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Since 1999, I began working at the Committee on Women's Affairs, the Governor's Office, having the honor of developing a wide array of skills and a commitment to serve my people. I also have had the joy and fortune of having mentors in various areas, agencies and municipal units whom all shared a commitment of progress and equity for our island.

Puerto Rico has seen countless changes over the past 20 years. These experiences have helped me learn and understand the multiplicity of needs, of the different populations, to which I have had the opportunity to serve, from different roles.

In 2001, I started working in the Office for Integral Development of Women, Municipality of San Juan. This opportunity allowed me to apply my knowledge, integrating a holistic and innovative approach to the wide range of services aimed at victims of gender-based violence and sexual abuse. Above all, I was able to implement a creative analysis to generate new initiatives in order to meet the expectations for an optimal quality of life for families in Puerto Rico.

The various exercises carried out for the development of projects and programs, including the process of evaluation, planning, implementation and evaluation of the various initiatives targeted for women, the family and the community facilitated my understanding of the pressing need to impact all areas that benefit these populations such as safety, housing, comprehensive health, financial independence, education, work and parenting of minors. Thus, the task of transforming the services provided to those of social impact at the individual level, as well as the use of models that seek to impact at the primary prevention level were my first challenges achieved.

With the transformation of the Committee on Women's Affairs, the Women's Attorney's Office, direct services to women were directed to NGOs and the private sector. This opportunity allowed me to lead the Domestic Violence Program at Carlos Albizu University. Under my direction, the Program provided therapeutic and support services to victims and their children. In addition, doctoral students were trained in vocational training based on inclusion, empathy and the ability to squeeze any initiative within an integrated framework based on best practices as evidenced. The result has been a new generation of community empowered support professionals.

For two years I directed the Family Engagement Office at Department of Education of Puerto Rico. This office promotes ad exalts the importance of the collaborative relationships of all the student's support systems in their socio-emotional development and academic achievement.

I believe in family and community as vital components of our society. My work over the past 20 years has been aimed at strengthening communities for a change in attitudes and behaviors based on the protective care of all members of the community as a family. My positions reflect the need to identify the resources and available human capital, volunteers and the third sector, as key components for the multiplication of needs satisfaction, both individual and collective. This will always be my personal mission until we achieve a progressive, inclusive and respectful Puerto Rico with equality for all.