



Student Celebrates Completion of IEP After Span of 14 Years



Sister Rosie Linda, of Mexico, successfully completed Pitt State's Intensive English Program (IEP) this past summer. Linda initially began the program in 2007, and has been in the program intermittently as she has traveled for missionary work.

Linda said the program "is amazing."

Completing the program, 14 years after beginning, was a dream come true for Linda and she felt proud to finish.

"I feel so great and happy," she said. "I feel like now I can do more and I feel confident to do that now. In the beginning, the goal was just to speak and try to communicate with others in a simple way. Now, I can understand more and feel more comfortable to communicate with others."

Linda's mission is with the Diocese of Wichita. In 2007, as part of the Diocese, Linda was

asked by the Bishop to come to Pittsburg where she served at Our Lady of Lourdes. When she first arrived, Linda did not speak English, so after asking around she and other Sisters were referred to PSU's IEP. She attended the IEP program for four months, before returning to Mexico for three years with her ministry.

While in Mexico, Linda thought back on her time in IEP with fondness. Particularly, she was struck by "the kindness of the teachers."

"I missed them a lot, for me them, they were more than teachers," Linda said. "They all the time they are close, they are kind, and they really want us to succeed, and all the time I felt like I was not only a student. I was a person, and that made me feel comfortable and that's who first told me to try my best and they were all the time encouraging me. I remembered those feelings, and felt like it was the best environment for me to learn and to try."

When she was asked to return to the U.S.A again, Linda was delighted to hear that her new assignment was in Pittsburg again.

"I was so excited, and thought it was a miracle, because it's very difficult that you will receive an assignment that is the same for the second time," Linda said. "When I came the second time, the Diocese again support me to again come and continue my studies."



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Before completing the program, the second time, Linda returned to Mexico again for three years. Then, two years ago, she returned to Wichita. After completing her degree in Catechism that she began in Mexico, Linda decided to pursue English again.

Linda had the option of enrolling in an English language program at a university near her, but she chose to continue at PSU.

“I came back to PSU, because really, I love everything about PSU,” Linda said. “I didn’t give up. In all those experiences, in the first one and the second one they (teachers) all meant so much to me. All the teachers were so kind to me, and everything they gave to me, I kept everything to feel connected to them.”

Linda now feels that completing the program has helped her in her mission.

“Now, I feel I can do it, to educate faith to others outside just the Spanish speaking community,” she said.