The first gala fund-raiser for NABA International Butterfly Park brought the Rio Grande Valley together in support of the Butterfly Park. Over 200 community leaders from across the “Valley” attended to help raise $40,000 for the day-to-day operation of the Park. Some of the keys to pulling the Valley’s community-minded folks together to support NABA’s Park was a belief in the Butterfly Park’s value to the community and a strong commitment to help it move forward.

Another key was the hard work by the three co-chairs of the event: Yvonne Salinas, wife of Mayor Beto Salinas of Mission; Luisa Ruiz, a local real estate professional, and Nora Shah. Members of the Mission Rotary Club provided support in a variety of ways including helping to sell tickets. About a dozen of their members helped decorate the hall and assisted with the auction. The First