



YWCA USA Supports Appointment of Cecilia Muñoz as Director of the Domestic Policy Council

**Statement by Gloria Lau, Chief Executive Officer, YWCA USA
January 23, 2012**

Washington, DC – The YWCA supports the appointment of Cecilia Muñoz, a longtime advocate for women’s rights, civil rights and equal opportunity, as the Director of the Domestic Policy Council for the Obama administration. Ms. Muñoz’s appointment is a strong step forward for the United States and for women and people of color.

Over her career, Ms. Muñoz has demonstrated great passion as an advocate for women, children and families, especially those who have immigrated to our country. Ms. Muñoz has been a die-hard fighter for fair and comprehensive immigration reform, evidenced by the 20 years she worked in a variety of policy issues that impact Latinas, including civil rights, employment, poverty, farmworker issues, education, health and housing.

In 2000, Ms. Muñoz was named a MacArthur Fellow for her work in the areas of immigration reform and civil rights. In her previous role as Director of Intergovernmental Affairs in the Obama administration, she advocated for and led federal, state, local and tribal government partnerships to address domestic policy issues including the economy, health care and disaster relief.

In her new role as Director of the Domestic Policy Council, Ms. Muñoz will oversee a variety of policy areas such as childcare and early education, equal pay, and immigrant rights and immigration reform.

YWCA’s mission is to eliminate racism and empower women. For more than 150 years, the YWCA has worked to make our mission a reality and to create a nation that promotes justice for all of its citizens. Throughout her career, Ms. Muñoz has been a champion for eliminating racism and empowering women. I have no doubt her presence as the director of the Domestic Policy Council will ensure that issues the YWCA supports and advocates for will continue to be priorities for the Obama administration. The YWCA applauds this appointment and looks forward to working with Ms. Muñoz.

About the YWCA: *The YWCA is the voice for every woman. For over a century, the YWCA has spoken out and taken action on behalf of women and girls. The YWCA is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. Over 2 million people participate each year in YWCA programs at more than 1,300 locations across the U.S. Worldwide, the YWCA serves more than 25 million women and girls in 125 countries.*

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