



# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Latino Economic and Development Center

## LEAD BOARD MEMBER HONORED AS IDAHO HOMETOWN HERO



**Jose Antonio Quezada**, community activist and LEAD Board of Director member, was recently nominated and selected as a recipient of the 2013 Idaho's Hometown Hero Medal. Sponsored by JRM Foundation for Humanity and established in 2011, Idaho's Hometown Hero Medal pays tribute to individuals that comprise Idaho's unique characteristics and achievements.

The foundation honors remarkable Idahoans who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve and promote the richness of Idaho and create a better world for all of us in the future by the work they do today.

The IDAHO'S HOMETOWN HERO MEDAL is awarded annually to a handful of distinguished Idaho citizens who meet one or more of the following criteria:

**EXEMPLIFIES** a life dedicated to the Idaho way of hard work, self-improvement and community service;

**EMBODIES** the spirit of philanthropy while showing a remarkable commitment in both their personal and professional lives to improving communities across the State of Idaho;

**PRESERVES**, celebrates and promotes the richness of history, tradition, and values of our great state while working to create a better world for all of us in the future by the work they do today and;

**SHARES** gifts with the community to boost recognition of the State of Idaho.

Jose Antonio is the embodiment of these characteristics. He motivates and improves the morale of his community with his selfless contributions towards the advancement of the Latino community and through his art which connects the Latino community's sense of identity and self to his mission of encouraging community members to take ownership for the overall advancement of their lives and education.

## LEAD STAFF MEMBER COMPLETES NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



**Corina Moran**, Program Coordinator and local community leader for Latino Economic And Development Center (LEAD) completed a nine-month community economic development *Colegio Fellowship Program* with the National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB). The fellowship is a program designed to support the next generation of Latino executives in the asset-building field.

During a nine-month span, Fellows received leadership and technical training as well as support creating and establishing peer networks throughout the country. Corina graduated on Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual NALCAB Summit: Investing in What Works for Border Communities in San Antonio, TX. Ms. Moran received a Certificate of Completion in Nonprofit Management, as well as an official congratulatory letter signed by San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro.

"The NALCAB fellowship program was very challenging and rewarding. I got the opportunity to share this wonderful experience with passionate leaders from across the country, who like me, are working towards a unified goal; elevating our communities by providing them the necessary tools to build assets and family wealth," said Moran.

The NALCAB Fellowship program recognizes the importance of developing the next generation of leaders in the community and economic development field. LEAD's Executive Director, Sonia Martinez said, "Demographic trends require that culturally and linguistically sensitive leaders like Corina be encouraged and trained to lead communities of color toward a path of economic recovery and prosperity."

NALCAB is a San Antonio based national nonprofit organization that represents and serves over 90 members that are a geographically and ethnically diverse group of nonprofit community and economic development organizations that are anchor institutions in our nation's predominantly Latino communities. Its mission is to build financial and human assets as well as real estate and technology resources in Latino families, communities, and organizations.

*Congratulations!*



## COMMUNITY REACHES OUT TO LEAD for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

Comunidad Generando El Cambio, a group of involved citizens and professionals from Boise, Idaho joined together attend a community development training. Having heard about LEAD's executive director Sonia Martinez, the group reached out to her in an effort to learn how to build a stronger and more prosperous Latino community.

The group sought direction on how to address issues such as education, affordable housing, discrimination, social justice, child care, poverty and economic equality. Drawing from her community development training background, Sonia provided insight to community development by speaking about the theory, research and practice of community involvement, voluntary committees, and empowerment.

*"Isolating social and civic problems is difficult enough in its own—it is even more difficult without understanding effective processes," said Martinez.*

The purpose of the training was to assist the group on how to establish community collaboration while focusing on a strategy for solutions that rest upon a shared belief in the value of building individual and community problem-solving capacity.

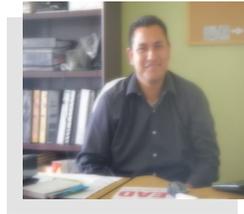


*Changing lives ...  
paso a paso*

Follow our LEAD



## LEAD HIRES SMALL BUSINESS TECHNICAL ADVISOR



LEAD welcomes Luis Lopez as Small Business Technical Advisor. He is a graduate of Idaho State University and holds a B.S. in Economics.

LEAD recently launched a microloan which offers low interest loans ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000. These loans are available to small businesses seeking expansion and for job creation.

Luis will provide microloan lending services as well as one-on-one technical assistance to small latino and other minority owned small businesses.

## BASIC AMERICAN FOODS SEEKS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

A group of Basic American Ingredients employees (formally of Nonpareil) reached out to LEAD upon learning about our workforce development program. This group of employees became 'at-risk' by the sale of Nonpareil. LEAD designed and provided an effective work-environment related training program that focused on workforce development and training objectives which included specific training needs and taught required skills sets.



Using a customized curriculum, lesson plans ensured in the development and/or improvement of general office, technical and specialized skills in an effort to minimize or close skills gaps. LEAD will continue to work with Basic American Ingredients in an effort to develop and provide collaborative workforce development and training resources that can be used to support human capital development goals.

