



Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 16, 2013

Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation and 9NEWS name Christine Marquez-Hudson as 2013 9NEWS Leader of the Year

DENVER – The Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation and 9NEWS announced this week that Christine Marquez-Hudson is the 2013 9NEWS Leader of the Year.

Christine Marquez-Hudson is CEO and executive director of Mi Casa Resource Center, which is among Colorado's oldest and largest Latino-serving non-profit organizations. Since she began this role in 2008, Mi Casa's participation rates have nearly tripled from 800 to 2,300.

"Christine is a beacon of hope to more than 2,000 people a year in Denver who are looking for assistance to help them with economic sustainability, self-sufficiency, business start-ups and completing their GED and/or work credentials," said Olga Garcia, community affairs manager of the Denver Health Medical Center. "What really sets Christine apart is her extraordinary vision for what she wants to achieve, her ability to design a strategy to reach that goal and her talent in inspiring all those around her to reach toward that goal."

During her tenure, Marquez-Hudson has brought hundreds of business, government and community leaders into the Mi Casa fold to promote the mission of the organization and the lives that it touches.

Most recently, Marquez-Hudson spearheaded a survey with Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy & Research Organization (CLLARO) to learn about Colorado Latinos' priorities on national issues. The resulting report was shared with the Obama and Romney presidential campaigns before their first debate at the University of Denver in October. Marquez-Hudson also facilitated a community forum with Latino issue experts designed to delve more deeply into the opinions illustrated in the report. This project elevated Latinos' voice in the presidential election and sought to demonstrate the importance of the Latino vote.

In addition to spearheading the CLLARO survey, Marquez-Hudson has mentored numerous young nonprofit leaders through formal and informal channels and believes that educating, inspiring and shaping the next generation of community leaders is her most important job.

In 2009, Marquez-Hudson was one of five nonprofit leaders selected by the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation for its Livingston Fellowship Program. As part of her program, Marquez-Hudson participated in the National Hispana Leadership Institute's Executive Leadership Program, one of just 20 Latina executives selected to go through this year-long program.

In 1998, Marquez-Hudson was one of 12 Colorado leaders selected by The Colorado Trust for its elite fellowship program. She received a full-ride scholarship to Regis University and earned a master's degree in nonprofit management.

Tameka Montgomery, executive director of the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation, said, "Christine's drive to get things done and her entrepreneurial vision have resulted in creative and innovative solutions to pressing challenges facing Denver's Latino community. Indeed, we are fortunate to have Christine leading the way toward a better tomorrow for our community."

"We are very pleased that Christine Marquez-Hudson is the 2013 9NEWS Leader of the Year," said 9NEWS' Mark Cornetta. "She joins a prestigious list of strong leaders who care deeply about our state's future. Christine is an outstanding business leader who is helping to elevate the Hispanic community for the benefit of all residents. Christine exemplifies the definition of the 9NEWS Leader of the Year."

Marquez-Hudson will receive her award during the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation's Celebrating Civic Leadership Luncheon on Thursday, April 11, 2013 at the Denver Marriott City Center. For more information, or to sign up for the event, go to:
<http://www.denverleadership.org/Page/CivicLuncheon>.

Previous winners of the 9NEWS Leader of the Year Award:

- 2012 Tami Door, President and CEO, Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.
- 2011 Rich Lewis, Founder, President and CEO, RTL Networks, Inc.
- 2010 Eric Duran, Vice President, D.A. Davidson and Company
- 2009 James Mejía, Mejía Associates
- 2008 Carrie Besnette Hauser, President and CEO, Kauffman Scholars Inc., Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
- 2007 Christine Benero, President and CEO, Mile High United Way
- 2006 Willie Shepherd, Legal Counsel, iBAHN
- 2005 Monica Robinson, Director of Public Sector, Zanett
- 2004 Chad McWhinney, President and CEO, McWhinney Enterprises
- 2003 Kathleen Novak, Buechner Institute for Governance, University of Colorado Denver | School of Public Affairs
- 2002 Doug Price, President and CEO, Rocky Mountain PBS
- 2001 Annette Quintana, CEO, Istonish, Inc.
- 2000 Joseph Serna, President, Dawa Enterprises
- 1999 Rob Cohen, Chairman and CEO, IMA Financial Group, Inc.

About the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation

An affiliate organization of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Denver Metro Chamber Leadership Foundation (Leadership Foundation) provides content, context and access to inspire leaders to engage in issues critical to the region's success. The Leadership Foundation encourages community

and civic trusteeship through a continuum of leadership programs including Leadership Denver, Access Denver, Colorado Experience, the Leadership Exchange, Impact Denver, Legacy Denver, the Leadership Alumni Network and the Colorado Leadership Alliance. For more information, visit www.denverleadership.org.

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