



Who We Are

What We Do

How to Help

Your March Newsletter

My Sister's Place is proud of the work we do in the Latino and immigrant communities in Washington, D.C. Thanks to you, we are providing linguistically and culturally appropriate outreach, training, housing, and other services. MSP staff are multilingual and the team is embedded in the immigrant community, creating new partnerships that expand our reach so that every survivor who needs us can benefit from our services, including many who otherwise would not know where to turn for help.

A flyer in a bathroom stall may have saved the life of one of our clients. Her husband accompanied her to the doctor's office, exerting his control over every aspect of her life. He could not enter the ladies room and that is where she found the flyer that would lead to her escape. She didn't leave that day but she did find the courage to talk to her doctor about the flyer and to plan how she would leave during her next visit. At her next appointment she was ready to slip out the back where MSP staff met her and accompanied her to safety at our shelter. She and her baby are now thriving in transitional housing that provides stability and supportive programs as she rebuilds her life.

Her story is one of many and an example of how your support is changing, and saving, lives. The entire MSP family is sincerely grateful for every donation, and we thank you for continuing to support our work as we celebrate our 40th year of service.

Get your tickets today!

We have planned an impactful and fun event and we look forward to seeing you there! The event will take place on Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 pm at Optoro Corporate Offices at 1001 G Street NW Washington, DC, and will include an award presentation to the **Junior League of Washington**. For sponsorship opportunities or other questions about the event, please contact [Catalina Talero](#). To purchase tickets, [link here](#).

Save the Date!

40 Year Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday, May 14th 6:30-8:30 pm
Optoro Headquarters 1001 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Presenting the
Judith Bennet Sattler Spirit of Service Award
to the **Junior League of Washington**

The celebration will raise funds to expand our programs supporting domestic violence survivors and their children – including RISE – helping survivors transition into their own independent housing.

Thank you Leo Daly & Shawn Yancy!

MSP Receives \$5K Donation from Leo A. Daly

Just in time for Valentine's Day, MSP Board Chair Zoe Sharp, Executive Director, Mercedes Lemp, and Development Director, Catalina Talero joined a full reception room at the offices of Leo A. Daly to receive a generous donation of \$5000. The money was raised by numerous team members at the firm who participated in a holiday gingerbread house-making contest. The winners kindly chose MSP as their preferred beneficiary. We are very grateful for their kindness, and the donation will directly impact the lives of women and children in our shelter.



MSP Also Selected as Beneficiary of 2019 "Girls' Night Out" With Shawn Yancy

We are excited to announce that local FOX5 lead anchor Shawn Yancy recently contacted "My Sister's Place" to let us know that she had chosen MSP as the beneficiary of her annual fundraiser supporting women and children. Executive Director, Mercedes Lemp met with the host committee members planning the event that will take place this June at the Katzen Arts Center at American University. Please keep an eye out for more details on this exciting collaboration.



Meet Our Newest Staff...

Please join us in welcoming Priscila and Catalina to the MSP family!

Catalina Talero - Director of Development and Communications

Catalina has specialized in strategic development for nearly two decades. Her specialty is service to high-risk and underrepresented populations. Her M.A. is from George Washington University in Human & Organizational Development. She also holds an Honors Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Toronto. Since 2011, Talero has been the founder and CEO of Envaluate, Inc. and has secured an overall career portfolio valued at \$67M comprised of local, national, and international projects. In her spare time, she enjoys playing guitar, jumping rope, and (paleo) cooking.

Priscila Lemos - Bilingual Community Advocate

Priscila has over six years of experience working with diverse populations in different stages of trauma. She started her career working for the Prince George's County Health Department with adolescents in substance abuse recovery. During her time there, she developed new programs to promote a holistic road to recovery. She also ran programs to teach life skills and healing. Priscila then began working at the Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI), the legal division of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA). There, she was an advocate for survivors of sexual assault across the state of Maryland. She supported clients and advocated for them as they navigated the legal system, connecting survivors with attorneys at SALI to learn their rights along the way. Priscila has her BA in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland, College Park, and is currently a student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, pursuing her Master's in Social Work.

Help us support families fleeing domestic violence **DONATE TODAY!**

