



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.

FALL 2011

MADE BY MAMI, WITH LOVE



Broomstick ponies with embroidered eyes and braided reins, graduated trios of soup cans for stacking and nesting covered in Contact paper, soft pillows with a happy face stitched on one side and a sad face on the other...such projects are the focus of our morning toy making sessions. Gathering around the worktable with busy hands, conversation and laughter, young mothers share their lives and develop friendships while their little ones enjoy a stimulating classroom environment down the hall. The curriculum for our new AVANCE program for mothers of children 0-3 years is based on the idea that children learn through playing. For each lovingly-crafted toy our staff demonstrates to the mothers how to use that toy to stimulate babies' natural curiosity about the environment and teach developmentally appropriate skills and concepts.

Language development and vocabulary-building, cause and effect, auditory and visual discrimination, eye-hand coordination, fine and gross motor skills...these concepts and more are modeled for each toy.

In the February 21, 2011 edition of the Christian Science Monitor, Jerome Kagan's opinion piece is entitled "Want better students? Teach their parents." Commenting on the well-documented but little-addressed fact that the best predictor of reading and math skills in the early grades is the education level of the parents, he said that children from low-income, under-educated families are often behind academically before they even begin school. He concludes with this: "Programs that target early parental instruction don't just change students' lives, they have the potential to reform entire education systems."

Here at El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services we are doing just that, with a by-product of made-by-mom educational toys!

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING BEGINS SEPTEMBER 12



Volunteer tutors needed: Monday through Thursday: 4:00-5:00 elementary grades; Tuesday and Thursday: 4:30-5:30 sixth and seventh grades, 5:45-6:45 eighth-eleventh grades.

School supplies needed for the children: boxes of 24 Crayola crayons, packs of #2 pencils, packs of glue sticks, packs of erasers, 1" 3-ring binders, pencil pouches, wide rule notebook paper, washable Crayola markers, wide rule 1 subject spiral notebooks, wide rule composition books

To donate supplies, volunteer to make toys or sign-up to tutor, contact Casey at 336.924.0401 or casey@elbuenpastorLCS.org

TOY MAKING WORKSHOP ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Volunteers needed to help LCS staff hand sew sample baby toys for our parenting class. Wednesdays mornings in August and September: 10:00-12:00 at El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services. Drop-ins welcome!

Sewing supplies needed: thread, embroidery thread, fabric scissors, straight pins, fabric remnants (cotton broadcloth, fleece, felt, satin), fabric trim (braid, rickrack, etc.)

OTHER WAYS TO HELP

Find us on Facebook at El Buen Pastor LCS Winston-Salem and share us with your friends.

Sign up for our E-news letter and forward it to people you know. Go to our website at www.elbuenpastorLCS.org and click on Resources to sign up.

Designate your United Way gift to El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services. Use code #2768.

Share this newsletter. Pass along stories of the amazing work done at El Buen Pastor Latino Community Services.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT: FRANCIA CACCHIONE



Ask a child under seven what is special about EBPLCS and you will hear about Francía. For over five years Francía Cacchione has taught, nurtured and loved our little ones, and they have loved her back. Although her large colorful classroom with cheerful curtains, a Noah's Ark mural and a hand-me-down Little Tykes playhouse draws little ones in to play, lots of solid learning takes place there. Her four-year-old students learn appropriate classroom behavior and reading-

readiness basics to prepare them for kindergarten. Francía's experience made her the logical choice to serve as Child Development Supervisor for our new AVANCE program, where children three and younger will benefit from her gentle manner and patience. She says that the key to impacting little ones lies in developing relationships with both the children and their parents. Before coming to the US Francía taught middle school in her native Dominican Republic, where her adult son Johnny Francis works as a systems engineer. Daughter Jonorys is a student at WSSU, and son Johnny Saulier, a senior at North Forsyth. Her husband Jim is a US Army veteran. Like all true Dominicans, Francía is an avid baseball fan, and loves music and dance. She recently completed English classes at Forsyth Tech and a computer class, and is preparing to apply for citizenship. This summer Francía led her students in a Fourth of July celebration, complete with water play, watermelon, and learning the symbolism of the stars and stripes on the American flag. Gracias, Francía!

GO DEACS!



Each semester over forty students from Wake Forest University volunteer weekly or biweekly as tutors with our after school program, and in recent years we have also hosted interns from WFU. Divinity School student Kim Sturgill interned with our elementary tutoring program this past school year, supervising first graders and providing group spiritual direction sessions for the many children who expressed interest. This summer rising senior Sharonna

Taylor-Howard brought her energy and enthusiasm to the LCS kids, leading recreational and character-building activities through her Summer Nonprofit Immersion Internship. The fifth grade girls enjoyed an end-of-summer tour of downtown Winston-Salem arranged by Sharonna, including a buggy ride and a visit to the top of the Nissen Building. Our 2009 summer intern Teddy Aronson was the 2011 recipient of Wake Forest's Christman Award for Service, presented to the graduating senior who most exemplifies the University's Pro Humanitate motto. In Teddy's honor, the University donated \$750 to the non-profit agency of his choice—LCS! Teddy had this to say about his time with us: "By the end of the summer, I realized that I had, in a way, become assimilated into this Latino culture. No longer was I an outsider seeking acceptance from within; instead, I had become a contributor to this communal ethos—where people struggle to adapt to a new life in the United States yet remain determined and strong in their belief that it will also be a better one. I cherish my experience with El Buen Pastor, and I will miss that whole community dearly when I leave Winston-Salem after graduation."

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



As I drove away from El Buen Pastor one warm July evening, I had to smile at the slice of community life that was framed in my rearview mirror. Although the summer tutoring program had dismissed two hours earlier and produce from the Wake Forest Campus Kitchen delivery had already been distributed, there were half a dozen cars left in the parking lot. Two men chatted in the shade of the church porch, arms draped over the back of the bench. Beside them were the recycling bins they had sorted in preparation for hauling to the curb. Up on the soccer field another man from the community operated the riding mower. Under the trees, a handful of children sucked on frozen treats called *bolis* some of the women prepare and sell to raise money for the church. As a family harvested the first tomatoes from the community garden, *muchachas* in sneakers set off to power-walk around the block, trailing the teen and adult runners who were training for a 5K race.

This scenario was the product of a six-year outpouring of kindness and time from hundreds of EBPLCS volunteers who stood in the culture gap to model "community" while the Latino newcomers got their bearings. For years, homemade treats, grass-mowing, and church up-keep was provided by volunteers from outside the neighborhood. But now the *mujeres* rule the kitchen and the *hombres* take care of the grounds. When Jen Henson approached us in 2008 with the idea of starting a chapter of Girls on the Run at LCS, the concepts of running for fitness and entering a race to raise money for charity were new ideas for the families. That first December when the girls competed in the Mistletoe Run, coaches pooled their money to buy appropriate running clothes for each girl, our staff coaxed parents to sign permission forms and get the girls ready on time, and volunteers drove one van of runners and another full of parents and siblings to the starting line. This spring things were quite different. Not only did parents manage their daughters' participation in the Race for the Cure, but a group of adults asked Elizabeth Schiemann and Jen to help them train. After their success at the Beat the Heat 5K, they are pushing for a 10K. And, as often happens in sports, new friendships have developed among the runners and the community has been strengthened. Isn't that beautiful community development?

Mary Bolton, *Executive Director*

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