

Serving more families

# 2008

# Changing Lives

Please visit our Website to see ways to help our homeless families – [www.casanuevavida.org](http://www.casanuevavida.org)



## MEET OUR BOARD

LISA MORALES  
Chair

JENNY CINTRON  
Vice – Chair

ADITA VAZQUEZ  
Clerk

FRANCO ESTRADA  
Treasurer

Alba Alvarez  
Monica V. Viggiani  
Violeta M. Gonzalez

## MEET THE STAFF:

MANUEL DURAN  
Chief Executive Officer

ARAMIS TIRADO  
Director of Development

ZAIDA ESTREMER  
Family Services Director

DORIS GAITAN  
Educational Program Director

KATHERINE WOERNER  
Development Associate

SARAI PEREZ  
Executive Assistant

## INSTRUCTORS

Andrea Velazquez  
Nancy Nova

## SUPERVISORS

Carmen Valerio  
Veronica Vargas  
Evelyn Valentin  
Anita De Jesus  
Nancy Nova

## GREAT NEWS!

As most of you all know, Casa Nueva Vida just celebrated its 20th year of service to homeless families in the Greater Boston Area. Founded in 1987, the organization started out with a capacity to shelter four families out of the basement of Saint Andrew Methodist Church. Today Casa Nueva Vida is proud to serve sixteen families from our own large Victorian home in Jamaica Plain.

During these years of operation we have been busy helping 579 families find their own affordable permanent housing as well as helping them build their skills and pursuing their education. With over 30% of our families moving on into higher education and a 100% placement, we are proud to say that your support and confidence in our work has been invested wisely.

We are happy to announce that after careful consideration, the Board of Directors, staff and supporters who for years have encouraged us to duplicate our services at a second site have finally succeeded. We are very enthusiastic. The time for action is finally here by having selected as a second site, a beautiful and

large Victorian single home in the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts.

A capital campaign has been launched to raise the necessary funds for the purchase and renovation of Casa Nueva Vida's Lawrence. The new home will shelter fourteen (14) homeless families who will receive the same dedication and professionalism that all of our families have received for the past twenty years.

This are challenging and at the same opportune times for Casa Nueva Vida to service more homeless families in the City of Lawrence and we welcome your thoughts, support and good will as we proceed forward. .

Sincerely,

Manuel Duran  
Chief Executive Officer



**Casa Nueva Vida, Inc.**  
53 Glen Road  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

## THE CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AT CASA

The Children's Educational program is designed to meet the social and educational needs of the children living at Casa Nueva Vida.

*For more information about our educational programs, please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org/programs](http://www.casanuevavida.org/programs)*



## HIGHLIGHTS

As part of our focus on family development, mothers are invited to come into the playroom and enjoy different activities with their children.

*For more information about family development, please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org/ourfamilie](http://www.casanuevavida.org/ourfamilie)*



## VOLUNTEERS

Our Children's Program is truly blessed to have so many dedicated, responsible and knowledgeable volunteer groups who assist us with all aspects of our program.

*To meet our volunteers, please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org/volunteer](http://www.casanuevavida.org/volunteer)*



# From **Our** Residents

### ELENA PIMENTEL

Single mother with two daughters

Since the very moment that Ms. Elena Pimentel arrived at Casa Nueva Vida, she made sure that everyone knew that she was ready for a new life. Within a few months of starting ESOL classes, Elena graduated from first level and has gone on to Level two. Her two daughters, Imalay and Ivette are thriving in their respective daycare. Both children have become bilingual. Ms. Pimentel's English skills have also improved a great deal. Ms. Pimentel attributes her success, in part, to the educational programs offered at the shelter.

Ms. Pimentel volunteered her artistic talents to create a new trademark for Casa Nueva Vida. She organized residents and volunteers to handcraft 100's of tiny replicas of Casa Nueva Vida - little houses that were displayed at our 20th Gala and given out as souvenirs. Elena's grace, generosity and service to others serve as a shining example to families.

*For more information on this article please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org](http://www.casanuevavida.org)*

### YANIRA GONZALEZ

Single mother with three daughters

When Ms. Yanira Gonzalez came to Casa Nueva Vida, she was a young, anxious woman in constant fear of getting lost and failing. Although Ms. Gonzalez did not know how to navigate through the many communities in the Boston area, she had a zest to learn and to do well for the sake of her family. Soon she found herself asking questions and letting go of her fear as she learned more about the many resources available to her in our community.

With assistance from Casa Nueva Vida, Yanira Gonzalez energetically entered a GED program and ESOL classes. She has passed four out of five tests needed to receive her GED certificate. Ms. Yanira Gonzalez and her family have blossomed while at the shelter. They have taken full advantage of all programs and services. We are impressed with the outcome.

*For more information on this article please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org](http://www.casanuevavida.org)*

### LILIAN PEREZ

Single mother with one daughter

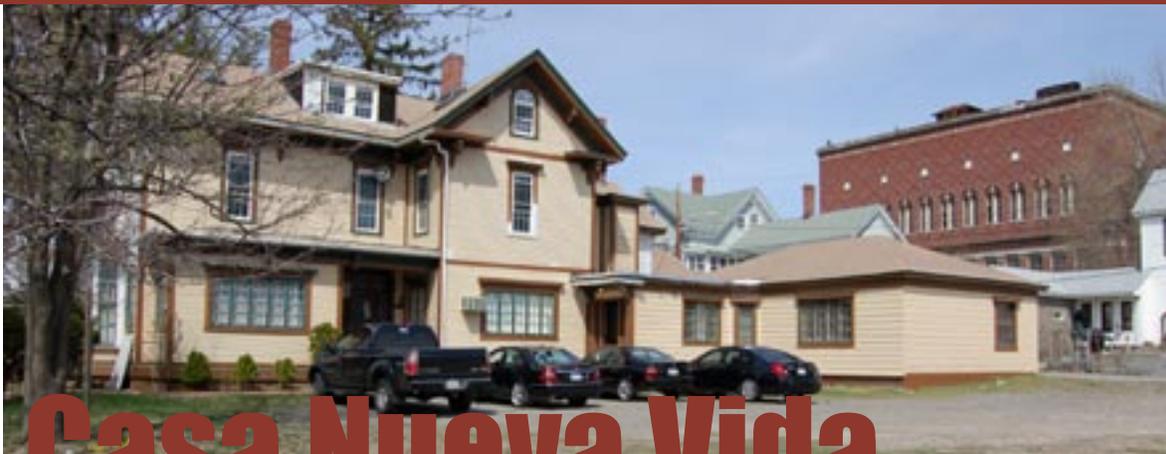
An ex-resident of Casa Nueva Vida, Ms. Lillian Perez is busy getting ready to open her own Family Daycare business. While at the shelter, Ms. Perez was an exceptional resident. She always cooperated with the shelter but most importantly she took full advantage of the educational opportunities available to her. During the day Ms. Perez worked full time and at night attended Cambridge College. Casa

**Helping homeless families gain the education and skills needed to permanently pull themselves**

**out of poverty**

Nueva Vida supported Ms. Perez by providing childcare and tutoring for her daughter while she attended Child Development classes. Additionally, Casa Nueva Vida assisted Ms. Perez in clearing up housing debt making it possible for her to obtain affordable housing. Today, Ms. Perez is investigating starting a Day Care business of her own.

*For more information on this article please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org](http://www.casanuevavida.org)*



# Casa Nueva Vida

## Lawrence

After 20 years at our location in Jamaica Plain, Casa Nueva Vida is launching a Capital Campaign to expand our services to Lawrence, Massachusetts. To support the next phase of our development, Casa Nueva Vida is renovating a large historic Victorian home centrally located in Lawrence, a community in need of our services.

This new shelter will enable Casa Nueva Vida to:

- > Significantly increase client capacity (by 75%)
- > Serve additional homeless Latino families in a community in need
- > Increase our efficiency by consolidating administrative functions over both houses

We seek to replicate the services and programs that have been so successful in our Jamaica Plain location.

The new house is located in the Prospect Hill Historic District adjacent to the Lawrence Commons. The house was constructed in approximately 1855 and is consequently a property of great significance and visibility to the City of Lawrence. It will provide a warm and welcoming home for the families Casa Nueva Vida seeks to

serve in Lawrence.

The renovated building will contain 14 individual rooms for resident families, 5 bathrooms, a living room, classrooms and office space.

The capital renovation budget totals \$579,100, of which \$150,000 has been funded internally through a loan from our financial reserves. Casa Nueva Vida is now actively seeking

support from corporations and foundations to help raise funds to cover the remaining balance.

We are hoping for a groundswell of support from current donors, old and new friends, and the community at large. Please make a contribution today. Our families and our staff thank you!

*For more information about our Capital Campaign please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org](http://www.casanuevavida.org)*



Thank you For your support

- Agnes M. Lindsay Trust
- Anna B. Stearns Charitable Foundation
- Bank of America Foundation
- Boston Foundation
- Bushrod H. Campbell & Adah F. Hall Charity Fund
- Cabot Family Charitable Trust
- Caroline Blanton Thayer
- Charles Bank Homes
- Citizens Bank Foundation
- Citizens Energy Winter Assistance
- Clipper Ship Foundation, Inc
- Coldwell Banker Cares
- Cowan Slavin Foundation
- David Gopen Foundation
- Frederick E. Weber Charities Corporation
- Forest Foundation
- George A. Ramlose
- Georgiana Goodard Eaton M. Fund
- Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare
- Hemenway & Barnes
- Hyams Foundation
- Polaroid Foundation
- Riley Foundation
- Smith Family Foundation
- State Street Foundation
- The Fidelity Foundation
- The Gillete Company
- The Janey Fund
- The Memorial Church-Harvard University
- The Plymmouth Rock Company
- The Sanders Fund
- The TJX Foundation Inc.
- The United Parish in Brookline
- Verizon Foundation

*For more information on our Foundation List please visit: [www.casanuevavida.org](http://www.casanuevavida.org)*