La Casa Norte’s mission is to serve youth and families confronting homelessness. We provide access to stable housing and deliver comprehensive services that act as a catalyst to transform lives and communities.

Richard, age 18, came to live at the Solid Ground Supportive Housing Program as an angry, abandoned and homeless young man; and two years later, he emerged as a leader. Richard completed his high school education and is enrolled in community college. During his time at La Casa Norte, he learned to confront past trauma, reduce violence and destruction and manage his life positively. He is dedicated not only to enhancing his life, but the community as a whole.

Javier, age 19, lived at Solid Ground for nine months. During his time there, Javier worked two jobs and attended classes to obtain his GED. He worked in collaboration with La Casa Norte staff to develop monthly goals that would assist him in obtaining his ultimate goal: his own apartment. He is dedicated to having his own functioning and healthy family one day.

This is an example of how La Casa Norte through support and partnership provided these homeless youth with their first real chance to save their own lives.

* Names have been changed

2010 La Casa Norte Highlights

- La Casa Norte was a key city partner in implementing the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), as the largest Latino homeless serving organization.
- 850 clients were served through case management, 192 households obtained new stable housing, and 74 evictions prevented.
- La Casa Norte distributed $458,679.38 in financial assistance through HPRP and $102,029.09 in financial assistance
- Since Solid Ground’s opening in December 2006, 86 homeless youth have been housed and kept off the streets.
- 59 participants were served in La Casa Norte’s GED Program.
- Casa Corazon was the only dedicated space for unaccompanied youth on Chicago’s west-side serving more than 1,209 youth.
- La Casa Norte implements a food insecurity program, the Northwest Food Partners Network (NFPN)
La Casa Norte dreams of a world where all people have dignity, communities thrive and everyone belongs.

**Casa Corazon** is a homeless youth engagement project which works with homeless and high-risk youth from the streets of Chicago’s west side. Casa Corazon provides street outreach services coupled with a drop-in center to help youth move from the streets towards stability.

**The Crisis Center Program** provides bilingual and culturally sensitive case management, housing advocacy, peer support, and emergency funds to help prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or when necessary to help individuals and families with being rapidly re-housed.

**Esperanza Trabajando** is a job readiness, placement and training program. Program components include one-on-one coaching, job readiness training, and support in finding a job.

**The Solid Ground Supportive Housing Program** is Chicago’s first bilingual, male-intentional supportive housing program for homeless youth, aged 16–21. The Solid Ground program allows staff to teach and model the skills needed for youth to maintain stable housing and employment, rebuild their self-esteem, address mental health trauma, and prepare them for continuing education.

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**2010 Financials**

Total Expenses: $2,068,846.22

- **Crisis Center**: $538,872.68
- **Solid Ground**: $357,048.20
- **Esperanza Trabajando**: $96,326.25
- **Casa Corazon**: $269,170.74
- **Special Projects (e.g. Food Network Coordinator)**: $328,684
- **Management & General**: $133,842.32
- **Fundraising and Development**: $247,515.44
- **Religious & Civic**: $12,400
- **Corporations**: $64,456
- **Foundations**: $893,600
- **Individuals**: $57,089
- **Other**: $1,358
- **Special Events**: $71,474

*unaudited financial statements

**Total Revenue**: $2,602,442

*includes a $500,000 pledge gift for a future development project

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Having a place to go every night—a place to call home—is something many of us take for granted. But for others, stable housing is an elusive dream. For homeless Chicago youth, families and individuals, or those at risk of homelessness, La Casa Norte offers access to housing and more.

*We offer hope.*

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