

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 17, 2017

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Alexandra Alonso Named Executive Director of Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy & Research Organization (CLLARO)

Former CLLARO Capitol Fellow and committed community advocate will take helm immediately as the youngest Executive Director in the organization's history

DENVER—The CLLARO Board of Directors has named Alexandra Alonso as the organization's next Executive Director. Alonso began her career in advocacy as a CLLARO volunteer, subsequently taking on roles as a Capitol Fellow and as CLLARO's Program Manager. Now, at the age of 28, she will be the youngest Executive Director since CLLARO was founded in 1964.

Alonso began her journey with CLLARO as a volunteer in the summer of 2015. Since then she has developed and implemented a strategy to successfully expand CLLARO's parent engagement programming, served on multiple committees to develop parts of Colorado's plan for implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act, created an open-source "Know Your Rights" toolkit for Colorado immigrant communities, and raised thousands of dollars for the organization through a grassroots fundraising campaign.

"We wanted a leader who could honor the fifty three year history of the organization, but also strategically lead the organization into the future in a sustainable way. Alexandra is a collaborative, proven and mission-minded leader and we're thrilled to keep her talents with CLLARO," said Alfonso Trujillo, Chair of CLLARO's Board of Directors and Vice President of Finance and Administration at Coblaco Services Inc. "In her time with the organization, we have been so impressed by Alexandra's commitment to educating, empowering and advocating for Latino communities in Colorado."

Alonso holds a B.A. in Spanish Literature and Leadership Studies from the University of Colorado at Boulder, where she was also a member of the Presidents Leadership Class and at one point managed the program's recruitment and selection. As a CLLARO Capitol Fellow, Alonso worked in the Colorado Department of Higher Education and before beginning her journey at CLLARO she ran the nationally-competitive internship program at the Denver Post. She serves as an advisory board member for McGlone Academy in Montbello and a community advisory board member in Colorado's Senate District 33.

"I'm thrilled to lead CLLARO into its next phase. With a strategic vision that honors our deep historic roots in Colorado that embraces our core values, we will continue our work of improving the lives of Latinos in Colorado for another 50 years," Alonso said.

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*The **Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy & Research Organization (CLLARO)** is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed since 1964 to realizing a Colorado where Latinos achieve their fullest potential. We do this by providing leadership development programming and trusted data and research on the state of Latinos in Colorado, especially in the areas of health, education, and aging. For more information, please visit www.cllarocolorado.org.*