

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Centro Hispano of Reading -Reading, PA

Centro Hispano serves the Hispanic community of the Berks county area from the center of Reading. They operate with the mission of supporting and enhancing the acculturation of the Latino population in the Greater Reading area through collaborative initiatives designed to enable individuals and families to improve their quality of life and the quality of life in their communities.
<https://www.centrohispano.org/>



BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

- Senior Center → health screenings, providing meals to low-income seniors
- Casa de la Amistad → providing meals to low-income seniors, children in afterschool care and summer camps and delivery meals to families
- “Abriendo Puertas” → national partner of program educating parents and family in importance as child’s first teacher
- Information and Referral services → one-on-one help with completing public service applications
- Medical Interpreting → clients 60 years old and older



TEAM’S EXPERIENCE

- Information and referral services
- blood pressure screenings to the seniors
- medical interpreting
- discuss importance of managing blood pressure and diabetes and getting regular eye and foot exams
- administered information regarding local food pantries and farmers markets, and aided staff in tracking visitors who picked up meals

ACCOMPLISHMENTS/ CHALLENGES/JOYS



REFLECTION

“During my time at Centro Hispano, I was exposed to so many aspects of social services that impact health and address areas such as food insecurity, access to health care, homelessness, transportation, and language barriers. Seeing first-hand how needs such as food insecurity and language barriers can take precedence over the need to fill a prescription or go to a doctor’s appointment, gave me further insight of how I, as a future medical provider can better understand how to care for this population, addressing their most basic needs to then provide the best quality healthcare.” – Priscilla Lozano