



For immediate release:

Community Council of Greater Dallas Honors The Family Place Latina Outreach Program



[Community Council Board members: Sonja Romanowski and Dr. Ann Stuart present the 2008 Award for Excellence in Human Service Programming honoring The Family Place's Latina Outreach Program to Rosabel Cantu, Assistant Program Director, Latina Services.](#)

(DALLAS, TX, NOV. 12, 2008)— The Family Place's Latina Outreach Program was presented with the 2008 Award for Excellence in Human Service Programming by the Community Council of Greater Dallas at its annual meeting.

The Award, presented every two years, honors a program of one of the Community Council's 125 member agencies for outstanding work and results. The nominees were all impressive, according to Dr. Ann Stuart, chancellor and president of Texas Women's University and chair of the Awards Committee. In presenting the award and a \$1,000 cash prize, Stuart said, " Their very complete case management services and outreach through schools set the Family Place Latina Outreach Program apart."

Martha Blaine, executive director of the Community Council of Greater Dallas, said, "This the 22nd time we've presented the award, and our member agencies view it as the Academy Award for human services in Dallas.."

The 10-year-old The Family Place Latina Outreach Program utilizes bilingual/bicultural staff to assist Hispanic victims of domestic violence. By reaching out to Latina women through their children's schools, the Outreach Program provides life-saving information in a non-threatening environment without arousing suspicion from their husbands. Services include in-depth case management to reduce women's isolation, help them avoid re-victimization and become fully functioning members of the community. Women served in the program can also receive individual and group counseling and play therapy for their children.

"We created the program to meet the cultural and language needs of Spanish-speaking women. As an outreach point, the schools provide a safe place for the women, and help us to maximize staff to serve more women and their children," said Paige Flink, executive director of The Family Place.

The Family Place is a non-profit agency that provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, counseling and prevention programs for victims of domestic violence and their children.

As the planning agency for the Greater Dallas area, the **Community Council of Greater Dallas** connects people with resources for a better quality of life for all. It accomplishes its mission through coalitions, advocacy, outreach, direct service, information and communication, research and publications.