

Casa de Esperanza Board Directives for Change
October 1997

1. Put Latinas and their children first. While we welcome all women, we will design and implement our programs to best meet the needs of Latinas.
2. Investigate new and more effective ways of providing intervention and safety to Latinas. A “shelter” as we know it still does not appear to be the best way to meet the needs of battered Latinas. We’ve got to think of new paradigms that reach Latinas where they are.
3. Think bigger and put more resources into prevention and education. Make this a campaign! Move the focus of efforts from providing information to individuals to changing community attitudes. Focus on influencing community and family change to decrease tolerance for violence in the community.
4. We can’t do it all. Put emphasis on building the capacity of other agencies to meet the needs of battered Latinas – and hold them accountable for doing so.
5. Develop a clear and specific public policy agenda. Develop collaborations with other agencies. Work together to get candidates to back the agenda.
6. Use technology to strengthen infrastructure and hold services together.