

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***“Spanish Nights” A Holiday Cocktail Gala Benefiting The Lodge:  
Evening To Highlight Local and Global Epidemic Of Domestic Violence  
And Benefit Local Shelter For Victims Of Domestic Violence  
Featuring Master of Ceremonies Dora Glottman of Telemundo***

**MIAMI (December 5, 2005)** – Domestic violence is an insidious crime all around the world. Locally, nearly 120,000 incidents of domestic violence were reported to Florida police in 2004, according to the FDLE Uniform Crime Annual Report.

On **Thursday, December 15, 2005**, The Lodge, Miami-Dade County’s first privately run emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence, rape and sexual assault, will host a **“Spanish Nights” Holiday Cocktail Gala**. The event will be held from 6:30pm – 9:30pm at the Ancient Spanish Monastery, and all funds raised will enable The Lodge to continue to offer services to thousands of women and children in our community who are victimized by domestic violence every day.

“Miami’s International population affords us a unique opportunity to act as an important catalyst for social change on this issue that affects families, communities and cultures in many diverse ways,” said Angela Diaz-Vidaillet, Chief Executive Officer of The Lodge. ““Spanish Nights’ will pay homage to the good work and progress on ending violence against women around the world as well as hone in on what’s being done and what still needs to be accomplished locally.”

“Spanish Nights” will feature traditional Spanish Tapas, paella and a wine tasting of a broad selection of Spanish wines. In addition, a Flamenco guitarist will accompany a continuous Flamenco dance performance throughout the evening in the spectacular setting of the Ancient Spanish Monastery. Tickets begin at \$100 for an individual ticket and can be purchased online at [www.thelodgemiami.org](http://www.thelodgemiami.org). The Ancient Spanish Monastery is located at 16711 West Dixie Highway, North Miami Beach, FL 33160.

Run by Victim Response, Inc., The Lodge provides domestic violence programs and services including emergency shelter services, information and referral, case management, counseling, child assessments, community education and professional training. The Lodge is the only domestic violence center in Miami-Dade County offering on-site medical care, and they serve the most ethnically diverse group of clients in the county, according to a recent evaluation compiled by the Thurston Group.

For more information on The Lodge and to purchase tickets to the “Spanish Nights” Holiday Cocktail Gala, visit [www.thelodgemiami.org](http://www.thelodgemiami.org).

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