



# Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

September 2006, Newsletter #102

[www.amigoscenter.org](http://www.amigoscenter.org)



## More Immigration Help

It has been said that 'Information is power'. If that is the case, then Christina Leddin, Immigration Specialist with Amigos Center since 2001, is a powerful person. She is often invited to speak about immigration issues at public forums throughout Southwest Florida. Whether through local radio and print media or in person, she is equally at ease speaking in English or Spanish. Lee County Human Services invited Christina to speak this month at the Pine Manor Community Center in Fort Myers. Her next two appearances will be orchestrated by the Lee County Public Library, during National Literacy Week and also during National Hispanic Heritage Month. Immigration is a hot topic with the immigrant community. People come out in large numbers to hear about opportunities for legal residency and citizenship. Amigos Center feels that it is also important to clearly explain when there is no possibility of legal residency under current immigration law. Unscrupulous shysters charge large fees and make empty promises to immigrants desperate to work and live here legally or to bring their family to the United States. Amigos Center Immigration Specialists Christina Leddin and Eulalia Troncoso are ready, willing and able to share their expertise with all who are willing to listen. The love of Christ compels us to speak the truth in love.

## LCMS World Relief Grant

Lutheran World Relief and Human Care: LCMS have approved a \$7,500 grant for the support of our Golden Gate Amigos Center. Located on the premises of Messiah Lutheran Church, Naples, we provide immigration and social services three days a week. During the first six months of 2006 our Golden Gate office provided services to 227 unduplicated clients: 107 immigration clients, 68 were humanitarian events.



## Immokalee Ministry

Good news! We have the building. The Lutheran Church Extension Fund agreed to loan us the money with a five year interest only loan. That will give us time to raise the money to pay for the building and renovation costs. We will close on the building as soon as LCEF and the title company can prepare the papers. We should be able to complete county zoning and permitting requirements along with construction/landscaping issues within six months (famous last words).

We are in the process of forming our founder's groups (both Hispanic and Haitian). The groups will plan, pray and study during this next six month period in preparation for our grand opening.

Thank you for your prayers, efforts, expressions of support and involvement during these past several months. We look forward to working with you in one way or another to realize our vision of a strong, healthy, multicultural and comprehensive Christ centered ministry in Immokalee.

## Immokalee Festival

Set aside Saturday, October 14 to come to Immokalee and participate in our Festival of the Americas. We will have live music, Haitian and Hispanic food booths, entertainment for the kids, health screening and more. This will give us a chance to become better known in the community and for you to come and join in the fun. It will be held at the Immokalee Community Park, 321 North First Street. That is three blocks from our new ministry center.

## Give thanks to God for . . .

- An open door to ministry in Immokalee.

## Pray for . . .

- People willing to accomplish our vision for Immokalee

Telephone: (239) 437-6727, Rev. Robert and Donna Selle, DCE Sarah Paganos