



Arizona Chavez Day Luncheon a Huge Success

Phoenix, Ariz. – The Cesar E. Chavez Foundation celebrated the Fifth Annual Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning with the Arizona Cesar Chavez Day Luncheon on Tuesday, March 29, 2005.

The event would not have been possible without the incredible leadership and support of the luncheon's advisory committee as well as our generous sponsors. We would especially like to extend a heartfelt thanks to our Lead Sponsor Southwest Ambulance and the City of Phoenix for their outstanding support.

This year's luncheon paid tribute to Cesar's historic 1972 water-only fast in Phoenix. Nearly 33 years ago, Cesar decided to fast for 25 days to draw attention to a just-passed law banning the right of farm workers to strike or boycott in their struggle for social justice and representation. Many of the individuals that participated in this year's luncheon, including Joseph P. Kennedy II, were inspired to become involved in community service and activism as a result of Cesar's fast.

The Chavez Day Luncheon provides people with the opportunity to recommit themselves to carrying on Cesar's legacy and timeless vision for a better, more just world. "Continue to work towards building a more just and equitable society," said Kennedy.



This year's luncheon attracted more than 2,000 community, business, labor, and political leaders. Attendees included Joseph P. Kennedy II, Governor Janet Napolitano, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, State Legislators, and City of Phoenix Council members, along with other local municipal elected officials.

The Chavez Day Luncheon is the Foundation's chief effort to support the expansion of its programmatic initiatives into the State of Arizona. For more information, please contact our Arizona Office by E-mail at fmontoya@cecfmail.org.