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## 2023 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH THEME ANNOUNCED

WASHINGTON – The National Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers (NCHEPM) today announced the 2023 Hispanic Heritage Month national theme: **Todos Somos, Somos Uno: We Are All, We Are One.** The theme reinforces the diversity inherent within the Hispanic community, as well as the power that comes from being a united community. NCHEPM members, Federal agency partners, Employee Resource Groups and members of the general public selected the theme through a substantive voting process.

Jennifer Lasko, Human Resources Specialist and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) Advisor at the Bureau of Fiscal Service, U.S. Department of the Treasury submitted the winning theme, stating:

I thought of this theme in retrospect to how we in the Hispanic community represent so many different things (many cultures, many skin colors, many points of views) and yet we are together as one—one community, one people, one vision. We are the #1 global ethnicity that represents so many different countries, with a vast array of histories and experiences. [We] come together to not only cherish what commonalities and differences we share, we also strengthen each other with a united vision in partnership to elevate each other [and] our nation. A pesar de nuestras diferencias, somos uno—despite our differences, we are one. Somos la misma gente, somos la misma voz—we are one people, we are one voice. Let's come together to celebrate all of us, the beauty in our variety, and in our sameness in our humanity!

From September 15 to October 15 each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the achievements, histories, traditions and cultural diversity of Hispanic/Latino/Latinx Americans whose heritage is rooted in 20 Latin American countries and territories: Spain, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic. The NCHEPM supports the Federal government's observance activities by selecting the annual theme to be used.

The national observation began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting September 15 and ending October 15 of each year. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of <u>Public Law 100-402</u>.

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*The NCHEPM advocates for the improvement of Hispanic participation and representation in the Federal Government. For more information about the Council, visit <u>www.nationalcouncilhepm.org</u>.*