

Organization Profile

Mujeres Latinas en Acción

Organization: Mujeres Latinas en Acción

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Brief Description: Mujeres Latinas en Acción empowers Latinas through providing services which reflect their values and culture and by advocating on the issues that make a difference in their lives. Mujeres Latinas en Acción is guided by their mission statement in every activity they undertake – ranging from program design, implementation of services and advocacy efforts – always with the notion of “reflecting the values and culture” of those they serve. Their programs are : Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault , Parent Support, Latina Leadership, Project Youth, Empresarias del Futuro (Microenterprise, helps Latinas to create and develop their own businesses).

Program Description	
Setting	The programs are held in three locations. Two are in the Chicago area: our main office (21st Place) and the Youth Center (17th street). One is in a nearby suburb, North Riverside.
Target population	Mujeres serves Latinas and their families. Over the years, Mujeres has developed a comprehensive array of social services and advocacy initiatives that promote non-violence and leadership development. Their services are : Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Program, Parent Support Program, Project Youth, Empresarias del Futuro (microenterprise) and Leadership Program.
Program origins	In the early 1970s, a group of women in Chicago realized the challenges facing Latina women as the city’s Latino, and largely immigrant, population continued to grow. This tenacious group of women leveraged their resources, tapped their creativity, and battled politics, social stigmas, and even personal threats to create Mujeres Latinas en Acción. The organization was run by volunteers for two years, until it received its first formal funding in 1975. Decades later, Mujeres Latinas en Acción has become the longest-standing Latina organization in the country, serving to empower Latinas through services which reflect their values and culture, and advocating on the issues that make a difference in their lives.

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Program Description	
Program goals	Mujeres' program goals fall under three major focus areas (gender violence, advocacy, and leadership and community engagement).
Program components	<p>Mujeres Latinas en Acción has many activities in their programs such as, for domestic violence and sexual assault , they have crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, court advocacy, community education, professional training, and referrals, children's therapy for children who witnessed DV and therapy for survivors of sexual violence.</p> <p>For parenting support, they have court-ordered supervised and safe exchange for non custodial parents, parent mentor component for parents interested in helping teachers in participating schools, and support for parents that want to improve communication with their children through individual and group counseling.</p> <p>In the Latina leadership program, they have empowerment and leadership training through groups (20 sessions).</p> <p>Through Project Juventud/Project Youth, they offer an after school interdisciplinary program for adolescents that focuses on violence prevention, leadership, science and math, and higher education. It also incorporates comprehensive sexual education and mother/daughter and mother/son components to improve family communication and values.</p> <p>For Empresarias del Futuro (Microenterprise), they offer groups and individual coaching sessions on leadership development, financial literacy, and basic entrepreneurship concepts for women interested in obtaining financial independence.</p>
Current evaluation practices	<p>Our current evaluation practices involve the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logic model for each program • Specific evaluation instruments that mirror the curriculum of each program • Standardized instruments such as, child behavior check list, trauma symptom checklist for children (TSCC), etc. • In process of creating internal and external survey to assess level of cultural competence relevant to Latino population.