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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Enlace Comunitario Wins Community Service Org of the Year Award

September 9, 2022 — DomesticShelters.org recently announced the winners of the 2022 Purple Ribbon Awards across 28 categories, as judged by a national panel of professionals from the domestic violence (DV) field. This is the second year of the Purple Ribbon Awards, presented by Theresa's Fund, the 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that operates DomesticShelters.org.

The Purple Ribbon Awards are the first awards honoring DV advocates, programs, shelters, and survivors. Winners include entries from the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

A total of \$35,000 worth of grants will be awarded to stand-out Purple Ribbon Award recipients during a virtual celebration on September 21, 2022. The celebration will follow the Purple Ribbon Awards Inspire Webinar, a free virtual conference. Registration to attend the Inspire Webinar and/or Purple Ribbon Awards Celebration is available at www.purpleribbonawards.org.

"Enlace Comunitario is honored to be recognized as a Community Service Org of the Year and appreciates how DomesticShelters.org advocates for DV survivors," said Sara Yvonne "Bonnie" Escobar, Enlace's Executive Director. "With pandemic-related pressures disproportionately impacting DV survivors in our state, our community-centered work is vital."

Enlace Comunitario is a culturally and linguistically specific DV service provider for Central New Mexico's Latinx and immigrant communities. Despite the fact that 53% of DV service recipients in our state are Latinx/Hispanic, Enlace is the only culturally specific DV service provider for New Mexico's Latinx immigrant community; while the majority of Enlace's clients identify as Latinx/Hispanic, we support any DV survivor in need.

Enlace's services address DV through two program arms: intervention and prevention. Enlace's intervention services include crisis intervention; safety planning; case management; housing assistance; therapy; life skills/parenting classes; financial capability training; and legal services. Enlace's prevention services operate at community and household levels through support groups, leadership development training, and educational outreach—to promote equitable, gender-affirming relationships among parents, youth, and their extended community. Over the past year, Enlace has reached over 2,000 individuals through our services.

"Community" lies at the heart of Enlace's mission-driven programs, and we center client voices and lived experiences in all program development and implementation efforts. By framing our integrated services through intergenerational and intersectional lenses, Enlace ensures that clients are provided with culturally appropriate, intentional support that takes into account community pressures and systemic inequities that often amplify DV-related trauma.

Enlace is grateful for this recognition from DomesticShelters.org and will continue to shape a community of care for DV survivors in Central New Mexico.

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