

MEDIA RELEASE

— For Immediate Release —

Member of College Success Arizona Team Selected for Hispanic Leadership Class of 2015

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Phoenix, Arizona – College Success Arizona, an organization leading the way in increasing college graduation rates among Arizona students is proud to recognize a member of their team that has been included in the 2015 Hispanic Leadership Institute. College Success Arizona’s Senior Success Adviser, Myrna Cardenas, will join members of the community representing such organizations as Arizona Public Service, Arizona State University, Cox Communications, St. Joseph’s Hospital, City of Phoenix, Wells Fargo Bank, and others in this valuable program.

Valle del Sol recently announced the Hispanic Leadership Institute (HLI) Class of 2015, comprised of 31 emerging leaders from the public, nonprofit and private sectors, who will gain the knowledge and tools to have a positive impact as leaders within their respective organizations and in the community. College Success Arizona’s Myrna Cardenas is one of those emerging leaders.

“I’m proud to have been selected as a member of this great program,” said Cardenas. “This will give me the opportunity to improve my leadership skills and help our community. I am deeply honored to be recognized and to be a member of the Hispanic Leadership Institute Class of 2015.”

“We are all extremely proud of Myrna,” said College Success Arizona’s President and CEO, Rich Nickel. “This is a great opportunity. This program will enhance the terrific skills Myrna already brings to the relationships she has with our scholars. Our students are always looking for positive role models, and Myrna is one of the best there is.”

Cardenas has been with College Success Arizona since 2010 and leads the organization’s team of College Success Advisers. She holds a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from the University of Phoenix, a Bachelor of Business Administration from DeVry University and a certificate in nonprofit management from Arizona State University Lodestar Nonprofit Management Institute.

The Hispanic Leadership Institute is a comprehensive and culturally-relevant leadership program in partnership with ASU’s College of Public Service & Community Solutions. HLI’s mission is to promote the individual development of Hispanics for increased participation in leadership roles. The curriculum builds from participants’ experiences, emphasizing personal and professional development with sessions focusing on cultural and personal identity; serving on a board; ethics and media training.

“Through Valle del Sol’s Hispanic Leadership Institute, we are developing leaders that will be strong advocates on issues impacting our Arizona community,” said Kurt Sheppard, Valle del Sol’s President and CEO.

About Hispanic Leadership Institute

Valle del Sol’s Hispanic Leadership Institute was established and designed to educate and assist individuals in developing and expanding their leadership skills to take an active role in the community. HLI was founded in 1986 as a partnership between Valle del Sol, Valley of the Sun United Way and South Mountain Community College. In 1994, Valle del Sol and Arizona State University partnered to strengthen and expand the Institute. In 2007, ASU’s College of Public Programs and Valle del Sol joined their efforts to ensure that Hispanic leaders are ready to take their places front and center in the public, nonprofit, and private sectors now and in the years to come.

About College Success Arizona: College Success Arizona is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization working to significantly increase the post-secondary attainment rate of students in Arizona, particularly for those who otherwise would not be able to attend or graduate. The organization was started as the Arizona College Scholarship Foundation in 2005. For more information about College Success Arizona and its partners, visit www.collegesuccessarizona.org.

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