



HOPE IN ACTION 2008

Event Details

When: Thursday, October 23
6:00 pm-9:30 pm Dinner, Awards Ceremony, and Dancing

Where: Dorothy Quincy Suite, Back Bay Events Center, Copley Square

Who: Honoring Casa Esperanza graduate and current Director of Supportive Housing, **Eric Lozada**, for his dedication and professionalism in serving others struggling with addiction; and long-time Casa Esperanza supporter **Charlotte Golar Richie** for her invaluable contributions as a leading advocate for the development of supportive, affordable housing for homeless individuals and families in recovery.

- Goals:**
- Help us keep the “Home” in “Casa” by raising \$100,000 to develop and maintain affordable housing and treatment services—including job counseling, training and placement—for homeless families in recovery.
 - Increase awareness about the impact of substance abuse on our community
 - Celebrate Casa Esperanza’s graduates and their families

What is Casa Esperanza?

➤ **A Track Record on the Cutting Edge of Substance Abuse Recovery**
In 1984, Casa Esperanza opened the first bilingual/bicultural residential treatment program in Massachusetts. In 1995, we addressed a key barrier to women seeking treatment services by opening the Latinas y Niños Center, the first bilingual/bicultural residential treatment program allowing residents to maintain custody and care of their children. Again, in 1991 and 2003, Casa answered the need among graduates for sober, affordable, housing by opening Nueva Vida (New Life) for single men and Dunmore Place for families. Most recently, in the Fall of 2007, we opened the doors of our innovative community center for people in recovery—Familias Unidas. The “Families United” Center now serves as a unique support center for individuals and families in recovery offering a full array of relapse prevention and after-care services, including mental health services and trauma therapy. Now, Casa Esperanza is preparing to once again extend the reach of hope as we launch the development of Nueva Esperanza (New Hope), which will provide 14 units of supportive housing for single women.

➤ Reaching Those Most in Need

Casa Esperanza serves homeless men and women, and their children, from across Massachusetts struggling with substance abuse. The majority not only struggle with addiction but also have histories of domestic violence or sexual abuse, and suffer with the resulting trauma. Virtually all of our clients are homeless and most have lived in poverty their whole lives. More than half of our residents face HIV, hepatitis, tuberculosis and other serious illnesses. Many of the women in our program have lost custody of their children as a result of their addictions and most men have had limited or no contact with their children for long periods of time. Many have no income or employment when they arrive, and less than one quarter have a high school diploma. Against these incredible odds, the men and women in recovery at Casa Esperanza defy the stereotypes of people struggling with substance abuse as they work together to create new lives for themselves and their families.

➤ A National Model for Supporting Long-term Self-Sufficiency

Over the last two decades Casa has developed a holistic approach to substance abuse recovery with integrated mental health services, helping people gain the skills they need to become self-sufficient, contributing members of society and to reunite families torn apart by addiction. We have learned that economic independence, health and wellness, and family reunification are not merely positive side effects of recovery—they are the essential building blocks of sustained sobriety, long-term recovery and community development. We have also learned that although recovery may begin with residential treatment, it does not end there. The impact of substance abuse is far-reaching, and the costs of failing to address the long-term issues are severe, not only for children and families, but for the community as a whole.

Honorary Chair

**The Honorable
Thomas M. Menino**
Mayor, City of Boston

Honoring

Charlotte Golar Richie
Executive Staff, Governor
Deval Patrick

Benefit Chair

Esther Schlorholtz
Boston Private Bank and Trust,
Co.

Benefit Committee

John Auerbach
Jarrett Barrios
Andrea Cabral
Carrie Carrizosa
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Evelyn Friedman
Consuelo Gonzalez-Thornell
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Paula McNichols
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Maria A. Quiroga
Mayra Rodriguez-Howard
Rep. Marie St. Fleur
Rep. Jeffrey D. Sanchez
Mark D. Thompson
Marie A. Turley
Ronna B. Wallace
Sen. Diane Wilkerson

Ricardo Quiroga
Executive Director

Casa Esperanza, Inc.'s mission is to help men and women to recover from alcoholism and drug addiction, gain the skills they need to be self-sufficient, contributing members of society and to repair and strengthen families torn apart by substance abuse.