



Noticias from Mi Casa

A Newsletter from the Mi Casa Foundation

Helping others help themselves

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Stepping-In For Eduardo

His name is Eduardo, but everyone calls him "Squirrel". He is one of the most obedient kids in the mission. He is attentive in school and only gets into fights when he steps-in for the little ones who can not care for themselves. In a way, that is what the mission has done for him; it has "stepped-in" for him when he couldn't care for himself. He has an absent father and his mother is in jail. Sadly, she will not be released anytime soon. He was living in an orphanage for girls, but needed other boys to interact and play with so he was brought to Casa Hogar de los Pequeños Mission last year. Since his arrival, the house has been brightened with his warm and inviting smile. He is one of the most popular kids at the mission and he is loved and respected by both the young and the old. *Through the grace of God and your generosity to this faithful mission home, Eduardo is receiving the spiritual, educational, and emotional stability that he needs in his life.*



Weeklong Mission Opportunities

Join us for a week this summer or fall on one of our mission trips. We will be going to Jalpan, Querétaro June 7-14 and to Saltillo November 15-22. Projects include sewing curtains, painting, carpentry, electrical and plumbing repairs. If you would like to join us, download a flyer from our website and mail it to us, or give us a call. *Important Announcement: A U.S. Passport is not required for either of these trips. However, you will only need a certified copy of your birth certificate.*

WANTED:

Yearlong Missioners

Would you like to be a part of the answer that sends laborers into HIS needy areas? We are accepting applications for committed volunteers wanting to serve the disadvantaged children and elderly for a year at a mission in Mexico. Join us whether you are single, married, young, or old; it promises to be a life-changing experience!! If you are interested, give us a call. For more info, visit our website and check out testimonials from our past long-term missioners.

"These were his instructions to them: 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.'" (Luke 10:2)

A Postcard From Our Yearlong Missioner



"I had visions of grandeur for this year and perhaps I've been a little let down by that, but I kind of love my life right now. I didn't know that coming here would mean giving up my ridiculous and selfish life and turning into a stay-at-home mom. And the thing is, people just don't understand. It's like your life seems so incredibly horrible right now, but it's actually not." *Jessica Ranweiler is serving one year at Gotita De Amor Mission in Querétaro, Mexico where she helps care for the needy children there. Read more of Jessica's article for her high-school alumni magazine, at: www.micasafoundation.org/stories/jessica.pdf.*

Muchas Gracias

- Xerox agent, Century Business Equipment, for printing our newsletter and flyers for our mission trips.
- Padgett, Stratemann, & Co., LLP for preparing our 2008 IRS return.
- Knights of Columbus Council 786 for their efforts that made our Fish Fry Dinners during Lent a success.
- Mission Concepción and Holy Spirit Church for their generosity to our ministry.

Matching Donation

A generous donor has made a generous offer to Mi Casa. He is making a matching donation of \$32,000. This means that for every donation that you make by June 15, it will be matched. If you donate \$25, it becomes \$50, \$100 becomes \$200, etc. ***Help us take advantage of this generous offer to help God's destitute elderly and children in Mexico.***

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work"
(Ecclesiastes 4:9)

Welcome a "Board"

Mi Casa Foundation would like to welcome our newest member of the Board of Directors, Ed Larson. Ed joins the Board after having experienced one of our mission trips and the mid-term retreat of our current missionaries. We look forward to his service to the Foundation.

Our most sincere gratitude to Tim Banowsky and Dr. Lisa Landry who finished their terms with the Board in March 2008. Their contributions have been invaluable. May the Lord bless them, their families, and their endeavors for their service to our ministry.

Voluntourism: What is it?

(Google Source: <http://www.godifferently.com/voluntourism.asp>)

Voluntourism is a relatively new concept, defined by our friends at Voluntourism.org as follows:

Very simply, VolunTourism is a combination of the words volunteerism and tourism. VolunTourism integrates the best of travel and tourism – arts, culture, geography, heritage sites, the natural environment, and recreation – with the opportunity to serve and enhance the destination – its people, places, and things.

Or to put it even MORE simply... a really great way to have a holiday AND actively contribute to the destination you are visiting. ***Join us on one of our mission trips and become a "voluntourist".***

Welcoming A New Addition



With the growing needs of our ministry, Mi Casa Foundation has found a new Administrative Assistant to help. Mari K. Peña joined our ministry March 1 with a background in facilitating gatherings at her church and project management with AT&T.

Mark Your Calendar

Our 2008 Gala, A Night in Old Mexico, will be held on September 27 at Holy Spirit Church Banquet Hall. Come and enjoy an evening of food, music, and Mexican dance presentations.

If you would like to support our ministry by donating items for our auctions such as travel miles, use of vacation lodging, new items, services, Mexican items or artifacts, etc., or if you are interested in sponsoring a table, please give us a call.

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