Greetings!

I hope you are enjoying this Labor Day and taking some well-deserved time to rest.

CP is entering the fall and school year with a new staff, new look and renewed brand, which we will unveil at our FALLabration kickoff event, on September 12th! A special thank you to our sponsors, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Barrales Law, we are extremely grateful for your ongoing support!

We’ve also awarded our Full of Life scholarships to four CP alumnae who are deserving young women leaders and are passionate about their own pursuits to happiness, while simultaneously inspiring and empowering their community.
And to continue our mission and vision, the Boston Women’s Fund awarded us with $10,000. Learn more about this partnership below.

Thank you for cheering us along,

Erika

Interim Executive Director

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Our New Leadership Team

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Andrea Hornedo is a proud Puerto Rican woman, born and raised in Boston, MA. From the very young age of 13, she’s had a passion for social justice and began working as a community organizer with youth. She studied Psychology at Stonehill College for two years and continues to serve her community in Boston.

**What is your role at CP?**

I am the new Highland Street AmeriCorps Ambassador of Mentoring. In this role, I work closely with our mentors as they learn to best support the development of our participants. I will also be one of the main facilitators for our curriculum for all programming, the Empowerment Institute program and Community Based program, as well as for our year round events.

**Why did you decide to join CP?**

I decided to join CP because it aligns with my personal and professional goals of working in the area of youth and community development.

Diana Vasquez was raised in Lynn, MA and is a proud Afrolatinx Dominican. She attended Lynn Vocational Technical Institute studying Health Technology and went on to Salem State University to major in Business Administration with a Concentration in Hospitality.

**What is your role at CP?**

I am the first ever Program Coordinator at Chica Project. In this capacity I facilitate the curriculum for both the Empowerment Institute and our Community Based programming. I also serve as the relationship manager between CP and our partner schools, and work to develop partnerships with other organizations.

**Why did you decide to join CP?**

I joined the team because of my experience growing up in an urban community as
my purpose in life: to help bridge the gap of unjust social relations affecting young urban women. I grew up in similar organizations such as CP, learning about myself and my potential as a leader in my community. I am grateful I get to pay it forward.

How do you think you will grow as a leader at CP?

I believe that "we are whom we surround ourselves with," and as I continue to develop skills and wisdom, being surrounded by outstanding Latinas and other Women of Color will allow me to grow personally and professionally as a leader.

How do you think you will grow as a leader at CP?

The topics that we discuss with our young people can be very serious, new, and overwhelming; the conversations must be executed confidently and carefully by using the proper protocols and tools, which will help build my skills as a facilitator.

Sponsor Spotlight

The Boston Women’s Fund (BWF) is the oldest progressive funder in the Greater Boston area dedicated to supporting community based organizations and grassroots initiatives run by women and girls that create a society based on racial, economic and social justice.

While many funders focus on specific issue areas, BWF focuses on 7 constituent groups of women: elder women, girls, immigrant women, LGBTQ women, low-income women, women of color, and women with disabilities. This insures women and girls working on the frontlines to effect change in their communities are the ones defining and prioritizing the issues that affect their lives.

Working for racial, economic and social justice is a long-term effort. As such, BWF understands the importance of supporting and empowering the next generation of leaders and sees the value in inter-generational mentoring. BWF’s Allocations Committee was particularly impressed by the impact CP’s work has on Latinas and other Women of Color.

BWF is proud to partner with CP to support “the next-generation of young leaders through hands-on workshops that promote personal growth, leadership advancement, and identity exploration” while connecting those leaders to community mentors.

Meet the Full of Life Scholarship Recipients
Megan Florestal  
Cathedral High School - Empowerment Institute Alumna 2017-18  
Freshman, Stonehill College,  
Criminology  
Favorite Quote:  
“Replacing 'Why is this happening to me?' with 'What is this trying to tell me?'” -Anonymous

Medelys Marte  
Lawrence High School - Empowerment Institute Alumna 2017-2018  
Freshman, Salem State University,  
Political Science  
Favorite Quote:  
“It always seems impossible until it’s done.” -Nelson Mandela

Isis Rivera  
Community Based Alumna 2012  
Junior, Simmons College,  
Biochemistry Pre-Vet Track  
Favorite Quote:  
“I don’t know where I’m going from here, but I promise it won’t be boring.” -David Bowie

Chelsea Marrero  
Community Based Alumna 2011  
Sophomore, Hunter College,  
Studio Art and Africana/Latino Studies  
Favorite Quote:  
“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of
Save-the-Date

Join us at our FALLabration kickoff event! Buy your ticket and spread the word!

Interested in learning about UWander, our service learning trip to the Dominican Republic? Attend our upcoming information session!
UWANDER'S INFORMATION SESSIONS

LAWRENCE
Wednesday, September 5th
6:00 - 8:00 pm
at El Taller
275 Essex St,
Lawrence, MA 01840

BOSTON
Wednesday, September 19th
6:00 - 7:30 pm
at Chica Project
98 N Washington St
B5, Boston, MA 02114

To learn more please contact Maria at maria.chicaproject@gmail.com

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