

Sara* came to us in crisis, a victim of repeated domestic violence. Since I have walked with people through similar situations, I know the feelings of fear, confusion and desperation that come when a person realizes that neither they, nor their children, are safe in their own home. The chaos of Sara's situation was amplified because she spoke limited English.

We are grateful she found us, trusted us with her story, and moved with courage through this scary and uncertain situation.

While our English language and computer literacy classes are a primary focus here at RPM, we also assist people, like Sara, with our Family Worker services. Jacky Osegueda, our Director of Operations, is doing an amazing job taking on these family worker cases until we can hire someone dedicated to this position.

She provided Sara with resources for emergency shelter, helped her with police reports, and connected her with Legal Aid. She also helped Sara file a restraining order and showed her where and how to access a mental health support group through an organization that specializes in victims of domestic violence.



Some of our students and clients from our neighborhood

Sara now lives on her own, working hard as a single mom of two teens. She enrolled in our ESL classes to learn more English, attending as often as she can. She is in the process of healing, and she's also helping her children recover from this traumatic experience. Thanks to people like you, RPM could guide Sara and her children through this difficult time.

This is only one of many cases that Jacky has taken on so far this year. Each one could fill pages - stories of trauma, triumph, hurt and hope, all compounded by our clients' lack of English language skills. Yet, despite their challenges with a new language and culture, they push through with bravery, strength, and patience, as they seek to navigate new and complex systems to get the help they need.

Here's a quick sampling of recent cases:

- We assisted a mother with job resources and translation services when she faced severe financial difficulties after separating from her partner. This helped her communicate effectively during job interviews. Now she has a stable job and has secured child support, allowing her to provide a more secure environment for her child.
- Jacky helped an elderly couple from Mexico secure affordable health and dental care when they desperately needed both. She also connected them with a nearby community health clinic that speaks their language.
- RPM also helped newly immigrated parents navigate the detailed requirements for enrolling their children in a new school district after this family wisely chose to move to a safer place to live.

This is vital and rewarding work, even if it is draining at times. We are grateful for every prayer offered on our behalf because we never know what new challenge will follow the words, "*Necesito ayuda - ¿me pueden ayudar?*" (I need help, can you help me?). For us, every new plea for help is an opportunity to see God do a work of life transformation.

For example, last semester, Miguel*, a student taking English and computer classes, approached us for emotional and spiritual support. He was struggling with depression, anxiety, and hopelessness. There were no easy answers. He confirmed he was seeing a counselor, so, sometimes we just listened, or sat silently with him. Other times we prayed with him, and provided the counsel, encouragement and resources we could.



Jacky assists an RPM client while volunteer Donovan looks on.

After not hearing from him for much of the summer, Miguel showed up to the first day of classes this Fall and asked to talk to Jacky and me. To be honest we weren't sure what to expect. However, he smiled as he shared a story of redemption and recovery. He told us how God had provided healing on multiple levels - restoring his hope and mental health. He thanked us for our prayers, for being present, and for seeing him through a very dark time. We cried and prayed again that morning, but this time we were full of joy and gratitude for the work of mercy, love, and healing in Miguel's life.

So, thank you for caring about *Roosevelt Park Ministries* and our work with this community. Today we have people from twelve different countries enrolled in our classes and programs. Your prayers, volunteer time, and financial gifts are paving the way to a better life for some of our city's most under-resourced people.

I am grateful to God for you and want to ask a favor. As we serve growing numbers of people with critical needs, and as you think about your end-of-year giving, will you consider RPM, and the hundreds of people like Miguel, and Sara and her kids we work with throughout the year?

Together, we can come alongside people who are working hard to help themselves and pour love and encouragement into their hearts. Your investment in RPM not only makes a difference in the here and now, it's changing lives and future generations for eternity.

With great gratitude and appreciation,

Joel

*We don't use real names to protect the privacy of our students and clients.



You can use your phone to scan this QR code and share your love with the people we serve. It will take you to our [Donate](#) page where you can give safely and securely.

*Roosevelt Park Ministries is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 38-3305940
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