FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PARENTS AS TEACHERS PARENT EDUCATOR RECEIVES THE JEAN AND MARY ROY SCHOLARSHIP

Noelia Alvarez chosen for the 2017 Jean and Mary Roy Scholarship

Noelia Alvarez, Parent Educator for the Latino Community Development Agency in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, was chosen to receive the Jean and Mary Roy Scholarship November 2017. This scholarship provides conference registration and travel expenses to the Parents as Teachers annual international conference for a parent educator from Oklahoma. The scholarship is provided by Steve Roy and Angela Rau, in memory of their parents Jean and Mary Roy, who were both active community advocates.

The annual conference gives attendees the opportunity to spend time with other parent educators, home visitors, community advocates and early childhood educators. They learn from various workshops, keynote speakers and one another, and can return home and use that new knowledge and inspiration to keep their Parents as Teachers programs going strong in their communities.

“She is a dedicated servant helping more than 20 families a month,“ states Steven Roy of Alvarez. “We are proud to help her with her desire to participate in the Parents as Teachers national conference.”

The OKC Latino Agency Parents as Teachers group currently serves 103 families and has a waiting list of over 20 families. Funding cuts by the State of Oklahoma have forced them to downsize their participation rate. Roy also stated, “We hope to do more for their efforts in the future. We will challenge local, state and national companies to help agencies like this one who are providing successful and impactful programs, by supporting the Parents as Teachers National program.”

The theme of the conference was Making Connections Matter. “Connections started as soon as you entered the conference,” states Alvarez. Workshops attended focused on ways to partner with parents and also with the resources in their community.
Latino Community Development Agency was established in 1991 as a program of Neighborhood Services Organization. The LCDA came from a proposal of the Neighborhood Services Organization and the Community Council of Central Oklahoma’s joint proposal to the United Way. It was meant to address the needs of the Latino community in Oklahoma County. Future goals include expanding their signature services to clients based in all areas of the city as well as the state. A diversified board of directors oversees the agency operations and several committees assist in the areas of education, economic development, health, mental health and substance abuse prevention, along with communications, development and personnel.

About Parents as Teachers

Founded in Missouri in 1984, Parents as Teachers serves nearly 250,000 families in all 50 U.S. states, more than 100 Tribal organizations, schools and communities, and six other countries. Its internationally recognized network of affiliates uses an evidence-based model to deliver parent education primarily through personal visits and group meetings, equipping parents with knowledge and resources to prepare their children, from birth through kindergarten, for a stronger start in life and greater success in school. Parents as Teachers programs operate in various settings, including schools, hospitals, faith-based organizations and housing communities. For more information, visit www.ParentsAsTeachers.org.

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