La Luz has been busy this past year. In 2021, we had a total of 2085 service interactions and 538 program participations. By offering hospitable services such as interpretation, social services, food assistance, and support groups, our team has made a difference in the community. For 2022, we are excited to announce that we will focus on education and empowerment. Although these are lofty goals to achieve, we believe that with community support, we can achieve many things.

**Count of Service**

- Financial Assistance: 24.4%
- Paperwork: 4.8%
- Information: 25.4%
- Interpreter/Translation: 22.1%
- Immigration: 19.1%
- Food Bank: 22.4%

**Program Count**

- Spanish: 78.3%
- Support Group: 4.3%
- Other: 0.0%
- Volunteer: 3.3%
- Kids Activities: 0.0%

**Board Members**

- President: James Kohls
- Vice President: Mark Morrison
- Treasurer: Brenda Espejo
- Secretary: Pia Hovenga
- Socorro Martinez
- Father Kevin Earlywine

**Personnel**

Claudia Rivera | Kyle Whalen | Aimee Lenth
Liliana Velasco | Ines Garcia
Iowa Workforce Apprentice
Maria Gomez Castillo
RISE AmeriCorps Member
Mariely Perales
La Luz Centro Cultural is delighted to be able to provide low-cost, basic immigration legal services to help increase access. This is a newer service, having started at the end of 2020, but word spread quickly, and we regularly receive new referrals from friends and family of clients. We are honored at these referrals as it reflects the trust and quality of work we strive to provide!

Two staff are trained and have accreditation through the Department of Justice to provide these services: Claudia Rivera, Executive Director, and Aimee Lenth, who has shifted into the role of Director of Immigration Legal Services in order to guide this rapidly growing program.

We have already achieved successful outcomes for individuals renewing their Permanent Residency status, DACA status, and for families filing visas for loved ones. An added benefit to our model is that clients can link with other La Luz programs and staff as needed. For example, we have naturalization clients who are paired with volunteer tutors to help them learn US civics and history that they will need to pass the citizenship test. Additionally, for those who have been victims of crimes, we can provide them with immigration help while they work with supportive advocates in our Somos Latinx department. By offering immigration legal services, La Luz Centro Cultural has added another crucial component to our holistic services in North Central Iowa.

Spotlight

Google career certificates. Through Coursera. Designed by Google, this self-paced, online training program prepares you for careers in the high-growth fields of project management, user experience (UX) design, data analytics, and IT support. Once you graduate from the Google Career Certificate program, you can connect directly with over 130 top U.S. employers to jump-start your job search.

There are over 1.27 million job openings across Certificate fields and the demand is growing.

La Luz has 50 Google Career Certificate Scholarships!

Upcoming events

- Food Pantry 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 5pm to 7pm
- 4-H program every other Wednesday 3 pm to 5 pm
- ESL Monday and Wednesday from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
- ESL Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 11 am
- Computer Center Wednesday from 3 pm to 7 pm and Thursday from
DIRECTORS REPORT

We begin this year with many new opportunities to create change and make a difference in our community. La Luz Hispana began as “a place of hospitality for all.”

This year La Luz Centro Cultural will focus on programs with a twist of hospitality, education, and empowerment. We changed our name but not our mission and we are ready to offer programs that help people understand what the Latino culture is about, and we want to learn about other cultures as well.

This excitement does not come without its challenges. This year we are moving forward with renovating La Luz’s building to offer a hospitable place. The staff works miracles when we offer programs scheduled at the same time and they are always willing to accommodate any requests and make it work. Thank you to the La Luz staff and our community for a great year.

Hannah, Becky
Hanson, Daniel and Aimee Lenth
Hanson, Dennis W. and Dorothea A.
Heil, Jeffrey
Hernandez, Grace
Johnson, Berry T. and Jan
Klein, Mary
Kohls, James and Janet
Kuehner, Leon and Linda Currie
Libbey, Jan and Timothy Landgraf
Loeffelholz, Sharon L. and Stephen D.
Loughren, Lois and James
Mahoney, Mary E.
Mateo Juan, Rene
Murray, Daniel V.
Nolan, Lynn and Val
Pearson, Carol A.
Pecoriello, William
Peterson, Doreen
Plagge, Anne
Plagge, Ian and Valerie
Pralle, Denise and Brian
Roberts, Debra and Tim
Sackville, Pat
Salvesen, Richard and Juliene
Serna, Dora and Luis Rojas
Stock, Ian
Sweetman, Charles L. and Nancy K.
Thomburgh, Mary L.
Vanhorn, D.L.
Winslow, Frank and Pam

Gracias

THANK YOU DONORS

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Comito, Jacqueline M.
Corona Serrratos, Maria
Coonley, Joan
Cruz Reyes, Nemesio
Curran, Patrick J. and Mary Sharon
Goetz, Sister Janet, PBVM

Hannah, Becky
Hanson, Daniel and Aimee Lenth
Hanson, Dennis W. and Dorothea A.
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Hernandez, Grace
Johnson, Berry T. and Jan
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Sweetman, Charles L. and Nancy K.
Thomburgh, Mary L.
Vanhorn, D.L.
Winslow, Frank and Pam

Gracias
TAX DEDUCTABLE DONATIONS TO A CULTURAL CENTER

At La Luz Centro Cultural 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 Centro Cultural 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 Hispana dba La Luz Centro Cultural is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.