



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HISPANIC CHAMBER RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE SPIRIT MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY FUND

PORTLAND, OR. The Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber (Hispanic Chamber) has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$49,000 for the *“Latino Community Advancement Program”*. The purpose of the program is to meet the growing needs of the Latino community by increasing the number of Latino businesses served outside the city limits of Portland and increasing the amount of scholarships for Latino students. Gale Castillo, the President of the Hispanic Chamber said, “The goal is to increase economic opportunities for the Latino community. We are honored that Spirit Mountain Community Fund and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde are willing to partner with us to continue to create jobs for Latino businesses and to support Latino students in completing their higher education in order to increase their income.”

Shelley Hanson, Director of the Spirit Mountain Community Fund said, “As a Tribe we know the benefits of promoting business and entrepreneurship in helping our community members gain self sufficiency. In this economic recession as jobs disappear, having revenue generating abilities is saving many families.”

Background:

The Hispanic Chamber was established in 1994 and is now the largest Hispanic Chamber in the Northwest and one of the 6th largest chambers of any type in Oregon. Unlike other “business” chambers, its mission is to *“work with all members of the community to support the economic advancement of Latino businesses”*. As a result, the Hispanic Chamber’s focus is to serve the Latino community while working with the greater community.

Hispanic Chamber Programs:

The Hispanic Chamber conducts a variety of programs which include:

- Technical assistance for new and existing Latino and other small businesses
- Scholarships for Latino students throughout Oregon
- A year long Latino Leadership Program
- An Annual Trade Show, business workshops and business luncheon/dinner events.

For more information about the Hispanic Chamber programs visit the Hispanic Chamber’s website at www.hmccoregon.com , call 503-222-0280, or e-mail: nevarez@hmccoregon.com

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