RCA Global Mission

Frontera de Gracia Renovation

A renewed vision of hospitality at the border

Frontera de Gracia: Shelter + Church

Since 2019, Frontera de Gracia (Border of Grace) has offered safety and dignity to more than 16,000 people at the U.S.–Mexico border. Families and individuals fleeing danger have found food, rest, and welcome here—an expression of Christ's love in a time of deep uncertainty.

Today, the ministry shares one building. The church sanctuary doubles as a sleeping space during the week, but every weekend, guests clear out their beds and belongings for services. Though we are grateful to offer shelter, this constant disruption falls short of the dignity we long to provide. Both our church family and our guests deserve dedicated spaces.

Why a New Building?

Frontera de Gracia has been functioning, both church and shelter, within a space that is not sufficient nor honoring to our guests or the congregation. A new two-story facility with a strong foundation, a permanent worship space on the first floor, and a second floor with safe, stable accommodations for 80 guests, is the plan to help carry the ministry forward.

Frontera de Gracia's current structure.

Maria and her three children are a perfect example of why this renovation is needed. They fled Colombia, narrowly escaping kidnapping on their journey north. Exhausted and afraid, they found safety at Frontera de Gracia, where her children could finally play and sleep without fear. She waited several months and eventually her family crossed legally into the United States and she was reunited with her husband. Families like Maria's remind us why this ministry matters—people on the move need more than temporary shelter; they need a safe, stable place until they can continue their journey.

Now, while guest numbers are lower, it is the right time to rebuild. Together, we can offer lasting hospitality and hope. **Will you join us?**

The need

Phase 1: $345,000: Demolish existing building and rebuild a strong, robust foundation that is capable of supporting a second floor.

Phase 2: $460,000: Creation of a dedicated first floor for Frontera de Gracia Church, offering a stable and comfortable worship space. This phase involves first-floor walls, floor, and supports, as well as adding bathrooms, electrical, and stairs up to the second level.

Phase 3: $322,000: Construction of a second floor for Frontera de Gracia Shelter, designed to comfortably accommodate at least 80 guests with permanent, dignified sleeping arrangements and necessary amenities like an appropriately sized kitchen and updated bathrooms and showers. This phase will also include finishing off the structure with doors and windows, and getting water, electricity, and AC running throughout.

Total project cost: $980,000 USD

How to give

Online:
Visit: www.rca.org/give/frontera_de_gracia_renovation

By phone (U.S. only):
Call Terri Boven at 616-541-0835.

By mail:
Make all donations out to the "Reformed Church in America" and designate to *Frontera de Gracia Renovation*. Please send your check to:

U.S.
Reformed Church in America,
Attn: Finance Dept.
4500 60th St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

Canada
Regional Synod of Canada
PO Box 1583 STN Main
Woodstock, Ontario, N4S 0A7

Vision + Goal

At Frontera de Gracia, we envision a community of grace at the U.S.–Mexico border where worship, refuge, and dignity come together. To truly honor both our congregation and the vulnerable guests we serve, we are committed to creating a stronger, more sustainable facility that will welcome people for decades to come. This vision is not only about a building—it is about providing a lasting foundation where the church can thrive in ministry and the shelter can offer safe, dignified space for those on the move. Together, we seek to embody Christ's love in a place of hospitality, hope, and transformation.

Angel Lopez
RCA Missionary

Angel collaborates with his brother Samuel, who leads Frontera de Gracia, to provide a safe place and support for migrants waiting at the U.S.—Mexico border. Together, they educate North American communities about the border situation, offer advocacy resources, and partner with congregations to develop Christian witnesses who build meaningful relationships with people on their migration journey.

Connect: alopez@rca.org

Watch a video from Angel on why this ministry matters. You can also access by scanning the QR code:

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