Lasallian Social Justice Institute
El Otro Lado: Guides in the Encounter
El Paso, Texas
July 10-14, 2017

The Lasallian Social Justice Institute (LSJI) will tackle the important issue of immigration with its 2017 summer program. LSJI, a program of the Office for Lasallian Education at Christian Brothers Conference, is partnering with the District of San Francisco New Orleans (SFNO) for this year's program, El Otro Lado: Guides in the Encounter. El Otro Lado is an immersion/professional development program for educators and is based on a popular program for students offered in SFNO.

The experience will be offered for **18** Lasallian educators who are interested in becoming guides in the encounter between their students and the migrant community. The program will combine immigration immersion experiences with professional development focused on advocacy practices and resources. Educators will travel to El Paso, Texas, and Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, to address a Lasallian commitment to association for the educational service with the poor and the Rights of the Child.

Program Goals
By completing LSJI, participants will:

- develop an understanding of immigration issues through direct experiences with migrant and border communities,
- pray, reflect and share their thoughts on their responsibility to serve and act justly,
- become familiar with other religious congregations that work in direct service to immigrants on both sides of the border, and
- brainstorm, share and acquire curriculum and ideas on how they can work with students who have had, or will have, immersion experiences to help young people become advocates in their communities.

Participant Requirements
Those who wish to participate in the 2017 LSJI program must be:

- Lasallian educators or other individuals who work directly with students who will or have participated in immersion programs, preferably immigration-related experiences,
- willing to create a proposal for an advocacy program and/or activities considering their local realities and available resources for the 2017-2018 school year,
- open to living simply and to engaging in a community living style setting where everyone prays, eats and learns together.

Lodging
Participants will stay at the Columban Mission Center. It provides living space as well as an eco-friendly environment that participants will share. Participation is limited to 18 educators due to space availability.

Possible Places to Visit
Southwest Key Program: Private, nonprofit organization founded in 1987 to keep young people out of institutions and empower them with the skills, knowledge and tools they need to succeed. Through an exceptionally competent and diverse staff, Southwest Key empowers youth and their families to make positive changes in their lives including at our 27 immigrant children's shelters in Texas, Arizona and California.

Nazareth House: Migrants are given a clean and warm place to stay and given clothes and personal supplies for their journey to where their sponsors live. This entire operation is staffed on a month-to-month basis by volunteers from various churches. This is an important ministry to immigrants who have come from a treacherous journey and a very unpleasant experience in detention.

Annunciation House: A shelter for immigrants founded in 1978 by Ruben Garcia.

American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico: Since 1962, the ACLU of New Mexico has been dedicated to preserving and advancing the civil rights and legal freedoms guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Clinica Cristo Rey, Cd. Juarez, Mexico: A clinic which supports those living in poverty.

Centro Santa Catalina, Juarez, Mexico: Women's center in Colonia Panfilo Natera, a marginal neighborhood located on what was once the municipal garbage dump. Centro Santa Catalina offers spiritual growth and popular education programs for women as well as educational activities for children 3-12 years of age. It began as a ministry project by two Adrian Dominican Sisters in response to their Congregation's Vision Statement on Women and the Poor. Since 1992, the project has evolved into a faith-based center for migrant women and their families from central parts of Mexico.

Tentative Schedule
Monday July 10:

- Welcome dinner
- Week overview

Tuesday July 11:

- Texas Border Issues Presentation
- Service site
- Facilitating talks on privilege, stereotypes and perspective

Wednesday July 12:

- Juarez, Chihuahua Mexico: Service site and presentation on issues on the Mexican border
- Advocacy and the role of Lasallian educators

Thursday July 13:

- Guiding students to be advocates for immigrants in their communities
    - Lives of the immigrant communities in the U.S.: living in the shadows
    - Perceptions of immigrants in the U.S.
- Sharing resources and planning for the upcoming school year (2017-2018)

Friday July 14:

- Travel

Estimated Expenses
(Travel costs to/from El Paso are the responsibility of the participant/Lasallian ministry)

The total program cost is $900, which includes:

- Five days at Columban Mission Center (transportation, food and water bottle included)
- Donations to organizations
- Program costs