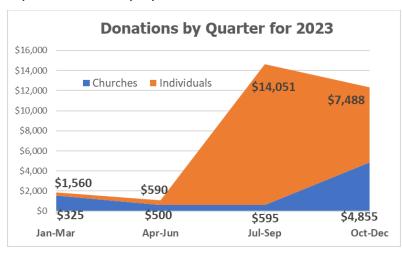
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# La Posada "Restart" Underway.

The last update from La Posada Immigrant Aid came to you in November 2023. It announced the loss of both La Posada staff persons and the need to suspend accepting new clients. Here is what has been happening since then.

- Our MCC IVEP intern, Andrés Ledesma, came to the office each day to manage email and phone calls, referring people as needed. At the beginning of February, he moved on to another assignment.
- Damian Sanchez, our contracted marketing director made contacts through churches, businesses, local media outlets, and social media to make sure people were aware of La Posada and our need for experienced employees.
- In December, we began to receive notices and documents from the cases submitted over the previous 8 months. Our board vice-president, Rose Rivera, reviewed what we received and contacted clients to inform them of the status and next steps needed. If documents needed to be delivered, Peter Graber, treasurer, met the clients at the office to deliver the documents.
- Rose, Peter and Naun Cerrato, board president, interviewed candidates for employment, evaluated their qualifications, and determined if their goals were compatible with the positions being offered.
- Betty Weaver, bookkeeping volunteer, and Peter Graber, resumed recording and reporting financial transactions in our bookkeeping system since staff was no longer available to do this work.
- Office equipment, computers, and online accounts were secured and passwords changed as employees completed their employment with La Posada.
- Various contracts were modified to reduce monthly charges during the hiatus of employees.
- Congregations and individuals continued to support La Posada with their prayers, questions and donations.



#### Just last week...

We have found someone who will be able to serve clients with competence and caring. Rubi Astello is an experienced immigration law counselor who has been working in the field and accredited by the Department of Justice. She is willing to work on a part-time basis as we ramp up services and as the number of clients seeking help increases. She will normally work remotely, but will be in the office as needed.

Any new employee needs to be re-certified by the DOJ for our organization. Rubi will need to submit her application and have it approved before we can begin seeing clients again. We estimate that this will be in April or May.



#### **Current Needs**

Quick acceptance of our application for re-certification with our new staff person.

We need money to pay the new staff person. Sustaining gifts, monthly or quarterly are very helpful. One-time gifts are also essential. We have \$13,000 in the bank today. We need at least \$4,000 a month to support our staff as we ramp up services again.

### **Coming Attractions**

Our board vice-president, attorney Rose Rivera, along with Carrie Hartzler, are offering another round of Citizenship Classes beginning on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to spread the word. For more information see our Facebook pages or website.

With God's help, and your prayers, we will begin seeing new clients soon.

## Thank you wholeheartedly for your prayers and ongoing support!

One-time and sustaining gifts can be made online at: <u>LaPosadaAid.com/donate</u>.

Checks can be mailed to: La Posada Immigrant Aid

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