



IDW Mission Grant Evaluation Report Form

Grant recipients are to complete and submit the report form within one month of the completion of the effort. If this is a continuing ministry, please submit a report by January 31st of the following year, in which the grant is received. Include pictures/videos that help share the story with other congregations to encourage them in their own ministry. Final grant funds will be sent upon receipt of this evaluation.

Contact Person, Congregation, and email address:

Rev. Timothy Braun, Hope Lutheran, pastorbraun@hopelutheran-dsm.org

1. Please provide a brief overview of the effort:

This Fall, Hope began the process of offering ESL classes and Children's Ministry in order to connect with our growing community of Latino neighbors on the Eastside of Des Moines.

2. What goals were established for this effort and what did you hope to accomplish?

Our goals have been to: Offer a quality English learning class, provide a safe, fun, and Jesus-centered environment for kids, and get to know our Latino neighbors.

3. Did you achieve your goals? If not, what do you think were some of the contributing factors?

We feel that this was a great success in meeting those goals. Some of the families that we've connected with are even asking for a Spanish-speaking worship opportunity on the East-Side!

4. Is there anything you would do differently if you were to undertake this effort again?

I believe we would make some adjustments to the number of classes offered (start with two as opposed to four). We would also like to stagger our volunteers a little more as a 16 week commitment to teaching is asking a lot for any one volunteer.

5. What lessons were learned through this effort?

We have learned – FOOD brings people together – ESL classes are a real need – There are abundant opportunities for Children's Ministry – and building relationships takes Time AND Consistency.

6. Will this outreach effort continue and be sustaining? Did a new outreach opportunity present itself?

We will continue offering this program to coincide with our Wednesday night programming in 2018. We hope that God will provide new avenues to a Latino worship community on the Eastside of Des Moines.

7. What suggestions would you give to a congregation considering a similar effort?

While planning, logistics, and funding are important – sometimes you just have to jump out and try something, be flexible along the way, and expect God to move. We didn't know what to expect and had almost no experience before trying this, but have seen God move in some exciting ways.