



*Welcoming the stranger, Making a difference*

# Annual Report

2018-2019



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# From the Executive Director



During the 2018-2019 fiscal year, we served 713 immigrants and asylum seekers from 31 different countries. Of these, 42% were adult men, 7% were pregnant women and 26% were children. 61% of these immigrants stayed at La Posada for an average of three nights. La Posada Providencia cared for them by offering compassion, providing shelter, clothing, warm meals, and English language and life-skills lessons.

All of the 713 individuals we served suffered poverty, violence, and violations of their basic human rights. In beginning their asylum journey, these clients separated from their families and the possessions they held dear. Many fled tyranny, while others experienced unjust imprisonment and torture for exercising their freedom of speech and their right to democracy.

In calendar year 2019, La Posada celebrated a milestone - our 30th anniversary. We celebrated past and present clients and those who will follow, always mindful of the Gospel mandate to welcome the stranger.

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."*  
Matthew 25:35-36

I thank all our donors for the time and treasure received during fiscal year 2018-2019. Our Board and staff pour their passion into welcoming the stranger; your time and treasure enables us to continue this mission. Thanks to you, we are able to provide shelter, food, education, and a welcoming space for our clients to recover and prepare for the hard resettlement journey that still lies ahead for them.

May God bless you tenfold!

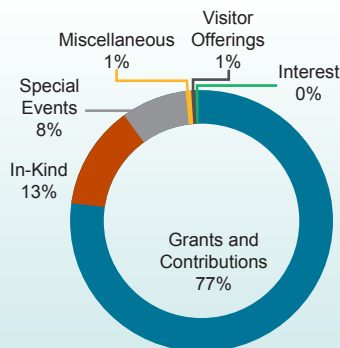
*Magda Bolland*

Magda Bolland,  
Executive Director

## Financials

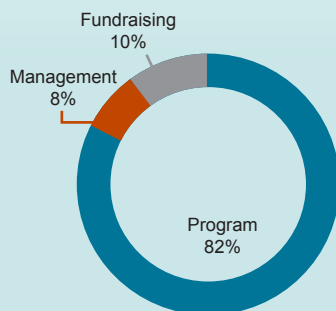
### Revenue

Grants and Contributions	\$ 684,355.00
In-Kind	\$ 116,599.00
Special Events	\$ 73,821.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 6,416.00
Visitor Offering	\$ 4,770.00
Interest	\$ 2,791.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 888,752.00</b>



### Expenditures

Program	\$ 565,425.00
Management	\$ 52,370.00
Fundraising	\$ 69,588.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 687,383.00</b>
Change in Net Assets	\$ 201,369.00
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ 684,515.00
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 885,884.00</b>



# Our Impact



**100%**

of clients residing three days or more enroll in ESL classes;



**80%**

of clients advanced their conversational English skills;



**80%**

of clients heightened awareness for achieving successful self-sufficiency;



**80%**

of clients heightened awareness for achieving a healthy lifestyle;



**70%**

of clients learned and/or expanded their technology skills;



**80%**

of clients learned about U.S. currency and money system;



**80%**

of clients learned to read an identity document card (I.D. card); and



**75%**

of clients can differentiate between a Social Security number, alien number, and phone number.

Clients residing for eight days or longer were enrolled in English language assistance and life-skills classes. Those proficient in English upon arrival achieve the following:

## Outcomes

**80%** of clients acquired basic U.S. geography, social, and economic skills

**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.

The client experience this past year mimics that of the previous year's for similar reasons. The number of arriving clients proficient in English decreased significantly. During FY 2018-2019, 61% of our clients were short-stay (less than seven bed nights); staying an average of three bed nights. Because of the predominance of short-stays and the lack of English proficiency of the majority of our clients in 2019, we continued to focus our attention on the area where we can achieve the greatest impact – teaching Basic English. The majority of our clients learned the basics, starting with the alphabet, greetings, numbers and counting money.



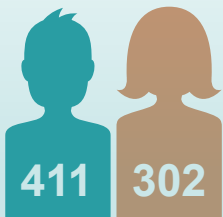
# 2018-2019 Highlights

# Volunteers



## Our Mission

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.



## About Our Population

**We provided shelter and care for 713 clients. Of these, 411 were males and 302 were females.**

- 74% of these were adults; 26% were children
- 19% arrived as families
- 7% or 49 were pregnant women

## Shelter Support Services

- 8,696 emergency shelter nights
- 24,466 meals served
- 24,916 miles driven for client access to needed services
- 5,667 ESL/Life-skills hours taught
- 208 health appointments attended



**250**

**VOLUNTEERS**



**9,588**

**HOURS SERVED**



**\$60,000**

**FINANCIAL VALUE**



## Countries of Client Origin



Angola	8	Ecuador	5	Honduras	234	Somalia	1
Bangladesh	1	El Salvador	51	India	3	South Africa	1
Belize	1	Eritrea	13	Mexico	22	Sri Lanka	1
Brazil	4	Gambia	1	Nigeria	1	Ukraine	2
Cameroon	4	Ghana	1	Nicaragua	13	USA	20
China	2	Guatemala	213	Pakistan	1	Venezuela	3
Congo	83	Guinea	2	Peru	1	Zimbabwe	1
Cuba	14	Haiti	3	Russia	3		

**Otto arrives from Russia, one of the 31 countries of client origin in 2018-2019. Our clients come from all over the world.**

In Russia, children of mixed cultures or race and whose mother or father is from a country other than Russia, are called “churkas.” It is an offensive term. Individuals identified as churkas frequently are subjected to discrimination and are coerced into participating in dangerous and illegal activities by corrupt government officials. Such was the case with Otto. He would not engage in illegal activities and was beaten, imprisoned and subjected to solitary confinement. Otto’s final threat was death by drowning.

Remarkably, he escaped from prison and fled the country leaving his aged mother in the care of his sister. His search for a journey to freedom led him to Mexico and then to the United States. After months in detention, Otto was released. He arrived at La Posada on March 5, 2019. For the next several months, he reported daily to Client Mentor Sister Thérèse Cunningham’s ESL classes and was one of her most diligent students. During his free time and on weekends, Otto enjoyed helping Site Coordinator Sister Margaret Mertens garden.

In August 2019, Otto received his work permit and left La Posada, speaking English, and moved to California where his final court appearance will be held. Otto is sharing an apartment with a friend and is gainfully employed in construction. Hardly a month passes without a call from him reporting to us—his first family and home in the USA.

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