

For Immediate Release:

Contact:

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## PODER, Oregon's Latino Leadership Network Launches New Website

**WOODBURN, Ore.**- PODER, Oregon's Latino Leadership Network, is thrilled to announce the launch of its new website on February 3, 2023. Formerly known as OLLN, PODER is a nonprofit organization made up of over 500 Latino leaders, organizations, businesses, public employees, community members, and allies across Oregon. This website not only marks a new brand but a transition from being an informal network to an official 501c nonprofit organization.

PODER, a statewide network of Latino and serving organizations working to advance equity in their communities, was first formed as a community response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The following year, the network went through a community-led revisioning that led to PODER, a community-based initiative that connects and empowers Latinos in Oregon to promote social, economic, and civic prosperity for all.

PODER's mission is to bring communities together and leverage collective power in order to help solve complex social issues by bringing community-driven solutions that enhance the well-being of everyone in the state. By coordinating and distributing resources, PODER has become the go-to organization for reflecting the needs and voice of the Latino community in Oregon. PODER has become a resource for community-based organizations, organizations of interest, and leaders in the state.

"We are excited and honored to have created an organization that provides Latinos a voice from both rural and urban communities," said PODER founder Anthony Veliz.

Previously being a COVID-19 resource website, visitors will now have an opportunity to delve deeper into PODER's primary initiatives: Network, Healthcare, Behavioral Health, and Education. Visitors will learn more in-depth about PODER's community engagement, including monthly statewide town halls, its Health Equity Collective, Latino Therapist Pipeline Program, and Latino Rural Student Success Program.

Focusing on addressing systemic inequities, the website is designed to showcase the work PODER has done across the diverse Latino communities in Oregon in issues of social, political, economic, and health disparities.

## About PODER

PODER, Oregon's Latino Leadership Network, is a nonprofit organization made up of over 500 Latino leaders, organizations, businesses, public employees, community members, and allies across Oregon. PODER strives to bring together Latinos across Oregon to build collective power and capacity to facilitate people-driven solutions that promote social, economic, and civic prosperity for all. For more information, visit the website at *poderoregon.org*.

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