



Latino Community Development Agency, Inc.

420 SW 10th Street / Oklahoma City, OK 73109

405-236-0701 / www.lcdaok.org



For Oklahoma's Kids. For Oklahoma's Families.
For Oklahoma's Future.

2021
Fall Newsletter

30th Anniversary Luncheon: Oklahoma Government Leaders Laud LCDA

Oklahoma Governor J. Kevin Stitt and Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt praised **LCDA's** work and three decades of service to Latinos in central Oklahoma during remarks they made at the **LCDA Annual Luncheon** and 30th Anniversary celebration held in mid-September.

"I'm so proud to be part of your luncheon today," the Governor stated. He later commented on being impressed by **LCDA** during a recent visit to its headquarters. "**LCDA** continues to inspire hope. Hope is the belief that our future is better than our present. That's something this organization does a great job with. Organizations like these are so essential in helping our state become top ten. This Latino community embodies that as good as anybody."

Mayor Holt, the luncheon's honorary chair, reflected on new population statistics from the 2020 U.S. Census survey. "When I took office, I was very conscious of the demographic changes occurring in Oklahoma City," he stated. "We are the twenty-second largest city in the United States now. I guarantee you that would not be true without the Latino community in Oklahoma City. When I took office three years ago, I pulled all the data and I found that the under age 18 population is one-third Latino. Imagine our city without one-third of its people. Ultimately, our entire city will be one-third Latino."



Governor Stitt



Mayor Holt

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The luncheon netted \$90,000 through significant private financial support. Top contributors included **Lopez Foods**, Host Sponsor; **Bank of America**, **Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Oklahoma**, **Dr. William Dooley** and **MidFirst Bank**, Compadre Sponsors.

Event highlights included a 30th anniversary video featuring remarks from former Oklahoma Governors Keating and Walters, former Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett, and Pat Fennell, former **LCDA** President and CEO. The event also included an awards segment that recognized the achievements of individuals, corporations and **LCDA** staff and volunteers.



Joe Cardenas
LCDA Guardian
Angel Award recipient



Tony Shinn
Bank of America, Partner
Agency Award recipient



LCDA Board Chair **Richard Lane**, and LCDA
President **Dr. Raúl Font** congratulate **Lizette Valle**,
Family of the Year Award recipient



Chris Fusselman
LCDA Board Member
of the Year Award recipient



Jaime Luna and **Irma Esqueda**
received LCDA Staff of the Year Awards



The children of the late
Armando Rubio accepted the Lifetime
Achievement Award on his behalf



Several members of the **OKC Police Department**
Honor Guard Unit that presented colors before the luncheon



Nancy Galvan, KZUE La Tremenda Radio
Mexico, received the **LCDA** Media Award

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Why I Support LCDA:

An interview with an LCDA Volunteer

Julia Adame / Adame Team – Town Square Mortgage

LCDA – Tell us about your profession.

Adame – I've been in residential mortgage lending for seventeen years. I am a branch manager.

LCDA – How long have you been associated with LCDA?

Adame – At least five years. I was asked to be a part of the board by former LCDA board member Miguel Garcia.

LCDA – What role do you currently play on the board?

Adame – I have been the board secretary for the last four years. I attend most board meetings, where I take the minutes. Once a month I send out a copy of the minutes to the board.

LCDA – Why do you donate your time and resources to LCDA?

Adame – I have been able to see firsthand the impact LCDA has had on the community. The program directors give so much, and love what they do. It's a great organization.

LCDA – What other nonprofits benefit from your time and talents?

Adame – I founded the Oklahoma chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP). I was also on the board of the Western Oklahoma Girl Scouts for three years and on various committees. I also do marketing and fundraising for different activities on my own time. For example, we recently raised \$350 in cash donations and five baskets of food for needy families this Thanksgiving. We found the families through LCDA.

LCDA – What would you like others in the community to know about LCDA?

Adame – We all thrive when our community thrives. As a Hispanic person, awareness, prevention and resources are needed so we don't fail as a community, and LCDA provides that.

LCDA – Why do you think others should donate their time and financial resources to LCDA?

Adame – As a business owner, I enjoy giving back to the community I serve. The Oklahoma Hispanic population is growing at a fast speed. LCDA needs those hours and funds to accommodate this growth.

Coming Soon!

Nature Explore Outdoor Classrooms®

Tony Reyes Bilingual

Child Development Center

Two Locations in Oklahoma City:

5716 S. Western Ave. // 410 S.W. 10 th St.





Alejandra Briones, KOCO Channel 5 News, served as Mistress of Ceremonies



LCDA President Raúl Font, Health & Wellness Programs Director **Dr. Yuliana Reyes** and **Mario Medrano**, Director of Operations



LCDA Board Member Valerie J. McMurry



Miriam Campos, **LCDA** Board Vice Chair

LCD A Receives Major Grant from Bank of America

Donation will support victims of domestic violence through *Proyecto Cambio* initiative

Bank of America has granted **LCD A** \$150,000 in support of *Proyecto Cambio*, a program aimed at assisting victims of domestic violence and their related legal issues, improving cultural & linguistical services to the community's growing Latino population, and 24-hour crisis hotlines and mental health counseling.

Oklahoma City is experiencing an alarming rate of domestic violence and currently sees the third highest rates for violence against women in the country. The high local rate of domestic violence has only been exacerbated by the continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant will provide for an expansion of services, include writing/translating Victims Protection Orders (VPOs), help navigating the judicial system, court accompaniment, support, and interpretation during hearings. **LCD A** also provides intervention, 24-hour crisis hotline and mental health counseling, materials and staff to increase impact. Bank of America's multi-year funding will enable them to serve at least 600 more Latinas in the OKC area per year, or 1,800 over three years.



Janys Esparza
LCD A Director of
Treatment Programs

Janys Esparza, **LCD A** Director of Treatment Programs states "This funding will provide a platform for systemic reform that means *Proyecto Cambio's* mission will impact more lives and continue to improve economic, health and social outcomes for Latino Oklahomans." Latinas are less likely to seek formal services for intimate partner violence due to systematic distrust, fear of deportation and lack of linguistically/culturally relevant services. **LCD A** has experienced a 42% increase in the need for their services over the last year, and Bank of America's support enables expanded critical care to more domestic violence victims and their dependents.

"We are partnering with **LCD A** because we believe in the *Proyecto Cambio* program and recognize the massive impact that these services can have on the lives of Latinas in the OKC area," said Tony Shinn, Bank of America President in Oklahoma City. "The demand for these services far outweighs the available resources, and the hope is that our grant funds can ensure **LCD A's** vital outreach reaches the people in our community who need it most."

LCD A is one of seventy-seven central Oklahoma employers designated as a "Family Positive Workplace," as part of the Potts Family Foundation's programs under the "OK25by25" Early Childhood Coalition. The goal of the program, which supports the Foundation's focus on families with children pre-birth through five, is to recognize companies that have implemented family positive policies that better support their employee base. A Family Positive Workplace employer is one whose policies make it possible for employees to more easily balance family and work. Research shows that employers gain in employee recruitment, retention, loyalty and productivity, all of which contribute to the bottom line.





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Richard Lane, Board Chair / Lopez Foods

Miriam Campos, Vice Chair / Arvest Bank

Julia Adame Lagace, Secretary / Alterra Home Loans

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Joe Cardenas, EST, Inc.

William Dooley, M.D., OU Health Sciences Center

Jeff Ewing, National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum

Chris Fusselman, Tyler Media

Ronald L. Grant, Jr., Oklahoma City Public Schools

Valerie J. McMurry, Metro Technology Centers

Robert M. Ruiz, Scissortail Community Development Corp.



Dr. Raúl Font was Grand Marshal of the Fiestas de las Américas parade, held in October in the Historic Capitol Hill District. With over 70 school groups, cultural organizations, equestrian clubs, nonprofit organizations, corporations and small businesses, the parade is a highlight of this community festival.

(Left) Dr. Font with
OKC Mayor David Holt

