

Nueva Vida

The Resurrection Project e-Newsletter



Rebuilding. Reinvesting. Rediscovering.

Back of the Yards



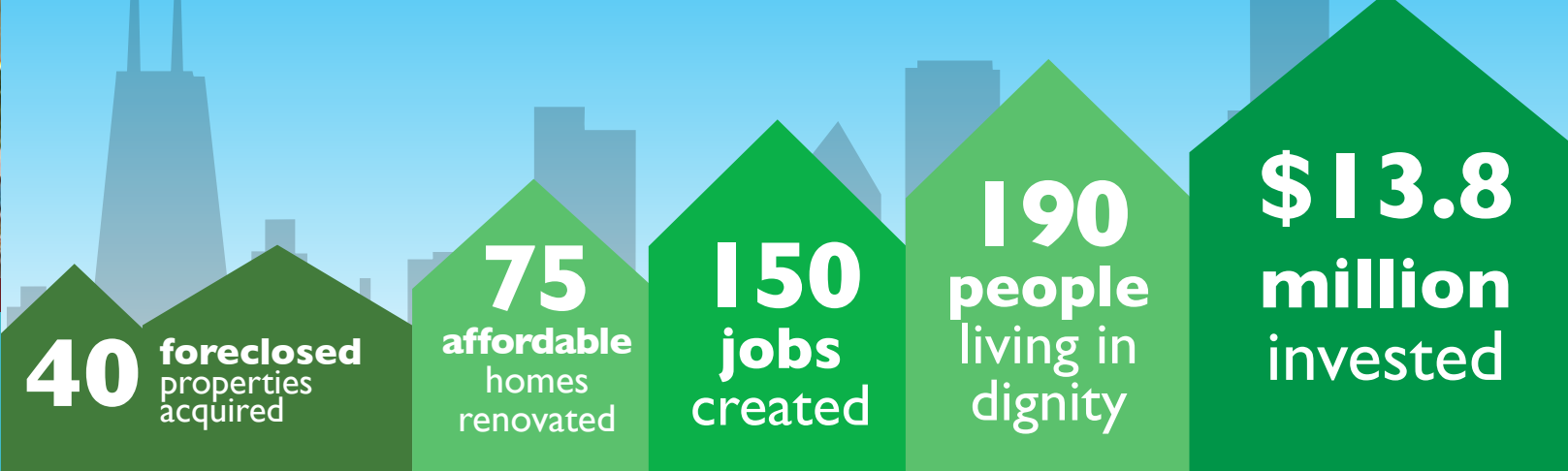


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Back of the Yards



Working with the National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders and Chicanos Por La Causa, The Resurrection Project (TRP) helped secure \$137M in Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2) funds to revitalize communities across the country. TRP used \$13.8M of those funds to acquire 40 foreclosed properties in Back of the Yards.



From the desk of Raul...

Dear friends and supporters,

Last week, The Resurrection Project (TRP) celebrated the completion of our Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2) investment in Back of the Yards. Our journey to transform neighborhoods started in Pilsen, and in 2000 we started working in Back of the Yards with our partner Holy Cross IHM and Chicago Commons. In 2007, when the great recession started, the script changed. Despite our efforts, Back of the Yards saw several unhealthy elements soar: foreclosures, unemployment, and crime. Unfortunately, other healthy elements started to decline: home values, property conditions, and family wealth.

We decided to double down on the families of Back of the Yards. We sought funding under HUD's NSP2 program to rebuild and reinvest in this community as part of a funded \$137 million consortium proposal led by the National Association of Community Asset Builders and Chicanos Por La Causa.

As part of this national initiative, we embarked on a \$13.8 million effort to acquire 40 foreclosed and vacant properties in Back of the Yards and renovate them into 75 units of safe, decent, affordable housing. The interesting part about this story isn't the bricks and mortar work. Rather, it's about the families that will call these apartments home and the neighbors that no longer have to look at blighted foreclosed buildings. TRP recognizes that the true assets of our communities are families.

While we celebrate this achievement, we hear stories and reminders every day of why we must continue our work to create healthy communities. Whether it's a brave group of women working to promote breast cancer awareness, a young woman realizing her talents as a digital journalist, or a 14-year-old boy handing TRP a petition to bring peace to his block, we are reminded that our work is important, it's ongoing, and it will always be about people.

Thank you for your continued investment in our work to create healthy communities.

Raul Raymundo
CEO, The Resurrection Project

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Nueva Vida

August 2013

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Graphic Design
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Affordable Rental Housing



TRP rehabilitated these into 75 units of quality, affordable housing. The project created 150 jobs, housed 190 people in good, safe homes, and created affordable homeownership opportunities for working families.

Affordable homes for sale





From left to right: Antonio Riley (HUD Regional Director), Claudia Guzman and Jesse Iniguez (TRP homeowners), and Father Dario (St. Joseph's Church)

Neighbors, partners, and dignitaries join TRP in celebrating a victory for Back of the Yards

Story by Ulises Silva Photos by Lyndsi Barboza and Guillermina Leon

More than 150 people, including residents, new homeowners, public officials, and community partners came out to Back of the Yards yesterday, August 1, to celebrate the completion of a \$13.8 million investment that The Resurrection Project (TRP) began in 2011. The event, which took place on the 5000 block of Hermitage Avenue, featured live music, children's activities, and tours of two of TRP's newly renovated properties on Hermitage Avenue. Local media, including WGN, Univisión, ABC, and Telemundo, were also onsite to cover the event.

As part of a national consortium led by the National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB) and Chicanos Por La Causa, TRP helped secure \$137 million in federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP2) funds to revitalize communities across the country. TRP brought \$13.8 million of those funds to Chicago and used them to acquire 40 foreclosed properties in Back of the Yards.

Over the past two years, TRP rehabilitated those 40 abandoned properties into 75 units of quality, affordable housing for working families. The August 1 celebration commemorated the completion of that work, and what it means for the Back of the Yards neighborhood.

"This is not just about buildings," said Raul Raymundo, TRP CEO, during his remarks. "The people are what make this a community. People committed to invest, live in the community, and get involved in the community."

Two such people are Jesse Iniguez and Claudia Guzman, who purchased one of TRP's rehabbed homes and shared their story with the crowd.

"We were trying to purchase a home before but were told by financial institutions that our debt-to-income ratios did not meet the requirements," Jesse told the audience. "My wife and I met with Margie, a TRP Home Purchase

Counselor, who enrolled us in TRP's home purchase program. After working with Margie, we were able to get buyer-ready by reducing our debt."

Jesse and Claudia got the keys to their first home in April. "We, along with our five-year-old daughter," said Jesse, "are proud residents of Back of the Yards and happy homeowners of a property renovated by The Resurrection Project under the NSP2 program. This is a dream come true."

Antonio Riley, Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, also spoke to the audience about the impact of initiatives such as the NSP2 program.

"You took 40 blighted buildings and made some 75 units of affordable for-sale and rental housing," said Riley. "And oh, by the way, you also created 150 jobs."

State Senator Mattie Hunter, Aldermen Willie Cochran and Toni Foulkes, and Cook County

Commissioner Jesus Garcia were on hand to address the audience and receive recognition plaques for their support of TRP's work in Back of the Yards and other neighborhoods in Chicago's Southwest Side. George Wright, representing the Citi Foundation, also received recognition on Citi's behalf for their significant programmatic investments to bolster TRP's NSP2 programs in Back of the Yards.

Guests got a chance to see TRP's work up close through open tours of a vacant rental unit at 5031 S. Hermitage, and of a home for sale at 5012 S. Hermitage. TRP Realty, the new initiative that helped Jesse and Claudia become homeowners, had an information table to let guests know of other home purchase and rental



opportunities in Back of the Yards. At the end of the event, a trolley tour took guests on a quick ride through the neighborhood, highlighting other TRP-rehabbed properties as well as partner institutions such as Holy Cross, St. Joseph's, and Chicago Commons.

The event celebrated not just the completion of this rehabilitation work, but of the positive momentum and hope that TRP and its partners are creating in Back of the Yards. With continued investment through public and private partners, and the perseverance of neighbors and area families like Jesse and Claudia, TRP is confident that this initial \$13.8 million investment is the first of many.

"Becoming a home owner really changes our perspective," said Jesse. "With this home under our belt, we hope to be seen as leaders and role models for the community and hope to be the new face of Back of the Yards."





TRP awarded \$2 million from Attorney General Lisa Madigan and the National Foreclosure Settlement

Photo by Alejandro Morales

The Resurrection Project (TRP) has been awarded a \$2 million grant by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan as part of the National Foreclosure Settlement. TRP is one of only 54 award recipients named by the Attorney General, which has awarded a total of \$70 million to nonprofit organizations throughout Illinois that are working to reverse the effects of the foreclosure crisis.

The Attorney General grant will fund a collaborative effort between TRP, Self Help Federal Credit Union, Brighton Park Neighborhood Council, Chinese American Service League, and the Interfaith Leadership Project to strengthen communities on Chicago's southwest side and suburban Cicero.

The partnership will leverage the \$2 million grant to generate or preserve

more than \$27 million in community investment. TRP will:

- Establish a loan loss reserve to stimulate \$2.4 million in new home value.
- Increase foreclosure prevention services and outreach to preserve more than \$14 million in community wealth.
- Increase homebuyer education and ramp up TRP's new social enterprise—TRP Realty—to leverage more than \$8.4 million in community wealth.
- Acquire properties affected by the foreclosure crisis and rehab them into affordable housing, representing a \$2.25 million investment.

Our partnership will focus on working with each other and other grantees under the National Foreclosure Settlement to stimulate the local economy, create jobs, prevent foreclosures, catalyze homeownership, and reduce blight.

TRP would like to salute and thank Attorney General Lisa Madigan and her colleagues for their historic work in addressing fraudulent practices during foreclosure proceedings. This award will have a tremendous impact in communities across Illinois for years to come.

For additional information on the National Foreclosure Settlement, please visit the [Illinois Attorney General's web site](#).

9th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

GLOBAL LATINO FEST

Friday, October 11, 2013 6pm-10pm

Germania Place, 108 W Germania Place, Chicago, IL

Presented by 

New sponsors line up for 9th Annual Global Latino Fest

Several weeks ago, we announced that TRP was named the beneficiary of the 9th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, Global Latino Fest, which will be held on Friday, October 11, 2013 as part of Hispanic Heritage Month. All proceeds from this event will launch the La Casa Scholarship Fund, which we are establishing to provide deserving students in need with the opportunity to live, learn, and thrive at La Casa.

Global Latino Fest has since picked up numerous new sponsors, including BMO Harris Bank, ComEd, Wintrust, PepsiCo, the Chicago Tribune, Crain's, HispanicPro.com, and WBEZ.

The 9th Annual Global Latino Fest, presented by Multi Latino Marketing Agency and Pulido Sanchez Communications, is the signature closing Hispanic Heritage Month

celebration in Chicago. It celebrates diversity and integration from various Latino and non-Latino leaders that support the business and social contributions to the Latino community.

With more sponsors signing up, this is shaping up to be a wonderful event. Guests to the event will be treated to a night of Latin cuisine and Latin-infused drinks, special performances, a silent auction, live music, art exhibition infused by the culture of Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico while providing the opportunity for networking with more than 600 members from Chicago's elite business community.

As of August 1, Global Latino Fest has nearly 20 sponsors, including Nielsen, BMO Harris Bank, ComEd, DePaul University, Wintrust Commercial Banking, Fifth Third Bank, PepsiCo, Rojo Verde, Negocios Now, Chicago Tribune, Vivelohoy, Myhabanero.com, Crain's, TCW, HispanicPro.com, Gozamos.com, NBC5, Telemundo, WBEZ and presenting sponsor Verizon. TRP would like to thank all of these sponsors for their participation in this event.

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Julio Guerrero, TRP VP of Resource Development and Marketing, at jguerrero@resurrectionproject.org.

For more information or to purchase tickets to the 9th Annual Global Latino Fest, please visit globallatinofest2013.eventbrite.com.

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 THE RESURRECTION PROJECT
 Building Relationships | Creating Healthy Communities

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 MultiLatino Marketing
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First annual TRP Back of the Yards Home Ownership Fair puts families on the path to home ownership

Story by Rachel Gittleman Photos by Lyndsi Barboza

More than 50 families came out to the Richard Daley School in Back of the Yards on Saturday, June 22 for The Resurrection Project's (TRP) first annual Home Ownership Fair. The goal of the event was to promote homeownership within the Back of the Yards community and introduce families to the home purchase process. For families who believed that homeownership was an unattainable dream, the event was a chance to see the exact opposite: that owning a home was possible with smart choices and the right planning.

"We want to expand our presence in Back of the Yards to help more people find the homes they want," said Rodrigo Carrillo, TRP Financial Services Manager. "This event helped us do that. We're promoting home ownership, which in turn promotes neighborhood stabilization because it gets communities to care for their own communities."

Families at the event were able to meet one-on-one with a TRP Home Purchase Advisor, who helped them determine their next steps and establish the relationships necessary for purchasing a home. During each meeting, the advisors reviewed the family's credit, determined whether they would need credit counseling, and scheduled a follow-up appointment back at TRP's offices. Eight families were pre-approved for home purchase on the spot, which meant they could immediately connect with TRP Realty, TRP's new home brokerage service. A few families were even taken on a real estate tour of Back of the Yards. Those families who were not pre-approved were still able to determine tangible next steps towards becoming pre-approved in the future. After meeting with a home purchase advisor, each family was able to talk to a

variety of lenders and credit counseling agencies, as well as a representative from La Casa Student Housing. Some families met with TRP's Property Management specialists, who discussed the option of renting an affordable home or apartment instead of or until home purchase. TRP staff also presented mini-workshops, which were shortened versions of the 8-hour workshops TRP provides on a variety of financial topics including rental rights, credit, and budgeting. There were even children's activities so that kids could have fun while their families met with TRP specialists.

After the event, each family was asked to follow up with TRP's Financial Education and Counseling team in order to assess where exactly they were in the process. Because many families did not bring the necessary paperwork to the event, this follow-up appointment will allow the advisor to better establish the family's exact next step. For those families that were pre-approved at the event, following up will involve confirming their pre-approval. They will then have the option to start their home search through TRP Realty.

More than half of the families who attended the event have now begun their home purchase journey in earnest.

"We didn't know what to expect," said Alejandro Chaidez, TRP Financial Services Counselor. "But the event was a great success, and it proved a very good learning experience everyone."

TRP will continue to hold this event each year to make sure that more people know that owning a home isn't just a dream: it's an attainable reality.



Affordable homeownership opportunities available:

5033 S. Wood

2 units
2 bedroom/1
bath per unit
\$80,000



5031 S. Wood

single family
3 bedrooms
1.1 baths
\$80,000



5012 S. Hermitage

2 units
2 bedroom/1
bath per unit
\$80,000



1335 W. 49th Place

2 units
2 bedroom/1
bath per unit
\$80,000



1714 W. 51st

2 units
2 bedroom / 1
bath per unit
\$80,000



TRP Realty showcases its model on the national stage at the National Council of La Raza Annual Conference

Story by Ulises Silva

On a national stage that featured First Lady Michelle Obama as a keynote speaker, TRP's Financial Education and Counseling department shared its new home purchase model, TRP Realty, with hundreds of national nonprofits.

The NCLR Annual Conference, which was held in New Orleans from July 19 through July 23, represents the largest and most important gathering of the nation's most influential individuals, organizations, institutions, and companies working with the Hispanic community.

TRP's Financial Education and Counseling team took a 15-hour road trip to New Orleans to share their presentation, The Mission before Commission: Models for Building Latino Wealth through Homeownership.

"Our presentation focused on how to help Latino families build wealth through home ownership," explains Rodrigo Carrillo, TRP Financial Services Manager. "For many families, it seems like an unattainable dream. But we've recently enhanced our home purchase program by adding a professional real estate function. Now

we're working closely with families who just a few weeks ago thought they could never own a home."

By combining professional home brokerage services with TRP's existing homebuyer counseling and education services—including free workshops on improving credit and budgeting—TRP Realty is helping families prepare financially to purchase a home and learn what it takes to keep a home. Once the family is ready, our specialists and licensed Realtors® help them secure financing through partner lenders before helping them look for a quality home that fits their budget. And because TRP's Realtors® work on a salary, they are able to focus on the mission of getting working families into good homes.

"Our program," says Carrillo, "ensures that buyers' interests are represented, and that the message of affordable, sustainable homeownership is delivered from beginning to end. It's a very customer-centric home-purchase process."

Helping families become successful homeowners is part of TRP's comprehensive approach to creating healthy communities by encouraging

families to build wealth through home ownership and invest in and take care of their communities.

Carrillo hopes that TRP Realty is a program that will be replicated in other cities across the nation. But his team's track record of helping families achieve financial stability earned national recognition at the conference when it was presented NCLR's Outstanding Counseling Services in the Midwest Region award.

"We're honored to be recognized by NCLR," says Carrillo. "But we're even more honored to know that the work we're doing in Chicago might not just have a positive impact on our communities here, but in communities across the country."





With an eye for technology, Iris Elev8s her creativity—and her community

Story by Rachel Gittleman

Iris is hungry to learn. She has a passion for technology, learning, and, like other 13-year-old girls, Hello Kitty. Born and raised in Pilsen, she graduated from Orozco Academy this June, and is on her way to Cristo Rey High School in the Fall. She is a vibrant young lady who has both a knack and a love of technology—whether it’s making music on GarageBand, creating videos about Pilsen, editing photos, or the like.

As a student at Orozco, Iris had access to Elev8’s afterschool programs, which are offered on a yearly basis in a variety of subjects, including Irish Dance, Yearbook, and Gardening. Iris is attracted to any class involving technology, all of which are taught by Orozco’s Technology Coordinator, Leonardo Guzman. She took advantage of all of these classes during her time at Orozco, spending four afternoons a week at school, taking seven afterschool classes in all. Iris’ love of writing and technology led her to Multimedia Journalism, taught by Mr. Guzman and Helene Achanzar, TRP’s Elev8 Coordinator, over the past school year.

“I thought it would be cool involving writing with electronics,” Iris said. Every Wednesday during the past school year, she would do exactly that alongside 12 other students. The hour-long class, which met in Orozco’s computer lab, focused on journalism, multimedia, and technology.

One of Iris’ favorite lessons was when guest speaker, Adam Jason Cohen, a professional photographer, visited the class. He discussed his career and work, identifying challenges that all photographers face. He described the process of taking hundreds of photos in order to capture the right one. Iris really identified with this idea.

“It was really inspiring,” she said, “because sometimes I feel like I look dumb taking a picture of one thing until I get the right one, but this professional does the same thing.”

Iris was able to use these skills, and others she acquired throughout the course, in her final project: a multimedia project that addressed a problem in Pilsen. [She was one of four students to complete a YouTube video](#) within the time frame set



by her teachers. Her video, which combines original music, interviews, photos, and writing, addresses the issue of gang violence. All of the completed final projects were displayed on the Pilsen Portal, and the creators were awarded prizes, including an iPad and iPods.

Iris had already made a prize-winning video about how Orozco Academy connected to the larger Pilsen neighborhood, utilizing skills she had learned in previous Elev8 classes. This accomplishment, combined with her accomplishments in Multimedia Journalism, prompted her instructors to encourage Iris to apply for a Technology Internship at The Resurrection Project. She successfully applied and joined our team.

Today, Iris is the youngest of six high school interns working with TRP’s Community Engagement and Programs department this summer. Her work includes acquiring information about local Pilsen businesses and adding them to the business directory on the Pilsen Portal. Iris is excited about the experience she had with Elev8 and ready to apply her skills in the future.

“I liked [the class] a lot,” she said. “I’d definitely like to take more classes like it in high school and continue to learn about all things multimedia.”

Hope through hoops: Area youth petition to bring RBL & peace to their park

Story and photos by Rachel Gittleman



Six-year-old Andrea could hardly wait for the chalk to be unwrapped. Once it was, she fervently began to draw a blue stick figure as she told me about her kindergarten year and birthday.

A little girl nicknamed Ladybug, along with her cousins, Gio and Maria, joined Andrea. They giggled as they traced Gio’s outline on the blacktop. When a moon bounce castle was set up, the four of them disappeared into it, only to reappear when hot dogs were ready later in the evening.

Nearby, teams of three competed against one another on soccer fields and basketball courts. New teams continued to register, coming up with team names such as the *Crusty Biscuits*. Parents and younger children sat on the bleachers, cheering and chatting. A group of friends sat behind the basketball hoop, resting from their first game while waiting for their next one. Two brothers played Jenga next to a group of girls jumping rope to the beat of the music that filled the park.

This was the scene at Guadalupe Reyes Park (locally known as Boogie Park) on Friday, July 19. The gang violence nearby has caused the park to be largely vacant for the past decade. However, for two Friday afternoons in July, Boogie Park was filled with sports, music, games, and smiles as Pilsen children, youth, and parents took part in the annual Resurrection Basketball League (RBL) hosted by The Resurrection Project (TRP) and local volunteers.

In its 14th season, RBL is hosted in various parks throughout Pilsen every Friday evening of the summer. RBL



promotes peace and fights gang violence by taking over gang hotspots in parks and street corners and hosting an afternoon of games, music, food, and friendship.

The need for such programs became even clearer when a 14-year-old boy made his way to RBL with a rock in his backpack. The rock, he said, was to protect himself from gang violence because he worried about crossing from one gang territory into another.

This boy didn’t want his fear of gang violence to keep him or his friends from an event they looked forward to. So he, along with 62 other area youth, created and signed a petition to bring RBL to a park near them. The petitions stated that many youth are unable to get to RBL because it involves crossing gang lines and territories.

“To see the group of young boys walk up to us at an RBL game with sheets of petitions signed by youth and saying ‘We want RBL at our park too’ was simply heartwarming,” says Jessica Alcazar, TRP’s Elev8 Data Coordinator.

As a result of the petition, TRP changed the location of its August 9 tournament from the Zócalo in Pilsen to Throop Park, marking the first time RBL will take place there.

“I find it amazing how the youth of Pilsen decided to petition for such a big move,” says Alcazar. “I strongly believe that we did the right thing by moving one of the RBL games to Throop Park. This goes to show the youth that if you speak out, you will get heard and action will be taken.”

RBL in Throop Park took place this past Friday, August 9, and was a resounding success.

The last RBL tournament of the summer will be held on August 16 in Pilsen’s Zócalo (1818 S. Paulina).





A year into the fight and still going strong: ELLAS celebrates a special anniversary

Story by Rachel Gittleman
Photos by Michelle Rodriguez

On Saturday, June 22, around 70 people joined an amazing group of women to help them celebrate the one-year anniversary of *En La Lucha A Sobrevivir* (In the Fight to Survive), or ELLAS, a program started by The Resurrection Project. The event, which took place at the La Casa Resource Center, lasted well into the evening and was filled with food, music, and inspiring stories.

ELLAS provides its members—Latina women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer—with support and resources, but also an opportunity to educate others throughout Chicago about breast cancer prevention. Breast cancer affects 125 out of 100,000 women in Illinois each year. Although Latinos are not the most affected demographic, Latinas suffering from breast cancer have the highest mortality rate because of a lack of insurance or an inability to find proper treatment.

ELLAS was founded a year ago when four women and TRP Health Coordinator

Araceli Lucio recognized a need for a group that could identify with the specific culture of the Latino community. The group's original mission was to create a space for Latina women with breast cancer to receive moral support and information on medical resources necessary for their recovery and their return to normal life. "The women we work with," says Araceli Lucio, "often think they are alone and have no one to turn to for help. So we started ELLAS to help them find the resources they need."

One year later, the group continues to meet once a month for craft projects, cooking, or trainings presented by the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, and other organizations. Members also present their personal testimonials to their communities, churches, and neighborhoods. They educate women about breast cancer screenings and prevention by sharing their own experiences, and by using key chains to illustrate early cancer detection. The key chains, which the group make

themselves, have four different sized beads to illustrate a tumor's size and feel, and to help educate women about self breast exams. In addition, the group helps other diagnosed women navigate through the health system, connect with doctors, and find any other resources they might need.

There are now more than 25 women from throughout Chicago who participate in the group's regular meetings and who worked together to make this celebration possible.

The one-year anniversary celebration was a time to relish in the success of the past year and raise funds for the future. The women made a variety of crafts—bracelets, earrings, scarves, blankets, and other accessories—to sell at the event, raising over \$400. In addition, the attendees enjoyed food donated by local restaurants and cooked by the members of ELLAS. Members shared success stories, a live band played, and many people got up to dance. All of the proceeds from the event will go directly to continuing programming for the group, growing its membership, and providing more women with educational workshops.

To learn more about ELLAS, including how to join or donate to the group, please contact Araceli Lucio, TRP Health Advocate, at alucio@resurrectionproject.org or (312)-880-2066.



A successful crowd-funding campaign brings Mercaditos en El Zócalo to Pilsen

Story and photos by Rachel Gittleman

Despite the heat, on Saturday, July 20, more than 380 people made their way to the Zócalo plaza for The Resurrection Project's (TRP) first Mercaditos en El Zócalo. Located between St. Aldabert Church and La Casa Student Housing, the Zócalo was filled with a dozen local vendors, hundreds of participants, food, music, dancing, and fun.

"Our goal," says TRP Economic Development Programs Coordinator Natalia Rodriguez, "was to bring the Zócalo back to life, and I think we achieved that."

Mercaditos en El Zócalo was possible thanks to a Kickstarter campaign launched by World Business Chicago, Chicago LISC, and TRP, which met its crowd-funding goals and raised the necessary funds for Mercaditos and other neighborhood programs.

A dozen vendors were present at Mercaditos, selling everything from dresses to churros. Many of the vendors have storefronts, while others are staples at the Pilsen Community Market.

These vendors joined together on Saturday, selling their specialties and bringing some vibrancy to the Zócalo. Vintage Thrift had a large selection of clothing and accessories, while Bearrage offered tasty treats. Don Churro had piles of churros for sale and Patti's Popcorn sold various types of popcorn,

both savory and sweet. La Esperanza Restaurante offered heavier options for lunch, dinner, or the meal in between.

Two vendors, Sayulita Collectibles and Yessica Morfin, were selling their handmade goods in a market for the first time. Yessica, who sold beautiful, handmade jewelry, is an elementary school teacher who is very involved in ElevArte, a local nonprofit community arts organization that uses arts as a means for youth development. Teresa of Sayulita Collectibles, another newcomer to the market scene, sold her original photographs and handmade bags from a small town in Mexico she visits regularly.

Another vendor, Yvolina's Tamales, known at the Pilsen Community Market as Doña Lina, offered 23 different kinds of tamales, as well as three types of juices. The owner, Marcelina, talked about her dreams of opening a storefront with the help of the Pilsen Community Market and the Greater Pilsen Economic Development Association (GPEDA). Marcelina had a helper with her on Saturday: Kevin, a 13-year-old boy who is working with Marcelina this summer to save money for school supplies for the coming year.

World Gym provided both music and entertainment for the event. They showcased classes, such as Zumba, and allowed anyone to join in. This created a consistent group of people, ages 8 to

80, dancing the afternoon away on the northern portion of the plaza.

Next to the stage area was a table with visiting artists from ElevArte, who helped children of all ages create banderas (flags) and paper butterflies, and also offered face painting. "The Mercaditos in Pilsen have been a wonderful opportunity for the community to share our love of art, culture, food, and music," says Rodriguez. "I've experienced how the Zócalo continues to unite long-lost friendships and makes way for new friendships to flourish. Everyone has fun no matter the age, and there is something for all to enjoy!"

If you missed this Mercaditos, don't worry! Another Mercaditos is scheduled for September 14 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Pilsen Zócalo in front of 1818 S. Paulina Street.



TRP in the news

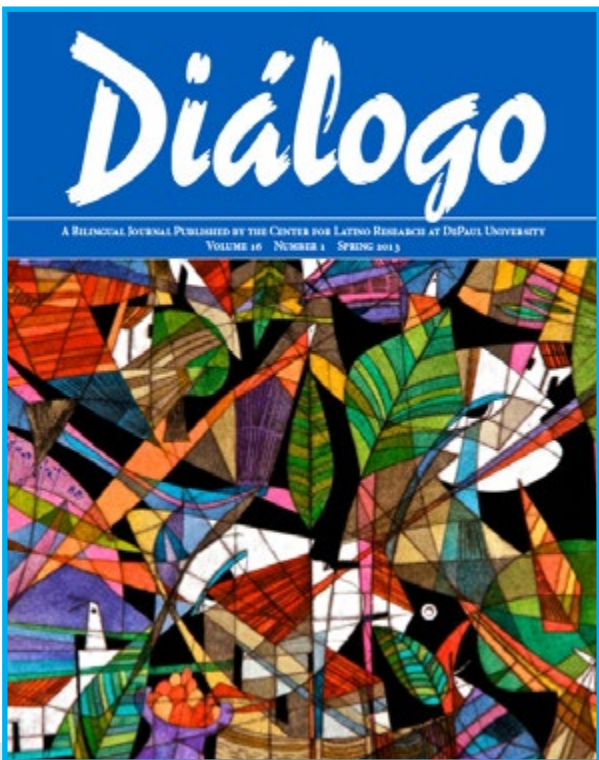
TRP has been in the news again. Here's a brief recap of all our recent media mentions!

Click on the pictures to go to each report!

Guacolda Reyes, TRP Vice President of Real Estate Development, was interviewed on Univisión to discuss our NSP2 work in Back of the Yards.



Both WGN and Univisión aired features on the NSP2 celebration on August 1, 2013.



Diálogo, a bilingual journal published by the Center for Latino Research at DePaul University, published a historical analysis of The Resurrection Project's work.

Karen Mary Davalos' article, *The Resurrection Project of Mexican Catholic Chicago: Spiritual Activism and Liberating Praxis*, examines how the intersection of faith and activism helped TRP empower the Pilsen community in the early 1990s.



TRP CEO Rau Raymundo's alma mater, Carleton College, published a feature on him and why he believed La Casa Student Housing was an important project to pursue.

A day in the life of TRP

Staff photos of everyday life at TRP and our communities.



Photo by Josue Canchala



Photo by Lyndsi Barboza



Photo by Rachel Gittleman



Photo by Maria Botello



Photo by Daniel Bahena



Photo by Julio Guerrero

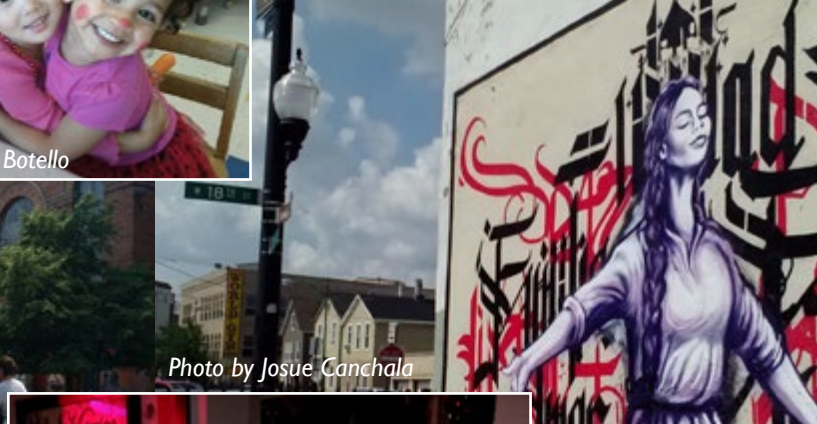


Photo by Josue Canchala



Photo by Rachel Gittleman



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The Resurrection Project e-Newsletter

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