

# Amigos en Cristo Inc., d/b/a Amigos Center



*Dear Friend/Amigo/Amis,*

As we embark on 2010 together, many things are happening in this world that leave us scratching our heads confused and wondering how we can help. Mother Teresa said, "We can do no great things, only small things with great love." We invite you this year to do join us in making small differences in the lives around you and hopefully together, big things will begin to happen.

Thank you for taking the time to read about what is going on in SW Florida with Amigos en Cristo.

In His Service,  
The Amigos Center Staff

## [New Tour! New Time!](#)

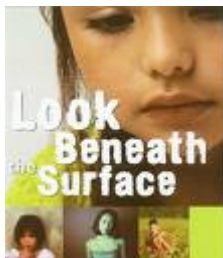
On January 21, 2010 from 10am-11am, you will not want to miss this tour of Amigos Center in Bonita Springs! A live testimony of a client who has been helped, question/answer session with Amigos Immigration Specialists, and updates about new developments are sure to leave you feeling excited about Amigos Center. Come to Hope Lutheran in Bonita Springs at 10am on Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup> for a wonderful morning! Call Ashby at 239-560-5805 to RSVP.

## [God brings warmth in the cold Spencer Greenlee, Service Dir.](#)

Record temperature lows in Florida have brought in many people to our center lately. Thanks to God and our supporters, we have had blankets, hats, gloves, socks and other warm clothes donated to give to those in need. With many people living in conditions where they do not have a bed and sometimes not even shelter, we have been able to share the love of Christ with people we may never have seen under normal circumstances. Please continue to pray with us as we foresee many issues arising as a result of the fields freezing and people not able to work.



## [Human Slavery Awareness](#) Ashby Greenlee



Did you know that there are currently 27 MILLION people currently in slavery? 50% of these are children, some as young as four years old. Florida is the number 2 state in the United States for trafficking victims. Human Trafficking is expected to be the number one crime in the world in 2010, surpassing drugs and firearms.

The President has designated January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. The week of January 20, Florida Gulf Coast University, the Lee County Sheriff's Dep't. and Wings of Shelter, Int will be working with 40 other partners including Amigos Center to bring awareness to our area about this epidemic. The night of January 20, 2010 at 7:30 p.m., world renowned author of "Not for Sale" David Batstone will be kicking off this event at FGCU. To learn more about how to end slavery in your neighborhood, visit [Wings of Shelter](#) to see the schedule for the week and to register for the event.

## **Sticks and stones may break my bones but Amigos Center helped me!**

Marisol recently met a mother of a nine year old boy who happened to fall as he was getting off the bus. The doctor who saw him said the elbow was broken in such a way that he would need a specialist. This was an impossibility for a family already struggling for basic needs and the insurance they had would not cover this need. Feeling hopeless and overwhelmed, Maria Vasquez heard that the Amigos Center was a safe place to go. Sharing with Marisol (caseworker in Bonita Springs), they learned that it would take over a month and a half to process the claim with Medicaid thus rendering this child's arm permanently injured. Marisol made many more phone calls and found a light at the end of the tunnel with a Shriner's hospital in Tampa. She found a bus going from Fort Myers to Tampa for Sergio Vasquez and one child surgery later, Sergio will now be able to use his arm again. He is in physical therapy currently and is happily back at school.

Marisol had the opportunity to pray with Maria who got the opportunity to experience God's power and comfort in a time where she had no hope. Connecting people into a relationship with Jesus Christ is the ultimate goal of Amigos Center. Meeting people where they are, building trust, and showing Christ's love is why this ministry began in 1997. Thank you for your support and prayers over these last 12 years as we look expectantly to the future.

Please partner with us in prayer for the estimated 3 million people who were affected by the 7.3 earthquake in Haiti. This has devastated so many and much will need to be done to help those who were devastated by this natural disaster.

Amigos En Cristo