



Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

March 2009, Newsletter #129

www.amigoscenter.org



All-Time High

By Rev. Robert Selle

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- During 2008 we served 1,507 immigration clients, an all-time high;
- In 2008 we provided 75% more humanitarian services (280 families) compared to 2007. This was due to the opening of our food pantry in Immokalee and our service to Tropical Storm Fay flood victims;
- Beginning January 2009 we expanded our Immigration services in Bonita Springs from three days to five days per week.
- Record high attendance in 2008 for worship services in Bonita Springs and Immokalee.

Required Training

By Sarah Willig: Community Outreach Liaison

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Thanks to a generous donation from O'Donnell Landscaping, Estero, Florida, our immigration specialists were able to attend a required training to keep up-to-date with the always changing immigration laws. Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC) and Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services provided two full days of family-based immigration training in El Paso, TX in February. The training provided detailed information on the most important aspects of family-based immigration. Ongoing training is required to maintain accreditation with the Board of Immigration Appeals.

Friends of Amigos Tour!

By Ashby Axelgard: Development Director

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Do you know all there is to know about Amigos en Cristo? We challenge you to come to a tour! We are sure you'll be inspired and learn something new! Call Ashby at 239-560-5805 or Sarah at 239-784-8474 if you are interested or want to know more. Every 2nd Thursday, 9am, Bonita Springs.

"I just feel that by coming to this tour I learned so much about what Amigos is. I thought it was just a food pantry and now I know how much more that they do with Immigration and support systems and everything. I was very impressed." (Recent tour participant Gerda Treglown)

Friends of Amigos Lunch

Annual Fundraiser! Tues, March 24th

We are proud to announce our NEW and exciting annual fundraiser the Friends of Amigos Lunch. In lieu of the banquet we will have a FREE, yes that's right, FREE one hour luncheon on Tuesday, March 24th at 12pm. The event will be held at the Embassy Suites in Estero, conveniently located off the interstate and close to Miromar outlets. We would love for you to come, be inspired, and if we inspire you enough, to pledge to walk along side us by donating to the ministry.

Call Ashby for details 239-560-5805.

We Need Food

We are looking for the following food items: rice, pinto beans, flour, cooking oil, sugar, evaporated milk, long duration milk, canned meats and canned vegetables. Call Donna at (239) 437-6727.

Give thanks to God for...

- The blessing our immigration services have provided for thousands of immigrants.

Pray for...

- Ongoing training for our staff;
- Our Friends of Amigos Luncheon fundraising event, March 24.