

**February 2, 2015**

**Chicana Latina Foundation**

Olga Talamante

Executive Director

1419 Burlingame Ave. Suite W2

Burlingame, CA 94010

Fax: (650) 373-1090

**RE: \$1,000 Donation**

Dear Ms. Talamante:

This past weekend, I participated in an event hosted by the California Latino Superintendents Association. As part of my participation, I was given a \$500 check to donate to any scholarship of my choice. I am donating it, with an additional \$500 personal contribution, to the Chicana Latina Foundation.

In 1993, I was a graduate student at Carnegie Mellon University. At that time, I had very limited funds, and applied for various scholarships including the Chicana Latina Scholarship. You generously granted me a scholarship and I will forever remember how the scholarship helped me in time of desperate need.

I completed my graduate degree at Carnegie Mellon University in 1995, have held public sector jobs at the Federal, State and local level. Currently, I am the Chief Business Officer for the Santa Clara County Office of Education and am in a doctoral program at UC Berkeley. My goal is to one day become a Superintendent of a public school district and help make a difference for all kids, especially those who do not have a voice or influential parents.

I hope the enclosed funds help another student like your scholarship helped me over 20 years ago.

With Gratitude,



Micaela Ochoa

CC: California Latino Superintendent's Association

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Chicana/Latina Foundation  
1419 Burlingame Avenue, Suite W2  
Burlingame, CA 94010

It is with great pleasure that I make this donation to the Chicana/Latina Foundation. I am a former recipient of a scholarship from this genuine foundation. The benefit of receiving the funds went beyond my education. The funds allowed me to continue and eventually to finish my doctorate degree. Currently, I am an executive director of Oasis Charter Public School in Monterey County, Salinas, California. My education has allowed me to help my family and more importantly to serve my community.

Therefore, I would like to offer my time to share my life story in your events in an effort to motivate and educate other Chicana/Latina women. My background is very different and unique from many others. Briefly, I would like to share with you the main events of my life:

- I am the oldest of 16 siblings, 12 girls and 4 boys and an adopted brother
- In 1986 I became an orphan.
- In 1989 I migrated to the California as an undocumented immigrant and lived as a homeless person until 1990. I worked as a housekeeper, babysitter, and farm worker until 2000.
- In 1991 I moved in with my husband and in 1993 we got married.
- My son was born in 1995 and obtained custody of my step-son.
- I received physical custody of my five siblings in 1996 and obtained legal custody of them in 1999. I adopted the two youngest ones in 2002.
- I started attending high school at age 17 in 1991 and continued with my education as an undocumented immigrant.
- Currently, I have a double B.A, a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, an Administrative Credential, two Master's Degrees and a Doctorate Degree.

I have invested my knowledge, time and energy in supporting youth in juvenile detention centers, second chance programs, English Language Development programs and developing educational programs in elementary settings such as the AVID, STEM, GATE programs in underserved and underrepresented communities.

I will a privilege and an honor to share my life story with other women to inspire them. Feel free to contact me at (831) 229-2121 or at [perea1010@yahoo.com](mailto:perea1010@yahoo.com)

Sincerely,



Dr. Juanita Pere, Ed.D.