do," Budil said. "I'm happy that I've been able to provide some financial support so they can continue to provide all of the invaluable programs to the community."



Mano A Mano to Participate in Leadership Academy

This summer Mano a Mano was selected along with 10 non-profit organizations to participate in the Chicago/Illinois Latino Non-Profit Leadership Academy.

It is the only Lake County nonprofit participating in the academy, which was created through a partnership of the Center for Leadership Innovation (the former Development Training Institute) in partnership with the Latino Policy Forum.

The academy is set up to train both traditional leaders, such as the executive director and board president, and emerging leaders, such as program staff members, whose duty is to conduct the organization's mission each day. The academy offers the training opportunities to the emerging leaders because they seldom receive the training they need to be more effective.

Mano a Mano's executive director and staff members will participate in a comprehensive training program that covers virtually every aspect of running a successful nonprofit community organization, and they will learn how to collaborate with other nonprofit organizations in addressing social policies and planning.

The training is free for to the 11 Chicago land nonprofits that were selected through a competitive application process. The academy runs from August 2009 to May 2010.



For more information visit

<http://www.centerforleadershipinnovation.org> and <http://latinopolicyforum.org/>

Mano a Mano's Executive Director named a 2010 Chicago Community Trust Fellow

In November Mano a Mano's executive director Carolina Duque was selected as a 2010 Fellow by The Chicago Community Trust. Duque was recognized as an emerging leader, who has "demonstrated leadership and commitment" to her field, the Trust announcement said. Duque and eight other leaders of Chicago area non-profits were selected this fall from nearly 100 applicants.

"This is a great honor to me and also represents a great responsibility," Duque said. The Chicago Community Trust, a foundation that has served Chicago area nonprofits for over 94 years, uses its fellowship program to support the professional development of leaders from various fields in the nonprofit sector.

As a fellow, Duque will begin a yearlong civic engagement effort to get the Latino community in Lake County more actively engaged in community affairs. "The time of this project is perfect as the county has seen a rapid increase in Latino immigrants and as the challenges to receiving communities continue growing," Duque said.

The six emerging leaders and three experienced leaders chosen to be 2010 Fellows, "were selected for their creativity, originality, and potential to make important contributions in the future. The Fellowship is designed to elevate the careers of Chicago leaders and increase their future impact on the Chicago metropolitan area," according Eva Penar, spokesperson for the Trust.

"At a time when innovation is vital to keep Chicago competitive in this global economy, each of these Trust Fellows represents the next generation of nonprofit leadership," said Terry Mazany, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Trust.

The experienced leaders receive up to \$60,000 and emerging leaders receive up to \$30,000 to fund their professional development plans. Fellows have the option to either continue work or take a leave of absence while pursuing professional development activities.

During the year of her fellowship, Duque will continue her work as Mano a Mano's executive director, but will delegate some of her duties to other Mano a Mano staff members.



Be Counted. Be Heard.

United States Census 2010



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

The 2010 Census is here.

Every 10 years the United States takes a count of every person living in the country. The census is mandated by the Constitution, and the information gathered helps the federal government to determine congressional districts and apportion federal funds throughout the nation. The census helps nonprofits, such as Mano a Mano, anticipate the needs of the communities it serves and prepare to meet them.

The current decennial census has a major change that should relieve the fears of those who don't think they have enough time to complete the form.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau website, "The 2010 Census will have one of the shortest census questionnaires in the history of the United States, dating back to the first census in 1790. The 2010 Census will ask just name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether the head of household owns or rents their home. The census form will take only about 10 minutes on average to complete, and answers are protected by law and strictly confidential."

"Usually, Latinos are hard to count," said Mano a Mano executive director Carolina Duque, who serves on the Round Lake Beach Complete Count Committee. "Sometimes, they are intimidated. They don't know if it's safe to respond."

Duque said that Mano a Mano has asked to be designated a census office for the area. This past fall Mano a Mano's staff and instructors began taking time to inform their clients and students about the census. They practiced completing sample questionnaires, and explained why it is vital to their villages and communities that they participate

The Census Bureau says the Complete Count Committees are key to making sure that every household is counted. Their role is also "to create awareness within their communities, donate space for testing and training temporary census workers, publicize recruiting efforts and obtain endorsements from local leaders. They can conduct census rallies or parades, media luncheons, and interfaith breakfasts and weekend events, as we get closer to Census Day."

For more information on the 2010 Census, visit <http://2010.census.gov/2010census>.

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