



## *California Latinas for Reproductive Justice*

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CALIFORNIA LATINAS FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE APPOINTS LAURA JIMENEZ AS THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Los Angeles, CA--June 16, 2011:** [California Latinas for Reproductive Justice \(CLRJ\)](#) announced today the appointment of Laura Jiménez as their incoming Executive Director. She will begin her tenure on September 1, 2011.

“I bring to this position my years of work defending women's and girls' rights,” said Jiménez. “I am deeply committed to reproductive justice and look forward to working with the incredible board and staff to creatively envision and implement strategies that best benefit and serve Latinas/os in California and nationally. As a southern California native, I am eager to bring my experience working with diverse populations around the country back home to Latina communities.”

Since 2006 Jiménez served as the Deputy Director of SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective where she was responsible for creating and managing a million dollar budget for an extensive network of women of color reproductive justice organizations. She brings a wealth of expertise in fundraising and organizational development which is instrumental to the continued growth and success of CLRJ. Jiménez has a 20-year history of leading programs for national, community-based and grassroots organizations that focus on the empowerment and well-being of women of color, including the National Latina Health Organization in Oakland and the Dominican Women's Development Center in New York City.

In addition to her organizational management experience, Jiménez is committed to the education of her colleagues and community. After completing her Master's degree in Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University, she moved to New York and developed curricula for two classes at Hunter College (City University of New York), particularly “Redefining Latina Health: Mind, Body and Spirit.” During her time at SisterSong, she has been a leader in organizing their two national conferences uniting thousands of national and international reproductive justice allies and advocates; and has conducted trainings around the country introducing the reproductive justice framework to broader social justice audiences.

California Latinas for Reproductive Justice (CLRJ) is a statewide policy and advocacy organization whose mission is to advance California Latinas' reproductive health and rights within a social justice and human rights framework. CLRJ works to ensure that policies are reflective of the needs of Latinas, their families and their communities. They recognize that Latinas' reproductive health and rights cannot be viewed in isolation and places its policy priorities in a reproductive justice framework, recognizing the intersection with other social, economic and community-based issues that promote the social justice and human rights of Latina women and girls and the Latina/o community as a whole.

“We are excited and honored to have such a dynamic advocate and organized leader head our organization. Laura's combination of solid organizational and fundraising skills, and dedication to reproductive justice are precisely what CLRJ needs to securely propel our organization into the future,” said Raquel F. Donoso, Board Chair of California Latinas for Reproductive Justice.

CLRJ is committed to long-term sustainability in this unpredictable political and economic climate, along with achieving new organizational objectives in advancing reproductive justice advocacy and action within local and national Latina/o communities and among allies. The appointment of Laura Jiménez as Executive

Director is a major step towards this goal and begins a new phase of movement building for California Latinas for Reproductive Justice.

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