

“For I was hungry
and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and
you gave me drink,
a stranger and you
welcomed me.”

- Matt. 25:35



La Posada Providencia Annual Report 2010-2011

Renovations Help Clients Rebuild Lives

Often clients arrive at La Posada Providencia after leaving their homelands wearing only the clothes on their backs. They have been imprisoned, tortured, oppressed and faced hardships we can't begin to imagine. Having the opportunity to relax in peace and safety can bring them needed relief from the anxiety that has been so much a part of their everyday life.

For more than 20 years, La Posada has operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Like any residence, the buildings require frequent – and sometimes costly – repairs and renovations to meet changing needs. Repairs to the men's dormitory, Casa Guillermo, were long overdue. The smallest of the shelter's buildings, Casa Guillermo for many years served multiple purposes – providing dormitory space for male clients and, through the attached screened-in porch, a storage area for lawn and garden equipment. The small space that was left over was used as a common recreation area.

Following the completion of a storage garage for garden and lawn equipment a year earlier and funded by grants from

the **Harry S. & Isabel C. Cameron Foundation**, the **Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council**, and the **Sisters of Providence, St. Mary-of-the-Woods** the porch renovation started in July 2010. Repairs were made to the worn and damaged exterior walls and the screened porch was converted into an enclosed living space with energy efficient windows and solar screens. The concrete floor level was raised to prevent future water damage from flooding that would occur after heavy rains.

One of our clients, Michael, is a skilled craftsman from Romania. In addition to working on his Immigration case last year,

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Before



Sister Zita stands in the old doorway of Casa Guillermo before the renovations.



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La Posada Providencia

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Visit us at www.facebook.com/LPPShelter and click on the "Like" button. We update frequently with news and pictures.

La Posada Providencia

Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended June 30, 2011

Revenues

Grants and Contributions	\$ 170,962
Sisters of Divine Providence	63,000
Rent	13,750
Interest	1,104
Total Revenues	\$ 248,816

Expenditures

Services to Clients	\$ 219,063
Management and Administrative	32,348
Fundraising	7,190
Total Expenditures	\$ 258,601

Change in Net Assets	<\$ 9,785>
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ 172,894
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 163,109

Grants Awarded

The Sisters of Divine Providence and the staff at La Posada Providencia thank the following funders who partner with us to "welcome the stranger."

Andrews Foundation	\$ 1,000
Harry S. & Isabel C. Cameron Foundation	\$ 3,500
Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters	\$ 7,500
The James R. Dougherty, Jr. Foundation	\$ 1,000
The John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation	\$ 5,000
LCWR Region 12 Border Fund	\$ 4,000
Lower Rio Grande Development Council	\$10,000
Porticus North America Foundation	\$ 6,700
Scanlan Foundation	\$ 5,000
Sisters of Providence, St. Mary-of-the-Woods	\$ 1,350
Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate	\$ 3,500
The TJX Foundation, Inc.	\$ 4,000

La Posada Client Outputs and Outcomes

Our clients arrive at La Posada with little more than hope in their pockets. Most have fled from the direst of circumstances in their homelands.

Until clients receive their work authorizations and can afford a work permit costing \$380, La Posada provides the sole basis of their support.

Our outputs for fiscal year 2010-2011:

- 4,645 bed nights
- 17,976 meals served
- 229 people served, including:
 - 114 men
 - 115 women
 - 3 women were pregnant
 - 74 children under the age of 18
- 26,074 miles driven for client appointments
- 7,396 total tutored hours of ESL and life skills

Our outcomes from the client self-sufficiency program:

- 100% of adult clients (staying seven days or longer) who presented physical health or mental health needs were given access to appropriate healthcare providers.
- 100% of clients (staying longer than four days) needing social services, education, and health services were made aware of available resources and were referred to appropriate agencies and health care providers.
- 100% of all clients seeking legal aid in the Rio Grande Valley were given the information resources necessary to obtain their respective legal assistance.
- 100% of clients received local transportation to and from needed services.
- 99% of clients received assistance coordinating travel arrangements for their next resettlement location.
- 100% of clients enrolled in English language assistance classes.



Clients like Martha and her son, Christian, received legal relief in 2010-2011.

- 80% of clients followed through with their goals during their shelter stay.
- 70% of clients showed improvement in job readiness and 100% of job ready clients (with Social Security cards and work permits) sought and/or gained employment by end of residency.
- 85% of those who achieved asylum/legal relief began living either independently or with roommates/relatives by the fifth month after receiving legal relief.

ESL Classes Change Lives

Clients face many challenges once they arrive at La Posada. They are in a strange country, are anxious about their future and are stressed from their often harrowing travel experiences and/or the needs of the families they left behind. Frequently, they are unable to communicate their anxieties and fears because they do not speak English.

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program taught at La Posada takes into account the experiences of each client, their educational level and their emotional state during their stay at the shelter. Each arriving client receives a warm welcome and is immediately shown compassion, patience and understanding. As their fears lessen and trust grows, the staff encourages clients to develop their conversational skills in English as the “first step” towards achieving self-sufficiency in the U.S. When they realize they can take control of their resettlement by learning English, clients become encouraged and are

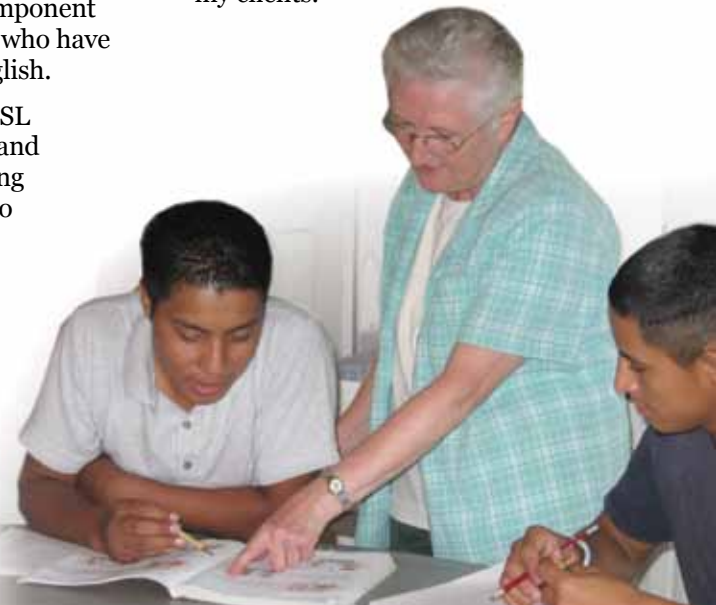
empowered to work harder to achieve their English communications goals.

Monday through Friday, clients have two hours of ESL class in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. The classes are taught by Client Mentor Therèse Cunningham, SHSp, who uses the English Academic Success for You (EASY) series as the core component of her curriculum for clients who have little or no knowledge of English.

Another component of the ESL program is the use of music and song as teaching tools. Singing together helps clients relax so they can focus on learning. They feel successful when they can sing a song in English in a few short days and feel connected to American society when they learn a patriotic song like “God Bless America.”

Sister Therèse teaches four to six hours of ESL classes Monday through Friday.

“Teaching English means the world to me,” says Sister Therèse. “Education is a key to successful integration for our clients. To think that I am a part of something that will help them get better jobs because they are now bilingual is a privilege and an honor. I truly see God’s Providence in all my clients.”



Thank You to Our Partners

The Sisters of Divine Providence are blessed to share our ministry with many others who care about our brothers and sisters seeking a new home in our beloved country. In particular, we thank the following who have shared so generously with us during the past fiscal year:

A

A-Press Express Cleaners
Martha Abrego
Erin K. Adams
Jim Adams
Margaret J. Adrian
Manuel Agado, Jr.
Claudia Agüero-Vázquez
Charles Ajua
Andrews Foundation
Anonymous
Thomas G. Auffenberg

B

John & Connie Bachmann
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Virginia Becker

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Elvia & Elliot Berry
Frank Boggus
Jane Naumann Boling
Ralph H. Brindley
Mary A. Bruemmer
Susan M. Buerkle
Reynoldo V. Burnias

C

Laura B. Calderoni
Harry S. & Isabel C.
Cameron Foundation
Beverly A. Camper
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Mary Norine Ceplecha
Amalia Charles
Chuy's Custom Sports
The City of God Foundation
Daniel G. Coates
Francis L. Conlin
Antoinette Connaughton
Rosa Elena Contreras
William Conwell
Aileen Corbie
Culligan Water Conditioning
of the Rio Grande Valley
Paul Cunningham

D

The James R. Dougherty Foundation
Lisa S. De La Garza
Serapio de la Rosa, Jr., DDS
Velma De Los Santos
Everett J. Driskill
Dorothy Droste

E

Francisca Elizondo

F

Rodney L. & Bertha A. Fink
First United Methodist Church
Nivia Nieves Fisch
Terrence J. Fisher
Mary Flick
Gloria A. Flores
Jane Ford
Juanita Fox
Mary Gabriel Friedel, CDP
Charles A. Friedel
Fry's Prescription Pharmacy
John A. Ftacek

G

Juan G. Galindo
Hermelinda Gamon
Alberto Garcia

Clients installed a new irrigation system in February 2011 to channel water from the Resaca to the garden.



Alfredo Garcia
 Irene Garcia
 Thelma O. Garcia
 Raul Garza MD
 Eva Saldivar Garza
 Maribel Garza
 Edward V. George
 Rosemary Georgett
 Joseph Rodriguez-Gonzalez
 Jodilyn M. Goodwin
 Matthew Gorges
 Deborah Grayson
 Mary Ellen Groark
 Flavia Gronski
 Ray Gutierrez
 Guadalupe Guzman

H

Bahrey Hagos
 Paul D. Haley
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 Sylvia M. Harris
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 James R. Hess
 The Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters
 Linda L. Hoefflin
 Mary Ann Hoelscher
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 Gloria M. Jones
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K

Melanie Kambic
 Hank Katchenback
 Julia A. Kellman & Phil Miller
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 Sarah E. Kennedy
 Rose Marie Kiel
 Kum Kim
 Young Hee Kim
 Katrina Kleinwachter
 Jeanette C. Knittel
 Virgil & Mary Jane Koechner
 Amalie L. Koppel



Former Program Director Margaret Mertens, CDP visited La Posada in October 2010 and helped with fall planting.

L

LCWR Region 12 Border
 Project Fund
 Minh & Deanna C. Le
 Frances Leal
 Norma L. Lesko
 Steven M. Linsky
 Meizie Lofton
 John G. Lopez, Jr.
 Lower Rio Grande Valley
 Development Council
 Eddie Lucio, III
 Eddie Lucio, Jr.

M

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 Lucy Reza-Morales
 Joyce E. Ristau
 Mary Jerome Roberts, CDP
 William T. Robinson III
 Delbert Rodeman
 Araseli V. Rodriguez

Thank you to our generous friends who have chosen to remain anonymous. While your name does not appear on these pages, it is recorded in our hearts and spoken in our prayers.



Sister Therèse (middle) visits with guests at the Hand in Hand: A Reason for Hope event on January 29, 2011. The event raised \$23,040 for La Posada.

Beatriz Rodriguez
 Romeo L. & Berta O. Rodgiruez
 Samantha Rodriguez
 Katharine F. Rogers
 Mary (O'Grady) E. Rose

S

Sacred Heart School
 Shaker & Christina Sadasivam
 Irma Salazar
 Jesse Salinas
 Asha Samad
 Scanlan Foundation
 Henry C. Schmidt
 Mary Magdalen Schmidt
 Roland J. Schoenhoff
 The School Sisters of Notre Dame
 Joe Schorman
 Theodore H. Schulte
 Ray & Ana Schulz
 Terrance J. Scott
 Elvia G. Saenz
 Marilyn Seidel, CDP
 Selina D. Salinas Investments, Inc.
 Rev. Eugene P. Selzer
 Mary Shocklee
 Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
 Sisters of Christian Charity
 Sisters of Divine Providence
 Sisters of Divine Providence
 Generalate
 Sisters of Providence,
 St. Mary-of-the-Woods
 Sisters of the Holy Spirit &
 Mary Immaculate
 Sisters of the Incarnate Word
 and Blessed Sacrament
 Frank Smuda
 Loretta Snyder

Magdalena V. Solis
 Frank Sommerfeldt
 William J. Spedding
 Phyllis M. St. John
 St. Pius X Parish
 Sunburst Rotary Club of Harlingen

T

Zita Telkamp, CDP
 Matthias Telkamp
 Nancy Tewell
 The Medicine Shoppe
 Mary G. Tijerina
 The TJX Foundation, Inc.
 Dominga Torres
 Sarah Agnes Trzeciak
 Joseph W. Twombly, Jr.

V

Dolores Villarreal
 Luis Villarreal, Jr.
 Gary P. Vogt

W

Polly Wand
 James R. Weiss
 Gil Weyhaupt
 Jack L. Wilborn
 Charles E. Wiswall
 Joan Wolf, CDP

Y

Mary Ann Young

In Honorium

The following is a list of the people in whose name we recieved a gift, with the donor's name listed below.

2011 Jubilarians

Maria Patterson, CDP
American Military Personnel
 James Ronald Payton
Irma Bryan
 Asha Samad
Enrique Calderoni
 Laura B. Calderoni
Lillian A. DeFosses
 John V. Lopez
Meredith Linsky
 Steven M. Linsky
Barbara McMullen, CDP
 Virginia Becker
Rosemary Micka, CDP
 Mary Norine Cephlecha
Catherine Odelehr, CDP
 Dorothy T. Odelehr
Theresa Roth & Family
 Dorothy T. Odelehr
Rosella Uding, CDP
 Polly Wand
Mary Ellen & Craig Van Keulen
 Hedy R. Barth
Kyla N. Woodhouse
 Mary Norine Cephlecha

In Memorium

Stanley H. Adrian
 Margaret J. Adrian
**Deceased members of
 the Bednar family**
 Rosaria Bednar, CDP
Mary Jane Bremmerkamp
 Rita M. Kochhar
Eula Imogene Brindley
 Ralph H. Brindley
Vivian Burgess
 Margaret A. Barrett
**Georgene Bydalek &
 Irene Hoffmann**
 Minh & Deanna C. Le
Dr. Roland P. Cullen
 Betty J. Cullen
Mary C. Danheiser
 Norma L. Lesko
Alma Fisher
 Edward V. George

La Posada 2010-2011 By the Numbers

- 25 clients received political asylum
- 24 clients received a U Visa
- 15 clients received a juvenile visa
- 9 clients received permanent residency cards
- 24 clients received work permits
- 32 clients received Social Security cards
- 16 clients received ID cards

Cesar Garcia

Laura B. Garcia

Coridad Gorgoy

Asha Samad

Ramiro & Socorro Gutierrez

Ramiro & Wanda Gutierrez

Severin Hennesthal, CDP

Margaret A. Barrett

Shirley Herter

Melba J. Hendricks

Susan Huck, CDP

Patricia A. O'Hara

Cyril, William & Dorothy Kiel

Denis B. Kiel

Gil Lappe

Gary P. Vogt

Deceased members of the Al & Marie Markway family

Maurice F. Markway

Ernest & Dorothy Nowaskic

Charles E. Wiswall

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Paffrath

Lisa Paffrath, CDP

Lea Ann Price

Mary Ellen Groark

Teresa C. Price

Colleen B. Price

Alice & Vernon Rackers

Sharon Rackers

Miguel & Soledad Rangel

Irene Garcia

Rolando Rodriguez

Dominga Torres

Irene Schneider

Rose Marie Kiel

Deceased members of the Shocklee family

Mary Shocklee

Sister Mary Teresa Thompson

Nivia Nieves Fisch

Kathleen Vogt

Gary P. Vogt

Edwin & Helen Wiswall

Charles E. Wiswall

Liz Yannakakis

Joan J. Post

Renovations Help Clients Rebuild Lives

continued from page 1

Michael insulated the ceiling, wall-boarded and installed cupboards in the newly renovated living space of Casa Guillermo. He also designed and built tables and, with the help of other clients, refurbished couches and chairs for the recreation space.

Current and future clients can and will benefit from the renovation that

not only offers dedicated space for recreation, but also protection from the scorching summer heat and the damp winter air. We are thankful to everyone who worked on renovating Casa Guillermo and to God's Providence for providing the resources needed to complete the project.

Before



After



Did we miss you?

It is important to us that all our generous Partners in Mission be recognized. If your name has been left off this list, we apologize. Please let us know by contacting Colleen Price at 314-209-9181 or cprice@divineprovidencesisters.org.

Sign up for Tuesdays in Texas!

Want to know the latest news at La Posada? Receive **Tuesdays in Texas, a weekly email** from Program Director Sister Zita Telkamp. Visit our website:

www.LPPshelter.org and enter your email address in the signup box on any page. We promise **we will never sell or transfer your email address.**



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A Sponsored Ministry of
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Mission Statement

La Posada Providencia, founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Divine Providence, is a ministry for people in crisis from around the world, who are seeking legal refuge in this country. The shelter staff provides a safe and welcoming home; mentors to promote self-sufficiency and cultural integration; and imparts values which witness God's Providence in our world.

Save the Date! January 28, 2012 for Annual Brunch and Auction Benefit for La Posada

Mark your calendar now for **Hands & Hearts**, a brunch and auction on January 28, 2012, at the Texas State Technical College Cultural Arts Center.

If you would like to join the planning committee, sponsor the event, or advertise in the program, or if you have an item, service or experience to donate, contact Sister Zita Tellkamp, CDP at 956-399-3826 or zitacdp@gmail.com.

*"Let us lift up our hearts as well
as our hands toward God in heaven!"*

~ Lamentations 3:40-41



Hands & Hearts