

THE CASA CALLER

Casa de Amigos  
The House of Friends  
928 N. Dallas  
Midland, Texas

DIRECTOR: MARCIA INGRAM

December, 1976

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WELCOME TO THE BOARD, Mr. Arden Grover. Arden will serve on the Property Committee. We are looking forward to his participation.



THE NEWEST SERVICE offered by Casa is the monthly clinic for senior citizens. Each month we are sponsoring a clinic for our seniors 55 and over. Midland County Medical Association unanimously approved the clinic at its November board meeting. Irma Aguillar and Billie Ruppe, both nurses, have volunteered their services. Judy Williams, Concha Salazer, and Anna Mar Jackson are volunteering their help with the translation and secretarial work. Each month we will be taking blood pressure, temperatures, pulse and respirations. The girls will also be checking lung sounds. Time is set aside to counsel with each person on his individual health problems. Many of our elderly wait until they have a serious illness before seeing their doctors. During our first session we found several men and women who had no family doctors; others had medical problems and letters were sent to their family doctors informing them of the symptoms and requesting appointments. We are very grateful to the following people for their help in this endeavor: Dr. James Bozzell, Dr. Henry Paige, Dr. Dorothy Lowry, and Dr. Jim Humphreys. We also thank Dr. Viola Coleman who has given us so much help in the past; and also we are very appreciative of our able volunteers.

Transportation is provided for all the senior citizens to and from the clinic. During the last three months we have averaged 725 transportations each month. A public transportation system is still being studied by the City Council. We at Casa feel there is a great need for some type of transportation to serve all areas of our community. We strongly urge you to express your feelings on behalf of the need for some transportation facilities to the members of the City Council.

Casa serves a hot meal once a week to approximately 35 senior citizens. Most of these people live by themselves. Nutrition is a critical problem for the elderly. We are now scheduling meals for each Thursday in 1977. If your church group is interested please call Casa and ask for Margaret.

THE FALL TUTORING PROGRAM ended with Christmas parties December 15 and 16. Many many thanks to our two fine supervisors, Helen Cronenburg and Florence Mailey, and their fantastic staff of tutors. We are still very much in need of additional tutors and substitutes. Tutoring will resume on January 10. Please give us a call if you can devote an hour two afternoons a week or would be interested in substituting. Each child is tutored twice a week on a one-to-one basis.

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL to Phil Dolbow, his parents Mr. and Mrs. Bill Adam, and some of Phil's friends for building and erecting play equipment for our motor development play area. An anonymous donor provided a large climber that has been very beneficial for our children. If your group is looking for





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PAGE (PLAN AHEAD FOR CAREERS & EDUCATION) is a program designed to help alleviate the dropout problem in the schools. Extensive counseling services are provided the dropout, potential dropout, and troubled student. Assistance in securing financial aid for post-secondary education is also offered. This program was funded by United Way for 1976. We hope to secure funding to continue this program through 1977.

A DISCRETIONARY FUND is maintained by Casa to help people in need. The fund is maintained solely through contributions of interested individuals. Here is an example of its use: A father of five children had a serious heart attack and is being hospitalized for 6-8 weeks, with a long

(over)

period of recuperation afterwards. He will not be able to return to his previous job because it required manual labor. The family was without food and other necessities. The fund was also used to assist an elderly man and woman caring for their grandchild. The man did not know he may be eligible for social security. The only income was from assorted odd jobs he could pick up from time to time. They are living in sub-standard housing and when we met them, they had very little food. The granddaughter has had a cast on her arm for the past four months but the family has had no money to take her to the doctor. Casa seeks to help families not only with the immediate problem but also to work with them during their transition period until they are well on their feet. We appreciate so much the contributions from the donors who make this work possible.



THE ELDERLY MAN mentioned above is eager and qualified to do custodial work. If you know of an opening for him, please call Casa immediately.  
OUR RUMMAGE ROOM is especially in need of warm sweaters and coats for children. Do remember us when cleaning closets.

A CHICANO STUDIES PROGRAM was conducted from November 8 to December 12. The series was directed by Ms. Teresa Marmolojo, with the assistance of resource persons from throughout the community.

REACHING OUT is done in many ways at Casa de Amigos. Here is a list of the services offered this year:

1. Sewing classes, held twice weekly for approximately 30 women
2. Tutoring classes, twice weekly, assisted 55 children last school term and 6 during the summer.
3. Services for senior citizens:
  - a) weekly luncheon and entertainment
  - b) monthly clinic
  - c) transportation
  - d) knitting and quilting classes
4. Distribution of donated clothing and furniture to needy families. Those who can pay a small charge for these.
5. Weekly English classes
6. Lending library for neighborhood children
7. Assistance in finding employment
8. Distribution of piece work to families in need. This program is carried out through Teraco, Inc.
9. Voter registration programs and transportation to the polls
10. Discretionary Fund for emergency needs
11. Arts & Crafts Guild - handcrafted items for public sale, with the women of the Guild receiving the profits
12. Counseling and referrals; assistance in filling out forms
13. Summer recreation program for children, co-sponsored with St. Andrew's Community Center. Including arts and crafts, sewing, dancing and singing, this program is held daily at Casa de Ninos.
14. "Rap on Race" - 6 sessions designed to promote understanding - Attendance is drawn equally from the Black, Chicano, and Anglo communities.
15. Chicano Studies Program - designed to increase cultural awareness
16. PACE - counseling for the troubled student

The staff at Casa consists of:

Marcia Ingram, Director

Margaret Hernandez, Assistant Director

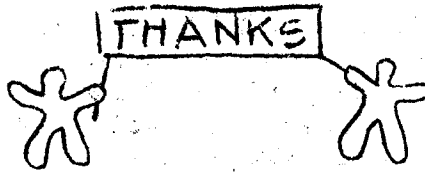
Socorro Ruiz, Outreach

Joaquin Rubio, Part-time Assistant

Rufugia Lomoli, Rummage Room assistant and custodial help

THANK YOU, Southwest Construction Co., for clearing the adjoining lot for the playground. Many thanks also to the following churches for their pledges of support for the coming year:

Memorial Christian  
First Christian  
First Methodist  
St. Luke's Methodist  
St. Mark's Methodist



St. Nicholas Episcopa  
Guadalupe Catholic  
First Presbyterian  
Christ Presbyterian  
Covenant Presbyterian

WE HERE AT CASA count as richest blessings all the churches, individuals and organizations who have helped us with donations of time, financial assistance, and concern. Our work is dependent upon such active consideration. You have made this a most fruitful year for us and the people we serve. Thank you.

NEEDED FOR TUTORING ...a spanish speaking tutor for a fifth grade child also substitutes for the tutoring program.