



COMUNIDADES LATINAS  
UNIDAS EN SERVICIO

**Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES)**  
**PRESS RELEASE: CLUES Receives Award for Advancing Minority Mental Health from the  
American Psychiatric Foundation**

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Friday, May 28, 2010** –The American Psychiatric Foundation, with the support of Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc., awarded CLUES a prestigious 2010 Award for Advancing Minority Mental Health (AAMMH). CLUES was honored with this award for the exemplary work of its Mental Health Services Division to address the unmet mental health needs of Minnesota’s burgeoning Latino population by increasing access to culturally competent care and improving the mental health of underserved Latinos. The award was presented on May 24 at the American Psychiatric Foundation’s annual benefit.

With the support of Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, Inc., The American Psychiatric Foundation established the Awards for Advancing Minority Mental Health in 2003 to recognize psychiatrists, other health professionals, mental health programs, and other organizations that have undertaken innovative and supportive efforts to:

- Raise awareness in underserved minority communities of mental illness, the need for early recognition, the availability of treatment and how to access it and the cultural barriers to treatment.
- Increase access to quality mental health services for underserved minorities.
- Improve the quality of care for underserved minorities, particularly those in the public health system or with severe mental illness.

Freda C. Lewis-Hall, M.D., Member of the American Psychiatric Foundation Board of Directors and Chair of the AAMMH Selection Committee, said, “The APF is pleased to present CLUES with this award. It is programs like this that exemplify the goals of the Awards for Advancing Minority Mental Health. CLUES has shown, year after year, that our nation can put high-quality, compassionate and culturally sensitive mental health care within everyone’s reach.”

**CLUES’ Mental Health Services Division** is licensed as a Rule 29 Clinic, which means that it is licensed by the State of Minnesota at the highest threshold of clinical care as an outpatient mental health facility. With an integrated, co-therapeutic, and dual diagnostic method of treatment that is partnered with the Chemical Health Services Division of CLUES, the Mental Health Services Division provides psychotherapeutic counseling, psychiatric care and medication management, emotional management therapy, family therapy, and group therapy. CLUES is also among the first Latino community behavioral health agencies in the United States to provide IDDT – Integrated Dual Diagnostic Treatment.

Jesse Bethke Gomez, President of CLUES, stated, “On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, clients, volunteers, friends and supporters of CLUES, we are deeply honored by this most profound and prestigious award from the American Psychiatric Foundation as an affirmation in our collective belief to work toward a more fair, just and humane care of diverse populations, thereby eliminating health disparities in mental health.”

CLUES is in its 29th year of service to the community and provides a family-centric, coordinated care model of linguistically appropriate and culturally competent services to the Latino community, including: Mental Health Services; Chemical Health Services; Family Services; Economic Advancement Services; Aging Well Services; and Community Health Worker Services.

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