

IN SUPPORT OF THE LÍNEA DIRECTA SERIES

Mr. David Robertson Executive Director Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 777 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear Mr. Robertson:

As proud members of the region's quickly growing Latino community, we would like to express our strong support for the establishment of an ongoing partnership between the Spanish-language public service television series, *Linea Directa*, and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

Since 1990, Linea Directa has served as a crucial link between Latino families and the services offered by government and bilingual nonprofit organizations. Each week, the program reaches thousands of our community's most linguistically isolated households, and features solution-oriented discussions focusing on important health, education, legal and social service issues. Most importantly, Linea Directa helps to build trust between local government and Latino residents because the series allows viewers to hear directly from the dedicated counselors, doctors, lawyers, teachers, organizers and elected officials who are working on their behalf.

Linea Directa is produced by EVS Communications, a small nonprofit organization that has established a unique public / private partnership with two of our area's most accomplished news organizations -- NBC4 and Telemundo Washington. We respectfully encourage you to find ways to collaborate with EVS in order to continue improving COG's ability to both communicate with, and serve the needs of Latino families across the region. Linea Directa is a cost effective, innovative project that deserves your support.

Sincerely,

The Honorable J. Walter Tejada Arlington County Board, VA

The Honorable Ana-Sol Gutiérrez Maryland House of Delegates

The Honorable Victor Ramírez Maryland State Senate

The Honorable Joseline Peña-Melnyk Maryland House of Delegates

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The Honorable Will Campo Prince George's County Council, MD

The Honorable Emma Violand-Sánchez Arlington County School Board, VA

Duoland Sanchez

Ms. Maria Gómez President & CEO Mary's Center, DC

Mr. Jaime Contreras Capital Area District Leader SEIU Local 32BJ, D.C.

Ms. Sonia Gutiérrez CEO-Founder Carlos Rosario International Public

Charter School, D.C.

The Honorable Nancy Navarro Montgomery County Council, MD

Ms. Roxana Olivas
Executive Director, D.C. Mayor's
Office on Latino Affairs

Mr. Gustavo Torres Executive Director CASA of Maryland

Mr. Saúl Solórzano Executive Director CARECEN, D.C.