



**Kassandra Dominguez, Pendergast District Teacher
Nominated for Life Changer of the Year Award**

Sunset Ridge Dual Language Teacher honored for excellence and passion

February 15th, 2018 – Glendale, AZ. – Kassandra Dominguez, a kindergarten and first grade dual language teacher at Sunset Ridge Elementary School, has been nominated for the 2017-2018 national Life Changer of the Year award. Sponsored by the National Life Group Foundation, Life Changer of the Year recognizes and rewards the very best K-12 educators and school district employees across the United States who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership. Dominguez was nominated by Stephanie Napoleone, a member of the community.

Dominguez has been with her school two years and has spearheaded the school's Dual Language program. She serves as a Teacher Fellow with the Arizona K12 and One Street Hope Center as one of their first teacher cohorts. Dominguez was also the recipient of the West Side Teacher of the Year award. "Kassie infuses heart, passion and service into her role as a teacher," Napoleone said. "She embodies the quote, 'I am not a teacher, but an awakener.'"

Each school year, Life Changer of the Year receives hundreds of nominations from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Seventeen individual Life Changer of the Year awards will be given during the 2017-2018 school year.

- (1) Grand Prize Winner – will receive \$10,000 to be shared with their school/district.
- (4) Grand Prize Finalists – will receive \$5,000 to be shared with their school/district.
- (10) Life Changer Award Winners – will receive \$3,000 to be shared with their school/district.
- (1) Spirit Award Winner – This award is given to the nominee whose community demonstrates the most support for their nomination. The winner will receive \$5,000 to be shared with their school/district.
- (1) Spotlight Award Winner – This award is given to a nominee in a specific discipline each year.

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Winners are announced via surprise award ceremonies held at their schools. The grand prize finalists will also be honored at a national awards ceremony in spring 2018 in Bermuda, where the Grand Prize Winner will be revealed.

Winners are chosen by a selection committee comprised of former winners and education professionals. Nominees must be K-12 teachers or school district employees. To be considered for an award, nominees must:

- Make a positive impact in the lives of students
- Enhance their school or district's atmosphere, culture and pride
- Demonstrate exemplary leadership at the school and/or district level
- Possess a proven record of professional excellence
- Show commitment to building a nurturing environment that supports learning
- Adhere to the highest moral and ethical standard

To view Ms. Dominguez' Life Changer of the Year nominee profile, or to nominate someone from your school community, visit www.LifeChangeroftheYear.com.