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<http://www.ssa.uchicago.edu/SocialServiceAwards.shtml>

**University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration
Distinctive Innovation in Social Services Awards
Saturday, June 5: Photo and Video News Advisory**

What: The School of Social Service Administration Alumni Association has chosen the 2010 Distinctive Innovation in Social Services Award recipients. The winners are Casa Central, for its La Posada Interim Housing Program for Homeless Families and UCAN, for its organization-wide diversity and inclusion strategy.

Who: Casa Central concentrates on transforming lives and strengthening communities with a special focus on Hispanics living in the Chicago metropolitan area. La Posada Interim Housing Program for Homeless Families integrates the consistent delivery of a variety of services that address underlying causes of homelessness. More than 1,000 families have been assisted by La Posada and more than 90% of them remain living independently.

UCAN has developed a business diversity model that is strengthening its workforce of more than 450 employees and improving its service effectiveness to its 13,000 annual children, youth and family clients. UCAN leads more than 30 programs for at-risk children and families each of which is influenced by diversity and inclusion practices. Services include a residential treatment facility, a therapeutic day school, community violence prevention programs, support for pregnant teens or parenting teens, foster care placement, and vocational training.

When: Saturday, June 5 between 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.; both agencies will present key concepts from their innovative programs, followed by an award ceremony and reception.

Where: School of Social Service Administration, University of Chicago, 969 E. 61st St.

Photo and Video Opportunities: Reporters and photographers are welcome to attend the afternoon presentations. Representatives from Casa Central and UCAN will be present.