



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Lydia Medrano of the Children's Board Wins Human Rights Award**

**TAMPA, FL** – The Tampa Human Rights Council has named Lydia Medrano, Ph.D., of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County as one of four recipients of its 35<sup>th</sup> annual Human Rights Awards. Medrano and three other winners, Donna Schulz, Dwight Shingledecker and Julianne Holt, will be honored at the Human Rights Council's breakfast on Dec. 11.

Medrano, a researcher and evaluator who has been with the Children's Board for 18 years, is a founder of the Latino Coalition of Tampa Bay and the Hispanic Services Council. She is the Florida Commissioner for Education for LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens), a national human rights organization.

In addition, Medrano has been instrumental in obtaining support for research to study Latino school drop-out issues that have resulted in programs to serve students. She collaborated with the March of Dimes in the development of a prenatal care health education program to address the needs of Hispanic women in the United States. She is also a member of the Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women.

Medrano has previously received several awards and recognition. In 2005 she was named Minority Businessperson of the Year in Government by the Tampa Bay Minority Business Journal. She was selected a 2004 Woman of the Year by Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. for her endeavors to advance, promote, maintain and enhance her Hispanic heritage and by her outstanding contributions to improving the quality of life in the Hispanic Community.

*The Children's Board of Hillsborough County serves as the leading voice and advocate for children and families in our community. The board is the only organization of its kind in Hillsborough County that generates revenue to help children and families. The Children's Board is recognized nationally for its contributions to best practices in policies and programs aiding children and families. Citizens may visit [www.childrensboard.org](http://www.childrensboard.org) to learn more about the board's programs.*