

**Introducing the**

**BIENVENIDO**

**Facilitator Training Program**

**Northeastern Center, Inc.**

**Ligonier, IN**

**Trainer: Gilberto Pérez Jr. MSW, ACSW**








# Why participate in the Bienvenido Facilitator Training Program?

- ◆ The *Bienvenido* Program is an interactive training activity designed to assist individuals and organizations in making diversity an integral part of their community.



# Why participate in the Bienvenido Facilitator Training Program?

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- ◆ The Facilitator Training Program is a fun, relaxed, yet challenging exercise for teaching both the novice and expert about issues related to mental health with Latino immigrants.
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# Who should attend?

- ◆ Social workers
- ◆ School counselors
- ◆ Religious leaders
- ◆ Youth leaders
- ◆ Therapists
- ◆ Community-based workers
- ◆ School corporations
- ◆ Case managers
- ◆ Community health centers

# What will you learn?

- ◆ How community organizations can successfully implement the *Bienvenido* Program.
- ◆ About the process of acculturation recent Latino immigrants experience.
- ◆ Basic group facilitation skills.



# Where are classes held?

- ◆ Schools
- ◆ Mental health centers
- ◆ Community-based organizations
- ◆ Churches
- ◆ Community health centers
- ◆ Homes
- ◆ Parks



# Who qualifies?

- ◆ A combination of education, training, and experience equivalent to a bachelor's degree or higher.
- ◆ Demonstrated knowledge and work experience with Latino, and other minority populations.
- ◆ Experience with individuals and/or group training for community groups, organizations, and schools.
- ◆ Knowledge and experience with various facilitation models and group facilitation.
- ◆ Knowledge of basic mental health related topics in one or more of the following areas: acculturation, communication styles, anger management, stress management, and parent/child relations.
- ◆ Bilingual Spanish/English ability



# Content: Facilitator Training

- ◆ Introduction to *Bienvenido* Facilitator Training Program.
- ◆ Practice facilitating class lessons.
- ◆ Acquire basic knowledge of individual and group exercises related to psycho-social adjustment problems.
- ◆ Gain knowledge on how to increase recent immigrant participation in community life.
- ◆ Assist recent immigrant to be able to identify support systems that strengthen and facilitate the empowerment process in individuals and families.





# Bienvenido Program

The *Bienvenido* Program is a prevention/intervention program that seeks to improve the mental health and the quality of life of Latino immigrants.



# Bienvenido Program Objectives

- ◆ Utilize preventions/interventions that improve overall quality of life for Latinos.
- ◆ Enhance existing life skills that facilitate Latino immigrants' life transition.
- ◆ Allow Latino immigrants the opportunity to process feelings related to their new life in a new country.



# What are students saying?


What impact have the classes had on my personal life?

Evaluation Results: N = 34

- ◆ To be better integrated into society.
- ◆ How to better manage my temperament and better resolve my problems.
- ◆ I learned to better adjust to this country.
- ◆ I have learned to better adapt to this country.
- ◆ Yes, it helped me on how to still believe I am Mexican and keep my culture alive.
- ◆ It helped me to understand people from other cultures.



# Advantages of Facilitator Training

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- ◆ Advantage – begin to establish a network of Latino leaders who would provide support for one another.
  - ◆ Advantage – address mental health needs of Latinos





# Mechanism for training

- ◆ Host agency for training site is identified.
- ◆ Host agency is responsible for promoting *Bienvenido* Facilitator Training in their area. NEC sends host agency registration forms to be distributed.
- ◆ Host agency pays for trainer fee.
- ◆ Registrants send registration form to NEC.
- ◆ NEC conducts training.



# What happens after my training?

- ◆ Facilitator returns to community and works at securing referrals from community agencies, court system, schools and community.
- ◆ Facilitator secures *Bienvenido* Program implementation.
- ◆ Facilitator orders *Bienvenido* Student Manuals from NEC.



# What happens after my training?

- ◆ Facilitator becomes part of the *Bienvenido* Facilitator Network.
- ◆ Facilitator receives quarterly *Bienvenido* newsletter.
- ◆ Facilitators can participate in additional training to further group facilitation skills.



# Where has the Bienvenido Program been implemented?



## ❖ Ligonier, IN

- ❖ LEAP, Inc. (adult literacy)
- ❖ West Noble High School
- ❖ Northeastern Center



## ❖ Elkhart, IN

- ❖ Pierre Moran Middle School:
- ❖ Northside Middle School



## ❖ Fort Wayne, IN

- ❖ Center for Nonviolence

# BIENVENIDO

- \* Interested in Attending a Training?
- \* Facilitator Training Questions?

Individuals or organizations interested in hosting a training or attending a training at the Bienvenido Training Center, located in Kendallville, Indiana, should contact:

**Gilberto Pérez Jr., MSW, ACSW**

**Northeastern Center, Inc.**

**PO Box 290, Ligonier, IN 46767**

**260-894-7179 phone 260-894-7123 fax**

**[gperez@nec.org](mailto:gperez@nec.org)**

