

2021



# New Beginnings

**Challenge - Resolve - Adapt - Achieve**

“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

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## Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Since our last New Beginnings Newsletter, published in the summer of 2019, much has happened. In 2019, we were celebrating La Posada’s 30th anniversary. Now, in 2021, we reflect on the challenges we have faced since then, our resolve to continue “welcoming the stranger” in a pandemic, how we adapted, and how we strive to achieve positive resettlement outcomes for our clients amidst the pandemic and an influx of migrants.

We received and continue to receive many questions about our shelter’s journey as it responded to challenges, strengthened its resolve, adapted, and achieved. Here are some of these questions and answers. We hope that the answers also respond to questions you may have.

### Question 1:

**How has La Posada managed through the pandemic?**

**Answer 1:** Our first step was taking necessary actions to keep everyone safe (clients, staff, and volunteers) and following local, state, and federal guidelines. In mid-March 2020, Cameron County Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. mandated shelter-in-place. The order lasted until May 1, 2020.

The most challenging aspects involved sheltering long-term clients who had nowhere to go and protecting our live-in staff. Later, Texas reopening quickly presented new challenges to navigate.

In the beginning, we allowed only live-in staff and long-term clients on-site. Then, staff working from home helped with the procurement of supplies to avoid compromising live-in staff by leaving the shelter to shop for supplies.

After two or four weeks, we allowed cooks and housekeepers to return.

Some positions are difficult to perform remotely, for example, case management. The case manager seldom worked from home to ensure the clients received all services they needed. For months, he avoided seeing his family to keep staff and clients at the shelter safe.