



Amigos en Cristo

A Ministry of the Southwest Florida Outreach Council: LCMS

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www.amigoscenter.org

Testimony of an Immigrant

Here is a portion of a letter we recently received:

“...When we arrived into this country, we went through hard months, very hard: ... Such cold people, so closed into themselves, the new rules, a form of life so different from what we were accustomed and an ocean of indifferent people who passed us by as if no one else existed made us think that we must be in the wrong place.

“Yet just as ‘God squeezes but doesn’t choke’, He demonstrated once more that He does not abandon anyone. He sent a guardian angel to watch over us to make this new life we have chosen more bearable. In the midst of a turbulent sea of difficulties appeared Christina Leddin, who became our ray of hope when we passed through a dark tunnel that seemed to have no end....”

“...In our country there are evil people, that we can’t deny, however there are definitely more good people than bad. There always is someone willing to help the needy, always a willing hand extended to lift the fallen; thanks to Christina and Amigos Center we have once again felt this kindness that we so missed...”

New Immigration Specialist

Good things are happening with our Amigos Center ministry. Our newest staff member is Eulalia “Lala” Troncoso. Lala will serve as our Immigration Specialist for both Bonita Springs and Golden Gate, two communities of Southwest Florida about 17 miles apart.

Christina Leddin, our current full-time Immigration Specialist will train her. Our goal is to have Lala accredited within one year with the Board of Immigration Appeals, a department of the U.S. Justice Department.

A resident of Cape Coral, Lala is a licensed Real Estate agent and certified notary public. Born

and raised in Colombia she has lived most of her adult life in the United States. She received a management diploma from the Berkely College of Business in New Jersey and two Associate Degrees from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. She is fluent in both Spanish and English. Lala has been an active volunteer of the Amigos Center for over one year.

Fundraising Banquet 2005

Mark Friday, March 18 on your calendars. Our second annual fundraising banquet will start at 7:00 PM in the Robert F. Anderson Athletic Center, St. Michael’s Lutheran Church, Fort Myers. We count on your support.

Mr. John Bulger, the Florida District Director of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has agreed to be the keynote speaker at our banquet. He will update us concerning the newest initiatives, policies and procedures of the USCIS. There are 33 Immigration District Offices in the United States. District Offices are responsible for enforcing immigration laws in their jurisdiction.

Fox 4 News Reporter Vivian Vedel and David Plazas Editor of the Fort Myers News-Press Spanish edition will serve as co-Master of Ceremonies.

Individual tickets or entire tables seating eight will be available soon. Call Pastor Bob Selle (239) 437-6727 for information.

Give thanks to God for . . .

- Opportunities to expand our ministries of Word and sacrament as well as Social Services to the Golden Gate area of Collier County.

Pray for . . .

- Eulalia “Lala” Troncoso
- Our goal of raising \$20,000 from our second annual fundraising banquet.