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## Center For Multicultural Wellness and Prevention Awarded Nyela Project to Promote Healthy Lifestyles and Healthy Families through the Leading Ladies Grant

Orlando, FL November 2010: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health has awarded four national organizations, out of over 80 applicants, funding to provide "Leading Ladies Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Healthy Families: An HIV/AIDS Awareness Project. The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention, Inc. (CMWP) was the only organization in the State of Florida to be awarded this grant. Under the program, CMWP will partner with at least 40 churches in Orange and Lake Counties, over the next three years, and target female spouses of pastors, female clergy, and other female leaders within faith-based communities to establish sustainable gender-specific HIV/AIDS/STD prevention and education models for women and their families. This will include interventions for women in faith-based organizations, training Leading Ladies to deliver ongoing HIV and women's health workshops at the church and providing technical assistance to faith-based organizations to deliver health fairs which would include HIV testing. It also fits into the National AIDS Strategy Federal Implementation Plan from The White House Office of National AIDS Policy.

Dr. Marie-Jose François, President and CEO of the Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention stated, "We are pleased and proud to have been awarded a grant from the Office on Women's Health out of the pool of applicants, and we anticipate CMWP will work with an average of 40 churches and reach at least 500 people per year through the Leading Ladies program. The next few years will bring greater outreach and education to a unique population. We look forward to making a change and improving the quality of health and lives."

The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention, Inc. (CMWP) a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization was founded in 1995 and is located near Downtown Orlando. CMWP is a health referral agency that provides prevention education to uninsured and underserved African-Americans, Hispanics and people from the Caribbean in a non-clinical setting. The major goal of CMWP is to develop effective health programs to address disparities among racial and ethnic populations in the Central Florida area, and to teach those in the targeted communities about diverse racial and ethnic health issues through education, prevention, case management, and referrals to facilitate access to health care services.

If you would like more information on the Leading Ladies Nyela Project or to schedule an information session, please call (407) 884-9070 or email [kathychatman@earthlink.net](mailto:kathychatman@earthlink.net).