



"I had dreams of coming to the United States, but I didn't know what I was going to do once I got here. Everybody that is coming to the United States dreams about good things, and I thank God because of La Posada, I didn't have to suffer when I finally reached my destination."

~Kuku,
former client from Ethiopia

Meeting a Need

La Posada Providencia opened on Dec. 1, 1989, by the Sisters of Divine Providence to provide temporary, emergency shelter for poor immigrants, asylees and asylum seekers in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. La Posada works to provide clients with safety, hope, and a way forward by addressing major service gaps for new immigrants.

These service gaps are a lack of emergency housing; inadequate options for employment preparation; lack of accessible English classes; life-skills education; inadequate local public transportation; and lack of access to social services and healthcare until legal status is resolved.

La Posada is the only shelter in the lower Rio Grande Valley that offers individual case management to optimize client resettlement outcomes and that can accommodate extended stays for clients when needed. There are no other homeless shelters in San Benito, and services provided by other Cameron County homeless shelters are focused on serving the general homeless population.

Welcoming the Stranger

La Posada Providencia translates to "the Inn of Providence." *Las Posadas* is also the Spanish ritual commemorating Mary and Joseph's search for shelter on the night of Christ's birth. The name for the shelter was chosen to reflect both the gospel mandate to *welcome the stranger* and our trust in a Provident God.



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.

La Posada Providencia

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La Posada Providencia



Welcoming the stranger, making a difference



**Providing shelter for
immigrants and asylum seekers
petitioning for legal refuge
in this country**



A sponsored ministry of the
Sisters of Divine Providence



Our Clients

We provide food, shelter and support to hundreds of individuals and families each year, all of whom are in the process of obtaining asylum or other lawful residence in the United States.

We serve single men and women, families and mothers and fathers with children. They are persons who have fled their homelands due to political or religious oppression, natural disaster, or other life-threatening circumstances. Many have endured severe hardships, including poverty, unjust imprisonment, and even torture. Most clients arrive traumatized and destitute with no income.

Clients are referred to us by immigration attorneys, churches and United States immigration officials. We have aided nearly 11,000 immigrants and asylum seekers from 86 countries since our founding in 1989.

We have sheltered as few as 229 to more than 1,000 clients in one year. Our yearly census responds to turmoil occurring around the world and to changes in United States immigration policies.

Our Staff and Volunteers

La Posada Providencia operates with a dedicated staff. The demands of a 24/7 shelter far exceed the capacity of staff to adequately address all needs at all times. Volunteers make a significant contribution to the work of La Posada by supporting programs and operations. Volunteers help keep operating expenses from rising without sacrificing services to clients.

We are fortunate to host many talented and committed volunteers: short-term, live-in volunteers; Associates of the Sisters of Divine Providence; volunteers from other religious communities, churches and organizations; student volunteers from law schools and universities from around the country; and Winter Texans and local volunteers from the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

At La Posada, individuals and groups wishing to donate their time are always needed and welcome.

Our Programs Include ...

- Shelter, food and clothing: 24-hours a day, 365 days a year
- Case management: needs assessment, goal-setting, and coordination of services to meet those goals
- Local transportation: access to health, legal and social services offices, bus station, etc.
- Language instruction: instructor led or CD/video, plus individual and group conversation practice
- Cultural integration: assistance with shopping, travel and communications, filling out paperwork, and coordination with various agencies, and businesses
- Life skills: computer literacy, financial basics, health and nutrition; and employment readiness
- Self-sustainability practices: organic gardening, recycling, and energy-efficiency

Donations

La Posada depends on donations, grants, and special events to continue its mission of welcoming the stranger. Monetary contributions are gratefully accepted. Donations of services such as legal aid, medical/dental care, and counseling are deeply appreciated.

Give today! Visit
LPPShelter.org/WaystoGive

