



Volunteer Jean instructs a new sewer as she finishes her first bag.

# **Sewing Seeds of Faith**

### **Our History:**

Disciples of the Way Ministry's (DOW) Sewing Seeds of Faith program began 8 years ago. It continues to be led by volunteer sewers who give their time and talents to teach Muslim women how to sew. These relationships prove to be the most fertile ground for reaching whole families with the Gospel.

"Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." - Matthew 13:8 Over time, the program expanded to include immigrant women from all faiths; Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, and Christian. In the early years, the Sewing Seeds of Faith (SSOF) program was held at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church as a Monday-only class. Then SSOF expanded to include the Women of the Way Apartment Sewing Ministry which continues in the Vickery Meadow area. Now it has expanded to include classes EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK in our sewing workroom at 6500 Greenville Avenue!

## DOW is pleased to announce that We are able to offer Sewing Classes and Devotions to immigrant women EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK!

In November 2016, Disciples of the Way was blessed with two offices at 6500 Greenville Avenue. DOW opened its Refugee Service Center (RSC) and offered a program for skilled sewers to develop the skills to lead sewing classed. Between November and May, this program, called Sewing Leadership & Development, focused on teaching leadership skills to skilled sewers who could go on to become future leaders in DOW's Monday sewing program or have an employable skill to make a difference in their families and communities.

Now our emerging sewing leaders have moved on to rejoin the regular sewing program which has flourished and expanded in the new work-space at the RSC facility. Students come to classes 9:00am-2:00pm on any day (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday). New students or inexperienced sewers are encouraged to come Thursdays for more individualized attention.

#### **Our Vision:**

The Sewing Seeds of Faith program exists to reach, teach, and live among immigrant women and bring Jesus Christ to them through authentic relationships with DOW Staff and Volunteers in classes and at home. Our staff and volunteers seek to fully develop relationships with all our students by visiting them in their homes, and by praying with them and sharing the gospel.

Sewing Seeds of Faith focuses on individual attention for all our students. We want to encourage these precious women to develop the talents God has given them and make them feel loved and appreciated in a way that many of them do not receive when they are isolated in the home. Through these kind and caring relationships, conversation flows naturally. God continues to bless our staff and volunteers with many opportunities to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?" - Romans 10:14

Every day, the women come to class and continue to work on projects of their own design. At noon, they break for a pot-luck lunch and everyone contributes. These lunches often have food from Iraq, Eritrea, China, Ethiopia, and America all served at once. Then during the lunch, the women participate in prayer and a devotion or Bible study. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." - Acts 2:42



Sewing Seeds of Faith Monday Class.

# **SSOF Tuesday Bible Study**

Central to DOW's Mission is the work of evangelism through relationships, devotions, and by holding Bible studies. On Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, DOW staff and volunteers lead the women in prayer and short devotions that focus on the visible difference and impact of knowing Christ personally.

On Tuesdays, Garment Construction Volunteer Instructor Chris is currently leading a study that walks through the important episodes of the Bible leading to the affirmation that Jesus is truly the Son of God and Lord of All.

### In Other News:

Disciples of the Way's Back-to-School Program assisted immigrant children with school supplies. (some shown below)



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