We are at the beginning of the Latino Century in America.

And Greater New Haven can become one of the nation’s foremost examples of getting things right.
The Progreso Latino Fund wants to be the fuse that sets a hundred explosive new ideas burning ... ideas that will ultimately benefit all America ... but first they'll benefit Latinos in Greater New Haven.
The experts say,
"The city's demography is shifting rapidly: New Haven has always been a city of immigrants and currently the Latino population is growing rapidly."

The Hartford Courant reports,
"The Hispanic population projection data... continue to confirm the rapid growth of this segment of the population in our state that already reached 14.2% of the general population."

The executive director of Connecticut's Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission notes,
"The Latino population has increased nearly 50 percent in the last decade — with a growth rate almost 12 times faster than the general population."

The statisticians predict,
"The most dramatic growth is anticipated in New Haven County..."
There’s a lot to do...
and someone has to do it.
Why a hundred ideas?
Because this is not a one-issue front.
Progress for Latinos in Greater New Haven requires work on many fronts.

- **Health** is important (Latinos lag in many indicators).
- **Public education** is important (Latinos have the lowest high school graduation rates).
- **Employment and home ownership and business creation** are important (Latinos trail badly in all categories).
- **Political leadership** is key (Latinos hold supporting roles, but not yet many leadership roles).
- **Celebrating the rich, proud, extraordinary culture of the Latino community** ... that’s important. And long overdue for focus.
Clearly, there's a lot of work to do. Lighting one hundred fuses to benefit the Latino community will take many hands.

Will your hands be among them?

¿Sus manos estarán entre ellos?
Here’s the vision:
Harness the philanthropic potential of the Latino community and its friends in a single fund, the Progreso Latino Fund, creating a powerful force for positive change in Greater New Haven.

Founded at — and nurtured by — The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, the Progreso Latino Fund (PLF) has been building capacity and knowledge since 2003.

In its first decade PLF has gathered a permanent endowment of just over a quarter-million dollars for grantmaking, policy forums and leadership-building activities.
The Progreso Latino Fund can move much faster.

We have the vision.

We have the connections.

We have the support of key organizations.

We have the objectives.

We see what has to be done.

But we don't yet have you.
Progreso Latino needs **you**.

The Progreso Latino Fund invites your participation **at all levels**.

We need contributions of...

- your **smarts**
- your **spirit**
- your **opinions**
- your **ideas**
- your **hope**
- your **voice**
- your **optimism**
- your **presence** when it counts

and of course...

- your **philanthropic investment** if you can help in that way.

**Will you join this effort?**
Lighting 100 fuses to benefit the Latino community will take many hands.

Join with us.
Light a fuse.
Create a better community for Latinos...

for everyone.

Visit light100fuses.org to learn more or make a donation.

A Little History

The Progreso Latino Fund was founded by two community leaders, Frances and John Padilla. They knew the facts. They saw how fast the Latino community was becoming an increasingly important driver of change in Greater New Haven. They saw the need for a new source of philanthropy focused on the special issues of this emerging “majority minority.”

The Padillas chose The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven as their financial and development partner. The Foundation was established with a bequest in 1928 and today is known for its deep involvement in urgent community issues.

An independent advisory committee picked exclusively from within the Latino community guides the actions of the PLF. The Fund is permanently endowed, which means it will last forever and never stop doing good.
Lighting one hundred fuses to benefit the Latino community will take many hands.

Join with us.
Create a better community for Latinos ... for everyone.

light100fuses.org