



EL BUEN PASTOR
LATINO COMMUNITY SERVICES

4637 Tim Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mary Bolton

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VISION STATEMENT

We seek to offer Latino families hope for a positive future, and to build bridges between the Latino community and the greater community as we facilitate relationships that bring new understandings and benefits to all involved.

Incorporated in 2006,

El Buen Pastor

Latino Community Services

is a 501(c)(3) organization

and a member of the

N.C. Center for Nonprofits.

EL BUEN PASTOR

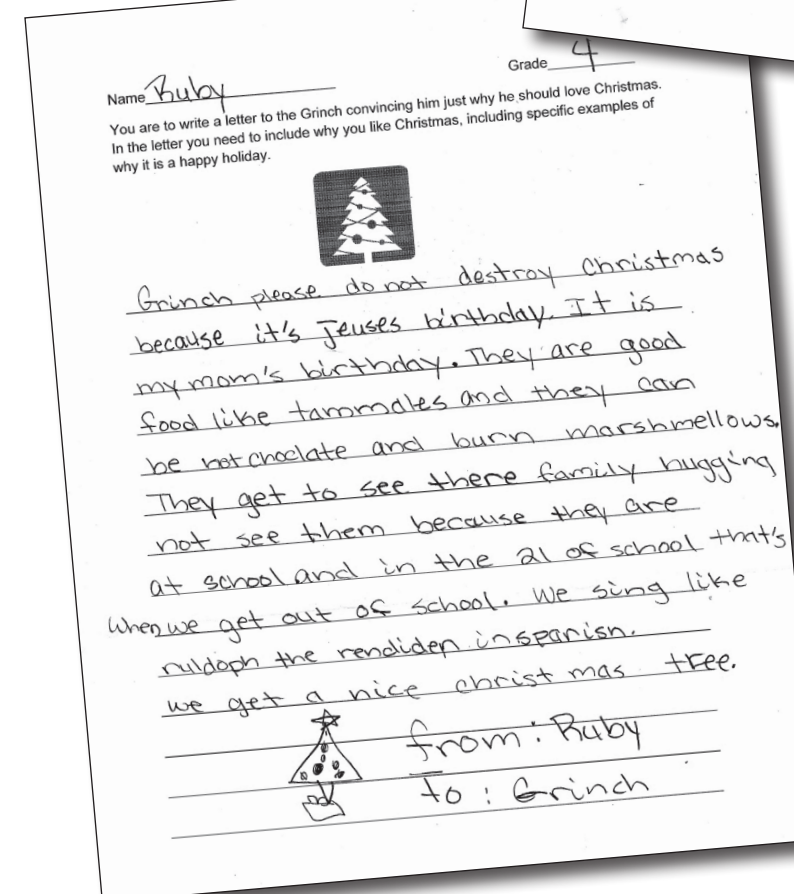
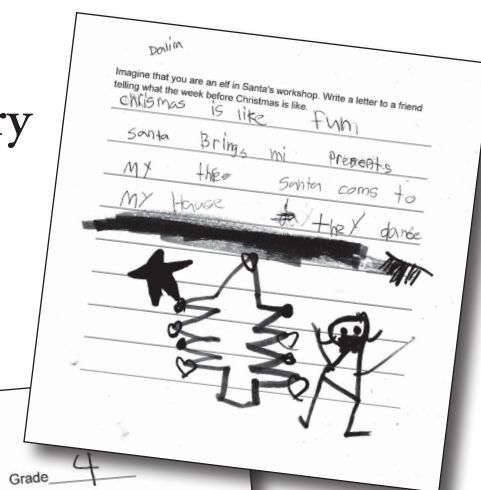
LATINO COMMUNITY SERVICES

strengthening families ... fortaleciendo familias

The Mission of El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services is to strengthen Latino families in the Old Town area and help them adapt to their new lives in Winston-Salem.

DECEMBER 2012

✿ Elementary
Tutoring Director Mary
Eagle gave students
Christmas-themed
writing prompts this
month.



¡MUCHAS GRACIAS!

- ✿ To the **Stephenson Pope Babcock Foundation** for a grant of \$8,000 in support of our Family Literacy Initiative.
- ✿ To the **Division of Faith and Health Ministries of Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center** for their donation of \$7,000 in sponsorship of our upcoming 5k race El Buen Camino.
- ✿ To **Meg, Tim, Morgan and Caitlin Brown**. Since 2007 the Browns have hosted and organized a meal at noon on Thanksgiving Day at El Buen Pastor. This year 175 folks from the El Buen Pastor community were served by the Browns and 45 other volunteers who shared in the uniquely American custom of dedicating a day to give thanks for God's provision in a new land. We are grateful for the Brown family, the volunteers and the donors who have made "welcoming the newcomer" part of their Thanksgiving tradition.



CHRISTMAS COMES

Christmas comes every time we see God in other persons.
The human and the holy meet in Bethlehem
or in Times Square,
for Christmas comes like a golden storm on its way
to Jerusalem—
determinedly, inevitably. . . .

Even now it comes
in the face of hatred and warring—
no atrocity too terrible to stop it,
no Herod strong enough,
no hurt deep enough,
no curse shocking enough,
no disaster shattering enough.
For someone on earth will see the star,
someone will hear the angel voices,
someone will run to Bethlehem,
someone will know peace and goodwill:
the Christ will be born!

From *Kneeling in Bethlehem* by Ann Weems



WHY I SMILE...

Although December is often a difficult month for the families of El Buen Pastor, I just can't help smiling when I think about the first Saturday in December this year. Many of our families live under the cloud of uncertainty that seems to constantly hover over the homes of the poor—job insecurity, unreliable paychecks, lack of health care and insurance, unexpected expenses that tend to pop up when one can least afford them. These financial factors combined with the sadness of being separated from extended family can make the holidays stressful for low-income immigrants.

But this December 1 some of our families set aside their worries to enjoy an unseasonably beautiful day with their children. In the morning our Girls on the Run team participated in the Mistletoe Run 5k—each 8, 9 or 10-year-old trotting down Reynolda Road with her adult “running buddy”, doing her part to raise funds to stop childhood obesity.

Then in the afternoon it was the boys' turn, as Cub Scout Pack 904 decorated a parade float and ventured downtown

to participate in the Jaycees Holiday Parade. Did you see our Scouts? They were the ones on the trailer with Christmas lights and the “Feliz Navidad” sign, pulled by the old white van. They were wearing Santa hats and tossing peppermints to the crowd. They felt like rock stars!

So here's why I'm smiling: To me that Saturday is a hopeful sign of things to come for our families. A sign that these children of immigrants are being woven into the fabric we call America, and that each one contributes uniquely to the richness of our local and national tapestry. And their parents are being woven in also, as they walk beside their sons' float in the parade, or run with their daughters in the 5k, or sit proudly in the audience as their children sing in the Central Carolina Children's Chorus Christmas concert, or volunteer at our after school program...and as they hold on to the hope that their children's future will be bright. Christmas IS coming...do you see the star?

Mary Bolton, *Executive Director*

✿ RUNNING AND READING

EL BUEN CAMINO 5K IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 6, 2013

Be part of the first annual 5k event to support the work of El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services and El Buen Pastor Presbyterian Church! The race will be held on the Reynolda campus of Wake Forest University beginning at 9:00 am. Register on line via our website www.elbuenpastorLCS.org or search for El Buen Camino on active.com.



RUNNING COACHES NEEDED

The “running fever” that has spread through the El Buen Pastor families began in 2008 with a *Girls on the Run* (GOTR) program for 3rd – 5th grade girls. The Forsyth County affiliate of this national nonprofit is sponsored by Novant and the Junior League of Winston-Salem. We are currently recruiting coaches for our site for the spring semester of 2013. The biweekly practices will begin in February, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-6:00, in preparation for El Buen Camino and the Fit Family 5k in April. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Elizabeth Schiemann at 924-0401 or elizabeth@elbuenpastorLCS.org.

LET'S GET MOVING!

Our community is not just hosting a race—this winter we're making concerted efforts to be in shape to run in the spring. A group of youth and adults are meeting weekly with fitness trainer Jorge Mendez Estrada, a recent WFU health and exercise science grad; and our elementary students are reading *Henry Gets Moving* by Pierre Rouzier and Chaz Nielsen. This delightful book—with both Spanish and English text—tells the story of Henry's struggle to make positive choices about food and exercise. We currently have 26 copies on hand, thanks to WFU grad and former LCS tutor Jack Odell, who is promoting this book as a weapon in the fight against childhood obesity. We would like to have one for every family to keep at the end of the race...which means we need 50 more copies. If you would like to buy a copy for one of our families (or for your own family) the book is available on Amazon.com.

WISH LIST: BOOKS FOR OUR FAMILY LITERACY INITIATIVE

Can you help us start our book collection? In addition to *Henry Gets Moving*, our Amazon.com wish list has independent reading books for middle schoolers and bilingual titles for elementary kids and their families. It's easy to purchase books from the list and have them shipped to us! There are two lists: “El Buen Pastor Book” and “Bilingual Readers”.



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