

Dec 20 2010 – High-Performing Social Service Professionals Honored by Superstar Foundation’s Veronica Awards

Baltimore, MD – [The Superstar Foundation](#), an organization that seeks to pay great social services professionals great pay for great work, announced today the winners of the 2010 Veronica Awards. These awards are given to direct service professionals who demonstrate outstanding performance in promoting transformational relationships with the participants they serve. Staff members from Roca, Congreso, TLC for Children and Families, and AID Atlanta have received a total of \$20,000 in [Veronica Awards](#) from the Superstar Foundation. The four winners were announced earlier today: Santa Ignacia Torres (Roca - Chelsea, MA), Evan McGlaughlin (Congreso de Latinos Unidos – Philadelphia, PA), Amber Grossenbacher (TLC for Children and Families - Olathe, KS), and Sandra Enos (AID Atlanta - Atlanta, GA).

[Since 2008](#), the Superstar Foundation has used the Veronica Awards to recognize those social services professionals who keep [the transformational relationship](#) at the core of their work and who demonstrate the effectiveness of that approach through measured outcomes. Veronica Award recipients receive a check from the Superstar Foundation and have their stories memorialized at Social Solutions’ office in Baltimore. The awards themselves are named after the mother of entrepreneur [Steve Butz](#), as his mother Veronica was committed to various social causes and laid the foundations of a strong social consciousness in her children.

Like Veronica, this year’s winners possess several inspiring qualities, all centered around the relationships they build with the clients they serve. They have been characterized as client-focused, consistently supporting the individuals they work with to feel empowered, giving clients a “soft place to land,” and truly loving and caring for the people they serve as if they were their family members.

Santa Ignacia Torres is a youth worker at Roca, in Chelsea, MA. She not only leads groups and engagement activities for young women, but has also implemented creative solutions for facilitating conversations with victims of domestic violence. No fewer than 15 young women who might never have mentioned their difficult past to another person have since accessed domestic violence services thanks to Ignacia’s work.

Evan McGlaughlin is a Case Manager at Congreso de Latinos Unidos, in Philadelphia, PA. He assists students in his job training program to achieve self-sufficiency through gaining and maintaining employment, the critical first steps towards independence from public benefits and towards an empowering sense of autonomy, stability, and confidence. An important component of this is helping the client to establish and prioritize his/her goals, as well as personal and situational barriers that obstruct the attainment of those goals, such as a lack of standardized education.

Amber Grossenbacher is a SEEDS Case Coordinator at TLC for Children and Families, in Olathe, KS. She connects young adults who age out of foster care with supportive housing, basic needs, independent living skills, and other, comprehensive services. This is a major issue in Kansas City, where only 20% of young adults achieve their independent living goals. Amber is responsible for ensuring that as a result of her efforts: 95% of young adults demonstrate an increase in knowledge of independent living skills, 65% meet their educational attainment goals, 85% meet their employment goals, 95% meet one or more of their self-determined goals, and 85% make progress towards financial stability goals.

Sandra Enos is a Case Manager at AID Atlanta, in Atlanta, GA. She connects incarcerated adults diagnosed with HIV/AIDS with the services necessary to ensure that there is no gap in their medical care,

substance abuse and/or mental health treatment, and housing and basic needs, especially during their initial transition out of a prison facility. Sandra consistently takes responsibility for tasks beyond her job description, such as: attending clients' court sentencing, driving them to patient intake for mental health/substance abuse programs or emergency shelters, and offering them emotional support and tough love.

The Superstar Foundation will be accepting applications in fall 2011 for next year's Veronica Awards; information will become available over the coming months at www.superstarfoundation.org.

About Social Solutions

Social Solutions is the leading provider of performance management software for human services, connecting efforts to outcomes, people to social services, and service providers and communities to funders. The company's Efforts to Outcomes (ETO™) software goes beyond case management, and enables public, private, and nonprofit organizations, such as Harlem Children's Zone®, Catholic Charities, Annie E. Casey Foundation, HUD, and cities such as Boston and Hartford to collaborate, save time, and improve service quality and effectiveness. Thousands of service providers, collaboratives, funders, evaluators, and government organizations use ETO software as they work with over 4 million participants each day

About Superstar Foundation

The Superstar Foundation is an organization committed to recognizing and rewarding great social service professionals for the invaluable work that they do. Dedicated to expanding the use of highly intentional, transformative relationships as the core of social services, the Superstar Foundation has administered the annual Veronica Awards since 2008. The Veronica Awards highlight and reward the efforts of the high-performing direct service professionals who embody this philosophy and have the data to back up their performance.