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Professor Al Velasco Dies

San Diego, CA (December 16, 2011) – With great sadness, Chicano Federation announced today the passing of Professor Al Velasco. Mr. Velasco passed with his sons by his side. He was 67.

Mr. Velasco was the Director of Chicano Federation’s HIV Research and Education Program. His work with the organization stems back more than 40 years. As a consultant, he led the Leadership Training Institute and then became board chair in 1975.

Mr. Velasco earned a Bachelor and Masters Degree, both in anthropology, at San Diego State University. He earned a doctorate in anthropology /sociology at United States International University, San Diego. His was a Ford Fellow for five years, and a Eureka Fellow. His has worked as a professional consultant on upwards of 80 projects

He was a great leader in the community. Among his many accomplishments he started the Barrio Logan Institute, the Sherman Heights Community Center, and was involved in the MAAC Project. He taught at Spring Field College and San Diego State University. He is the co-author of “El Libro de Calo: Chicano Slang Dictionary.” He was also the co-owner of Velasco Consulting, doing work for government agencies, and non profits throughout the nation.

He is survived by his two sons Mark Velasco and Michael Velasco. Details about the services have not been released.

About Chicano Federation:
The mission of Chicano Federation is to create and promote empowering opportunities for our community. We approach our commitment to this goal with the highest level of responsibility, professionalism and integrity, and focus on what matters most - the thousands of individuals and families who turn to us for assistance every day. The Chicano Federation is one of San Diego's most respected social services agencies providing child education, economic development, foster care, health and nutrition, and housing programs to more than 10,000 people a year. For more information visit www.chicanofederation.org