



Our Vision

An Eastern Shore of Virginia community that enables migrant and immigrant members and families to thrive.

Our Mission

Provide opportunities and resources that enable Hispanic/Latino families to be well adapted, to enjoy reasonable living conditions, and to be fully integrated into the community.

FACTS: Virginia's Eastern Shore has an estimated population of 45,000, of which approximately 9% are Hispanics (not counting undocumented individuals). 80% of our major industrial (poultry and agricultural) workers speak Spanish or Haitian Creole as their primary language. The cultural adaptation process is hampered by the trauma of emigration, lack of English skills, and unfamiliarity with the various social/education/economic/civil systems. The poverty rate is around 20% (well above state levels); approximately 20% of those under 65 lack health insurance; and 30% of the population lives in rental housing. There are many barriers to affordable, safe, healthy housing. Most Latino persons are living in rental trailers in mobile home parks or in rental houses, many of which are not in acceptable condition for families with young children.

For more information and volunteer opportunities please contact Rev. Verónica Barrell at 804-304-0646 or email unafamilia2013@gmail.com or

Check out our Website @ <https://www.unafamiliaesva.com/>

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Please send financial contributions to:

Una Familia
P.O. Box 317
Parksley, VA 23421

or donate online at <https://www.unafamiliaesva.com/>

Focus Areas

School age children of Spanish-speaking migrants and immigrants often come from families who do not speak English sufficiently to help them with homework, tutoring and language practice. Middle and high schoolers need encouragement, information and education to discern and achieve their vocational goals. Approximately 27% of the Eastern Shore population is under 18 years of age. There is an urgent need to reach this huge age group in all the schools.



Una Familia seeks to expand its mission by journeying with Hispanic/Latino families through assistance with language and cultural interpretation and advocacy. In partnership with Just Neighbors of Northern Virginia, Una Familia is sponsoring Immigration Clinics providing low income families with legal immigration services. Una Familia works with other churches and community service organizations to address specific needs.



Una Familia (“One Family”) grew from the vision of a Latina high school student, Lupe Marquez, to help the children in her neighborhood. Today, a Board of Directors from a diverse background and career experiences continues that vision. Our program has provided more than 6 years of service to the community.

Una Familia currently provides weekly tutoring for about 80 elementary school children at various church sites (of various denominations) through the Eastern Shore serving Accomack and Northampton elementary schools. We also provide middle schoolers (about 30) with a monthly experience which includes the arts, music, character building, life skills in addition to language skills. In 2019 Una Familia will launch a monthly high school program to assist in career discernment, study and life skills, college and trade school preparation, application, scholarship and resume writing and interviewing.



Una Familia envisions creating opportunities for affordable home ownership for Hispanic/Latinos through the building of tiny house communities which include community centers and areas of recreation.