



Latino Leaders Network to Honor The Reverend Luis Cortés, Jr. Eagle Leadership Award in Washington, D.C

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and U.S. Senator Robert Menendez to Deliver Remarks

Washington, D.C. - On Friday, August 2nd the Latino Leaders Network (LLN), a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing leaders together, will convene its 54th Latino Leaders Luncheon Series event to honor The Reverend Luis Cortés, Jr. with the Eagle Leadership Award from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at The Mayflower Hotel (located at 1127 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC). The Honorable Robert Menendez will deliver special guest remarks and a video tribute by Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi will highlight Reverend Cortés' contributions to the Latino community.

Rev. Cortés is the Founder, President and CEO of Esperanza, a faith-based nonprofit organization focused on meeting the needs of Hispanic communities in Philadelphia. With a national network of more than 13,000 community-based organizations, Esperanza offers the city's most successful welfare-to-work center, offices for immigration legal services, housing counseling and economic development. The nationally ranked Esperanza Academy Charter School, serves over 1,400 students and provides an educational pipeline from kindergarten to college.

Esperanza also hosts the National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast and Conference (NHPBC) annually in Washington, D.C. and has featured both Republican and Democratic speakers, including President George W. Bush, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden. Rev. Cortés was ranked among Time Magazine's 50 Most Influential Evangelicals. He delivered the invocation prayer at the luncheon for President Barack Obama's 2013 inauguration ceremony and remains a sought-after thought leader on issues of economic development, housing, immigration, and education.

"We are honored to recognize Rev. Cortés for his outstanding service to the Latino community and our country," said Mickey Ibarra, Founder and Chairman of the Latino Leaders Network. "His dedication to better educate our youth has helped improve the economic and educational opportunities for multiple generations of families. He is a passionate advocate and role model to current and future leaders."

Senator Carmelo Ríos Santiago, President of National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators, will serve as the Community Partner. He currently serves as the majority Leader for the Puerto Rico Senate. Sponsors include Anheuser-Busch, GEICO, the Chick-fil-A Foundation and Southwest Airlines.



Guests will receive Mickey Ibarra's book "Latino Leaders Speak: Personal Stories of Struggle and Triumph," featuring 33 keynote addresses delivered at the Latino Leaders Luncheon Series by leaders from a wide variety of occupations, including government, sports, entertainment, education, journalism and more.

For more information about LLN and Latino Leaders Speak: Personal Stories of Struggle and Triumph, visit www.LatinoLeadersNetwork.org.

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The Latino Leaders Network (LLN)

The Latino Leaders Network is dedicated to "Bringing Leaders Together" to establish relationships, build unity, and share our personal stories. Mickey Ibarra, Founder and Chairman, served as Assistant to the President and Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House for President Clinton.

Esperanza, the premiere Hispanic Evangelical faith-based network in the country, was founded in 1987 by the Rev. Luis Cortés Jr. and the Hispanic Clergy of Philadelphia and vicinity. With a national network of over 13,000 Hispanic congregations, faith and community-based agencies, Esperanza is a leading voice for Hispanics in America. To read more, please visit www.esperanza.us.