LATINO NONPROFITS TO GROW AND THRIVE THROUGH THREE-YEAR CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM FROM THE LATINO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF COLORADO

Adelante Colorado Cohort of 23 Statewide Organizations Announced

STATEWIDE, COLORADO —

Through a culturally grounded process, 23 established nonprofit organizations were selected as the members of the three-year Adelante Colorado cohort, a Latino Community Foundation of Colorado (LCFC) first-of-its-kind project dedicated to building the capacities of Latino-led and –serving nonprofits and leaders in Colorado.

Over the next three years, LCFC will provide between $45,000 and $150,000 to each organization for a total of $2 million in direct funding. In addition to financial support, LCFC will host collaborative cohort meetings that will welcome organizational executive directors and board leaders, assess current strengths in each organization, and provide teachings such as assistance around fundraising, board recruitment, financial literacy and more in order to ultimately build power and unity among the statewide Latino nonprofit sector.

Selections for this capacity building cohort were made through a uniquely culturally grounded process that started with a Conocimiento, or “getting to know you” phase. Through this inventive approach, LCFC was able to reduce the philanthropic emphasis on transactional documents and traditional metrics and instead prioritize personal conversations with applicants — conversations that led to an understanding of each unique organization’s vision, leadership, and path for evolution.

The Latino Community Foundation of Colorado’s President and CEO Carlos Martinez noted: “The process for Adelante was the most unique and surprisingly beautiful experience I have had within philanthropy. As funders it is our duty to create a space where nonprofit leaders can not only talk openly and honestly about the challenges facing them, but also themselves as leaders and as members of the Latino community they are working so diligently to serve.”

Selected organizations also commented upon the innovative process including Elsa Banuelos of cohort member Padres y Jovenes Unidos: “I really love the approach … I appreciate that “familia” feeling and how it’s connected to culture. And even how you used the terminology, it made me feel very comfortable and able to be very honest and transparent in terms of my thought process for the questions you all laid out.”

Supported by funding from the Colorado Health Foundation, Adelante Colorado’s strategy had been in the works for the past two years but evolved in 2020 as nonprofits serving Latinos, immigrants and refugees were stretched thin in order to fill service gaps in response to COVID-19 crisis. Adelante CO will create a robust post-COVID Latino nonprofit-sector that is well prepared for any emergency that emerges.
Karen McNeil-Miller, President and CEO of The Colorado Health Foundation added, “We know that lack of opportunity, poverty and racism are key barriers to health for Coloradans, their families and communities across the state. We are proud to support Adelante Colorado to create positive, long-term change for the over 1.2 million Latinos in Colorado and bring health closer in reach by strengthening and growing the capacities for grassroots organizations serving their communities.”

A true statewide cohort, the 23 organizations include organizations that serve Latinos in the Central Mountains, Denver-Boulder Metro Area, Eastern Plains, Front Range, Front Range North Central, San Luis Valley, and the Western Slope. Learn more about Adelante Colorado, and all grantees at Latinofc.org/adelanteco

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**About the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado (LCFC):**

LCFC’s mission is to work hand in hand with our diverse communities to create culturally responsive strategies that build influence, equity and opportunity for all Latino Coloradans. Led by Latinos and for Latinos, we pursue civic, economic, and cultural opportunities that drive a more authentic narrative about Latinos in the state and cement a healthy and vibrant future where all Latino Coloradans will prosper.

**About the Colorado Health Foundation**

The Colorado Health Foundation believes that health is a basic human right and are bringing health in reach for all Coloradans by engaging closely with communities across the state through investing, policy advocacy, learning and capacity building.

**Learn More About the Adelante Colorado Cohort:**

Adelante Community Development  
Advocates Against Domestic Assault  
Center for Community Wealth Building  
Centro de la Familia  
Colectiva Creando Cambios en Colorado  
Colorado Circles for Change  
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)  
Colorado Statewide Parent Coalition  
Cultivando  
D3 Arts  
Denver Alliance for Street Health Response  
El Comite de Longmont  
INSPIRE  
Integrated Community  
Justice and Heritage Academy  
La Cocina  
Latin American Educational Foundation  
Latina Safehouse Initiative  
Latino Cultural Arts Center  
Museo de las Americas  
Padres y Jovenes Unidos  
Pueblo Hispanic Education Foundation  
Voces Unidas de las Montañas