



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.

MUCHAS GRACIAS



In April LCS was awarded a grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust Poor and Needy Division in support of our secondary school tutoring and enrichment program entitled Embracing the Future. The \$49,720 grant will be paid over a two year period, and allow Youth Tutoring Director Martha Lowry to expand the current program to include a separate component for high school students, and to focus on high school graduation and post-graduation planning. The program includes character education and leadership opportunities that help students accept responsibility for their decisions and their futures, maximizing their chances of earning that diploma. We are grateful for the continued confidence that the Trust has in our organization.

DONADORES DE ESPERANZA... GIVERS OF HOPE

We are pleased to announce a new society to honor donors who support the work of El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services by giving \$1,000 or more over the course of a year, the *Donadores de Esperanza* Society. Every individual or family who gives that amount during this inaugural year of 2011 will be considered a Charter Member of the Society, and will be so designated when donor lists are published in our annual reports.

Those who are interested in making an immediate gift or pledge in this amount are invited to contact Community Relations Director Cindy Stubblefield by e-mail, cindy@elbuenpastorLCS.org, or Executive Director Mary Bolton by phone at 336.924.0401. We are grateful to all the individuals who have contributed to our successful first five years of operation, and appreciate those who go forward with us to continue offering hope for a positive future to the families of LCS.

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.

SUMMER 2011

✿PARENTS, THE FIRST TEACHERS...HOME, THE FIRST CLASSROOM



Since 1973, Texas-based AVANCE has provided a successful parent-child education program for Hispanic parents and children between infancy and three years of age. LCS is one of four nonprofits selected from across the country to receive \$50,000 to implement the program for a year. In June our staff will be trained by AVANCE and begin recruiting young mothers to participate in September classes. This program fills a gap in our services, allowing us to offer programs for children and their parents from birth through adolescence, with the goal that every child graduate from high school.

“AVANCE is a perfect fit for LCS in so many ways,” says Executive Director Mary Bolton. “We have long noticed that the concept of mother as the child’s first teacher is unknown to our families. They are very child-centered, love their babies, and respect education and teachers. But they tend to believe that education begins at school, and that their job is keeping their little ones well-fed, healthy, and safe.” The program will be offered in the morning, when our staff is available and classrooms are currently not in use. Families in the neighborhood will help recruit mothers for the program and women who attended our parenting classes in the past will mentor the younger women. Babies who come to AVANCE with their mothers will grow into our preschool classes, and parents will continue to learn by joining our adult groups and volunteering with children’s programs.

“We are honored to partner with such a well-respected organization, and are committed to continuing the program beyond this initial year,” says Bolton. AVANCE’s motto, “Parents, the first teachers...Home, the first classroom” says it all.

✿STOP SUMMER LEARNING LOSS!



Research is clear that students from low-income families experience *summer learning loss* at a greater rate than their middle-income classmates, returning to school in the fall reading at a lower level than they had been reading in June. According to Duke University Professor Harris Cooper, small, individualized summer programs that involve students'

parents are most effective. That's us! Tutors and students both love the relaxed pace of the summer program, free from the hassles of homework. Elementary Tutoring Director Debra Delois says, "Our goal is to have one-on-one reading tutoring for every student, and to incorporate hands-on, interactive science, math, and social studies enrichment."

Volunteers must be 16 to serve as tutors, although middle school students may volunteer alongside their parents.

If you would like to join us this summer contact Community Relations Coordinator Casey Carroll to sign up (casey@elbuenpastorLCS.org).

SUMMER TUTORING SCHEDULE

- Tuesday, June 14, 3:45-5:00: Volunteer training (new tutors only)
- Thursday, June 16, 3:45-5:00: Volunteer training (new and returning tutors)
- June 21-30, 3:45-5:00: Tutoring weeks 1 and 2
- July 12-28, 3:45-5:00: Tutoring weeks 3, 4, and 5

✿WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE GOOD OF ALL

The Texans visiting us on behalf of AVANCE were delighted with the level of activity and the sense of community they felt here at LCS. The assistant project director told me, "You already have such an amazing corps of volunteers from all walks of life! Of all the organizations we picked as re-grant partners, you have the most active volunteer program and that is fantastic." Indeed, LCS is blessed with devoted tutors, mentors, coaches, co-laborers and advisors from across Forsyth County. And because we have seen that people learn from people in the context of relationships, we know how critical our volunteers are to the success of our programs.

Another important aspect of our success at LCS is our commitment to collaborate with other agencies and organizations to provide new opportunities for our families and increase our impact. Not only do such alliances allow us to be good stewards of our limited financial resources and keep us from re-inventing the wheel, but they provide another bridge between Latinos here in Old Town and the larger community.

In addition to our new affiliation with AVANCE, this spring we hosted another parent-child education program

provided by Family Services, Inc.—*Strengthening Families*. Ten LCS families took part in this evidence-based family skills training program that has a 20-year track record of reducing delinquent behavior in children 10-14 years. This summer the Forsyth County Library will include our 2nd-4th graders in their science program that culminates in a trip to the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro. Cub Scouts and Girls on the Run bring trained volunteers here so they can include Hispanic children in their well-respected programs. Our community garden has no less than FOUR associates—WinstonGrows, Reap More Than You Sow, Knollwood Baptist Church, and Wake Forest Campus Kitchen, and we are eagerly awaiting the installation of our Public Computing Center lab by WinstonNet.

What a generous, welcoming city we live in! What a blessing it is to partner with so many kind people who share their time and resources so freely! I count it a privilege to partner with you all.

—Mary Bolton, *Executive Director*

✿TRANSFORMED LIVES...



When Cathie Heck began volunteering with second graders in the LCS tutoring program in 2006, she was particularly worried about Daniela. Although Dani seemed to be bright, she had no interest in reading or homework, preferring to draw, daydream, or go the water fountain...ANYthing but focus on her studies. Having pretended to be a cat for most of first grade, Dani had a great imagination, but was reading well-below grade level, and Cathie was concerned for her future. Her teachers at Old Town Elementary were concerned about Dani's low performance and immaturity, too, and she was held back to repeat third grade. Cathie was determined that Dani would progress: "It was a huge task to get her to put effort into reading. First I tried encouragement and positive reinforcement, and then I moved on to positive harassment." Thinking back on that time, Dani said, "When I was younger, writing was really hard for me. In the summer Ms. Cathie gave me a notebook and every day we worked on writing."

Fast forward to 2011...Dani is a fifth grade honor student with an A in writing. She was selected for the Human Relations award at her school, and just completed her sixth 5K race with Girls on the Run. Dani sings in the chorus and LOVES TO READ!

Cathie's struggle to help Dani has impacted her own life journey, as she is now enrolled in the Master of Education program at UNC-G, studying Curriculum and English as a Second Language. A former college instructor with a Master's in English Rhetoric, Cathie realizes that learning to read English is an enormous challenge for children of parents who speak Spanish and received minimal schooling themselves, and she wants to do all she can to help them meet the challenge.

Cathie and Daniela aren't the only ones who have changed in the past five years—Cathie says that Dani's mother was critical to her daughter's transformation. In LCS parenting classes Aure learned how to play a supporting role in Dani's academics and a leading role in her character development. According to Dani, "My mom makes me be good. She disciplined me when I was younger, but now she doesn't have to." When asked what is most difficult about "being good," Dani didn't hesitate with her reply. "When people disrespect you it is hard to not show disrespect back. But if you respect them, they will respect you one day."

Very wise words from a fifth grader.

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