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*Promoviendo Bienestar para Familias y Comunidad con Conocimiento, Confianza y Poder*

*Promoting Family and Community Well-being through Knowledge, Trust and Empowerment*

SPECIAL THANKS TO :



Kristen Almanza, (210) 831-1843

## YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE INVITED TO THESE IMPORTANT MEETINGS:



Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011 at 9:30 AM, W.E.S.T. Crime, and Westside Graffiti Wipeout **planning session** at San Martin de Porres Catholic Church, 1730 Dahlgreen off Castroville Road



Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011, 8:00 AM–1:00 PM  
*Westside Graffiti Wipe-Out*  
Meet at San Martin de Porres Catholic Church, 1730 Dahlgreen off Castroville Road



Tuesday, Oct. 25 and Wednesday, Oct 26, 2011, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM  
Leadership Training Session with Mid-west Academy of Chicago IL  
YOU MUST CALL The Organizing Team and RESERVE A SEAT FOR THIS SESSION

For more information on future actions or house meetings contact NFA  
**Organizing Team:** T.C. Calvert 210.226.9041 / Angela Anthony 10.885.8352  
Pablo Mancias 210.324.0511 / Lidia Martinez, 210.420.5257,  
John Allen 210.605.8595 and Rev. Ysidro Solis 615.484.6346.

WESTEND CONTACT PERSON: Carlos Gonzalez, (210) 433-7075  
EDGEWOOD CONTACT PERSON: Ludivina Hernandez, (210) 436-2511

## LATINO SENIOR BIENESTAR ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

### PROJECT PARTNERS



Carlos Gonzalez, Senior Resident Leader from the Westend Community at the recent Historic Senior Organizing Meeting at MAUC Community Center

## CRIME AND SAFETY TOP ISSUES FOR WESTEND AND EDGEWOOD SENIORS

San Antonio, Texas — A Historic partnership and organizing effort has developed between Westside Senior citizens living in Westend and Edgewood Neighborhoods to help transform and improve the quality of life of vulnerable and neglected senior populations.

The Latino Senior Bienestar Engagement Project (SBE) is a grassroots community driven initiative to build a civic, educational, organizing and advocacy capacity program. “The program already has in place a senior based Animador organizing model comprised of Senior residents from the Westend and Edgewood neighborhood” states Juan Flores, of La Fe PREC. Additional SBE partners include AARP, Neighborhoods First Alliance and Martinez Street Women’s Center, who together hit the ground running May of 2011 and have made contact with over a thousand Senior households focusing on developing organized Senior involvement with issues directed at advoca-



Westend and Edgewood residents attend recent Report Back Meeting held at the Mexican American Unity Council Community Meeting Room to hear survey results based on their stories and concerns. Streets Drainage, sidewalks and housing also on the list.

cy and leadership to improve the well-being of Latino Seniors age 50 years and older within the targeted neighborhoods.

On Saturday, Sept 24th, over 65 Senior participated in a Community Report Back on their issues. Carlos Gonzalez, Senior resident leader has lived in the Westend area for 55 years and reported that in the 350 city block area that is Westend, of the 155 Senior surveys taken, all were home owners, 66% were owners, 66% were women and 66% were over 65 years old.

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Top issues of concern are crime and safety such as illegal criminal and drug activity, prostitution, and shootings. Senior residents were also concerned about infrastructure, including reconstruction of streets with new drainage, sidewalks, curbs, street lighting and speedbumps.

Ludivina Hernandez, a Senior resident leader from Edgewood who has lived in the 80 city block area for over 28 years stated, "of the 110 surveys taken in our area, 58% were from women, 53.6% were over the age of 65 and 86% were homeowners. Crime in the Edgewood Neighborhood was also a top concern and issue." Edgewood Seniors were also concerned about infrastructure, lack of Social Services and Improvements to the Neighborhood environment. In conclusion, individuals at the Community Report Back decided to work on crime as the first collective issue.

The Westend and Edgewood Senior Leadership Team will host a Planning and Research Meeting on how to address the Crime issue on October 8, 2011 at 9:30 AM at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, 1730 Dalhgreen. You and your family are invited.

Top needs that worry Seniors	Overview	Top Senior needs that not available
<b>1. Infrastructure:</b> sidewalks, St. Lights, & Speed Bumps <b>2. Neighborhood Environment:</b> Graffiti, Fast/parked Cars, Vacant lots/homes <b>3. Safety:</b> Drugs/drug users, Dogs, Prostitution, police patrol <b>4. Crime:</b> Robbery/Break-in, Crime, & more Police protection		<b>1. Infrastructure:</b> sidewalks, St. Lights, & Speed Bumps <b>2. Social Services:</b> Senior Center, Assistance/Support, Medical/Dt <b>3. Neighborhood Environment:</b> Senior Center, Stores/Walmart/ Pharmacy, & Address Vacant lots/homes

PROMOTORA LEADERSHIP IDENTIFY ISSUES AND TAKE DIRECT ACTION

On Tuesday, September 12th, over 18 Senior residents participated in a 3 day training session on Promotora (community navigation) and Organizing. The goal of developing Animadoras is to have bridge builders in the neighborhoods who can help connect and find solutions for resident resource needs. Animadoras were selected based on awareness of issues in their neighborhood, their love of people, & their passion for their community.

Amy Casso of La Fe PREC and Joleen Garcia of Martinez Street Women's Center created an Animadora Curriculum and conducted the training session. The Health Navigators will hold their next train-

ing session on October 25 and 26, 2011 at the Frank Garrett Community Center, 1226 N.W. 18th Street.

The NFA Organizing Team continues their on-going activities to build trust and show presence with residents by helping to organize house meetings and actions. Residents have participated in Westside Economic Development Summit, Community Report Back and Actions on cuts to Medicare and Social Security. For more information on future actions or house meetings contact NFA Organizing Team:

- T.C. Calvert 210.226.9041
- Angela Anthony 210.885.8352,
- Pablo Mancias 210.324.0511,
- Lydia Martinez, 210.420.5257,
- John Allen 210.605.8595 and
- Rev. Ysidro Solis 615.484.6346.



Juan Flores of La Fe PREC presents Joe Hernandez with his Certificate of Completion at Animadores Training.



ANIMADORES at the Health Navigator Training, held at Frank Garrett Center.

WESTEND / EDGEWOOD SENIOR TEAM (W.E.S.T.)

RESIDENTS TAKE ACTION ON HOT ISSUES!!



Ted Zamora, Westend resident Team Leader pickets Congressman Canseco for supporting cuts to Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security outside La Villita Assembly Hall over 100 residents participated.

**ACTION ALERT!!**  
 W.E.S.T. Planning & Research Meeting on crime, public safety, and Westside Graffiti Wipeout  
**When:** Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011  
**Where:** San Martin de Porres Catholic Church  
 1730 Dalhgreen off Castroville Road



Stella Young, Westend Resident Leader shares her story with residents during recent Report Back Meeting at MAUC Community Center.



Juan Martinez, Westend Senior Team Leader addresses City Officials at a recent Westside Economic Development Summit regarding crime, infrastructure, housing and Zarzamora Corridor Commercial Development at Frank Garrett Community Center.

"Building a Process for Community Transformation"



Westend / Senior Team listens to Kristen Krumpf from Midwest Academy on How to Identify Issues at a recent Report Back Meeting held at MAUC.



Ludivina Hernandez, Senior Resident Leader discusses issues of interest with residents of Edgewood Community.