



# La Casa Hogar Newsletter

Yakima Interfaith Coalition

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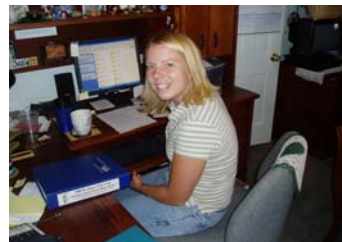
Carole Folsom-Hill,  
*Executive Director*

## New Staff

### *Americorps members bring new skills*

The Fall Trimester marks the beginning of big changes at La Casa Hogar. New Americorps member Janeel Adams and \*VISTA Amanda Lasik add a new dynamic to the organization. The positions are funded by the Rotary Club of Yakima and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Adams comes to La Casa Hogar to find new ways to use technology with emergency services. A native of Olympia, she is taking a break from pursuing her social work degree to gain experience. Her Spanish skills and volunteer work at a homeless shelter make her a perfect fit for the position. Adams stated, "It's easy to feel like you're a part of the community at La Casa Hogar, and being able to help people in the community is a great feeling."

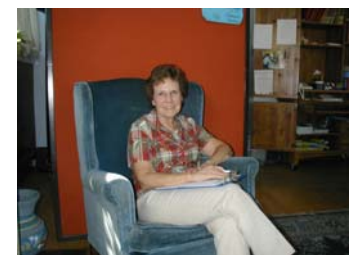


Lasik will serve as the coordinator for the computer technology center. She will develop use of technology in English, computer literacy, and driving classes. She will have a significant role in promotion and business development activities and teach. Lasik recently graduated from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ where she completed her bachelor's degree in Business Mgmt.

## Volunteer Spotlight: Betty Clark

### *Volunteers make La Casa Hogar the place it is today*

Betty's gentle, accepting spirit makes her a special volunteer for our emergency services. Betty, a member of the Englewood Christian Church, began volunteering for us in 1996 when she retired from 37 years of teaching at Harrah Elementary. We are fortunate enough to have her as a volunteer. Thank you Betty!



## Homeless Outreach

### *Beef Bowl donates 40 dinners a month to the Homeless*

Beef Bowl owner Myong Suk Choi and friend Bok Seun Hahn understand the value of generosity. They have donated to the YWCA for three years and now donate directly to the homeless. Stop by Beef Bowl 123, located at 8 N 7 Ave. to say thanks.

Items Needed for the Homeless: Small propane canisters, warm coats, and sleeping bags. Your gifts help keep others warm during the winter months.

*Faith Serving to Transform*

## September Experience Success

*Both students and teachers learned from the event*

Staff and volunteers from both the Mexican Immigrant and American communities joined together to exchange gifts of culture and language. The experience was possible because of our fifty-seven eager learners and our wonderful sponsors. We would especially like to thank Sisters of Providence, Banner Bank, and Planned Parenthood of Central Washington for their contributions to September Experience. Thank you to Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital and Yakima Herald Republic for providing the opportunity for several of their employees to attend and participate.



Students: (left to right) Nancy Darigol, James Joyce III., Susan Spain, Molly Montag  
Teachers: Mireya Chavez, Terri Buchannan, Luz Monroy, Magdalena Serrano, Enedina Licea

"I appreciated the open discussions, the participation of the staff of Hispanic origin, and the diversity of the group."  
-Dione Jefferson



"El baile de los viejitos"  
Students: Bruce & Ann Willis

"The ladies of La Casa Hogar provided an environment where I could feel comfortable learning Spanish. It was also a fun place to share time with new friends of many cultures."  
-Molly Montag

"The class came together like a perfect tortilla. The students were the dough, and we simply added the hands."  
-Teacher Magdalena Serrano

## Fall Classes Begin

*Rekindled friendships builds excitement for students!*

The first week in October marked the beginning of eleven classes at La Casa Hogar. Our enthusiastic instructors began teaching five levels of English as a second language and two computer classes. We also teach courses in driving, Spanish literacy, nutrition, GED skills, and parenting. We have a partnership with Goodwill Industries to teach workshops for women with significant changes in their income or life situation. The positive response from September Experience's immersion course allows us to offer a Spanish class. In partnership with the Yakima Herald Republic we are teaching Spanish to five of their employees and several members of the community.

### Thank you!

- **United Way Day of Caring**  
Thank you US Bank for your hard-working landscaping crew headed by Lynni Serrata, also, thanks to Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital for supplies, toys, and books for the children's learning center.
- **Eagle Scout**  
Emerson Parson transformed our clothing bank with new shelves and organization.
- **Computer Technology**  
Todd Pappas, our fantastic computer technologist prepared us for new projects.
- **Diaper Sunday**  
Central Lutheran Church replenished our emergency diaper supply by 975 diapers! Thank you David Mork for seeing and filling the need through his church.
- **Holden Village Trip**  
Round trip vans and drivers provided by:
  - Central Lutheran Church, Laura Baxter and Harold Hanson
  - United Christian Church, Ted Adams
  - Wesley United Methodist, Bob and Cay Hays