

October 2008

UrbanHarvestMinistries

Dr. Tom and Lidia Grassano, urban missionaries



Agent of Change

"Class was great today!" wrote Gina in a report on the English as a Second Language class she recently started leading. "More than twice as many people showed up for class. I got a little nervous and told the Lord, 'This is all for you and I trust you to lead,' and boy did He! I engaged the class in a host of activities... I received compliments from some class members, but I say, 'All Glory to God alone!'"

The ESL classes have been a ministry of *The Harvest Center* for the last three years, as a way to empower the host of Mexican and Central American people who have flooded the South Bronx — and to reach them with the love of Christ. "We're not just here to teach English," says Gina. "We're here to minister to the whole person *and* the whole family."



"A woman in the class was very concerned about her teenage daughter, Jasmine, because she is very shy and doesn't mix with people very much. So I made Jasmine my class assistant and she is really opening up. It's beautiful to see the transformation! "

Born in Honduras, with a family deep into witchcraft, Gina knows of Christ's transforming power. "By the time I was a teenager, I was desperate for God and the truth. I was literally

looking on the ground for a tract so I could learn about Him! I had heard about *The Harvest Center*, but I didn't know where it was located. Suddenly a picture of a white building came into my mind. Something told me, 'This is the place. Go there.'

"I remember the day I found the building I had seen in my mind. I walked in, and all the youth were crowded around Pastor Tom in a circle. I sat in the back, but soaked in *everything* Pastor Tom said. I knew I was hearing the truth and received Christ as my Savior that day. Soon my mother came to Christ and so did my sisters and brother.

"What strikes me is that I am no longer the teenager in the youth group; I'm a young woman leading a ministry. And it is my prayer that through this ministry people will not just learn English, but that they will find *real life in Christ!*"

From a searching teen to a young woman with her bachelor's degree in social work, Gina loves to serve God by helping people. "I'm elated that God is using me in this ministry. I'm so in my element! All praise to Jesus!"

*Thank you for partnering with us
to make testimonies like this possible!*



Gina leads the ESL ministry, ministers with the Exodus drama team and is a part of outreach in both New York City and Detroit.

Urban
Harvest
Ministries

PO Box 763
Bronx, NY 10455
718-402-6777
www.uhm.cc

Empowering and Equipping
in America's Cities