

## **CARECEN Celebrates 36 Years Serving the Latino Community in the Washington, DC Area**

**Community** 2017-09-18 16:09:34

Washington, DC - The Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) will hold its annual Anniversary Celebration and Awards Ceremony on Thursday, September 21, 2017, at the Willard Office Building in Washington, DC, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. During this event, CARECEN will celebrate 36 years of working with and defending the Latino community in the Washington D.C. metro area.

Over the past year, CARECEN has continued to improve the lives of Latin American immigrants. We have:

Provided valuable immigration services to assist immigrants in securing and maintaining legal status, and reuniting with their families. Accompanied immigrants on their path to US citizenship and prepared them to fully participate in our democracy through voting and civic engagement. Assisted families to access affordable housing, know their rights as tenants and homeowners, and prevent displacement. Advocated for the integration of unaccompanied children who have settled in our region after fleeing violence in the countries of the Northern Triangle. Promoted public policies that assist all immigrants to integrate into their communities.

"CARECEN continues to defend our community and will continue to hold firm despite recent attacks on immigrants in the current political reality. We promote the integration of Central American and Latino immigrants in the Washington area and convene stakeholders to promote issues of importance to our community. Through education, advocacy, and direct services, we identify and develop leaders to foster the advancement of our community," says Abel Núñez, Executive Director of CARECEN.

During the event, John J. DeGioia, President, Georgetown University, will provide the keynote address. CARECEN will award the Saul Solórzano Justice Award to Chef José Andrés, Chef/Owner of ThinkFoodGroup & minibar by José Andrés. He has emerged as a national leader fighting for the rights and dignity of immigrant workers not only in his restaurants but in the wider community. His leadership, commitment and exceptional work personify the ideals of the late Saul Solórzano, a great community visionary and longtime CARECEN leader. Foundry United Methodist Church & The Table Church will each receive the Community Empowerment Award, recognizing their accomplishments as outstanding communities that have made significant contributions and assisted CARECEN in achieving its mission, promoting the comprehensive development of the Latino community in the region.

Community, business leaders and representatives of local and state governments will attend the event. This year, the event is sponsored by Clark Construction, Georgetown University, the American Federation of Government Employees – Women's and Fair Practices Department, AFGE National Secretary-Treasurer's Office, SEIU 32BJ, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, WilmerHale, LIUNA National, LIUNA Baltimore/Washington Council, Valor Development, Wells Fargo Advisor Moshe Burstin, International Machinists and Aerospace Workers Union, The Law Offices of Paul Strauss, Davis & Harman LLP, Law Offices of Luis Diaz, DC Brau and Capital Wire PR.

Since 1981, CARECEN has fostered the comprehensive development of the Latino population in the Washington metropolitan region by providing direct legal services, housing counseling, citizenship education, and community economic development, while promoting grassroots empowerment, civic engagement, and civil rights advocacy.

The Willard Office Building, 1455 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC - September 21, 2017 - 6:00 PM  
Reception & Live Music / 7:00 PM Program

For reservations or donations to CARECEN, visit: [www.carecendc.org](http://www.carecendc.org) - Email: [info@carecendc.org](mailto:info@carecendc.org)

**WHAT :** CARECEN Celebrates 36 Years Serving the Latino Community in the Washington, DC Area  
**WHEN :** 2017-09-18 16:09:34  
**WHERE :**

**CONTACT:**

Abel NãÃ±ez  
Phone: 202 328 9799