

SU CASA DE ESPERANZA



Celebrating 30 Years of Service to Rio Grande Valley
families—1981-2011

Winter 2011 Newsletter

From the Director . . .

On behalf of Su Casa de Esperanza families, staff, and board of directors, I would like to express our appreciation for your support in 2011.

Participation in the program was positive throughout the year. Home visitors made 625 home visits to the homes in the community to provide instruction to new and expectant mothers.

One hundred forty-six (146) children and their mothers participated in toddler classes at the centers. Classes emphasize developmental stimulation activities for their children.

Enrichment programs included Toddler Spring Break Camp, Toddler Summer Camp, Youth Summer Camp, and the First Time Moms Program.

Adult classes included 25 adults enrolled in English and Computer Literacy. Parent training classes were held throughout the year for the families. Presentations included Financial Literacy, Working with Your Child's School, Reading is Fundamental Family of Readers, Ask the Doctor program sponsored by Valley Baptist Hospital, Language Development of the Child, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Nutrition.

We thank the many individuals, churches, organizations, and businesses who provided financial support for our programs. We feel truly blessed and look forward to a continued partnership and a successful 2012.

Merry Christmas!

---*Lucy Fernandez, Executive Director*



Willie B's Barbecue hosted a Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings for the families in Las Milpas on Thursday, November 17.

*"When God's children are in need,
you be the one to help them."—
Romans 12:13*

Upcoming Events . . .

- *March 13-14—Toddler Spring Break Camp
- *March 29—Health Fair (Children's Health)
- *April 4—Toddler Easter Egg Hunt
- *April 25—"Día De Los Niños" activities
- *April/May—Flowers For Mom Project
- *May 24—Toddler Graduations

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!!

**“Let your light shine before men that they may see your good works
And glorify your Father in Heaven.” Matthew 5:16**



Sharon Newcomer, representing First Presbyterian Church, Weslaco, presented the Progreso staff with Christmas gifts from the congregation for the children.



Su Casa De Esperanza children learned the true meaning of Christmas. Following the example given by FPC Weslaco's project, Su Casa children brought "gifts for baby Jesus" as part of their learning experience. The gifts brought by the children will be shared with the newborn babies participating in the program with home visitors.



Adults taking the course in English received certificates of completion on December 12, following a 10-week course of conversational English.



In a partnership with Pharr Memorial Library, a 5-week computer literacy class was offered for adults at Su Casa De Esperanza.



Border Capital Bank, McAllen, sponsored the children's Christmas Party on Wednesday evening, Dec. 14. Santa entertained the children. Gifts were distributed by Santa and Border Capital Bank staff.

Christmas Angel

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen, was Su Casa's Christmas angel this year. The children enjoyed a fun-filled Christmas party on Wednesday, December 14, where Santa distributed the Christmas angels' gifts.

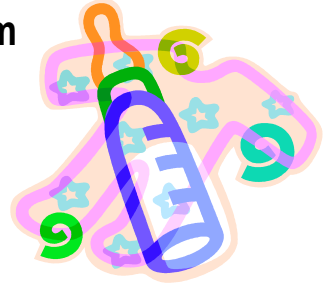


Children enjoyed their visit with Santa.



Sher Wilkes and Barbara Montemayor presented Su Casa De Esperanza with gifts from the Christmas Angel, FPC McAllen.

Baby Showers for Mom



We thank the many groups and organizations which host baby showers for our babies and mothers-to-be. The many gifts received through baby showers are used to prepare a "welcome baby" gift for the new mother, as well as provide baby clothes to children in need of the baby products.

Wish List for the Baby Showers:

Booties	Pacifiers	Caps
Baby bottles	Baby Towels	Diapers
Baby wipes	Baby wash cloths	Socks
Baby wash	Baby shampoo	Sleepers
Baby lotion	Cotton swabs	Onesies
Hand sanitizer	Baby clothing	Mittens
Burp pads	Changing pads	Blankets

The mission of Su Casa de Esperanza is to improve the spiritual, emotional, physical, economic, intellectual and social well being of families in the Rio Grande Valley.



Through the generosity of EZ Pawn, Weslaco, staff, Progreso families were able to set up and decorate trees for their children.



Doctors from Valley Baptist Family Practice Residency Clinic, Harlingen, visited Su Casa De Esperanza Pharr and Progreso centers in May, September, and November 2011. Families from the community received medical exams and had the opportunity to consult with the doctors. Blood pressure and glucose checks were conducted as well.



Mr. Juan Guerra, UTPA graduate student, shared his research material on Nutrition used for his master's degree thesis. Su Casa De Esperanza staff listened to his presentation and had the opportunity to ask questions in the area of nutrition. Mr. Guerra also left presentation materials with the staff members to use in their home visits.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM
SU CASA DE ESPERANZA
STAFF**

Thank you for your support!

Volunteers provide excellent support for strengthening programs.



Su Casa De Esperanza

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Supporter Form 2012

Name: _____

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Donation Amount: \$ _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

On the Occasion of: _____



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We're on the web! www.sucasadeesperanza.org