



Statement Attributable to:

Maria Gomez, President and CEO of Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care  
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**For immediate release**

***A Historical Day***

"It has certainly been an amazing and historical political race in this country. Regardless of where you stand politically, we can admire both candidates' commitment to a different paradigm. There is much to learn from this race about how to build a coalition around oneself, and from this moment on, the history books and classroom discussions around the country will forever change. As my family and I joined the hundreds of people at the White House late last night, it was a very emotional moment to see the remarkable rainbow of people who are feeling engaged and ready to serve.

Now it is our great responsibility to hold our national and local elected officials accountable. As we look at our hard working families, often relegated to living in shelters, still struggling to get basic health care, and sending their children to failing schools, we must take this new opportunity and demand that their voices continue to be heard and that change indeed does take place. This means that each one of us, whether at the PTA meetings, community advisory meetings, or other local hearings, must participate. It all starts with each of us.

It all also starts at home and at work, by asking ourselves how we can make a difference in the life of a co-worker, child, significant other, or Mary's Center participant seeking guidance and advice. Together we, like our new president, can be that beacon of hope for the hundreds of people who come into our lives. In these hard times ahead, let us take a moment for ourselves and our families and renew our commitment to serve and to share the best of ourselves so that we might bring out the best in others.

It is my deep commitment, along with our leadership team, to be dedicated to serving you by working tirelessly at maintaining the integrity of Mary's Center. So I ask you today to please join me, in the spirit of optimism and hope, on this long and arduous journey".

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***Mary's Center for Maternal and Child Care is a federally qualified health care center serving the DC Metro area residents. The mission of Mary's Center is to build better futures through delivery of health care, education and social services. Mary's Center saves lives, strengthening communities one family at a time. [www.maryscenter.org](http://www.maryscenter.org)***