

Spanish Catholic Center “ a program of Catholic Charities “ sets new fundraising record

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Washington, DC [CapitalWirePR] March 12, 2010- The Spanish Catholic Center, part of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, has set a new fundraising record for its annual gala. More than \$428,000 has been raised for the sold-out event, to be held on March 13, 2010, 6:30 p.m. at the Organization of American States Building, 17th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Last year, the event raised \$384,000 for the Center.

Honorees for the evening include noted attorney Jane Sullivan Roberts, a managing director at Major, Lindsey and Africa; DC United President and CEO Kevin Payne and Dr. Irma Frank, associate dean for international programs at Georgetown University School of Medicine. They will be recognized for their tireless volunteer work on behalf of the Hispanic community.

“I am very grateful to our chairs, Dr. Gael and Mrs. Pat Delany, for their leadership,” said Edward Orzechowski, president and CEO of Catholic Charities. “We have seen many immigrants become productive community members in our country with the help of the Spanish Catholic Center. Too many low-income immigrant families are invisible, yet they carry their dreams and hopes to our doorstep.” Last year, the Center provided 72,000 services to more than 29,000 people from 130 countries. Services provided by the Center increased 36 percent in the last year.

The Spanish Catholic Center operates dental and medical clinics serving the uninsured, job training programs promoting “green” construction techniques and a host of social services ranging from ESOL classes to legal aid to emergency food help. On Monday, March 1, the Center opened a dental clinic in Wheaton, MD.

“We celebrate service in all of its forms at the Gala as the very foundation for improving our community, uplifting our neighbors who are suffering and bringing us closer together as people of God,” said Reverend Mario Dorsonville, director of the Spanish Catholic Center and vice president for mission of Catholic Charities. More than 400 guests are expected at the sold-out evening. The Gala chairs are Dr. Gael and Mrs. Patricia Delany. Dr. Delany, an endodontist, has volunteered with the Center’s dental clinic for more than 15 years.

The Spanish Catholic Center, established in 1967, offers medical, dental, legal, immigration, employment and social services to the region’s Latino community as well as newly arrived immigrants and refugees from around the world, at sites in Washington, DC, Gaithersburg, MD and Langley Park, MD.

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About Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington helps individuals and families in need living in Washington, DC, Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George’s and St. Mary’s Counties in Maryland. Last year, more than 124,000 people received needed support related to housing, food, legal aid, physical and mental health, and other services, regardless of race, nationality or religion. This support is delivered by 82

programs in 56 geographically diverse locations by more than 3,500 staff and volunteers. For more information, visit www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org

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