

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Verizon grants \$24,500 to Congreso's Latina Domestic Violence Program

Tuesday, January 20th, 2009 – Philadelphia, PA – Verizon presented Congreso staff with a check for \$24,500 to support the agency's Latina Domestic Violence Program.

The Latina Domestic Violence Program is dedicated to assisting victims of domestic violence through counseling and advocacy for adults and children. The LDVP also provides domestic violence prevention education to the community, professional and medical sectors.



Elisa Bermudez, (Congreso), Jim Reed, (Verizon), Nancy Torres and Adam Hymans from Congreso

"Verizon's support has been so critical to the growth of our domestic violence services over the past years, allowing us the ability to develop a special niche and service for Latina women dealing with trauma," said Julie Cousler Emig, Vice President of Congreso's Health Promotion and Wellness Services Division. "Building on their support in years past, we will now be able to hire a full-time trauma-informed mental health clinician to work specifically with families dealing with

domestic violence."

"We applaud Congreso de Latinos in its effort to educate families in understanding the abuse that has affected their lives and provide counseling to help develop self-esteem and healthy relationships," said Jim Reed, Director of External Affairs with Verizon Pennsylvania. "Given the challenges facing these families, your programs and services help them to overcome obstacles and afford them with a better quality of life and independence. We are proud to play a role in its mission by lending our corporate funding at this time."

The Verizon Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Verizon Communications, supports the advancement of literacy and K-12 education through its free educational Web site, Thinkfinity.org, and fosters awareness and prevention of domestic violence.

Congreso de Latinos Unidos is a nationally recognized, community-based, nonprofit organization that has been strengthening Latino communities in Philadelphia for over 30 years. Since our inception in 1977, Congreso has grown to be a leading provider of education, employment, and supportive services in Philadelphia's neighborhoods. Congreso has compassionately served tens of thousands of individuals and families in Philadelphia. Our vision is to transform people's lives by providing them with the tools to move up the economic ladder and out of poverty.

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