

# NEWS

## La Casa de Don Pedro

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SPRING 2006

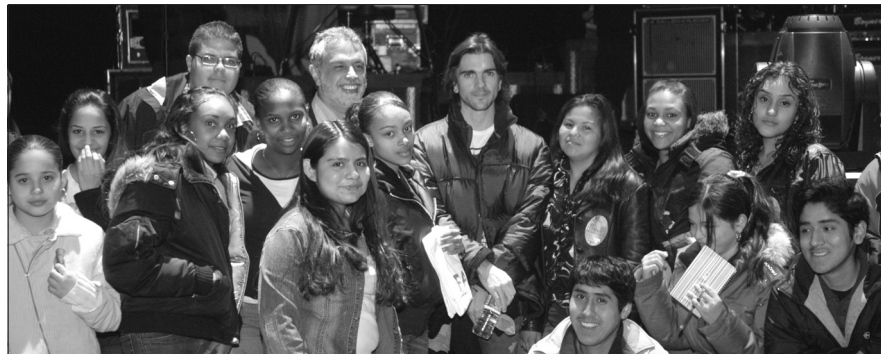
*La Casa's mission is to foster self-sufficiency, empowerment and neighborhood revitalization*

### Juanes Concert- A Big Hit!

This year's Annual Event turned into two very special nights, one for youngsters from La Casa's Youth and Family and the other for La Casa's friends and supporters. Columbian singing sensation and 12-time Latin Grammy®-Award winner, Juanes took Newark by storm, rocking the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) for two nights, March 1st and 2nd.

On March 1st, Juanes invited 30 young people from La Casa to watch his sound check, taking a bit of time to pose for pictures with the kids. He and NJPAC surprised 20 members of the group, inviting them to stay for the concert. "As they watched his sound check, the kids were so quiet, their eyes glued to the stage," reported one of the counselors who attended the event. "Their excitement over the entire event wasn't really felt until the next day – then they talked about meeting Juanes!"

La Casa's fundraiser was held during Juanes' March 2nd concert and we exceeded our



*Some of the La Casa Youth Group pose with Juanes.*

fundraising expectations. Originally La Casa's Special Events Subcommittee planned to produce a full-scale concert in June 2006. In December, NJPAC invited La Casa to purchase a block of tickets for the Juanes Concert and piggyback the fundraiser on this event instead of producing a separate concert. "The opportunity to offer our fundraiser attendees an artist as popular as Juanes was a major factor in taking this approach" reported Executive Director Ray Ocasio. "We were also excited about introducing La Casa to a new audience while effectively cutting the expenses and staff time by two-thirds." With a

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**The classrooms are divided into learning stations that correspond to the curriculum.**

La Casa with critical in-house insight and allowed us to excel in the implementation of the curriculum. The directors of La Casa's three Early Childhood Centers burned the midnight oil to implement the new curriculum, train their teachers and set up their classrooms according to the curriculum's guidelines. Their hard work was recognized recently by the State Department of Edu-

### Four Early Childhood Classrooms Named as Newark Models

Last September's school year started with the implementation of a brand-new curriculum. The Creative Curriculum was selected by the Newark Public Schools to replace the High Scope Curriculum. This curriculum was introduced right before the school year began and La Casa worked hard to get out in front of this challenge. Xiomara Guevara, Director of the First Street Center, attended the same training offered to the Newark Public School's resource teachers. This provided

*(continued on page 2)*



## Greetings From Our Board President

La Casa has recently celebrated our Annual Event with a delectable dinner and lively concert featuring the fabulous and very popular Juanes. His style of music is new and refreshing and reflects the true diversity of our Hispanic community. It was exciting to see how many people attended and how diverse we are. Enjoying the concert were Columbians, Ecuadorians, Mexicans, Dominicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans and other Central and South Americans. The sold out show was filled with people of all ages, young and old, joining together for some great live entertainment.

For La Casa, the concert meant relishing in our diversity and reaching out to a new group of potential constituents who now know about the work that we do and the commitment we make to our community every day. I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our fundraiser sponsors including PSE&G, Bank of America, JP MorganChase, Prudential, Citibank, Hispanic Federation, McCarter & English, The Port Authority of NY/NJ, Verizon, Wachovia, Washington Mutual, Bank of New York, City National Bank, Investors Savings Bank, LeBeouf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, Sovereign Bank, Lakeland Bank and PNC Bank. Our events would not be the same without you! We were able to put La Casa into the minds of many that night. That was an achievement in and of itself.

Zoraya E. Lee-Hamlin, President  
Board of Directors

### *Four Early Childhood Classrooms Named as Newark Models (continued from page 1)*

cation when four of La Casa’s classrooms were included on a list of 10 model classrooms citywide. “It is such an honor to see that 40% of Newark’s model classrooms come from our program which has fewer than 5% of the city’s pre-school population” said Martha Villegas, Director of the Early Childhood Education Division. “Our Center Directors and teachers worked extremely hard to understand and then integrate this new curriculum into their classrooms.”

La Casa’s Executive Director, Raymond Ocasio saw the recognition as further validation for Newark’s Community-Based Providers. “This is a positive reflection of what La Casa and other community providers are willing to do to ensure that our children receive a high quality education. As community providers, we are essential partners for the Newark Public Schools and the New Jersey Department of Education’s effort to provide a pre-kindergarten education to all three and four year olds.”



## Executive Director’s Update

We are entering a political period with mayoral, council and school board races culminating in the May 9th. elections. While the politicians adorn our landscape with their propaganda and photos, the public in large part simply is walking by unaffected and under the impression that they are unaffected. All too often the typical resident might be heard saying that the upcoming election has nothing to do with them.

As part of our mission we speak of “fostering the empowerment of our community”. If we take our mission seriously how can we tolerate such a large disconnect between the community and the election process. There is a strong connection with the quality of our lives, based on the political decisions we make and sometimes don’t make. Who we elect to represent us determines how we deal with the normative things that make a city, state and nation function...garbage collection, police protection, highways & bridges, national security. When we don’t vote, by default we let others determine our fate, good, bad and indifferent.

Traditionally, La Casa throws itself into the streets to provide gentle reminders of election day and the right to vote using the bilingual slogan “Su Voto Es Su Voz” / “Your Vote Is Your Voice”. We distribute door-hangers and engage passers-by and residents sitting and standing outside to vote. Lately we have even used one of La Casa’s decommissioned vans to announce our reminder using a public address system. Our very presence on the streets makes others see us as a political force to be reckoned with.

It is difficult to say what impact we have. Are we contributing an effective reminder? Do people turn a deaf ear? Are we contributing to the accumulating paper waste? Some political operatives see us and take note - when elections are decided by just a few votes - how could they not take note. The last mayoral election was a hotly contested race with high voter turnout. The North end was viewed as major force in making it a real horse race. Unfortunately in the recent elections for the State Legislature, Newark’s seats were won with fewer than twenty-five thousand votes while pretty much anywhere else it took more than thirty five thousand votes. With assembly seats assigned by equal populations, does that mean that a

*(Continued on page 8)*

shortened timeline, the staff went to work, securing sponsors and selling tickets to individuals.

The response to this event was tremendous. PSE&G reprised their role from last year's event as the Fundraising chair and were joined by three other top sponsors, JP MorganChase, Prudential and Bank of America. Other supporters included: Citibank, the Hispanic Federation, McCarter & English, The Port Authority of NY/NJ, Verizon, Wachovia, Bank of New York, Investors Savings Bank, LeBeouf, Lamb Green & MacRae, Sovereign Bank, WithSmith+Brown, Lakeland Bank and PNC Bank. These sponsors as well as individuals who purchased the VIP Package were treated to a Spanish Spice dinner and reception before the show. More than 125 people braved a snow and ice storm to attend the VIP Reception.

Juanes did not disappoint. When the Columbian rock star hit the stage, he was greeted by over 2,700 adoring fans. La Casa did its part to fill the house, selling a total of 340 tickets to individuals, staff and sponsors. As the concert came to a close, the energized audience called for and were treated to several sensational encores.



**Students watch as Juanes rehearses**

La Casa alternates its annual event between a gala dinner and concert every other year. The Resource Development Committee and Special Events Subcommittee oversee events. We could not accomplish these memorable evenings without our committee members and are grateful for their participation. This year's Special Events Subcommittee includes: Hector Velazquez (Chairman), Edward Decker (Musically Yours), Etta Denk (JP MorganChase) Chuck Grossman (Board Member), Oscar Hernandez (Musician), Pat Kelly (Bank of America), Zoraya Lee-Hamlin (Board Member), Walter McDowell (Bayway Liquors), Gloria Montealegre and Grizel Ubarry, Maritza Munoz and Alle Ries from La Casa's staff. We appreciate their hard work. Of course, the fun never stops at La Casa and plans for next year's dinner will be under way shortly!

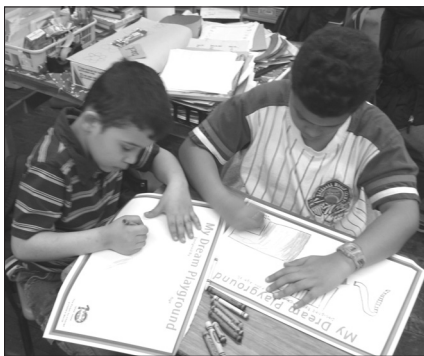


**Marion O'Neill from PSE&G addresses the VIP reception**

## Community Stakeholders to Build Dream Playground

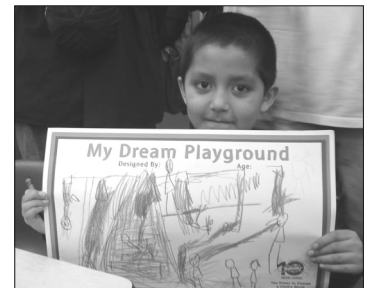
Over 8,000 people live in the Lower Broadway Community and 33% are under the age of 18. Yet this densely populated space has very few places for children to play safely. This issue was one of the focal points during the 2004 neighborhood planning process facilitated by La Casa. The ensuing plan called for the establishment of the Open Space Initiative, a project created by La Casa to transform some of the city's vacant lots into playground and open space for use by the whole neighborhood. La Casa recently leased several lots from the City of Newark for this purpose and is on the verge of creating the Open Space Initiative's first community playground at the corner of MLK Blvd. and Crane Street.

Working with KaBOOM, a national foundation dedicated to the creation of community-driven urban play spaces and our funding partner, the Home Depot on Springfield Avenue, the Lower Broadway Community will spend the next two months



**Children hard at work designing their dream playgrounds.**

creating a dream playground. KaBOOM's method of playground design is to make the community the central designers of the play space. The initiative kicked off with "Design Day" on March 21st at Franklin School. Over 25 children and 20 adults met with the playground facilitator during this meeting. Using crayons, colored pencils and markers, the children were asked to draw their dream playground. Once their masterpieces were complete, the adults were called into the room and invited to add their input to the children's vision. A color scheme was chosen and the facilitator was sent back to her office to transform the community's concepts into a playground design. Before the meeting adjourned, the adults formed several planning committees to continue oversight of the designs and plan the big Build Day scheduled for Thursday, May 18th. The Committee will also be responsible for selecting the final playground design.



**Here is one youngster's vision.**

While Rome was not built in a day, this playground will be! The community is required to provide 50-75 volunteers for Build Day and the Home Depot will send an additional 100-150 while KaBOOM provides several construction managers. On Thursday, May 18th, these volunteers will hit the ground running to assemble the play equipment, plant landscaping, install benches and create an inviting play environment. La Casa is seeking additional funds to hire a local artist to work with the design community and local youth to create a mural for the space. There is still a great deal of work to be done between now and build day and volunteers are needed. If you are interested in participating in this exciting project, please contact Pat Jelly, 973-485-0701.

## Early Childhood Education

### Parents Enjoy an Evening of Dining and Dancing

On March 4, 2006, over 90 parents and family members from La Casa de Don Pedro's 75 Park Avenue Early Childhood Education Division dressed in their finest gala attire and attended the first annual Parent's Dining and Dancing



*Johanna Castro and Wilberto Fernandez, two of our parents, hit the dance floor.*

reception at the Sheraton Hotel in Newark. The purpose of the event was to create a comfortable environment for parents to get to know one another, something they are not able to do during the hustle of dropping off and picking up kids from school. "It takes a village to raise a child" and the committee that put this event together took the initiative to acquaint the villagers with one another.

Several member of the Parent's Committee volunteered to plan the evening and ensured that the event was special. The committee secured an affordable rate for the dinner thanks to the efforts of one parent who is a Sheraton employee. Other parents on the committee donated items and assembled gift baskets that were raffled and given as prizes, took pictures and reported on the event. The event included a dance contest and raffle for prizes. Committee members included:

The night was a huge success with both parents and staff members. As one parent put it, "We were able to meet La Casa's staff in a different atmosphere, sharing our thoughts about being parents and getting to know the kindness that La Casa' staff is offering to our children."

## Youth and Family Services

### Youth Empowerment Services

The winter is moving on and the Youth Empowerment Services Program left their footprints all over the snow. On Monday, January 30th, fifteen of our adolescents volunteered at the Special Olympics Winter Games in Mahwah, New Jersey. Each teenager was assigned to an event and asked to work with participating athletes. Responsibilities included standing along the course sidelines to ensure that the athletes stayed on track and providing moral support by cheering the athletes on as they completed the course. If an

### Managing Chef Hired for La Olla

Plans for La Casa's newest business venture are under new management. Andy Henry was hired to run the institutional kitchen located inside the new First Street Center. He has more than a decade of experience as a chef and owned his own diner in West Orange. Mr. Henry will spend his the next several months revamping menus, comparison shopping with vendors and streamlining kitchen operations for the 510 meals we serve each day. This summer, we will begin ramping up the next phase of the business by preparing meals for other early childhood providers in the area. We expect to prepare an additional 180 breakfasts and lunches each day beginning this September, adding more centers in the coming years.

### Dr. Seuss Celebrated

Students and parents celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday by inviting guest readers into each classroom. Readers were asked to bring a favorite book or choose from the class library's selection. After reading to the children, the guest speakers talked a little bit about themselves and answered questions.



*Enid Mendez, Director of Human Resources and Asset Management dons a Dr. Seuss hat and distributes new books to each child.*

athlete fell, the volunteers encouraged athletes to get up and finish the course. The group represented our organization extremely well and was extended an invitation to help out in future events.

In February, the adolescents traveled to the Essex County Detention Center to participate in a 5 hour Consequences of Crime Program. The purpose of this program is to deter Essex County youth from perpetrating crimes or becoming involved with individuals who commit criminal acts.

As soon as the group stepped into the building the partici-

pants were required to change into “inmate” jumpsuits, and were instructed on how to address facility administrators. Next, the adolescents walked through the entire facility and actually spent some time inside a cell block. At lunch time, participants were served a typical jail lunch, in the center cafeteria. Lunch is no picnic - it consisted of two pieces of white bread with 2 slices of bologna in between, no condiments, lettuce or tomato. The teenagers were educated on the punishment and/or repercussions associated with committing criminal acts. During the program, currently incarcerated offenders shared stories about the violence that occurs inside this institution and they spoke about the despair of being in-

carcerated. Overall, this program was realistic and harsh, but straight to the point. Our adolescents never want to return to the facility in this lifetime and in the end our counselors concluded “Mission Accomplished”.



*One of La Casa's FACES families enjoys a day out at the Newark Museum's Science Circus.*

## *Personal Development & Hispanic Women's Resource Center*

### **Nurse's Aide Training**

The Hispanic Women's Resource Center (HWRC) is sponsoring their first Certified Nurse's Aide training class, from March 21 until May 10. The training is being held at the Healthcare Training Institute located in Union, NJ. HWRC is covering tuition cost for the training, transportation and childcare costs. The proposed plan is to have four classes of ten students per class. Our goal is to certify forty Hispanic women and help them find employment as a Nursing Assistant. This training is open to Hispanic Women only.

### **Upcoming Health Screening**

The Hispanic Women's Resource Center will hold Mammogram and Pap smear screenings for 15 women on March 30, 2006. The screenings are limited to women ages 40 and older with no current health coverage. The next screening will be held on May 18, 2006. Women can pre-register by calling Maria Lopez at 973-481-4568 ext 205.

### **Homeless Prevention Program**

La Casa de Don Pedro's Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) is pleased to announce its renewal of the program as of January 2006! Case Managers will continue to aid and assist the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) Temporary Rental Assistance (TRA) clientele as they strive to become self-sufficient.

The goal of the program is to provide TANF TRA clients with intensive case management and workshops to prevent them from becoming homeless once their TRA assistance expires. Case Managers help clients overcome the obstacles that prevent them from becoming self-sufficient by ensuring that each client is on the road to higher levels of education, job training, and employment. La Casa offers clients a wide range of services including information referrals, job development, community education, workshops, legal orientation and assistance, health orientation and education, and

general client advocacy, all of which are implemented to facilitate the client's process of self-sufficiency. HPP's services have helped decrease the number of families that found themselves on the verge of homelessness or in transitional housing.

The HPP staff has pledged to continuously devote their energy and support to their clientele in order to successfully make this program a great achievement and triumph for 2006. For further information you may contact Gloria Garcia, Coordinator at 973-481-4568, ext. 229.

### **ESL Classes**

La Casa's Personal Development Division will be administering placement tests for ESL courses on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. and Saturdays at 10 a.m. We have morning and evening, and Saturday classes starting in March. Due to limited space, clients must schedule an appointment for testing. For more information contact Darlery Franco (ext. 202) or Josefina Leonardo (ext. 206) at 973-481-4713.

### **Basic Computer Literacy**

The next Basic Computer Literacy Course is scheduled to begin on Monday, April 3rd. This program targets Post-TANF or low-income/employed clients only. Classes run for 2 months from Monday through Thursday 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. For more information contact Darlery Franco (202) or Michele Gonzalez (ext. 211) at (973) 481-4713.

### **Bilingual Computer Literacy Classes**

The Hispanic Women's Resource Center is starting a bi-lingual computer literacy class for Hispanic women in the evenings. Classes will run from Monday through Thursday, 6 pm to 9 pm. The start date has not been set yet, however eligible women can add their names to the waiting list. For more information, please call Michelle Gonzalez, 973-481-4568 ext 211.

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**Career Construction Program**

La Casa has been working collaboratively with the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice (NJISJ) on their Careers Construction Program. This initiative seeks to help minority laborers access careers that are only available through labor unions such as: the painter's union, steel workers union and

many more. Candidates must possess a GED or High School diploma and obtain a valid drivers license before the completion of the program. They are seeking applicants for a summer session. For further information please contact Gloria Garcia (973)481-4713, ext. 229.

**Community and Economic Development**

**Quality of Life March and Festival**

The goal of the 12th Annual Quality of Life March and Festival is to celebrate our community as a better place live, attend school, and work. The event will take place on Saturday, June 3rd from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. The route of this year's march underscores the Weed and Seed efforts taking place in the Lower Broadway community. The 2006 march will begin at 12:00 noon on Parker Street in front of Barringer High School; proceed on Park Avenue, past La Casa's Administrative offices; turn down Mount Prospect Avenue past the Mt. Prospect Townhouses; take Victoria to Stone Street through the neighborhood and take Stone to Park Avenue back to Barringer High School. Most of the schools in School Leadership Team IV will participate this year.

The festival will take place from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at Barringer. The event will include a range of entertainment, family games, rides, critical community information, performances from local schoolchildren as well as food and drinks for all who come. Every year we have a great deal of participation from staff in all five of La Casa's divisions and we encourage you to join us this year!

**Weed and Seed Activities**

- ▶ The tragic fire in a Lake Street home that killed a young child devastated many members of the community. One of the most avoidable errors occurred when a secondary

fire hydrant on Park Avenue turned out to be broken. The neighborhood Restoration Subcommittee was very concerned about this situation. They worked hard and successfully petitioned the fire department and the City to repair this fire hydrant to protect the community in the future.

- ▶ The Community Policing Subcommittee is helping Villa Victoria organize a block watch training for residents of their block. The training will be offered to any resident of Cutler Street.
- ▶ After many calls to the City of Newark, a major tree trimming was conducted on Mt. Prospect thanks to the efforts of Neighborhood Restoration.
- ▶ The Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Subcommittee helped to collect two hundred books for the afterschool and summer activities at the Rotunda. They recently began offering afterschool activities for local children but had very little in the way of supplies. The Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Subcommittee recently invited Newark's Homeland Security official, Rocco Malanga to hold a community workshop on Homeland Security. Twenty-five residents attended and a small group of signed up to participate in a certification program through the local Homeland Security office.

**Community Improvement**

- ▶ The Community Improvement Division has been working with the families of the fire victims on Lake Street. They have collected a number of household goods and clothing, however they are still seeking furniture donations. NJ Cares played a major role in collecting and donating items for the families and we thank them for their efforts! Anyone interested in donating items should contact Joann Morales at the Community Improvement Division 973-485-0701 to inquire about what is needed.
- ▶ LIHEAP has successfully processed a total of 5,850 applications for home energy assistance. Of the total applications, 2,881 of the files were for Universal Service Funds only . In addition 1,750 oil heating emergencies and 900 cooling applications were processed. The Emergency Assistance Period for all

perishable fuels (oil, propane, wood kerosene) has been extended until May 31, 2006. The Emergency Assistance period for Natural Gas and electric services started on March 16 and will continue until April 28th, 2006. The amount of emergency assistance has been increased somewhat to reflect higher energy prices.

- ▶ The Department of Human Services and Board of Public Utilities granted La Casa \$119,528 in non-federal funds. This money will be used in conjunction with the federal weatherization funds to increase energy conservation measures for homeowners in Essex County. All eligible homeowners must complete a Weatherization Application and must be income eligible. Measures through this program **may** include heating system replacement, refrigerator, energy saving light bulbs, and low flow showerheads.

# Staff News

## Welcome Aboard

### Administration

Julio Barriento – Custodian

### Community Development

Pedro Nuñez – Community Builder

Ngozi Obi – Intern

### Early Childhood

Andy Henry – Managing Chef

Danny Soto – Security Officer

### Personal Development

Maragelis Medina – Office Manager

### Youth and Family Services

Zeneyda Alfaro – Social Worker

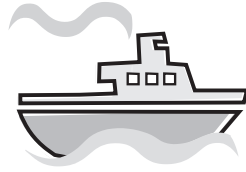
Omayra Bruno Cortes – Social Worker

Billy DeMorla – Instructor

Miguel Franqui – P/T Driver

Nelson Feliciano – Counselor

Calixto Baez has accepted a new position as a security guard for the Early Childhood Development Center at 75 Park.



## Congratulations

Marina Tejada, a Teacher's Aide at 39 Broadway. Marina recently received her Child Development Associate's Certificate (CDA).

## Bundles of Joy

*It's a Girl! (Aisha)...*

Julia Ochoa – Accountant

*It's a Girl! (Melanie)*

Marlene Cruz – Teacher

*It's a Girl! (Sara)...*

Sylvia Aguirre - Assistant Teacher

*It's a Boy! (Isaac)...*

Mavie Bravo - Assistant Teacher



## Farewells

Flor Porcher – YFS Counselor

Ysaura Rivera – Social Worker/Health Educator

Joann Atkinson – CED Planner

# Topics of the Quarter

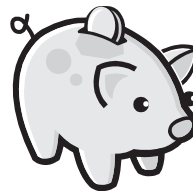
## Supplemental Insurance Focus Groups

The HR Department is currently evaluating bids and packages from supplemental insurance providers. A focus group of employees has been organized to review these packages and provide recommendations to the organizations. This insurance will not be included in the regular benefits package, but rather offered to employees interested in purchasing additional coverage. The benefits are designed to enhance an employee's current benefit portfolio and can be customized to fit the needs of the individual. Look for final decisions and orientation meetings to be held in late April. Below are some of the insurance plans that are under consideration:

- ▶ Short Term Disability Coverage
- ▶ Life Insurance
- ▶ Cancer Insurance
- ▶ Critical Illness Insurance
- ▶ Accident Insurance and more.

## 401k Fund

La Casa contributed about \$154,000 to the 401 (k) fund this month, meeting our goal to provide employees with 4% of their salary to be used for retirement. This amount is discretionary and is contingent upon the organization's favorable financial position. Fifty-five percent of our employees currently contribute to their retirement program and we're constantly encouraging more employees to enroll. In order to be eligible, employees must have worked over 1,000 hours and have 1 year of active employment at La Casa. This is part of your future. For more information about this benefit, please contact the Human Resources office.



**JHR MISSION:** *To provide confidential quality service in all personnel operation with integrity, responsiveness and sensitivity to all of the employees and management.*

### HUMAN RESOURCES STAFF:

Enid Mendez, HR Manager

Celena Cordova, HR Specialist

Office E-mail: [HR@lacasanwk.org](mailto:HR@lacasanwk.org)

Newark seat can be had with fewer votes? Apparently yes. Why? Because less people use their votes, we can say people are wasting their vote. And do not mistake the message this sends to elected officials – that voters don't care who represents them.

We live in an imperfect world. There are so many places this world where “freedom and democracy” are lost, defended, struggled for or achieved. One has to wonder how can any person abandon their freedom and democracy. How can we sit and allow a few self-selected individuals to “manage” the political environment and our lives as residents, as citizen in a democratic society?

So once again, La Casa must be and will be out in the streets, reminding the residents of the North End to exercise their political franchise, to use their vote wisely and to let their “Vote be their Voice”. Irrespective of who wins and who loses, if we as resident-citizens vote, the politicians and their powerful friends will take note and they will know that they must be accountable to all of us.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Zoraya Lee-Hamlin	<i>President, Executive Committee, Resource Development Committee</i>
Carlos Arrom	<i>Finance and Asset Management Committee</i>
Frederick P.H. Cooke	<i>Finance &amp; Asset Management Committee</i>
Charles M. Grossman	<i>Chair, Resource Development Committee</i>
Cecil House	<i>Finance &amp; Asset Management Committee</i>
Angel Luis Juarbe	<i>Board Governance Committee</i>
Lanny Kurzweil, Esq.	<i>Resource Development Committee</i>
Rita Robles-Navas	<i>Board Governance Committee</i>
Jeremias Ocasio Jr.	<i>Special Events Subcommittee</i>
Nelson Perez	<i>Resource Development Committee</i>
Louis E. Prezeau	<i>Treasurer, Executive Committee Chair, Finance and Asset Management Committee</i>
Gloria Ramos	<i>Secretary, Executive Committee</i>
Richard W. Roper	<i>Vice President, Executive Committee Resource Development Committee</i>
Nicholas Scalera	<i>Finance &amp; Asset Management Committee</i>
Kathy Spivey	<i>Chair, Board Governance Committee Resource Development Committee</i>
Hector Velazquez	<i>Chair, Special Events Subcommittee Resource Development Committee</i>
Vielka Velazquez, Esq.	<i>Special Events Committee</i>

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