Objective:
Tentatively titled “Resource Booklet for New Hispanics in Western Wisconsin,” the long-term objective of this collaborative project between the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and the non-profit organization Puentes/Bridges is to create a resource that Latinos, new to Western Wisconsin, could use to orientate themselves in the communities of our region. As a point of departure to create this larger, regional handbook, this Diversity Mentoring and Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates project is currently creating a Spanish language booklet with resources specific to Eau Claire County.

Methodology:
To determine the content of the booklet, students researchers conducted a literature review by assessing examples of comparable publications for migrants/immigrants in the United States. Largely focusing on the target audience, students created and conducted a survey and informal interviews of local Latino business owners as well as area business that employ Latinos.

Researchers then compiled data for the booklet by contacting and meeting with a variety of community members, governmental agencies and non-profit organizations. While continuing to collect and organize data, materials already obtained have been translated into Spanish.

In collaboration with the Department of Geography and Anthropology, the location of governmental agencies, organizations and other sites included in the text portion have been plotted in maps that correspond to the different sections of the booklet.

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Next Step:
Upon completion of a draft of the booklet, researchers will consult the target audience for feedback on both the content and format of the draft. From this pilot feedback from the Latino community, students will make necessary revisions before publication.