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It's official: the CAN Center is open for business

Es oficial... el CAN Center ya está abierto

Story by Carmen Cardinal, photos by Elena Gonzalez



Pictured are (from left to right) Ken and Doris Winterowd, the couple that donated the building for the West Side Community Action Network (CAN) Center; Lynda Callon, West Side CAN Center director; and Bill Nelson.

After operating "in holes" for the past 10 years, the West Side Community Action Network (CAN) Center Inc., is in its new home, located on the corner of Avenida Cesar Chavez (23rd Street) and Jefferson Street in Kansas City, Mo.

On Saturday (March 6), West Side residents are invited to come and see the facility for themselves.

"We will have coffee and cookies, and people from the community can come and see the place," said Lynda Callon, the director of the Center.

The Center is important for the community because it is the community-policing site.

It also addresses community issues and provides a site where people can be picked up for work.

"We work to educate

Después de operar "en huecos" durante los pasados 10 años, el Westside Community Action Network Center, Inc. (Westside CAN Center) se encuentra ahora en su casa nueva, ubicada en la esquina de la avenida César Chávez (calle 23) y la calle Jefferson

El sábado 6 de Marzo, se invita a los residentes de West Side para que vengan a conocer el nuevo local.

"Tendremos café y galletas y las personas de la comunidad pueden venir y ver el lugar", indicó Lynda Callon, directora del centro.

El centro es importante para la comunidad porque es el sitio de la policía de la comunidad.

También maneja los problemas comunitarios y provee un lugar donde se puede recoger a gente para trabajar.

"Nosotros trabajamos para educar a los vecinos sobre como ser responsables y comprometidos civicamente", dijo Callon.

Esto lo hacen proveyendo un boletín informativo del vecindario, traduciendo



Mary Ann Stock grabs some refreshments during the drop-in celebration for the new center.



An outside view of the West Side CAN Center building



Pictured are (from left to right) Sgt. Chip Huth, Capt. Roger Lewis and Sgt. Michael Lowe, officers of Kansas City (Mo.) Police Department.

neighbors on how to be responsible and civically engaged," said Callon.

They do this by providing a neighborhood newsletter; translating property codes and ordinance information into Spanish; and facilitating neighborhood cleanups, activities and relationship-building with the police.

The center also serves as a drop-in center for limited and non-English-speaking day laborers. On Monday (March 1), the center had a celebration for those who made the vision possible.

"It was a really nice party for those people

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códigos de propiedad e información sobre reglamentos al español y realizando limpiezas del barrio, así como actividades comunitarias y promoviendo relaciones con la policía.

Además sirve como un lugar donde pueden recoger a trabajadores por día que tienen escasos recursos o que no hablan inglés.

El lunes, el centro organizó una celebración para aquellos que hicieron este sueño posible.

"Fue una fiesta agradable dedicada a la gente que nos ayudó a que esto sucediera; como políticos, trabajadores, co-



Pictured are (from left to right) Matt Tomasic, Jeremy Sheer and Brian Brewer.



Pictured are (from left to right) Michael and Mary Milam.

laboradores y medios de comunicación", comentó Callon.

La lista VIP del lunes incluyó personal de Turner Construction Company, the Mid-Continent Mechanical, Diaz Construction, R.F. Fisher Electric, Stadium Sheet Metal, CFM Distributors, Complete Drywall, Inc., Individual Assurance Corp., BESCO, Bratton Corp, Ammon Painting Co., Tom Eatman, Architect/PHAV, Ken Winterowd, Kansas City Missouri Police Department, Vincent Amador, Ezekiel Amador III, Westside Housing Organization, Inc., Joe Guerra, Strasser Hardware, Inc., Martinez Auto Body, Single Source, Inc., David Tinoco, Locker Systems, Inc., Stephen P. Maslan and Co., Pyramid Plumbing Supplies, Kenton Brothers Inc., Door Controls, Inc. and Mr. Mat Co.

Para más información y horario de trabajo, llame al (816) 842-1298.

who helped us make this happen," Callon said. "This included politicians, workers, contributors and the media."

Monday's VIP list included staff from Turner Construction Co.; Mid-Continent Mechanical; Diaz Construction; R.F. Fisher Electric; Stadium Sheet Metal; CFM Distributors; Complete Drywall Inc.; the Individual Assurance Corp.; BESCO; the Bratton Corp.; and the Ammon Painting Co. Others who attended included Tom Eatman, architect/PHAV; Ken Winterowd; officers from the Kansas City (Mo.) Police Department; Vincent Amador; Ezekiel Amador III; and Joe Guerra.

Still others who attended included employees of Single Source Inc.; Locker Systems Inc.; Stephen P. Maslan and Co.; Pyramid Plumbing Supplies; Kenton Brothers Inc.; and Door Controls Inc.

For more information about the center, call (816) 842-1298.



Ezekiel Amador III signs the drop-in celebration register.

