



# Open Arms Hispanic Ministry

Sharing God's love by meeting needs of Hispanic immigrants  
in Wayne Co., Ohio and surrounding areas

**Brazos Abiertos**

February 2020

## Gracias Banquet

### Catered Enchilada Dinner

Program with Music and Ministry Highlights  
Free will offering to benefit Open Arms

**When: Thursday March 19, 2020 @ 6:00PM**

**Where: Kidron Park Community Center**

4434 Kidron Road, Kidron, OH 44636

Join us and invite a friend to our annual Open Arms Fundraising Dinner. It is a **THANK YOU/GRACIAS** to our many supporters and a time to reflect on the past year.

Please RSVP to <http://tinyurl.com/OpenArms2020> or 330-765-9955 by March 16<sup>th</sup>. Call for more information.

### Welcome Kara

Hello everyone! My name is Kara Shilling, and I am now the administrative assistant for Open Arms! I am from Creston and was a 2017 graduate of Norwayne High School. I also attend Orrville Mennonite Church. After highschool I moved to Costa Rica and was part of a ministry called VidaNet. While in VidaNet I was a student in their 10 month discipleship program which works with different Mennonite churches throughout Central America. After finishing my term as a student, I was asked back to join the ministry's staff. As staff I served as an administrative assistant helping organize mission trips for youth groups from the States, and working

with kids in the local community. I am excited to work with Open Arms this year and share/use my cross cultural experience to help our Hispanic brothers & sisters in our community!



*"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."*  
~ Hebrews 13:2

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### STAFF

**Haroldo Nunes**  
*Executive Director*

**Raul Tadeo**  
*Service & Translation  
Provider*

**Kara Shilling**  
*Administrative Assistant*

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## From the Desk of the Director



“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful... And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving

thanks to God the Father through him”.

~ Colossians 3:15,17 (NIV)

We are very grateful to God for the good works He has prepared for us to accomplish through our ministry over the past year!

Open Arms has been blessed with many people who believe in and support the ministry to Hispanic immigrants in Wayne, and surrounding counties. The relationship between Open Arms, the churches, and pastors in the area is strengthening, and these relationships are bringing more opportunities for me to share the immigration story of my own family, in addition to sharing the challenges that our immigrant brothers and sisters are experiencing nowadays. As racial and political tensions seem to be on the rise in our culture, the ministry of Open Arms becomes an even more critical ministry to show love by walking alongside our Hispanic brothers and sisters.

Much of the work of meeting needs involves helping immigrants (refugees) find lawyers/legal assistance and transportation to immigration court and ICE offices in Cleveland, Ohio. We also assist with more routine tasks such as helping children and parents understand the school system, translating for them when needed, mentoring students through service partnerships, and providing translation services during doctor and dentist visits. As Open Arms reaches out to Hispanics, the larger community is also blessed by the encounter, and more bridges can be built between the different cultures.

We have been blessed to see God at work in many ways and in many lives through a small but dedicated group of staff, board members and volunteers. We are also very grateful for the service of Raul and Vanita and all that they have accomplished.

We would like to thank you for your prayers and financial support; they are essential to the work of Open Arms Hispanic Ministries in helping others know Jesus Christ and change their old lives to new lives in the Savior.

God Bless you and your families!

-Pastor Haroldo Nunes

## Experiencing Mennonite Marriage Encounter for Hispanics

In the year 1990, after 23 years of Marriage, the Tadeos became acquainted with Marriage Encounter. They joined a group of other couples, in PA, desiring to improve their marriages. This experience turned out to be a special turning point in their Marriage. They wished that other couples could attend a Mennonite Marriage Encounter and experience such a blessing.

The Tadeos retired from the mission field of NW Mexico after 23 years of service, and returned to the U.S. But, they did not forget the Mexican people they left behind. How could the Tadeos help the growing Mexican churches? They asked Mennonite Marriage Encounter if they would be interested in having an Encounter in NW Mexico. There was a Spanish manual available that was being used in other Latin American countries. In 1992 the Tadeos returned to NW Mexico with a team of presenters from Mennonite Marriage Encounter. Raul served as coordinator and translator for the English speaking presenters.

In the year 2000, a second Encounter was held in NW Mexico, in the states of Sinaloa and Sonora Mexico. The Mexican Mennonite churches of two states were growing and adding young couples to the congregations. Two Encounters, on two weekends, were held that year, one in Los Mochis, Sinaloa and another in Ciudad, Obregon. Again, Raul served as coordinator for the Encounter and did the translating for the English speaking presenters.

For years, Raul had desired to have a Spanish Marriage Encounter for Spanish speaking couples in the U.S. Raul was aware that there were no Encounters being held anywhere for U.S. Hispanics couples

In 2017, Raul finally saw his dream come true. A Marriage Encounter for Spanish speaking couples was held in Berlin, Ohio on May 5, 2017. But to have this Encounter the outdated Spanish manual had to be

rewritten. Could Raul rewrite the manual? Yes. The manual was ready for the 2017 Marriage Encounter. Raul served as coordinator for a Marriage Encounter, along with pastor Haroldo Nunes. This was a bilingual Encounter for couples of the Salem Mennonite church of Wooster, where both English and Spanish speaking persons attend. Raul translated for the Hispanics that attended, since the presenters only spoke English.

At the time of the 2017 Marriage Encounter, plans were already being made to have an encounter for the Mexican Mennonite churches of Sinaloa, Mexico. They have a large group young couples in their growing churches. Two couples, leaders, from the Mexican churches, Agustin and Lydia Suarez and Otoniel Doribel Soto were invited to attend the Wayne County Encounter in preparation for the Mexican Encounter which will be held the weekend of April 17-19, 2020. Haroldo Nunes will go to Mexico and serve as coordinator for the Encounter. Open Arms Hispanic Ministry will be a sponsor for the Mexico Marriage Encounter.

-Raul Tadeo

