

MCALLEN

VILLA DE PALMAS GARDENS 809 E HALL ACRES DR, SAN JUAN, TX 78589

MISIÓN DE FE INTERNACIONAL Christian Reformed Church

The MCALLEN Project



Home in McAllen, TX where meetings of prayer and bible study were held.

The McAllen Project was born in the year 2010 when members of Misión Reynosa who lived in McAllen, Texas opened their home to begin meetings of prayer and bible study. This opened the door for Pastor Diego, along with some collaborators, to begin weekly visits for two years while having constant attendance of people with a great need to come closer to God.

During those years, the McAllen Project was on the verge of renting a place to begin a church, but we were faced with the issue of immigration. We were not able to carry it out because Pastor Diego counted on the B1/B2 visa, which is for tourism and assistance to events and conferences.

This left the McAllen Project as an unrealized dream that has continued to burn in our hearts.



Building that the project planned to rent in 2010.

Misión Reynosa continues to be a great meeting point for people in the city as well as for those who live in McAllen Texas, although this has now been affected by the time of crime that Reynosa Mexico is experiencing.



Misión Reynosa in Reynosa, Mexico.

Why is McAllen a STRATEGIC LOCATION for the church?



First, we must understand that any place where there is need and where the darkest actions of the human being are seen, is a place where the Church can shine and bring hope. Luke 5:32

McAllen, Texas.

Boarders all over the world are places of delinquency, human trafficking, addictions, destroyed and divided families, and the list goes on...

This gives us a lot of material with which we can work to bring light and hope to homes.

More than 98% of the population speaks Spanish, including people in political positions.

The whole region of the border is a sub-culture where it does not feel like the USA nor Mexico. They call themselves "The Valley".

During the winters of McAllen, many older people from Canada and North of the United States travel here, which presents an opportunity to have services in English for those who escape the cold.



Hidalgo County judge, Ramon Garcia.McAllen, Texas.

Another major point is the proximity (20 minutes) of the two churches - Misión Mcallen and Misión Reynosa. These are in two different nations whose members have families along the two borders. This strategically leaves us in a great position to help those who for different reasons cannot get close to their families.



Pastor Manuel has revived this dream.

He is visiting McAllen and attending some meetings on Tuesdays, supporting and alternating with the elders of Misión Reynosa. This is because all of them, including Pastor Manuel, have the B1/B2 Visa, which serves for tourism and to attend conferences from time to time*.

For this reason, Pastors Diego & Camila will be in charge * of this new congregation, visiting each month and teaching doctrinal topics for new believers, until the moment that Manuel and his family can take charge with the correct visa (R1/R2). *Due to immigration.

Pastor Manuel and Sandra are in the process of Commissioner Pastor at CRC.

His exam will be in October 2019 at the Classis Rocky Mountain.

A family that attends these meetings has lent a place for events completely free.

Glory to God!

Sharing the load.

For now, only Misión Reynosa has approved a budget that covers the payment of roundtrip taxes of international bridges, gas, and international auto insurance. With much effort, Misión Reynosa will dedicate each offering received in American dollars to the McAllen



Building that a family in McAllen, Texas has allowed the church to use rent-free.

Project. This way, Manuel along with the Elders will not incur financial nuisances when visiting, attending, and spending time every Tuesday with the families gathered.

The only help missing is so that Pastors Diego and Camila can travel every month.

<u>Misión Conroe</u> will act as a bank by collecting the tithes and offerings of Misión McAllen in its bank account until the church can establish itself as an independent entity.

Pastors Diego & Camila will be visiting and teaching new believers once a month.

<u>Misión Conroe</u> will be assisting the new church with media material, marketing materials, and with organization of the new church.



Why Manuel and his family in McAllen?



From left: Roy, Sandra, Kay and Manuel.

Manuel and Sandra are experienced pastors in starting a church from nothing.

This has been demonstrated in Argentina and also in Mexico. Bearing visible fruits, they have left everything behind including family, friends, and properties all to obey the call of God.

They have made great sacrifices and have real experience dealing with people "from the Valley". They are the perfect candidates for this challenge that God has placed before us.

Today Manuel and Sandra are living a new stage in their lives. Their children are growing. Roy and Kay are living a life of confinement because of crime in Reynosa. The routine from home to school and to the church without having outdoor recreation, or without the enjoyment of a public place because of the worry of shootings and stray bullets is greatly affecting the vision of the lives of these children.

We believe with all our heart that God wants to give them new strength and renew.

Living in McAllen would bring peace to their hearts as a family and would also greatly affect the Church of Reynosa with fruits and McAllen even more.

Immigration and Salary Plan

Pastor Manuel and his family need a Church that can sponsor their immigration documentation.

It requires a church to demonstrate:

- + Economic solvency.
- + Around \$30,000 per year for Manuel's salary. (This can be collected from different places of support)
- + Have employees.
- + Stable offices where immigration can visit.
- *At this moment, the funds collected at Misión McAllen will be destined for the future salary of Manuel if it is required.

Immigration Requirements - for this Project



RELIGIOUS WORKER VISA (R-1)

- 1. Employer files I-129 with attestation and supporting documentation
- a. Approved I-129 is evidence of entitlement to R-1.
- 2. File attestation by authorized official of the religious organization
- a. Employer must be bona fide nonprofit religious organization with tax exempt status
- b. Beneficiary must be a member of the denomination for at least 2 years and qualified for the position.
- 3. Evidence of petitioning organization
 - a. IRS letter showing tax exempt status.
- 4. Evidence of minister's qualifications
 - a. Certificate of ordination or similar document.
- 5. Verifiable evidence of salaried or non-salaried compensation
 - a. Evidence that petitioner will compensate religious worker.
- 6. On-site inspection
 - a. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will on-site investigations Derivatives, such as spouse and children (R-2s), will be listed on I-129.

God is on the move...

We believe with all our heart that God is pushing us to this challenge of planting a new church to extend his Kingdom and be light in the midst of darkness.

We feel the call of God burning in our hearts and we see that when we share it with people who love the work of God, their hearts jump with joy and they feel the challenge inside them and ask themselves: How can I help? How can I be part of what God is doing?

If looking at this project has made you feel the same way, pray for us and join the team!!

For more information please contact us at missionoffaithusa@gmail.com





