



Noticias from Santa María

A Newsletter from the Santa María Foundation

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Stories of the Lives You Touch



Lupita is a fun-loving child who was brought to our missions at the tender age of six. Her father is an alcoholic and would abuse her mother and her siblings. One day, her father ordered her mother to gather some sap from the maguey plants to make liquor for him. When she refused, he

started to hit her. The children ran to the neighbors for help. The neighbors came to the rescue of their mother in time to save her from dying. Her mother and siblings moved out of their home. Due to her mother being unable to support the children, Lupita and her siblings were brought to our mission so that she could be nurtured in a healthy, loving environment. She is very happy and appreciative for her home.



Herminio is an 86-year-old gentleman who smiles easily and always has a story to tell. He was an artisan of baskets when he was younger. His wife passed away several years ago and he moved to live with his son. When his son married, he could not

afford to help his father because he only had a one bedroom apartment. He brought Herminio to our mission and abandoned him there, never to visit him again. In Herminio's mind, his son has a large home on a ranch. He continuously asks the staff at the mission to take him to visit his son's house, but he cannot remember where it is located. Herminio is very appreciative of his new home where he can visit with his peers and enjoy the beautiful gardens around the grounds.

A New Ministry, A New Name

As you are aware from our Winter newsletter, the Board of Directors of the Foundation decided to expand our ministry to serve additional missions in Mexico that care for destitute children and elderly. In the expansion, we have also changed our name to Mi Casa Foundation. We feel that this name better describes our purpose of supporting homes that care for the neediest of Mexico. Look for our new name on all future information that you receive from us.

New Missions in Our Ministry

We are planning to serve the following additional missions in the states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo León, and Querétaro, Mexico:

- Asilo el Buen Pastor cares for young disadvantaged girls who have been abused and offering them a future of dignity in society.
- Casa Hogar de Chihuahua cares for indigenous Tarahumara Indian children whose families cannot afford to send them to school or provide a future for them.
- Casa San José offers chronic care for elderly and severely handicapped adults who have no one to care for them.
- Casa de Reposo is a nursing home that cares for elderly who were abandoned or found living on the streets.
- El Puente de Esperanza cares for youth who are primarily from the Otomí Indians offering them an opportunity to continue their education and pursue a career of their dreams.
- Niños y Niñas de Las Sierra offers an education to gifted students who cannot afford to go to a specialized school in the big cities.
- El Oasis del Niño cares for children 4 mos. to 10 years old who have been abandoned or orphaned.
- Gotita de Amor is a new mission which will care for children who come from dysfunctional families and offer programs in parenting.

With your help, together we will make a difference in the lives of the needy children and elderly who live in these missions.



Knights of Columbus Council 786 members serve plates during their Annual Fish Fry to support our missions.

Welcome Faithful Servants

We would like to welcome two new members of our Board of Directors. Dr. Patricia Olivares and Mr. Terry Boeck joined our board this winter to help govern our ministry. May God bless them both for giving selflessly of themselves.

*"A blessing is not a blessing until it is shared."
—Bishop Tom Flanagan*

Share your blessings with our missions.

Mark Your Calendar

Our 2006 Gala, A Night in Old Mexico, will be held on October 7 at the Hilton Airport Hotel. Come and enjoy a night of food, Mariachi music, and Mexican dance presentations.

If you would like to support our ministry by donating items for our Gala such as travel miles, use of vacation lodging, Mexican items or artifacts, services, etc., please give us a call.



Muchas Gracias to

- Catch Ya Later Fishing Guide from Rockport, TX for donating a guided fishing trip to raise money to support our missions.
- Padgett, Stratemann, & Co. for preparing our 2005 IRS return.
- Xerox agent, Century Business Equipment, for printing our newsletter.



Missionaries Wanted

We are accepting applications for committed volunteers wanting to serve for a year in one of our missions in Mexico. The commitment is from July 28, 2006 through July 16, 2007. If you or anyone you know would be interested, give us a call or visit our website.

Two Mission Trips this Year!

We are offering two short-term mission experiences this year. On June 11-17, we will travel to El Buen Pastor Mission in Saltillo, Coahuila. On August 6-13, we will travel to Gotita de Amor Mission in Jalpan, Querétaro. On these trips, we will work on projects that include carpentry, painting, sewing, and other maintenance. You are not required to be skilled to participate. Your desire to help is the only skill that you need. For more information, give us a call or visit our website.

Charitable Giving

Whatever your personal goals, charitable giving can help you achieve them. In fact, charitable giving strategies often provide solutions unavailable through traditional estate planning techniques. There are many different methods of charitable giving, each with a specific set of benefits. Some of the most common benefits include the donor's ability to:

- Transform a liquid asset into an important source of future income;
- Restructure a non-diversified portfolio without paying current capital gains tax;
- Avoid current capital gains tax on the sale of a business; and
- Take an immediate tax deduction on a deferred gift.

If you would like to name the Foundation as a recipient of a charitable gift, please contact us.

The Santa Maria Foundation is not engaged in giving legal/tax advice. Advice from legal/tax counsel should be sought when considering gifts.



The children, elderly, and staff of our missions pray that you have a happy and blessed Easter Season as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!