



Who are the Hmong?

The Hmong people are post Vietnam War immigrants from Vietnam and Laos. The Hmong people fought valiantly alongside the US forces in the Vietnam War. Following the departure of US forces, the Hmong suffered brutal persecution from the communist North Vietnamese for their war involvement. In response, the US government sponsored Hmong people to immigrate to our country.

From 1974-1990, Sheboygan churches sponsored many Hmong families to move to Sheboygan, WI. Currently, Sheboygan has over 5000 Hmong residents. Over 19% of the public school district is comprised of Hmong students. Currently we have no Hmong students at our high school. This project seeks to change that.

Sheboygan County Christian High School (SCCHS) is a 9-12th grade high school with a current enrollment of 150 students. The school serves the broader evangelical Christian community three area counties.

Project Results

A significant aspect to the project was in finding the right people to support this project. Currently we have support from local pastors in the Hmong churches, an ESL educator, a retired University professor who is an expert in Hmong relations and a business leader in the Hmong community.

Key results.

- Selection of a grant writer and the completion of a professional grant.
- Overture to Classis Wisconsin for financial support from the Wisconsin Christian Reformed Churches to be presented on September 23, 2008.
- A donor development plan to fund up to 8 Hmong student scholarships.
- We have translated our promotional materials into the Hmong language.



What We Have Learned

Successes and challenges

- Our project is the beginning of a long term relationship between the Hmong community and SCCHS. Progress has been slow at times.
- Funding for multi year tuition assistance is key. State and local foundations, businesses with Hmong employees and private donors have been approached.
- Christian education needs to be multi-cultural and available to all who desire it within our community.
- A challenge of inclusion will exist in our school family; we will need to adjust curriculum to recognize the place Hmong have in history, culture and literature.