STATEMENT FROM BETTY ALZAMORA
PASO Board Member
March 5, 2020

Good morning. My name is Betty Alzamora, and I am a member of Board of Directors of PASO, and a member of my Unitarian Universalist faith community.

Over the last two months, the Board has met many times to discuss how to help resolve the conflicts between the PASO staff and their leaders. We respect and honor the rights of the workers to organize as a collective. We also know there is crucial work and commitments to be met, for our communities and clients.

Our unanimous recommendation has always been to work with an independent professional mediator, to help us actively listen to the staff concerns.

We continue to extend mediation to current PASO staff as a step forward. There is a need to first go through a process of discovery in order to understand all the issues. And then together we can navigate towards meaningful solutions that enable everyone in the important work that has to be done.

Every single member of the Board stands with PASO, with the staff, their families, with community, in support, solidarity, and direct participation. We are committed to the people we are entrusted to serve, especially now, when our communities are under attack and at risk.

And while these have been difficult and painful months for all of us, we remain full of hope. We respect and believe in the unique worth of each of the PASO employees.

We support Mony in her role as the Executive Director of PASO, who, in acknowledging she is willing to learn and grow, gives us the courage to accept that we too can do the same. And we believe that in coming together, we can regain the shared vision of justice, compassion, and equity that comes from a place of love and is at the heart of PASO, for years to come.
STATEMENT OF EDUARDO “EDDIE” MUÑOZ
PASO LEADER AND BOARD MEMBER
March 5, 2002

My name Eduardo Muñoz “Eddie” and I am a proud standing Board Member of PASO. As one of the founding members, leader, and in previous years a staff member, I am proud of the work PASO has done over the years and many more to come. PASO has changed my life, as well as the lives of others. PASO has given all of us a voice, it has improved our quality of life to many community members, immigrants, volunteers, and staff by creating policies that protect many people; including my family.

Under Mony Ruiz-Velasco leadership, PASO has grown tremendously increasing resources to the organization and staff. Mony has inspired people, organizations, communities, and in addition has kept families together leading PASO and staff in the right direction not to mention all of the sacrifices she has made personally.

PASO Board is aware of the current circumstance and has continued to offered mediation since it was brought up to our attention. During this time, it has been painful for a couple of months for all of us including our previous leaders, community members and friends however, I am hopeful that all parties can come together to continue PASO’s mission and work.

Mi nombre es Eduardo Muñoz "Eddie" estoy orgulloso de ser un miembro de la mesa directiva de PASO. Como uno de los fundadores de PASO, líder y previamente parte del personal, estoy orgulloso del trabajo que PASO ha realizado durante los años y se que habrá muchos más por venir. PASO ha cambiado mi vida, así como la vida de los demás. PASO nos ha dado una voz a todxs, ha mejorado nuestra calidad de vida para muchos miembros de la comunidad inmigrantes, voluntarios y personal protegiendo a muchas personas; incluyendo mi familia.

Bajo el liderazgo de Mony Ruiz-Velasco, PASO ha crecido y aumentado los recursos para la organización y el personal. Mony ha inspirado a muchas personas, organizaciones, comunidades y, además, ha mantenido familias juntas liderando PASO y al personal en la dirección correcta, sin mencionar todos los sacrificios que ha hecho personalmente.

La mesa directiva de PASO está al tanto de las circunstancias actuales y ha seguido ofreciendo mediación desde que se nos comunicó. Durante este tiempo, ha sido doloroso para para todos nosotros, incluidos nuestros líderes y líderes anteriores, miembros de la comunidad y amigxs. Sin embargo, espero que todxs podamos unirnos de nuevo para continuar la misión y el trabajo de PASO.