



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Miguel Tellez 503-501-9939

Adelante Opens Doors:
Latino-Specific Services for Substance Abuse & Problem Gambling
Now Available in Portland

Portland, Ore. – **December 6, 2008** – Volunteers of America Oregon, one of the state's largest human services organizations, will hold an open house for its newest program, *Adelante*, on Saturday, December 6, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Lambert House, 2600 SE 170th Avenue. *Adelante* brings two culturally-specific Latino treatment programs under the same umbrella – an Alcohol & Drug Treatment Program of Volunteers of America Oregon/InAct and a new Problem Gambling Treatment Program. *Adelante* is the only treatment program in Oregon that provides culturally-specific services for Latino families who are suffering from the damage caused by problem gambling.

"This program will truly be an asset to the Latino community," said Gloria Wiggins, Program Manager of El Programa Hispano – Catholic Charities. "We are in need of culturally-specific services to address both an underserved need and a growing issue in our community. Volunteers of America Oregon has a long history of serving the most underserved in our community, and we are very excited that it will be adding a culturally-specific program for the Latino population."

The community open house will feature Mexican food and refreshments, speakers, and entertainment for the whole family. Visitors can meet the *Adelante* staff members and learn more about the program. Local dignitaries and community leaders, including Volunteers of America Oregon President & CEO Kay Toran, will be in attendance.

Operating from Lambert House in east Portland, *Adelante* will serve the Latino community with both alcohol & drug treatment services as well as problem gambling treatment services. All problem gambling services are free to the problem gambler and their family members.

To RSVP for the event, contact Miguel Tellez at 503-501-9939 or mtellez@voaor.org

About Volunteers of America Oregon

For more than 110 years, Volunteers of America Oregon has been there for those who need us most. From at-risk youth to victims of domestic violence, from the recovering addicts to the frail elderly, we provide a range of supportive and empowering services to our area's most vulnerable populations - and work with them to rebuild whole lives and reach their full potential. For more information about Volunteers of America Oregon, visit www.voaor.org.

Event Details

What: Open house for *Adelante*, the only Latino-specific treatment program for problem gambling and substance abuse in Oregon

Where: Lambert House, 2600 SE 170th Avenue (at SE Division), Portland, Oregon

When: December 6, 2008; 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Why: There is a clear need in our community for culturally competent, Latino-specific services for problem gambling and substance abuse

Interview: Miguel Tellez and Jesús Navarro Meza, *Adelante* Program Coordinators

Laurie Hoyt Huffman, Division Director of Rehabilitation Outpatient Services