

## When are classes held?

For class time and location, call 616.738.3850

“Now I am more confident when speaking with native English speakers at work.”

~ Manuel P.

## Informational Meeting

All interested persons must attend an Informational Meeting before joining.

*“My language partner invited me to be a part of her Habitat for Humanity home dedication. She and I helped each other compose a brief speech in each other’s second language that we could give at this event. The opportunity to share in this joy is priceless.”*

~ Jackie F.

## In Collaboration with...

### Eagle’s Wings Church/ Iglesia Alas de Águila

For more information, contact:

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“To be together. To share the two languages, English and Spanish, was marvelous!”

~María D.



***Building unity and cross-cultural understanding through the teaching and learning of languages***

## What is the Reciprocal Language Partnership?

Reciprocal Language Partnership (RLP) pairs native Spanish speakers seeking to learn English, one-on-one with native English speakers seeking to learn Spanish. Instruction is given in both English and Spanish by an experienced teacher.



RLP partners complete class activities by teaching their partner in their native language and using the second language as they learn. Learning languages is a primary goal.

However, equally important is that the structure provides the opportunity for the two dominant cultures in the community to build bridges. Each participant offers the gift of teaching their native language and sharing their culture, while learning a second language and culture. This framework acknowledges and validates the gifts of both cultures. Furthermore, the one-on-one pairing, sustained throughout the class sessions, encourages and promotes the development of friendships.

*“Beatriz and I had fun learning from each other and laughing at our mistakes as we learned how to correct them. I had been looking for a way to learn Spanish and meet Spanish speaking people in Holland and this program was just what I needed.”*

~ Mary H.

*“Through my participation in the RLP program, my oral Spanish speaking skills increased greatly and I am now more comfortable in my conversational Spanish skills. I know that the opportunities I had to practice consistently each week through the RLP program greatly helped me attain these skills.”*

~ Kathy T.

## Who is the RLP for?

Native English Speakers who desire to:

- Learn Spanish and teach English
- Develop relationships with native Spanish speakers
- Commit to attending all 12 weeks of class  
(If you can't commit, substitutes are always needed!)



Practicing their newly learned skills

## Course Information

All lessons are designed to create cultural understanding while increasing language proficiency. Activities integrate reading, writing, listening, and speaking. However, the emphasis is on verbal communication. This creates an energized atmosphere full of talking and laughing.

- Classes are two hours in length and are held once a week for 12 week sessions
- The Fall session runs from September to December
- The Winter session runs from January to April
- There are two classes for Beginners and one class for Intermediates

*“The RLP atmosphere was fun and encouraging and allowed a unique venue for cross-culture sharing to take place. There were no prejudices, no judgments on who knew more or less, no competition. We were all students joined by the desire to learn and share and help each other.”*

~Robin P.

