2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

What an incredible year 2019 was!

We started off with a series of cultural cooking classes that taught how to make pupusas, tortillas, rice, and even a cactus salad. Gran Festival showcased the diverse and rich cultural offerings of the area and was a huge success with a packed park full people enjoying great music and food. The summer continued strong with our Active Kids programming and concluded with a pool party.

Interest in English classes blossomed in the fall with a record number of students enrolling. Sprinkled throughout the year were programs celebrating holidays, various presentations about health, and classes about computers and traffic laws.

The biggest changes came at the end of the year with the addition of two part-time staff, a new comprehensive case management program for victims of crimes, and the move to a new building. Lili and Maria have quickly become integral parts of the team at La Luz and continue to bring fresh ideas and perspectives to our growing agency. The new services for victims of crimes are an unfortunate necessity and have already been well received. Our hope is to work with survivors and walk with them down the path of healing.

Moving offices has already allowed us to expand our programming and share with more people the hospitality La Luz is known for. As interest in our services and programs continues to grow, this new space has been crucial.

Thank you to all who support us and our mission. We look forward to 2020!

### 3032 Total Client Interactions in 2019

<table>
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<th>Month</th>
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<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
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<th>May</th>
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DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a celebration honoring loved ones who have died. La Luz hosted a variety of events to share in this rich tradition together.

The office was buzzing with activity all week as we had bilingual story time with books about Dia de los Muertos, decorated skull cookies, crafted paper Catrinas (the iconic skeleton figure), painted faces, and had a time of fellowship with tamales and Mexican hot chocolate. Throughout the week, a corner of the office was dedicated to a community ofrenda where people brought pictures and tokens to honor their loved ones.

Thank you to everyone who participated or led an activity!

SERVICES

English Classes
We teach English classes in the evenings during the fall and spring. Class levels range from basic to advanced.

Conversational Spanish
Practice your Spanish with our weekly conversation group.

Interpretation/Translation
We can assist with interpretation at appointments and phone calls. We offer translations of documents for a fee.

Referrals to Social Services
We are here to help connect you with appropriate services outside of La Luz Centro Cultural.

Citizenship Tutor Connection
We connect students studying for the citizenship test with tutors to aid them in their civics learning.

Services for Survivors of a Crime
Anyone who has experienced a crime can receive comprehensive case management and support from trained staff.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Moving offices is hard work! Thankfully we had an outstanding crew of volunteers to make the move in December much easier. The incredible help didn’t end there. We have continued to have assistance with rearranging furniture and cleaning the old and new offices.

Certainly there will be many more to thank in the future, but for now we especially give thanks for the generous spirits of Rosalba Zuviri, Stacey and Mario de la Cruz, Mary Klein, Elder Capps, Elder Hudson, Ana Lopez, and the families of staff who pitched in.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Spanish Conversations, every Friday 12:30pm-1:30pm
• Women’s Support Group, February 10 5:30pm
• Men’s Support Group, February 17 5:30pm
• Safe Driving Class, February 27 10:00am
• Cultural Cooking Class (in English), February 25 5:30pm
• Cultural Cooking Class (in Spanish), March 24, 5:30pm
• Cultural Cooking Class (in English), March 31, 5:30pm
• Women’s Support Group, April 13, 5:30pm
• Men’s Support Group, April 20, 5:30pm
2019 was a productive year for La Luz as we journeyed through some innovative changes and focused on our empowerment efforts. We know we are not in this alone and have experienced great community support. Thank you to our supporters and patrons for all you have done this past year. We would not be where we are without you!

2020 is a time of renewal as we focus on our goals and vision. Moving to a new building was a great decision. We now have ample room to offer the services we have endeavored to provide for quite some time. We love our new space because of the potential it offers to create and expand our programs and offer new services.

We are a cultural center with a vision to share that cultural experience with everyone. As always, we appreciate the community’s support, volunteerism, and guidance in our transition. We will keep you updated on future renovations as we see our space change into a cultural hub.

-Special thanks to all our 2019 donors and sponsors who financially supported our mission.

NEW LOOK
You may have noticed our new name and look! Our mission is to promote cultural awareness and diversity with supportive services for all. As we continued to live out this mission, we recognized a small name change would help us in this effort. Rebranding as “Centro Cultural” visibly signals that we are a cultural center providing a variety of services and events including those that celebrate culture.

Our new logo with the name change carries over the insignia of the lantern from our incorporators, the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The lantern is iconic of their foundress, Nano Nagle. It also represents our mission and name (La Luz means “the light”). This what we hope to do every day: to empower the inner light in everyone through our daily connections. The more everyone’s light shines, the richer our community is!

Our website has also updated to reflect these changes. You can now find us at www.laluzcc.org.
TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS TO A CULTURAL CENTER

At La Luz we welcome all donations to our organization and we have simplified the way you can donate to our important cause, as we know the only way to thrive is through community support.

PAY PAL: You can now donate through PayPal by going to our website at www.laluzcc.org

CHECKS: Mail to La Luz 7 2nd Ave NE Hampton, IA 50441.

LEGACY GIVING: Be assured your legacy will live on and give life to your community by leaving a gift to La Luz in your will.

VOLUNTEERS: We always welcome volunteers looking to be a part of our various programs. Call or email us today to find out how you can help!

GRAN FESTIVAL SPONSOR: Become a sponsor for our annual festival. www.granfestivalnorthiowa.org

La Luz is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.