

06-12-1

FILED/ACCEPTED

JAN 15 2008

FCC STATEMENT

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

My name is Kathryn Mitchell. I am a journalist with more than ten years of experience in the television industry. I have a Bachelor's in Communication from the University of Michigan, and a Master's from Chicago's Columbia College. Upon graduation from Columbia, I won a coveted spot in the News Associates Program at NBC in New York. ~~I was one of nine aspiring journalists chosen from a pool of more than 400 applicants. I worked for three network news shows, including The Today Show and Dateline. A year later, I began working at the cable news division MSNBO. I have also worked for New York 1 cable news and for a production company that specializes in programming for public broadcasting.~~

For the past seven years, I have worked as a staff writer at the local FOX station here in Chicago. I am the only African-American female writer in the morning news department. Throughout my employment, I have been the target of racial harassment and discrimination. I've also been denied a job promotion, and most recently, was threatened with termination. In 2003, I was a finalist in the ~~deadline reporting~~ ^{for a prestigious} ~~category~~ ^{journalism award} of the Peter Lisager Awards, sponsored by the Society of Professional Journalists. I was recognized for my work on the E-2 nightclub tragedy. To my knowledge, no other writer at the station had received such an honor. However, it was never mentioned in my annual review.

I have written memos to human resources, documenting my experience. But the problems have only continued. In February, I filed a complaint with the E-E-O-C. More than six months later, I am still waiting for an official investigation to begin.

I am not the only African-American employee, complaining of unfair treatment by FOX management. There are several current and former employees who have been verbally and physically harassed, given less desirable work assignments and schedules and passed over for promotions. One of them has also filed a charge with the EEOC. In addition, there have been several alleged incidents of sexual harassment -- one recent incident involved an on-air personality.

I am speaking out this evening at the risk of being labeled as a troublemaker and jeopardizing my career in this market. But I believe my ~~experience~~ ^{story} should and must be heard. For years, an overall climate of intolerance has been allowed to take root and

No. of Copies rec'd 0

I'm Tom Berry from Chicago.

In 1987 the FCC eliminated its "Fairness Doctrine" which to that time had considered licensed stations as "public trustees" required to make every reasonable effort to cover contrasting points of view, and perform public service by reporting on crucial issues in their communities.

In 1994 and 2002 I ran for Congress and couldn't get 5 minutes of free air time except to report the outcome of the election.

In 1996 The Telecommunications Act lifted a 40 station ownership cap, which resulted in unprecedented consolidations, as an example Clear Channel Communications now owns in excess of 1200 stations.

In 1999 the City News Bureau of Chicago, which provided a common source of local and breaking news, and a training ground for new reporters, was shut down due to the Sun Tmes pulling out of its joint ownership agreement, in order to increase profits by reducing public service.

The Tribune then opened a new reduced "City News Service," but as part of a cost cutting operation in 2006, Tribune eliminated the jobs of the 19 remaining members of City News Service.

Unregulated competition leads to combination, forms of monopoly, and economic dictatorship, a handful of corporations controlling everything, including governments. Some people call this fascism. Stockholders demand maximum rate of return. The only thing between the stockholders quest for maximum profit and progress is regulation. The absence of regulation leads to the free enterprise of burglars. It is absolutely essential to regulate those areas of our economy that directly affect the public interest.

The Commission should move on its own motion to restore the fairness doctrine, and additionally mandate that private stations allow sufficient public time for debates preceding elections, as it's in the public interest to cut down on the huge amount of money necessary for candidates for public office to spend to get their message out to the public. Moreover, It is in the public interest to not allow any further consolidation of the communications industry. Your rulemaking effort, as it allows for any further consolidation, should be scrapped by the Commission on its own motion. Private profit should never be allowed as a consideration to trump the public interest ~~Anyone who cannot understand these principles should not serve on this Commission~~

*JEAN MARIE
FRANCO CASTANA
AOS*

Buenas tardes señoras y señores comisionados. Mi nombre es Luis Enrique Romero. Por veinte años he sido actor de teatro, cine y televisión. Presido la Alianza Puertorriqueña de Artistas y Grupos Amigos (APAGA), presido la Cooperativa de las Artes Representativas (COOPAR) y hasta hace un mes era vicepresidente del Colegio de Actores de Puerto Rico. Estoy aquí para denunciar los abusos que comete Univisión contra la clase artística puertorriqueña y a manifestar mi oposición a que estos adquieran otro canal en Puerto Rico.

CULTURAL Y SOCIAL

Con la llegada de los conglomerados mediáticos a Puerto Rico y específicamente Univisión, se desestabilizó de forma directa e inmediata la situación laboral de los artistas y técnicos. Despidió (89) empleados y convirtió la cancelación de programas puertorriqueños en la práctica de esta empresa. Usó como subterfugio para no producir programas en Puerto Rico y sustituirlas con programación extranjera, que nosotros no sabíamos hablar español. Esto evidencia un patente desprecio, no solo por nuestros espacios laborales, sino también un acto de discrimen contra nuestra cultura, en nuestro propio país, aduciendo una necesidad de lo que ellos denominan "internacionalización" de la programación y "neutralidad" del lenguaje en abierta oposición a la pluralidad cultural.

En cambio, su programación consiste de novelas de pésima calidad, plagadas de regionalismos de otros países y programas de entrevistas en los que se ventean las miserias de los desposeídos y donde se expone al pueblo televidente a la violencia física y verbal, el sexismo, la vulgaridad y la frivolidad. Univisión es una amenaza a nuestra cultura y a los rasgos lingüísticos distintivos de nuestra identidad puertorriqueña. Atenta contra la ética, valores y dignidad de nuestro pueblo, ofreciéndonos una televisión lumpenisada cuyos modelos sociales no abonan en nada a una mejor sociedad.

MALA FE

Univisión es una organización arrogante y prepotente, que ha usado su poder e influencias para acallar nuestros reclamos de justicia. Ante los señalamientos públicos que hemos hecho al país y la legislatura de Puerto Rico, con relación a los despidos y cancelaciones, contrataron a un cabildero para desencarrilar una investigación legislativa que habíamos solicitado.

Con tácticas dilatorias se opusieron a que las vistas legislativas fueran públicas y provocaron la suspensión de éstas. Presionaron a los legisladores al cancelarle entrevistas previamente programadas en Univisión y así fueron desalentándolos a proseguir, hasta que lograron, de manera inapropiada e inmoral, paralizar finalmente cualquier investigación. Allí quedaron ponencias que se presentaron en sesión ejecutiva a reclamos de Univisión y que no condujeron a nada.

Como si fuera poco, cada vez que Univisión quiere grabar en un teatro su programación internacional, nuestras obras teatrales tienen que ser canceladas por espacio de un año y los artistas volvemos a quedarnos sin trabajo.



TO: Public Hearing Panel, Federal Communications Commission
RE: WSNS-TV 44, Telemundo Chicago
DATE: Thursday, September 20, 2007

Good afternoon and thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide our testimony.

I'm the marketing associate for Casa Central, the largest Hispanic social service agency in the Midwest.

Over the past 53 years, Casa Central and its affiliates have evolved from an organization with three employees and a \$26,000 budget to an acclaimed model agency with a combined staff of over 460 employees and a combined budget of approximately \$15 million. /

~~(Some of our 23 programs serve citywide and near suburban constituencies, while others reach Chicagoans throughout the north side and near south side of the city.)~~ *The Labor Day Telethon isn't the only one*

~~(Since 1981, Casa Central has hosted a unique fundraising event: a televised pledge drive or telethon, in which we ask the private and public sectors to support our organization with contributions.)~~ *the* *Telethon*
WSNS-TV, channel 44, has been our partner in this signature event for 18 consecutive years.

Over the course of this longstanding relationship, they've broadcast *live* from our Humboldt Park location as well as from their studios. They've assisted us in the

production of informational segments about our programs and services, and they've produced entertainment segments with top television stars as an attraction for the telethon.

As a result of their most recent broadcast on April 22nd, Casa Central received over \$120,000 in contributions and pledges. This effort will help Casa Central continue serving children, families and older adults with our programs.

Aside from the annual telethon, WSNS-TV Telemundo Chicago has provided Casa Central and its President and CEO, Ann Alvarez, ample access to the airwaves through its public affairs programming and frequent public service announcements. These points of contact with the Telemundo audience lead thousands of people in need of services to our agency all year round.

Casa Central is very supportive of the outstanding work performed by WSNS-TV Telemundo Chicago, and we're pleased to serve as an example of the station's outreach to Chicagoland's Hispanic community.

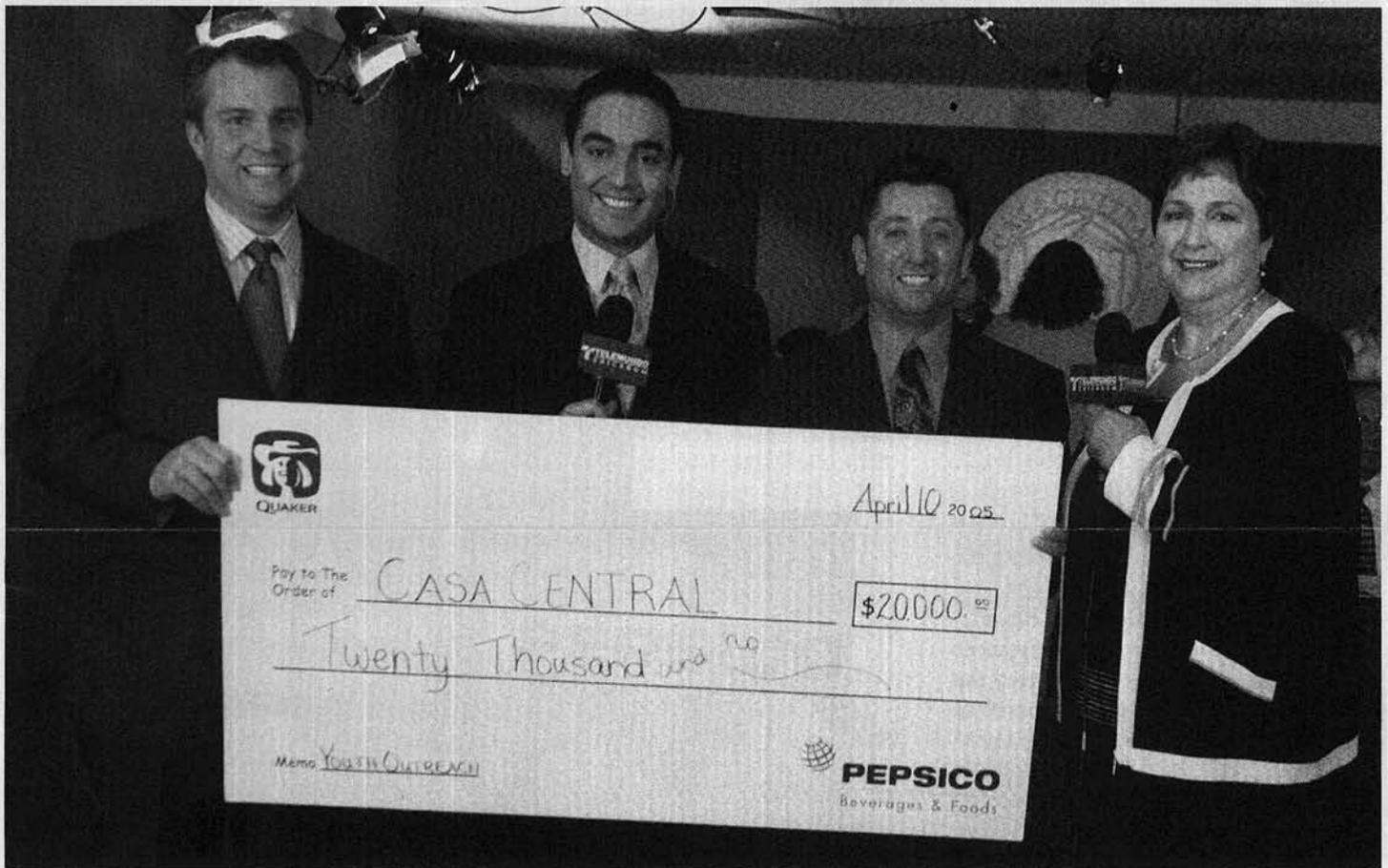
FRANK A. DIAZ
Marketing Associate
Casa Central

####

Micronoticias

Summer 2005

Casa Central: Transforming Lives



Casa Central Raises \$119,000 in 23rd Annual Telethon

The 23rd Annual Telethon aired Sunday, April 10th on Telemundo, Ch 44. Through the support of the community, sponsors, and volunteers, the Telethon was very successful, bringing in over \$119,000 dollars for the programs of Casa Central.

From 12:00 to 5:00pm, Telemundo aired two movies, "Como México no Hay Dos" starring Vicente Fernandez and "El Hijo Prodigio" starring Libertad

Lamarque. During the commercial breaks, Telemundo's Vicente Serrano and Claudia Muñoz were on hand to present Casa Central's programs, interview program participants, do check presentations with the sponsors, and appeal to the viewers to call in and make a donation to Casa Central.

"We are very grateful for the commitment and support of Telemundo Chicago, its staff, and General Manager,

Ed Fernandez. Their dedication to Casa Central and the community in general helps make our Telethons a success", comments Ann Alvarez, President of Casa Central.

In addition to the live segments on Telemundo, El Chokolade, Carlos Rojas de Morelos, y Pepe Pepillo from La Ley 107.9 were live at Casa Central, appealing

continued on page 2



Telethon

continued from page 1

to the radio listeners and promoting the Telethon. Reverend Daniel Alvarez, intricately involved with the Telethon since its inception, also helped promote Casa Central's programs and invited the community to collaborate in support of our Telethon.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Telethon this year; individuals and sponsors, especially our Silver and Gold Sponsors for their generous contribution: Quaker Oats, Kaercher Campbell & Assoc., Jewel-Osco, Harris Bank, Kraft Foods, Hispanic Housing Development Corporation, Goya, La Raza, La Ley 107.9 and Telemundo.



Casa Central
Micronoticias

Ann R. Alvarez
President

Lorena Levy & Cheryl Debusmann-Serra
Editors

Casa Central is a United Way member agency. For more information about our programs please call (773) 645-2300 or fax (773) 645-2475.



Long-time Casa Central employee receives 2005 Claude D. Pepper Award



When families, residents, and staff think of their experience at the Center Home for Hispanic Elderly, they often relate it in some positive way to Rosa Ward, Patient Advocate for the nursing home for over 23 years.

On May 6, 2005, Rosa Ward received the 2005 Claude D. Pepper Award at the 24th Annual Outstanding Worker Awards Luncheon. This distinguished service award was presented to only 9

other nominees from the Chicago area who are 50 and older, for their dedication and service to their community. Rosa is a valuable member of the Center Home for Hispanic Elderly and the voice for the residents. Her dedication and positive attitude always shine through and make the Center Home for Hispanic Elderly a more comfortable place for the residents who live there.

Teatro Juvenil presents "Milagros"

"Milagros" begins with a young girl's arrival from Puerto Rico to the Humboldt Park neighborhood. Displaced with feelings of loss, she finds strength in three new friends. While growing up in Humboldt Park, our new arrival, Lala, discovers that there is more for her here than she originally thought. After a huge fight with her mother, Lala decides to leave home in search of the truth. With her friends at her side, she discovers that the truth is not what it seems, and each one of them discovers that what they were looking for was in

them all along. This play is about finding the strength within yourself in order to succeed. It's about discovering who you are, learning to love yourself and those around you, having the sense to recognize it, and the courage to follow through; finding within themselves a tiny miracle.

Come and see Lala and friends, starring in "Milagros", June 29, June 30 and July 1 at 7:00pm. The play was co-written by youth participant, Danny Otero and Drama Director, Tony Sancho.

2nd Annual Community Resource Fair

The 2nd Annual Community Resource Fair will be held on August 20, 2005 from 11:00am-3:00pm. This year the committee planning the fair will combine its efforts with the 1500 N. Rockwell Block Club. This is the block where Casa Central has its Safe Home and is the home to one of our foster families. By combining resources and ideas, more families will participate and receive important information from community organizations or businesses. The goal of the fair is to get the essential resources to the families in this community as well as provide them with an opportunity to meet each other. By meeting their neighbors and becoming more active, they can work together to fight the problems of drugs and violence in their community. Food and entertainment (i.e. jumping jacks, dance groups) will be provided so stop by and enjoy the fun! If anyone is interested in donating school supplies for this event, please contact Cheryl Debusmann-Serra at 773-645-2465.

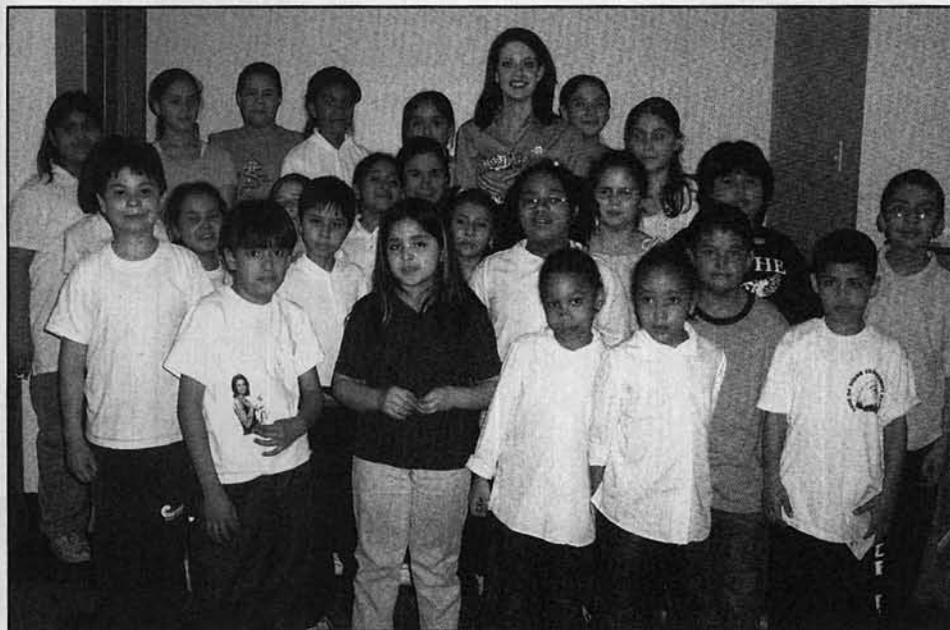
Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Teatro Juvenil presents "Milagros"

1335 North California
Bitia Alfonso Auditorium
June 29th, 30th and July 1st
7:00pm

Community Resource Fair
1500 block of North Rockwell
Saturday, August 20th
11:00am-3:00pm

Annual Awards Dinner
(tentative date)
October 20, 2005



School-Age children meet Miss America

Through an on-going relationship we have developed with St Pauls United Church of Christ, children from both of our after-school programs were invited to meet Diedre Downs, Miss America 2005. Diedre's mission while Miss America is to help children with cancer, so while she was in Chicago this past April, she visited Children's Memorial Hospital. Afterwards, she stopped by St Pauls United Church of Christ and in conjunction with Kid Power Organization led an activity for our school-aged children. Kid Power helps children who are sick and hospitalized by providing them

with pen pals or sending them letters, pictures, and get-well cards made by other children. The children who participated in this event were able to make a special card for a child who has been sick and in need of cheering up.

St Pauls' 21-41 Club engages in three community service activities with Casa Central each year. This month, the 21-41 Club helped with the School-Age Program's car wash fundraiser. With the extra help of the volunteers, the School-Age program parents and staff washed several cars, SUV's and vans and raised \$738 for the summer field trips.

Invest in Casa Central- Join the Donor Circle

Delivering QUALITY programs is the secret to success at Casa Central and philanthropic gifts from individuals make all the difference. By joining the Casa Central Donor Circle you are investing in the children, families and seniors who depend on Casa Central's programs and services each day. To learn more about how YOU can make a significant and lasting impact contact Lorena Alonso at (773) 645-2476.

- \$10,000
Daniel Alvarez Sr. Founders Circle
- \$5,000
Angel
- \$2,500
Benefactor
- \$1,000
Donor

Seniors get fit at West Town Logan Square Senior Center

This summer, the West Town Logan Square Senior Center introduced a new walking club for the program. Led by Roy Barbe, fitness instructor at the Senior Center, the six-week exercise program encourages seniors to participate in physical activity and get in shape. The goal of the club is to get seniors to do at least one hour of physical activity on a weekly basis. By promoting a healthy lifestyle, our seniors will become more active while at the same time enjoy a long walk around different parts of the neighborhood. A special thank you to our sponsors; Consumer Markets department of Blue Cross Blue Shield for the t-shirts and Corporate Identification Solutions for the water bottles.



casa needs...

Volunteers to teach an art, music, or dance class on a weekly basis at our Senior Center, 1613 W. Chicago Avenue.

Tickets to sporting events, museums, theater or recreational parks

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Cheryl Debusmann-Serra at (773) 645-2465

Open Enrollment for Head Start Program

Would you like to give your child a Head Start in their education?

Casa Central's Child Development Program has REGISTRATION OPEN NOW for children ages 3-5 years old!!! This program offers childcare year-round from 7:00am-6:00pm. The bi-cultural/bilingual education will help your child learn the basics before starting kindergarten. This program helps low-income parents who are working or attending school. For more information call 773-645-2300 or stop by 1343 North California.



Thank you to the following contributors for your support and commitment to Casa Central (Mar. 15 – June 15, 2005, donors of \$100 or more):

Abbott Laboratories Employee Giving Campaign ■ Mabel Aguilar ■ Alderman 25th Ward ■ Allstate Giving Campaign ■ Sonia Alonso ■ Altria Group ■ Elsa Alvarado ■ Ann R. Alvarez ■ Aragon Entertainment Center, Inc. ■ Arrow Supply ■ Asamblea De Iglesia Pentecost de Jesucristo ■ Angel Avitia ■ Victor Barrera ■ Samuel Barreto ■ Raquel Berrios ■ Bethel United Church of Christ ■ Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois ■ Jeanette Bonzani ■ C & A Masonry, Inc ■ Caribe Funeral Home ■ Carniceria Jimenez ■ Cashel Foundation ■ Pablo Castro ■ Central Federal Savings ■ Chicago Boiler & Mechanical ■ Chicago Eye Institute ■ Chicago Tribune Charities ■ City of Chicago Department of Housing ■ Cole Taylor Bank ■ Luz Santa Colon ■ Community Presbyterian Church ■ Concentra Medical Center ■ Jose Cornejo ■ Crowe Chizek and Company LLC ■ Cuban Medical Association ■ Felipe De Avila ■ Eugene Di Monte ■ Liza Davies ■ Cheryl Debusmann-Serra ■ Teresa Diaz ■ Rodolfo Disapio ■ Norman Erazo ■ Ed Fernandez ■ Judy Figueroa ■ First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest ■ Ward Fisher ■ Guillermo Flores ■ Frida Freudman ■ Oscar Fuentes ■ Juan Gamarro ■ Noelia Garcia ■ Teresa Garcia ■ Leticia Godina ■ Illeana Gomez ■

Basilisa R. Gonzalez ■ Nora Gonzalez ■ Vicki Hadaway ■ Harris Trust and Savings Bank/Harris Bank Corp., Inc. ■ Alcadio Hernandez ■ Araceli M. Hernandez ■ Millie Hernandez ■ Jane Heron ■ HSBC North America ■ Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ ■ International Social Organization ■ J. A. Prada and Associates ■ Jewel-OSCO ■ Joe's Hardware Inc. ■ Richard Juarez ■ Kimberly-Clark Foundation, Inc. ■ Kent W. Kinney ■ Nilda La Luz ■ Lake Shore HealthCare & Rehabilitation Centre ■ LaSalle Bank N.A ■ Elda Leal ■ Hernan Levy ■ Lorena Levy Alonso ■ Logan Square Neighborhood Association ■ Patrick Loll ■ Maria Lopez ■ Melissa Ludington ■ Tanya Lugo ■ Georgia Lymberis ■ Rafael Machado ■ Michael J. Martinez ■ Elba Martir De Castro ■ Alan May ■ MB Financial Bank ■ John Mele ■ John V. Menoni ■ MidAmerica Federal Savings Bank ■ Miller Brewing Company ■ Georgina Molina ■ Jorge Morales ■ Maria Morales-Reynes ■ Muebleria Salgado ■ NOP World ■ Nordstrom, Inc. ■ Agustina Ojeda ■ Rosa Olalde ■ Omnicare of Northern Illinois ■ Omron Foundation, Inc. ■ Eulalia Ortiz ■ Aldo Pedroso ■ Rose Perez ■ John Ponce ■ Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Chicago ■ Presbyterian Women of First

Presbyterian Church of Deerfield ■ Quaker/Pepsico Beverages & Foods ■ Emma Ramirez ■ Myriam Restrepo ■ Andrea Rivera ■ Robert D. Ahlgren & Associates, P. C. ■ Alma Delia Rocha ■ Arlene Rodriguez ■ Gabriel M. Rodriguez ■ Ida Roldan ■ Alicia Roman ■ Paula Rosa ■ Saint Mary of Nazareth Resurrection Healthcare ■ Saks Fifth Avenue ■ Alfonso Sanchez ■ Alba Santillan ■ Silvia Sarmiento ■ Maria Del Carmen Scott ■ Seasons Hospice ■ Mark Sexton ■ Thomas Smith ■ Catalina Soto ■ Judith Stenta ■ Super-mercado La Chiquita ■ Tara/Jordan Management ■ Target ■ The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago ■ The Northern Trust Company Charitable Trust ■ Maria Toledo ■ Town of Cicero ■ U. S. Food Services ■ United Airlines Employee Giving Account ■ United Way of Metropolitan Chicago ■ United Way Special Distribution ■ Debbie Velasquez Sasse ■ Veronica Vidal ■ Margarito Villareal ■ Rosa Ward ■ Washington Mutual Employee Giving Program ■ Rachel Weinstein ■ WGN Radio 720 Neediest Kids Foundation ■ Willie Whiting ■ Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company Foundation ■ Michael Yonamine

Teens raise money for their trip to New York at a Young Life Camp

The Youth Options Unlimited Program (Y.O.U.), our drop-in center for teens, provides at-risk youth with leadership development and enrichment activities. The program constantly seeks new opportunities to provide our youth with values such as leadership and self-esteem. This year, the youth in our program were invited by the Grace and Peace Community Center to attend a week-long Young Life camp retreat in July at Lake Champion in New York. The youth are very excited to attend the Young Life camp, a Christian youth leadership camp that combines outdoor adventures with group activities. This trip will certainly be an eye-opening experience for them because many of the participants have never traveled outside of the State while others have never left the city limits of Chicago.

In order to cover the enrollment and travel costs for the camp, the youth planned several fundraisers such as selling candy bars, taffy apples, and even got sponsors for a 5K race they ran in June. With the support of several churches as well as the \$2000 dollars that the youth hope to raise, 10 teens will attend the camp the week of July 11th. If you would like to sponsor this wonderful educational opportunity for our youth, please send in your contribution today.



Visit us at our website, www.casacentral.org

PAID
Chicago IL
Permit No. 3745

Casa Central
1343 N. California Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622

