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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Amigos For Kids' Celebration of Friendship will honor Co-founder Jorge A. Plasencia and Miami Dade College President Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón**

*Third Annual Luncheon and Fashion Show Creates Awareness of Child Abuse Prevention during April, National Child Abuse Prevention Month*

**MIAMI— March 26, 2013** – [Amigos For Kids](http://www.amigosforkids.org), a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing child abuse, will host its Third Annual Celebration of Friendship Luncheon and Fashion Show on Saturday, April 6, at 11:30 a.m. at the Four Seasons Hotel Miami.

Amigos For Kids held its first Celebration of Friendship Luncheon in 2011 to commemorate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and promote its platform to raise awareness and prevent child abuse through the organization's *There's NO Excuse For Child Abuse!* Campaign. The event, held in April during National Child Abuse Prevention Month, recognizes donors, sponsors and collaborators who have supported Amigos For Kids and culminates with a children's fashion show.

This year's event will recognize two exceptional "Amigos" for their dedicated commitment to children's causes in our community, state and nation. The Amigos For Kids Celebration of Friendship Award will be presented to Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón, Miami Dade College president; Jorge A. Plasencia, Amigos For Kids co-founder and chairman emeritus, will receive this year's Amigos For Kids' Lollipop Award.

"We are proud to honor Jorge A. Plasencia and Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón, two pillars of our community and two extraordinary "Amigos" who have greatly contributed to creating awareness of against child abuse and neglect," said Pedro Capó, Amigos For Kids' chairman. "Amigos is what it is today due to Jorge's unwavering commitment to our mission since day one, and because of the support of champions like Eduardo."

The Celebration of Friendship award recognizes individuals and organizations committed to continuing Amigos' work to raise awareness about the prevention of child abuse. Past recipients of the award include Bacardí U.S.A., The Capó Family, and The Estefan Family and Gloria Estefan Foundation.

**-more-**

The Amigos For Kids' Lollipop Award, instituted in memory of Baby Lollipops Lazaro Figueroa, distinguishes the outstanding effort and dedication of the recipient on behalf of children's causes. Past recipients of the Lollipop Award include Modesto E. Abety-Gutierrez, Sara B. Herald, David Lawrence, Jr., Dr. William F. Lambert, Sister Jeanne O' Laughlin, and the Honorable Rebeca Sosa.

For more information regarding tickets and reservations, please contact Amigos For Kids at (305) 279-1155, or visit us at [www.amigosforkids.org](http://www.amigosforkids.org)

### **About Amigos for Kids**

[Amigos For Kids](http://www.amigosforkids.org) is a 501(C) 3 nonprofit corporation founded in 1991 to respond to the diverse needs of South Florida's abused, abandoned, neglected, and less-fortunate children and their families, through education, abuse prevention, and community involvement. To fulfill its mission, *Amigos* relies on the support of dedicated volunteers and donors throughout the community. Throughout the years, the organization creates awareness of its cause through public service campaigns, fundraising events, and community efforts such as the Amigos For Kids' *There's NO excuse for child abuse!*<sup>®</sup> campaign.

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