



PRESS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PODER PAC ENDORSES CAROL OBANDO-DERSTINE FOR PA-07

The only national political action committee solely dedicated to electing pro-choice Democratic Latinas to Congress, PODER PAC is the latest group to endorse Carol Obando-Derstine's campaign.

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, PODER PAC, the first and only political action committee founded by and for Latinas to elect pro-choice, Democratic Latinas to Congress, is announcing the endorsement of Carol Obando-Derstine, candidate for Pennsylvania's 7th Congressional District.

"Carol is committed to strengthening the economy, supporting families, and protecting the freedoms that allow them to thrive." **said Ingrid Duran, PODER PAC Board Chair** "Carol is the leader PA-07 needs."

"Carol's story is one of resilience, service, and leadership. From her roots as the daughter of immigrants to her decades of work in the nonprofit, public, and private sectors, she has always put her community first. We are thrilled to endorse her campaign. **said Catherine Pino, PODER PAC Board Member.**

"I'm honored to have the support of PODER PAC. As an immigrant, I know what it means to work hard and fight for opportunity, and that's exactly what I'll do for the people of this district. With PODER PAC by my side, I'm ready to deliver for working families and make history as the first Latina to represent this district and Pennsylvania in Congress." **said Carol Obando-Derstine candidate for Pennsylvania's 7th Congressional District.**

PODER PAC fuels innovative candidates who are determined to change the current political landscape and the institutions that govern us. Our empowered Latina candidates demonstrate a commitment to our Latino community and the inequities we face everyday.

PODER PAC is the latest endorser to throw their support behind Carol Obando-Derstine joining, former Congresswoman Susan Wild, Emily's List, BOLD PAC, and Latino Victory.



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About PODER PAC

Founded in 2008, PODER PAC is the only national political action committee solely dedicated to electing pro-choice Democratic Latinas to Congress. An organization by Latinas and for Latinas, PODER PAC works to recruit, support, and connect pro-choice Democratic Latinas running for Congress. Since our founding, PODER PAC has supported over 70 Latinas running for elected office.

About Carol Obedo-Derstine

Carol is an engineer, advocate, educator, and bilingual leader in PA-07 dedicated to serving her community.

Carol was 3 years old when her family immigrated from Colombia, and while it was a transition full of financial hardship, language barriers, and sacrifices, her family found the better life they were looking for in the U.S.

Her mother was a factory machine operator, and her father was a hospital technician. Carol took multiple jobs in high school to contribute and volunteered as a candy striper. After receiving her master's from Penn State, Carol went on to build a career helping people help themselves. She worked in a Head Start program, oversaw a food pantry, and an after-school program. She became the executive director of two prominent nonprofits: SkillsUSA Council and the Children's Coalition of the Lehigh Valley.

After 15 years in the nonprofit sector, U.S. Senator Casey selected Carol to serve as his Regional Manager in Lehigh, Northampton, and Carbon counties and Statewide Latino Affairs Advisor, where she connected constituents with the services they needed. She also volunteered with the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce and Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Northeastern PA, a tech incubator.

While working on energy issues at PPL Electric Utilities, she earned her second master's degree in energy systems engineering. She has helped people and companies lower their utility bills and contributed to the region's economic development by connecting companies to the electric grid.

She and her husband Chad settled in the Lehigh Valley more than 20 years ago and are raising their two children there.