**Promotores de Salud program**

- In 2007 the Centro received a capacity-building grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health to begin a program to empower members of the Hispanic community through the PDS program.

May 2008 - First three participants

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**Goals of the program**

- Promote and increase health literacy for Latinos in Boone County, Missouri
- Improve access to primary care services
- Create conditions emphasizing a healthy lifestyle for underserved Latinos in the region.
- Communicate the needs of immigrants to service providers
- Work with services providers to help the newcomers understand and access local services.

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**What is a promotora?**

- Improves the well-being of their community through health education
- Improves people's knowledge of the health care system in the United States and Columbia, MO.

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**Needs the program addresses**

- Latinos make up 14% of the population.
- Twice as many are uninsured compared to the general population.
- Three times less likely to have a consistent source of medical care.
- One and a half times more likely to use the hospital ER as primary source of care compared to the general population.
PDS Program Findings

January-April 2009

By the numbers...

Medical Interpreting

Partnerships

- Health Department
- WIC Program/ Nutrition Classes
- Puertas a la Salud (PALS)
- Family Dental Center
- Clinics
- MedZou Free Clinic

First Quarter Findings

- Most individuals who come to Centro Latino are not aware of the local health resources available to them.
- Most children have some kind of health insurance.
- Fewer adults have health insurance, but often it does not include dental care.
- Those who are uninsured pay for medical fees in cash.

By the numbers...

Promotoras de Salud Program

Number of Clients

- January: 4
- February: 15
- March: 17
- April: 29

Total number of clients: 67
Total number of encounters: 154
Data from January 15-April 30, 2009
Health Literacy Issues

- Dental care: Since January we have seen 13 clients in need of dental care but most clients need 2 or 3 interventions.
- Clinical Referrals: 25 clients since January. Most are referred to Family Health Center and MedZou Free Clinic.

- Medical Interpreting: provided at each appointment made with most health providers.
- Other issues include: dermatology, heart issues, orthopedics.

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To be continued...