Response to Love
IND 231- Reaching Refugees
Faculty Sponsor – Dr. Charlie Wesley

Where it Began

- St. Adalbert’s parish closed in 1985; the community was devastated.
- 24 hours after the parish closed, Response to Love opened on June 26, 1985
- Mission Statement: Inspired by our faith and inclusive of all, Response to Love Center improves lives across our community by addressing basic human needs and providing a pathway to self sufficiency.

Issues for Refugees

- Feeling Invisible
- Being excluded
- Ignored academically, socially, and emotionally
- Raising children and helping them be successful in school
- Cultural barriers for every aspect of daily living
- Being able to provide housing for a family

Adult English Language Classes

Classes run from September - June
Monday – Thursday
8:30 am – 12:15pm

Beginner Class
Students learn basic vocabulary words like months of the year and days of the week. Learning to write and say their name, address and telephone number is stressed in the class. The students will get acquainted with the computer and learn basic skills that will help them receive a job. The students receive 15 spelling words and 2 questions for their citizenship exam. The students are tested every Thursday on the spelling and citizenship words. After 60 hours in the classroom, students will be asked questions orally from the Best Plus Testing System. If the test is passed they will move onto the intermediate class.

Intermediate Class
The students are in grade 3 or above when entering the class. The students work on describing, comparing, and contrasting pictures. Students are learning to write in different tenses and focus on their grammar. They receive new spelling words every week and our tested on Thursday. The teacher incorporates math, science, and history into her lessons. The students practice basic addition and subtraction problems and learn about the water cycle. The teacher ask five citizenship test questions daily to keep them on track for the exam. After 60 hours in the classroom, students will be given a written exam. The students have to move up a level in order to proceed to the advanced class.

Advanced Class
The students in this class are studying for a high school diploma. During their class the students learn about reading, writing, science, and social studies. All of the students are working on different activities based on their learning abilities. The students will complete two different exams in this class. The first exam taken in the test assessing basic education (TABE). The final exam is testing accessing high school completion.

Responses from Refugees

How has Response to Love changed your life?
- “It is preparing me for college. I would like to become of computer teacher.”
- “I want to get my GED and get a job as a chef.”
- “I learned English for my everyday life. I am becoming independent.

What is your favorite part about Response to Love?
- “Learning English and enjoy[ing] spelling.”
- “Spelling, and learning to write.”
- “Learning about new things.”

How many students go through all 3 adult classes?
- “It is a personal decision that the students are in charge of. The goal is to learn English and then go out and be independent.”

BIBLIOGRAPHY