SUCCESS STORY OF AN ESL STUDENT

My name is Odelinda and I was born on a ranch in Durango, Mexico. When I was old enough, I went to a school that was on the ranch. I loved school. However, it was difficult because there were very few books and all the children in the school had to share them. I stopped going to school after second grade because there was no third grade book and I had almost memorized the one, second grade book.

At eighteen I married Gregorio. He had an uncle working on a ranch in Nevada, USA, who said he could get Gregorio a job. My husband soon left for Nevada and a year later he sent money for me and our baby daughter to come to the ranch where he worked. It was very hard and scary in Nevada. I did not know any English and everything was different. At the ranch, I didn’t need to learn English because the workers on the ranch all spoke Spanish.

When my first daughter started school was when I needed to learn English. I needed to be able to talk to the teachers and to understand what they said. At first, a lady from church helped me learn a little English. I heard about the ESL in-home Program of Nevada and signed up. I was given a very nice teacher who helped me and I have learned so much.

My husband and I are both U.S. citizens now. We have our own home and both of us have been working for a long time. I have my own house-cleaning business. We are good citizens and pay our taxes.

All four of our daughters have gone to college and are doing well. Gregorio and I are happy that we came to the United States and learned English. This gave my family a better life.

I am grateful to the ESL in-home program of Nevada for its no-charge-to-student education classes. I was able to pass all four levels. It has given me a life of all the benefits I state above.

Learning English through this program has given me a good life.

This is my wonderful tutor, Judy Smith..............................>>>
We are proud to announce that Northern Nevada has 230 new U.S. Citizens from our program. Three 12-week Citizenship Preparation Study classes are given each year. This winter’s Carson City’s class dedicated tutor, Ronald Roberts, has (so far) 59 immigrants (photo above) attending; our Douglas County dedicated tutor, Helen Wood, has 23 adult immigrants attending our first Douglas County Citizenship Preparation class (photo below shows 1st class). These tutors give freely of their time and energy volunteering to hold Citizenship Preparation Study classes for people who want to become citizens of our country. The Carson City’s class is in the Digitorium Room of the Carson Library every Saturday from 2-4:00pm; the Douglas County class is in St. Gall’s Catholic Church every Saturday from 10:00am to 1:00pm; Washoe County classes will soon open.

When our program first started Citizenship Preparation Study classes, the Federal application to become a citizen cost about $300.00. Then it was raised to $680.00. It was again raised in February to a cost of $725.00. I thought we would welcome new U.S. citizens to our country, so I wonder why the increases occur, which are deterrents.

The fee to apply for citizenship is a lot less than the cost of relocating a person. According to Immigration and Customs Enforcement Deputy Director Kumar Kibble, in 2011 the cost for detaining and relocating an illegal alien back to Mexico cost $12,500. In today’s dollars, that figure is more than $13,400. That is the amount that we, the taxpayers of the United States, pay for each and every illegal who is sent back to Mexico. http://blog.chron.com/immigration/2011/01/ice-reveals-cost-for-deporting-each-illegal-immigrant/

Most immigrants in our program are low-income and do not have enough saved to pay for the application cost even working 2-3 jobs. This is the reason many do not come forward. The ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada has started an account for funds to help those who do not have the full fee of $725.00.

If you wish to donate, and whatever your donation is, we and the person you are helping will be most appreciated. Donations are 100% tax deductible to the extent of the law. Donations can be sent via our website: www.eslinhome.org/donations. We will send you a bio and photo of the student(s) you have helped.

Our Challenge: I’ve contacted Federal and State Legislators requesting for bills to be created which will provide financial aid, to those who cannot afford the fee, for all immigrants who are ready to take the Naturalization Exam so they may become Naturalized American Citizens.

All our tutors’ generosity continues to help adult educators. Some of our tutors are teaching English language skills to the parents of school children. The school children’s parents now help them with homework and other school activities. They are communicating with their children’s teachers. We are pleased to report ESL school teachers thank us. Their classes are running smoother. The aim is to help students catch up to grade levels and become fluent in reading, writing, and speaking English so they can succeed in school and beyond.

We also tell the parents how proud we are of them, for their dedication to help themselves and their children for future success while living in the USA. They are their children’s role models.
One of our students — a single mother with 3 children — saw this poster somewhere and said her 3 school children pasted it on their bedroom wall.

⇒ **Student Rafael**, who works in the construction industry, shops by himself now at The Home Depot and Lowes. He asks a lot of questions in class and is determined to know how to speak fluent English in 4 more months. He intends to start his own business. He also found more work (he is a freelance) as a result of joining the ESL In-Home Program and speaking better English.

⇒ **Student Betty** — who understood a little English when she started with our program is now shopping alone at Walmart and Marshalls. She also orders for herself at restaurants. She was also given a raise by her employer.

⇒ **Student Margarita** helps her children with their homework (they are 6 and 11) and also helps with activities at their school.

**Tutor Mary H.-Reno**: My student, Heysi C. was able to read “the Night before Christmas” and she read it to her 5 year old son.

**Tutor Steve R.-Dayton**: Petra reports pay raise + improved work environment + responsibilities.

**Tutor Helen W.-Minden**: This evening Margarita T. held a 5 min conversation with a priest from St. Galls. Leticia G. is writing essays now as part of her homework.

**Tutor Linda W.-Carson**: Student Reina went to her son’s parent-teacher conference, understanding what they said.

**Tutor Pat S.-Gardnerville**: Evangelina O., Araceli C., Salomon L., Maria G. are now being able to use English on the phone to make appointments, ask for information and take messages. Maria is communicating with the office at her child’s school in person and understanding notes from school.

**Tutor Teresa S.-Carson**: Mecedonio at her job, was employer of the month for October.

**Tutor Alicia Perez-Carson**: Abel and Evelyn are doing very well. They are able to converse more with less help or correction.

**Tutor Phyllis B.—Sparks**: Student Maria B. comprehends English much better and reads English very well. Her pronunciation is getting much better and is very cute when not pronounced correctly.

**Tutor Linda D.—Reno**: Made a presentation about the ESL program at Echo Loder Elementary School, Head Start and 9 parents signed up to learn English.

**Tutor Carol L.-Carson**: Maria Y. is now able to discuss her son’s progress over the phone with his teacher. Marifina M. is understanding better and voted in the Presidential election. Ana T. participated in a workshop in English.

**Tutor Phyllis C.—Reno**: Raquel P. is now working at the Reno Mall as a cleaner. It is a promotion from her former employment. She is using more English to communicate with customers and her employer.

**Reno Tutor, Greg H.** reports that his student, Ivan S. has written his first and second hand written sentences in English. Ivan’s wife and son told me that he had never done this before.

Ivan is becoming more confident in his speaking skill and is now trying to speak just English at work. Lots of progress in the short time I’ve been tutoring him.
From the Executive Director

Life’s Most Persistent and Urgent Question Is:
“WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS?”....................Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

OUR VOLUNTEERS’ generosity is changing lives. This time of year everyone is talking about how they can make a change. Then there’s YOU! You, too, can share HOPE by helping someone. Many people living in Nevada want to learn English. We are here for that.

ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada
In Carson, Washoe, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill Counties

We tutor English as a Second Language (ESL), GED Preparation, Work place Communication, Computer Literacy, and U.S. Citizenship Study on a one-on-one basis or small groups of 2-5

Mission Statement: ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada provides free adult educational programs that empower people, especially those of low-to-moderate income, to become more productive members of their local communities by providing them with the language and cultural skills necessary for life in America.

TUTORS: Invite your friends to become an ESL volunteer tutor! Tell them why you enjoy the experience. Invite them to learn more about our program on our website: www.eslinhome.org.

It is not necessary for tutors to know a foreign language nor have prior teaching experience. We train at no cost........one hour on your day/time/location.

We're on the Web and on Facebook!
www.eslinhome.org

ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada In 5 Counties:
Carson, Washoe, Douglas, Lyon and Churchill Counties

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All donations are for purchasing books to start new students. Please go to: www.gofundme.com/eslinhome. Even one dollar helps. If you have an AMAZON account and you are buying gifts for birthdays, holidays, or “just because” go to: and choose ESL In-Home Program as your charity, or our website: www.eslinhome.org/donations

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