



David Speed

LUGAR SEGURO (SAFE PLACE)

About the Family

I met Rosa and her 7-year-old daughter, Kimberly, in 2009 while serving at an orphanage in Guatemala. Rosa arrived at the orphanage in 2001 at age 15 after going through a traumatic experience that left her pregnant. In 2004, after turning 18, she took a staff position at the orphanage. A year later, I moved to Guatemala, and we began dating. We were married at the orphanage on May 28, 2011.

Six months later, we became house parents of 15 boys ages 3 to 10. Our son, Jet, was born a year later. In 2013, we moved to New Orleans. Max was born a year later in 2014. In 2019, I was able to officially adopt Kimberly. I tell her and everyone else that even though I wasn't there the day she came into the world, the day she was born was the day I became her father and she became my daughter because that was always God's plan.

About My Church Plant

The move to New Orleans from Guatemala was not easy. There were many tear-filled nights during our first year in the U.S. We didn't know many people, and since my parents' divorced when I was a child, my family hadn't been very close. Rosa and I had one constant request: "God, allow us to find a church family, not just for us, but for other people coming to the U.S. as well."

Rosa and I would talk about how awesome it would be for other immigrants leaving their homes and families not to feel lonely when they arrive here. What if, upon arriving here, they would be embraced by a church family in a real and tangible way? God answered. Our small group eventually grew to multiple groups that grew into a monthly service that eventually grew into the church we have today—Safe Place.

Find out how you can

Pray.

Participate.

Provide.

PRAY.

Please pray we will make connections with persons of peace in our surrounding community.
Pray there would be forward momentum in the immigration status and pending cases of many of our church members.
Pray for the many young families and married couples in our church.
Pray the launch of our English-speaking service will reach second-generation Hispanics and beyond.
Pray our financial resources will continue to sustain the rapid growth of the church and also pay a youth pastor.

PARTICIPATE

Come visit us.
Connect with us on social media.
Send us a note or give us a call.

PROVIDE

Learn the church plant, its strategy and context, so you can provide relevant resources.
Support a church planter financially.