



Youth IDA Bien- $\$$ tar- $\$$ avers Participants Celebrate Graduation

HILLSBORO, OR - The evening of November 10, 2011 marked the completion of ten productive months of saving for our Bien- $\$$ tar- $\$$ avers, the participants in the pilot year youth IDA program at Bienestar. 18 youth ranging in age from 8 – 18 participated in the 10 month long matched savings program which was coupled with financial literacy training and fundraising events. The culmination of the participants' hard work came in the form of a graduation celebration and pizza party attended by 13 of the 18 participants, their families, and several donors, Bienestar board members, and staff. Youth IDA Program Coordinator, Aleksi Merilainen, was honored with an award for leading the outstanding accomplishments of all of the savers. The students received a certificate of accomplishment and recognition from Bienestar Board President, and Vice President of Key Bank John McMeekan.

