



## Los Ojos de la Familia

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7916 Ranchitos Loop NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87113  
505-362-6073 OR 505-897-4225 and ask for  
Los Ojos de la Familia  
EMAIL: [asistencia@losojosdelafamilia.org](mailto:asistencia@losojosdelafamilia.org)

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# La Vista—Newsletter

## Introduction Dinner Highlights

Above is the winner of the logo contest for Los Ojos de la Familia, submitted by Imari Hunter. She will receive the \$200 gift card at the upcoming Fall Carnival on October 23, 2010.

### Upcoming Events/Activities

Kids Fall Carnival 10/23/10

Annual Christmas Dinner Basket Give-Away 12/18/10



### 50/50 Winner

Brian and Paula Long came to the introduction dinner as guests, invited by their neighbor, Edward Martinez. They came prepared to learn about the organization, to find out how they could be a part of it. When the tickets came around for the 50/50 drawing, they both dug into their wallets to see what they could give. "I never win anything", said Paula, "so I didn't expect anything in return when I gave what I had." The couple were taken by surprise when their ticket number was called. The amount they received was \$945.00, and the matching amount was deposited into the charity.

"It has been a total blessing" said Paula. She related how she and her husband have been planning a mission trip in January to Honduras, and that, though they had been saving toward that, various hardships caused them to dip into those funds more than once. With the winnings from the 50/50 drawing they were able to catch up on some bills and even deposit some money back into the savings account for the mission trip.

Joy and generosity were in the air at the Los Ojos de la Familia Introduction Dinner on August 28, 2010. The night was filled with fun and philanthropy as LODLF was introduced to the community of New Mexico. Over 300 guests celebrated with an extravaganza of authentic New Mexican music, food and drink. Grammy award winning artist Tobias Rene capped off the evening with live music and dance. Attendees reveled in the beautiful night sky under the stars of our beautiful State. Revelry and joy was just a part of the evening as the event also included a silent auction, gift basket give-away, 50/50 lottery drawing and many door prizes. The night's highlights included speeches by Alicia Martinez, Jason Ayala, Onesimo Vigil and several of the recipients of LODLF assistance. Their passion is reflective of the entire organization, which seeks to inspire people to help one-another. One of the recipients of LODLF aide, Alicia Candelaria, spoke of the impact the money has had on her college career. Through LODLF grant money she was able to pay for costly textbooks and educational expenses. Candelaria illustrated how it inspired her to finish her degree and go on to change the lives of others throughout the State. This pay-it-forward attitude is exactly the mentality that Los Ojos de la Familia wants to foster through their charitable donations. To date the charity has been able to give families in need dental care, money for living expenses due to traumatic illness and support for families in need of assistance. Through the generosity of everyone who attended, the evening successfully raised \$14,000. This money will go directly back to the families in need throughout the community, as LODLF has no administrative costs. This first annual dinner and dance was the culmination of the hard work of the board members, volunteers and donors of Los Ojos de la Familia. The introduction dinner will become an annual event for LODLF. These events, along with others throughout the year, are organized to highlight and celebrate the joy of giving back to the community. LODLF hopes that each year we are able to hold bigger and better events with new activities and fundraisers to help change the lives of New Mexicans one family at a time.

## PICTURES AND STORIES FROM FUNDRAISER



(left) A fantastic, fun-filled evening of dinner and dancing under the stars to the talented **Grammy-winning performer, Tobias Rene**



(right) Also bringing musical entertainment to the event in the form of dinner music, the mariachi band (name?) delighted us all with traditional New Mexican music to go along with the



(left) Several donations were made to help raise funds for the charity event, including the beautifully arranged and gift baskets shown, as well as lovely red and white wines served, and many door prizes.



(Left and right) Numerous volunteers came forward to help make the evening a success, including local high school students and college sorority, Pi Phi, who have partnered with LODLF to make a difference in our community.



# Thank you !!

## Monetary Donations

### ≤ \$100

Abel Garcia, Andrew & Molly Romero, Anthony & Christina Valencia, Bernadette Garcia, Bill Haddow, Brian & Joslin Chavez, Caliente Trucking, Carla & Rudy Lovato, CW/Janet Laswell, Clarence & Darlene Lucero, Construction Solutions, Dan Harmon, Debbie & Larry Garland, Eagle Ridge Gymnastics, Edward & Gloria Martinez, Edward & Frances Aragon, Elizabeth & Christopher Medina, Elpidia Mariscal, Emilla Ortega, Felix Segura, Freddie & Sons Trucking, Jack Vigil & Brianne Hutson, Jenniver & Bobby Medina, Jennifer Cook, Jesse & Sandy Sanchez, John & Brenda Trujillo, Karen Romero, Karl & Debby Griffin, Lee Sanchez, Leroy & Monica Jinzo, Mario Medina, Mark & Sheri Cordova, Mark Montoya, Martin Corral-Escarcega, Nora Ortega, Randy & Valerie Martinez, RJ Vigil LLC, Rob Meyers, Rocky & Chris Valdez, Ronald & Donna Hodnett, Rose Chavez, Sean Milks, Shelly Hughes, Steve Medina, Theresa Eichwald, Veronica Campos, Victoria Torrez, Warren Salazar, Yevett & Scott Swallows

### \$100 < \$250

A. Duran Trucking, Benny Montoya, Gabriel & Janice Portillo, JERI, Joanne Florez, Kenneth Powell, Randall & Jolene Calderon, Shallen Montoya

### \$250 < \$500

Berger Briggs Real Estate & Insurance, Inc., Catholic Daughters of America/Nat/Mt. Carmel, David Romero, Hank Gallegos Trucking, Inc., Intelli-Care, LLC, Jay & Anne Parks, Larry & Dixie Gribble, Manuel Maez, Robert Martin, Steven Yarbrough

### \$500 < \$1000

Enterprise Builders, Renee Hanson & Jason Ayala

### \$1000 < \$5000

Miguel & Kathleen Abeyta

### \$5000 & Above

Custom Grading, Inc.—Michael & Jill Montoya

## Sponsors

A. Duran Trucking, Berger Briggs Real Estate & Insurance, Inc., Caliente Trucking, Catholic Daughters of America/Nat/Mt. Carmel, Construction Solutions, Discount Tire, Eagle Ridge Gymnastics, Enterprise Builders, Freddie & Sons Trucking, Hair Goddess, Hank Gallegos Trucking, Inc., Intelli-Care, LLC, RJ Vigil LLC,

## Volunteers

**MC**—Eric Strauss

**Tables & Chairs**—Steve Medina, Della & Benny Montoya

**Generator/Stage Set-Up**—Hank & Dree Gallegos

**Tent/Bottled Water**—Roman L (also donated gift cards)

**Parking Crew**—Vincent Dibenedetti, Alec Rael, Dusty Dibenedetti, Alek Lucero

**Set-Up Crew**—Onesimo Vigil, Alec Rael, Isaiah Vigil, Celina Vigil, Anna Trujillo, Kevin Trujillo, Brian Chavez, Jennifer Medina, Mario Medina, Shannon Mariscal, Hank Gallegos, Randy Calderon, Roman & Lee Martinez, Vincent Dibenedetti, Jocelyn Dodson

**Donation/Ticket Table**—Henrietta Trujillo, Karen Romero, Shallen Montoya, Trula Howe

**Kitchen**—Valerie Lovato, Angie Duran, Ramona Chavez, Carmen Chavez, Theresa Romero, Olivia & Johnny Lucero, Mary Baldonado, Cleo Gregory, Nancy McRae, Jennifer Medina, Della Montoya, Vickie Perez

**Babysitting House**—Celina Vigil, Frankie Mariscal, Jackie Gregory, Mariah Calderon, Isaiah Vigil

**Gift Baskets**—Jason & Monica Chavez, Karen Marler, Rita Calderon, Cynthia Baca, Denise Jimenez

**Food Donations**—Carmen Chavez, Antoinette Garcia, Janette Baca, Mary Baldonado, Henrietta Trujillo, Debbie Garland, Cleo Gregory, Della Montoya, Shannon Mariscal, Shallen Montoya, Karen Romero, Rita Calderon, Jolene Calderon, Jennifer Medina, Adrianna Gallegos, Cynthia Baca, Denise Jimenez, Julio Gonzales, Olivia Lucero, Theresa Romero, Jocelyn Chavez, Frances Baldonado, Nancy McRae, Alicia Romero, Suzanne Alexander, Della Casias, Jackie Gregory

**Pi Phi Sorority**—Savannah Burnett, Bridgette Madrid, Mandy Farmer, Shaula Sulima, Allie Rodtang, Dani Willems, Sara Wheeler, Jacque Whittaker, Elisha Ruiz, Marissa Ricci, Nicole Sulima, Sara Crespín, Lily Wix-Murphy.

**Event Coordination**—Jason Ayala, Anne Swenson, Eric Strauss, Toby Reese, Jared & Rachel Bevan, Roman L (tent, bottled water, gift cards)

### Silent Auction—Donations

**Johnny & Rita Calderon**—Chico's Copper Jewelry (2)

**Eric Strauss**—Best Price Driving School Tuition

**Black Mesa Winery**—Black Mesa Wine

**Michael & Jill Montoya**—iPod Touch

**Susie Yarbrough** - 6 CD and DVD set

**Anonymous**—Trees/ landscaping

**Javier & Shannon**—Vernon's Steak House

**Joslin Chavez**—Hair Goddess hair services, suntan and 5 sets of custom design jewelry

**Della Casias**—Hair Services

**Lilly Barrack**—Lilly Barrack Jewelry

**Debra Banda-Desert Rose Trading**—Turquoise bowl

**Larry & Debbie Garland**—Nambe ware (2)

**Chris Medina**—Surveying Service

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## October 23, 2010 — Kids' Fall Carnival and Benefit

This event will start at noon at 100 Myers, and will be even larger and more fun than years past. There will be BALLOON RIDES, horse/pony rides, face-painting, Zippa Dee the clown, piñatas, cakewalks, costume contest, candy, games, jumpers, food, entertainment and drawings. There will be hot dogs, juice, nachos for sale. All activities, rides and food will be on a ticket system, so buy your tickets at the door and support the charity. Kim Jew Photography will be onsite to take pictures, the proceeds of which will also go to Los Ojos de la Familia. Parents must accompany their children at all times. There will be also be a permission form at the door that must be signed for each child.

### **KOATS FOR KIDS**

Los Ojos will be sponsoring the KOAT Coats for kids drive this fall. If you would like to donate any coats we will be collecting them at the Fall Carnival, so let's get the word out! We will be setting up collection bins at various sites around the city such as Albuquerque High School, Universal Transmission and Eagle Ridge Gymnastics, Custom Grading, Inteli-Care, and Spotlight, among others. We are asking for new or gently used children's coats that will be given to the needy this fall. We can keep many kids warm this winter with a little help from everyone. If anyone would like to set up a collection bin it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Linda Strauss at 459-7413 or Janet Laswell at 515-9085 for more information.

## December 18, 2010 - Christmas Dinner-Basket Give-Away

Los Ojos de la Familia is holding its first annual Christmas dinner-basket on December 18, 2010, at which time we will be preparing and delivering gift baskets to 60 families in need. We are in need of volunteers for the following teams: Shopping Crew, Set-Up Crew, Boxing Crew, Decorating Crew, Delivery Crew. Also, we are accepting donations to sponsor the baskets to be delivered this Christmas. The description of basket contents is to the right. We are still looking for volunteers to help prepare the baskets, beginning at 8:00 a.m. the morning of the 18th. Call us to volunteer for one of these crews, to sponsor a family for a gift basket, or if you know a family in need of assistance at this time. Special thanks goes to Onesimo Vigil for chairing this committee, as well as to all the others who have already contributed their time and effort to this occasion.

### **LOS OJOS DE LA FAMILIA RAFFLE**

Raffle for the Christmas Dinner-Basket give-away will be held October 23, 2010 Kids Fall Festival.



### Christmas Basket List

#### Main Meal Essentials

Turkey and Ham

*(Thank you Mike Novak  
for donation of turkeys)*

5 lb bag of potatoes  
canned green beans

canned corn  
stuffing (stove top)

a jar of gravy  
cranberry sauce

rolls  
tortillas (Grandma's)

butter  
salt/pepper

Dessert  
pumpkin pie

whipped cream

Extra Items (Wal-Mart)  
Detergent (Sun-29loads)

Laundry Baskets  
Dish Soap (Ajax-16 fl oz)

Canned food (Great Value)  
Bag of rice

Bag of beans  
Loaf of bread

Flour  
4-pack of tissue paper

Grand Total:  
**\$60.00 per Basket**

### **Our Purpose**

A grassroots movement to make a difference in the New Mexico community by providing educational development and quality of life assistance.

### **Our #1 Goal**

100% of donated funds goes to helping people in our community. All of the time and effort required for the organization to function is donated by members of Los Ojos de la Familia, so that we may pass on the maximum amount of assistance to those in need.

### **Type of Charity**

This is a 501(c)(3) charity, so your donations are tax-deductible. Consult your tax advisor.