

MINISTRY REPORTS 2010



New Life Worship Ministry 2010

Annual Report

At New Life Covenant, we seek to encounter God in our times of corporate worship. It is not about us - it is all about Him. Our goal is to help each person turn their eyes from themselves, from their problems, and their distractions, to see Jesus high and lifted up. As we begin to see Him, He is honored and glorified and we are transformed! Our greatest joy is to watch people get lost in worship. Here's a summary of what we did in 2010.

Outreach

Worship in Humboldt Park! For the second year in a row we held an outdoor worship service in Humboldt Park, on the same stage we held our HopeFest back to school event the day before. This year worship in the park was led by worship leader and song writer Calvin Nowell.

Prayer

The worship ministry held 3 prayer and worship services throughout the year. These nights of prayer were mainly for music ministry members; but were also open to anyone who wanted to come and join us in prayer.

Worship Choir

As the Worship Choir Director, Jaime Navarro has a vision to teach choir members to develop an infectious lifestyle of worship. Choir leads the congregation in worship once a month. In 2011 choir welcomed 20 new choir members.

New Worship Team Members

In 2010 we welcomed to the team: Javante (Alto), Celines (Soprano), Jessica (Alto) and Joseph (tenor) and tearfully said goodbye to Roselyn Feliciano, a 13 year member of the worship team.

Writing Sabbaticals

This year we spent a lot of time sharpening our writing skills and wrote some songs for the CD as a team, other songs were written by individual team members. CD songs were arranged by either our music director Rick Rivera or our assistant music director Anthony Gomez. We had two out of town writing sabbaticals and two at-home writing and arranging sessions. And too many to count rearranging and editing sessions in order to prepare for live recording.

Live Recording

On December 29, 2010 we recorded our very first live recording. It was an experience of a lifetime. Thank you New Life, for your support and love. The live recording was a success first of all because of God's favor and secondly because of your passion and obedience in worship.

It is an honor to serve you.

Worship Pastor,

Elizabeth De Jesús

Music Director,

Rick Rivera

HopeFest

To the glory of God, in 2010 HopeFest celebrated its 5th anniversary!

With this being our 5th year planning this great event, the team has become a "well oiled machine". The individuals on this committee are phenomenal and have incredible gifts that allow us to collaborate well.

2010 proved to be the year of overflow for HopeFest. We set out to do things bigger and better than years past and the Lord opened the floodgates for His ministry! Some additions this year include over 100 commercials that aired on the TLN cable access channel – produced in house by talented New Life staff. We were also able to promote HopeFest via Moody Radio and our friends at PepsiCo and Frito Lay helped us provide our volunteers with free shirts to commemorate the anniversary.

As always we believe we have the greatest volunteers – to thank them for their service we had an outdoor concert the night before HopeFest. Our musical guests included The Katina's, B. Reith and our very own New Life Worship Team. The good people at Home Run Inn pizza donated over 800 pizzas to feed our volunteers and Jack of All Cakes provided dessert - 700 cupcakes and a beautiful anniversary cake to help end the night!

We were blessed with great weather for our event and because of the hard work and dedication of the HopeFest team, this year's event went off without a hitch – Pastor even called it "too organized"!

My response to that was - when you work together and your heart is for the kingdom of God, He shows up and shows off!

These are some 2010 Stats:

- Close to 75 community organizations were in attendance
- 5,000 recyclable grocery Jewel bags full of: Granola Bars, Oatmeal, Life Cereal, Pancake Mix, Orange juice, Rice a Roni, Cheetos and Gatorade
- 5,000 loaves of bread from Sara Lee bakeries
- 5,000 book bags full of supplies
- Over 600 dental screenings
- More than 900 medical screenings including school physicals, immunizations and cholesterol screenings
- Over 2,200 families received prayer

2011 will be a special year for us, we will be transforming our park event into a street festival – and will also celebrate HopeFest one whole month earlier on July 30, 2011! Our goal is always to provide for *both* the spiritual and holistic needs of our community and we believe that changing the date will allow more students to take advantage of all that HopeFest has to offer.

Please continue to keep this event in your prayers and on behalf of our team I extend our sincerest gratitude the most faithful church any ministry could ask for, to God be the glory!

God Bless you,
Jennifer Velazquez



Dear NLC

This was an awesome year for the missions department. Even in the middle of this recession God has allowed us to reach Dominican Republic and Camden, NJ. We have an awesome team who give their time, heart, and talents to this ministry.

Dominican Republic/Haiti

This year we were able to go to the borders of Haiti and bring relief to the people in three small towns Elias Piña, Jimani, and La Bombita. These towns had been hit by a hurricane and were underwater for several months. A total of 25 people from our church, and three doctors in Dominican Republic helped to answer the call in Haiti.

Highlights from this trip:

- Distributed food, clothing, and medicines to all three towns
- Prayed for over 800 families
- Visited the boys orphanage and painted the walls to one of their buildings
- Visited the church of a young pastor and walked house to house and offered prayer to families in the town of La Bombita



Camden

It was a privilege and a blessing to partner up with Hopefest and "make it happen" in Camden.

A team of 75 New Lifers from the mother church and Oakwood endured a 13 hour drive to Camden, New Jersey to bless the children with school supplies. As many of us found out on our journey, we didn't go there to hand out book bags, we were extremely blessed to pray with many of the families in the community the night before Hopefest. This really opened our eyes to the need which is Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Highlights from this trip:

- Over 1000 children received book bags with school supplies
- Approximately 800 families visited the Kids Zone
- Coats were handed out to over 200 families



We Do Missions...
With the Feet of those who GO
With the Knees of those who Stay
With the Hands of those who Give



Chicago Dream Center

www.chicagodreamcenter.org 1636 N. California Ave, Chicago, IL 60647 Office: 773.384.2200 Fax: 773.384.1004

Dear New Life Family,

Praise God! 2010 was a year of renewal at the Dream Center. This past year has brought tremendous growth and we have experienced dramatic changes in both programming and staff. We have an incredible team of men and women who dedicate themselves to the Lord's work. Every day, the CDC strives to bring hope and a dream for the future to those who are lost. The Dream Center was specifically created as an arm of New Life Covenant to help individuals and families overcome poverty and its devastating effects through the love of Jesus Christ.

During 2010, here are some of the amazing things He was able to accomplish with your support:

Highlights in Chicago-

- **New Life for Women** produced over 35 graduates from Chicago and the Farm, and partnered with Women's Retreat to host an Encounter and Discovery at the farm.
- The **Axis Teen Center** housed 20 at-risk girls in 2010. Several girls have now gone on to Master's commission and college; others have been reunited with family, found independent housing and self-sufficient employment.
- **Bridge to Life** held three of its largest outreach dinners as well its first Isabella Memorial Service, to remember those homeless friends who have died in the streets without a proper burial.
- **New Life Café** provided more than 7500 meals to the homeless for B2L, 15,000 lunches to Salem students, and helped fundraise over \$15,000 for various NLC ministries.
- **Rose of Sharon** took a missions trip to Camden, New Jersey in August. 4 women have entered the recovery program from NJ. In 2010, Rose of Sharon reached over 1,000 women in the streets in Chicago streets.
- **Adopt-A-Block** reached over 200 people with its first annual Health Fair in Humboldt Park.
- Jesus Closet sponsored 100 gifts for children this Christmas in addition to providing hundreds of families with clothing, hats, gloves, jackets, and other items during the year.
- **Manna for Life** provided over 250 meals to families for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. M4L distributed 100,000 lbs of food to families in 2010. Out of a partnership with Chicago Public Schools and the JROTC, the canned food drive far exceeded its goal of 3000 lbs and brought in 18,000 lbs. of needed food relief.
- The CDC opened the **Casa de Esperanza** apartments for women with children in October because of the generous sponsorship of Harvest Bible Chapel and Swaback Charities. Also, two new ministries emerged, **Sister to Sister** mentoring and **Freedom Prison Ministries**.
- The Dream Center hosted over 1500 **short term missionaries** this past year.
- On October 1st, we held our 1st annual **Dare to Dream Gala** which raised approximately \$40,000.
- The **Humboldt 5k/10k** had over 100 participants last June, raising nearly \$10,000 for Salem and the CDC – with generous support throughout the year from Frito Lay and PepsiCo.

Highlights in Camden, New Jersey-

- Services are held weekly; over 2000 people attended the 2nd annual **Hopefest**.
- Dozens of youth are involved in **after school** programming and weekly **Real Talk**
- We hosted 6 mission groups and a summer **Math and Reading Boot Camp**
- Local members now run **Gems of Eden** (for women in the streets) and **Hope for Life** (outreach to the homeless).

Please PRAY for God's strength as we go into the valleys to speak life into dry bones in 2011. Thank you for all of your support to make dreams into a reality!

Speak Life in 2011,
Trishia Kholodenko

Associate Pastor, New Life Covenant/CDC

Vision in 2011: to transform this foreclosed property at 1638 N. California into an Axis Teen Center for homeless and at-risk boys.





Children's Ministries underwent changes in 2010. God moved in the hearts of servant leaders to become ministry directors and I have felt a sense of family within this team. In January 2010, Kidz Church introduced worship with hand motions. The children really engage in worship, especially for children who have difficulty reading the words on the screen. Melissa Garcia is our worship leader and she selects songs and creates hand motions to accompany the words. The kids favorite song is "Super Hero" by Hillsong Kids.

In April, Junior Bible Quiz (JBQ) attended competitions in Springfield, IL. At the end of the day the "B" level team walked away with the 1st place trophy and the "C" level team walked away with the 3rd place trophy. This kids study very week and attend monthly competitions in Naperville, IL. Their hard work paid off.

In June, a new ministry was launched in Kidz Church called "Taste and See". All of the chefs minister to the boys and girls in skits and object lessons. Then at the end of the sermons, the children have an opportunity to make the featured snack. We all dress in aprons and chef hats. The kids enjoy this ministry a lot. I think it's because of the food.

In August, for the first time ever, Kidz Church taught the kids about David and Goliath. The series was called "Smack Down". After 4 weeks of ministering on the life of David and Goliath, the entire Kidz Church Team came together to perform various wrestling matches. We created a ring, we had commentators, and of course multiple wrestlers. I have to say that day was our highest in attendance (approximately 350 kids) not including the adults who came in to watch. It was a blast.

In September, the nursery and toddler ministries joined together to share a room to call their own. The nursery and preschool setup classroom is very inviting to the children and their parents. It is decorated with wall coverings and kid friendly furniture. The teams work together to receive the children and for pickups as well.

In October, Kidz Fest was inhouse. Given that October 31 fell on a Sunday, we ministered to the children during all 5 services. The kids enjoyed the clown and puppets while the ministered. They also played "Minute To Win It" games, won raffled prizes and each child received at least two pounds of candy.

We have new ministry directors as well. Sandra Lopez is the new Kidz Bible Study Director. Melissa Garcia is the Worship Director. Annie Lopez and Arlene Rivera are the High 5_4 Jesus Directors (pre-school and Kindergarten). Mickie Santiago is an assistant director to Little Lambs Nursery. Felisha Ortega and Maritza Anzueta are assistant directors to Little Light Toddler Ministry. "Tiny" the Clown is now the director of the Happy Hearts Clown Ministry.

As we had entered in 2011, Children's Ministries will be organizing new events for children and their families. We will be having a "Kidz Conference" in March and "Kidz Family Night" in June, July and August. We wait on the Lord for new ministry workers to help us enhance what we do for God's kids. We are very excited to see Him move on our behalf.



Dear NLC,

Master's Commission 09-10 had an amazing journey. They not only encountered God through prayer and service but also through discipleship, devotion, and scripture memorization. We are in awe by the work of God's hand in the lives of our students.

Here are some of the highlights that have taken place this past year. We began our journey in September with the "Week of Brokenness." With the help of the Armorbearer Ministry the students have experienced a new level of brokenness physically and spiritually. In October, the Master's participated in a live illustrated drama series titled "Fracture."

Master's Commission entered uncharted territory by alternating trips to Camden New Jersey every month. We reached out to the community through ministry and evangelism by after school programs and weekly bible studies. We also focused on building and developing strong relationship with the kids and families through small groups.

We had four third years intern in other states such as Florida, Virginia, and Camden for three months. There they volunteered at fellow churches and served in other communities. In February our team was able to experience the Master's Commission Conference in Dallas. They had an amazing time encountering God and being refreshed and inspired by fellow Master's Commission students.

In May, we had a great time with the CMC Conference at Driven. The team was able to motivate the kids and even inspire some to consider Master's after high school. That month we also celebrated the completion of the program for each student at the CMC graduation. It was an honor to see the students graduate knowing they have received the training needed to now move forward in life.

We look forward to what God will do with the MC 10-11 class. We ask that you please continue to lift up the Master's program in prayer as we continue to make disciples for Christ.

Chicago MC Pastor's
David & Marisol Marrero



“Never Looking Back Always Pushing Forward”

Dear New Life Covenant,

The year of 2010 has been a blessed and amazing year in Driven Youth Ministry. Since last year we have grown to an average of 500-600 youth. We have seen growth not only in numbers but spiritually as well. We are currently at 33 ministries and are excited to say we have 3 new ministries which include Guards Report (evangelism team), Safe Haven (an after-school program), and Roots (a discipleship class for Jr. High students). Our deacon ministry “HOLLA Back” has been doing a phenomenal job with the altar cards. We have had 480 young people fill out altar cards and 300 first time visitor. We are blessed and honored to have such a giving staff that devotes their time to pour into these young people’s lives.

We have had our annual youth retreat in May where 200 young people experienced a move of God. We had a guest, Curvine Brewgton, who ministered through rap. We also had our annual lock-in at Hidden Cove where we united with our daughter church Oakwood for a time of fun, fellowship, and the Word of God. We had a special guest artist, Mali Music. Our vision for 2011 is called Reach and one of the ways we plan to further that vision is through Project 4:19. Project 4:19 stands for Matthew 4:19 and is an evangelism challenge that encourages leaders and driven youth students to evangelize.

For this upcoming year we have planned a Purity Retreat for February, our annual youth retreat with guest Coffey Anderson, a website for Driven and the launch of Project 4:19.

We just want to say “thank you” to the families that have entrusted us with their children, and allowed us to continue to deposit into their child’s life. We also want to say “thank you” to New Life Covenant for continuing to support us in everything we do. We ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers as we continue to build the kingdom of God in Driven Youth Ministries and strive to reach our goal of 1000+ youth.

David and Marisol Marrero

Youth Pastors

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To the Ladies of NLC-**Chosen Vessels**,

What an amazing ministry we have...Chosen Vessels! I cannot stress how grateful I am to God for the opportunity to serve as the Women's Director here at New Life. I hope and pray that one day I will get to hear our Lord say to me and to those ladies who serve with me those famous words in scripture...**"well done good and faithful servant."** You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things" and let me express the CV Ministry is a many thing!

I must admit this past year was a hard year personally for me and for many ladies of the Chosen Vessels team. We must be doing something right because the enemy really tried to tear us down. As I reflect back throughout the year the events we had and what we accomplished as a ministry I thank God for the dedicated women of the CV Ministry.

Moving into a new year is always refreshing because it gives us the opportunity to take the "bull by the horns" with even more dedication to our calling of serving the ladies of NLC. Ladies we truly love you and our prayer for you is that within the Women's Ministry you will find true friendships, and a love for Christ.

This year we have some exciting events planned in February a Women's Breakfast our theme is "You're all that and a Cup of Tea"; in March we have an event planned "Friday Night Ladies Night". Our ministry **"Growing in Grace"** will start women's bible study every Saturday in March, Lily thanks for leadership.

We are revamping the **"Yedda Ministry"** to meet the needs of our young ladies; it is so exciting to see where God will take Leslie as she ventures out to the unknown. Remember, Leslie I believe in you! Bernie you have been so faithful to the **"Divine Sisterhood"**- single mom's I can only pray that will God refresh, and grant you "Staying Power!" Elsie, thank you for your love and servant heart to ROL you truly show **"Love in Action"**. Marelyn your dedication to **"My Sister's Keeper"** is over the top. To the **"Won by Love"** ministry thank you for your love to teach God's word and encourage those ladies who have unbalanced marriages or relationships. **You ladies are amazing!**

Our goal this year is to launch a health program called **"Fit 4 Him"** God is really tugging at my heart to get this up and running. So ladies get ready, Emily Ocasio is a beast when it comes to exercising!

To the whole Chosen Vessels Team I pray that in 2011 we walk, live and breathe the **"Staying Power"** of God's presence!

Rosie Chicol



My Dearest Family in Christ,

It is amazing how quickly 2010 came and went. Looking back, I am so grateful and blessed to be a part of such a great ministry that has been blessed by our Great God. We have been growing and expanding, all to the Glory of God.

Our men's retreats have reached historic numbers. We have continued to cast our nets, and the catch we bring over flow the boat of our ministry. In our faithfulness to live out our calling to be fishers of men, God has been faithful in blessing the work of our hands. In 2010 we averaged over 400 men at each of our retreats...Praise God!

We have also witnessed growth in our bible studies. "My Brothers Keeper", which is our addiction bible study / accountability / fellowship group, has added a Tuesday night meeting. They were invited by an outside support group to bring our ministry, and the word, to a secular setting...Praise God!

Another of our bible studies has experienced wonderful growth. "Journey In Righteousness" is one of our weekly bible studies. They now meet twice a week on Thursdays and Saturdays. Our Saturday morning group has grown to average up to 50 men. What makes this even more amazing is that they meet at 7:30 in the MORNING! Praise God!

Men's Breakfast has seen an increase as well, where as many as 95 men have attended to be fed nourishment for their body and spirit. Our talented chef serves up great food that keeps the men satisfied, while our gifted team of teachers, make us hungry for more of the word.

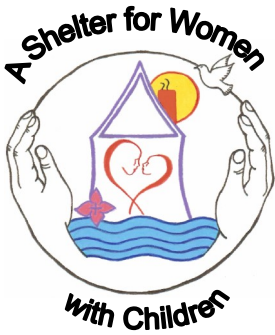
We have also been blessed to be able to bless our fellow ministries. We took over for the hospitality ministry on Mothers Day so they could have the day off as we cooked and served for them. We went out on the first Friday of the month to assist Bridge 2 Life in serving and ministering to the homeless. And we donated and cooked food for the River of Life shelter's Christmas Party.

It was a year of "ReNew"-ing. Renewing of our strength, renewing of our commitment, renewing of our spirit, and renewing of our minds. God has shown us great and unsearchable things, and we look forward to 2011 with anticipation and expectation.

I would like to say, Thank You to the men of New Life that have supported and served the **Oaks of Righteousness Men's Ministry**, and I would like to invite those of you who have not been involved with us, to step up, step in, and step out, in faith. God Bless you.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Isaac Vega



New Life Family Services

River of Life An Interim Housing Shelter

2010 Annual Report

2010 has been quite a challenging year. We have been challenged to seek God's grace, mercy, and guidance in reaching out to the women he has brought to our doors. We have been challenged in keeping the peace, showing love and kindness to those who feel they have reached the end of their rope. Every women's story for their circumstances is different and God had given each of us the ability, through his Holy Spirit to handle each one with extreme love and care and to show them that there is a God who loves them.

River of Life Interim Housing Program goals have remained the same: to assist the client in obtaining financial income through employment or financial benefits and to assist them in seeking permanent/stable housing. Also, to show them, that, yes, they can overcome whatever circumstances that caused them to become homeless. Every client goes through job readiness classes, domestic violence counseling and/or placement in a domestic violence program, financial budgeting/counseling and job search. After an income is established all client who are eligible are assisted in applications to housing.

In this past year, we at ROL, have serviced *83 moms with 161 Children (244 clients)* and have served *over 8,400 meals*. Currently, we have 12 families residing at the shelter. 75 women have since been discharged from the shelter: 39% are in their own apartments or sharing rental space with friends or returned to family. 39% have gone on to other shelters and 7% have moved in with friends or family temporarily, (under 90 days).

Love in Action, (LIA), continues to meet twice a month the ladies. LIA bless our ladies with gifts and fellowship on Valentines Day, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. This is a time that is anticipated with eagerness by all the Shelter.

The children's birthdays are celebrated every month by two sisters, Enid Rivera and Sarai Garza. The birthday child is honored with cake, gifts and games with all the kids from the shelter. The moms have expressed how grateful they are that their children are remembered in such a special way.



Our Healthcare provider, Heather Duncan, continues to see to the health and well being of our clients and their children. Every week she comes to our facility and provides services such as medical screening and provides referrals for outside services for continuing medical care, and social service advocacy. This have proven to be a blessing for our ladies at the shelter where they do not need to leave the facility to be seen for minor ailment, children's vaccinations and general exams.

I have been truly blessed with an amazing staff. God has given us all a heart of compassion, love and grace to be able to understand the hardships and pain that many of our client go through. Women have come to know of God's saving grace through the constant care and love provided by the staff. Many of them visit New Life Covenant want to make a commitment to become members and be baptized.

To God Be All the Glory.