



Spring 2018 Newsletter

May 2018

A Note from our Executive Director

It has been an interesting week for community news here at Centro Guadalupano. In one day we had both a disheartening and inspiring story regarding the same Somali English student. She shared in class that several people on the light rail were throwing food at her during her ride to work at the MOA until a fellow passenger put a stop to it. Her son came to visit classes that same day and told us how greatly her English has improved since she started classes here and how highly she speaks of all the teachers and staff. It is a place where she feels welcome and safe.

For most of us the feeling of safety is something we take for granted. How many of us would be able to concentrate on studies or our work if we dealt with the threat of individuals harassing us when we least expect it? I certainly couldn't, and it is a great feeling to be part of providing a safe, welcoming environment for our newest community members.

Helping students achieve strong academic results has a positive long-term impact on their personal success and well-being, and is an important goal of all Centro's education programs. However, making immigrants and refugees feel like valued members of our community is equally important and will have an even greater long-term impact of strengthening our neighborhood's economic and physical security.

Thank you as always for everything that you do to help us "be a companion on the journey."

Ginger Graham
Executive Director



Bring Joy to a Child's Life This Summer! Your \$75 donation will sponsor one child for the Latino Cultural Summer Camp.

[Click here](#) or mail a check to: Centro Guadalupano, 2424 18th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404.



ELL Student of the Month: Dahn

Dhan started taking English classes at Centro in February of 2018 and has logged over 80 hours!

Dhan came to the United States in December 2017 from Nepal. He has four children – two girls and two boys. He has been retired for some time because of his lack of eye sight and other health concerns.

Dhan has been enjoying his time in Minnesota. When not at school he enjoys watching TV, sleeping, and going to East Phillip's park to watch his grandchildren play.

Although Dhan has only been here for a short time, he has picked up simple English sayings and phrases quickly. He always shows up to Centro with a smile on his face, a happy "Good Morning!" and a hand shake.



¡Día del Niño! Our Andale families celebrated ¡Día del Niño! (Children's Day) on April 26th with juegos (games) and many dulces (sweets)!



ELL Volunteer of the Month: Cindy

Cindy started teaching English classes at Centro in 2009 and has logged over 500 hours!

After teaching at a high school for many years, Cindy was recruited by her daughter, Centro's volunteer coordinator at the time, to teach for a summer. She has been here ever since. Cindy loves her students: "They're so encouraging to each other and to me...We share our lives." Cindy calls her class time at Centro "the best part of my week."

When she is not teaching Low Intermediate on Mondays, Cindy is most likely spending time with her family, camping, reading, or attending her children's athletic events. In addition to being a consistent and wonderfully kind teacher, Cindy will substitute additional days!



English teachers and students celebrated Volunteer Appreciation Week 2018 in April.



ELL teachers and students celebrated International Women's Day in March!



Check out our new website at www.guadcenter.org !

Our Mission

To be companions on the journey with immigrant families and the economically disadvantaged by providing educational programs and human services.



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