



Noticias from Mi Casa

A Newsletter from the Mi Casa Foundation

Helping others help themselves

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www.micasafoundation.org

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Neglected and Abandoned

Samanta's father abandoned her and her mother when she was very young. To support herself, her mother worked long hours from early morning to late into the night. For this reason, she was not able to care for Samanta or provide for her education. Her mother finally

brought her to El Buen Pastor Mission so that she could get an education. At Samanta's tender age of six, she has experienced what no child should have to experience in their life: neglect, abandonment, and feeling unloved. Even though her mother visits her on the weekend, Samanta feels that no one cares for her except the loving staff at the mission. With their loving care and through your support of the mission, she is studying in pre-school and is excited about starting first grade. *Thank you for helping to provide a home for Samanta and the many children who have no one to care for them.*

Looking for Yearlong Missioners

Have you ever wanted to make a difference in your life? Have you ever felt that special call to serve God and others in a special way? If so, we invite you to consider being a yearlong missioner in one of the missions that we aid. It will be an experience of a lifetime, receiving more than you could ever hope to give. If you are interested, give us a call. For more info, visit our website and check out testimonials from our past long-term missioners.

2008 Mission Trip Dates

Mark your calendar for our mission trips on June 7-14 to a home that cares for children in Querétaro and on November 15-22 to a home that cares for young children in Saltillo. Both trips are open to any adult with a desire to help. No Spanish is required. Youth may attend with their parent(s). Come and experience the missions that you support. Visit our website for more information under "Volunteer Trip Info."

"A blessing is not a blessing until it is shared."

—Bishop Tom Flanagan

Share your blessings with our missions.

Congratulations

Congratulations on the baptism of Fiona Whelan, daughter of Charlie and Tracy Whelan. In lieu of gifts, the Whelans requested that donations be made to the Mi Casa Foundation. Many thanks to the Whelan family for helping destitute children and elderly in Mexico while celebrating a special sacrament in their lives.

Muchas Gracias

- Special thanks to Century Business Equipment for printing our newsletter and programs for our Gala.
- Many thanks to Ottis Poston Guide Service in Rockport, TX, for annually donating two guided-fishing trips to support our fundraisers.



Holly Davis, one of our yearlong missioners, shared her ministry at our Gala. Following are excerpts of her presentation:

"I recall that one day I was sitting on a blue bench in the playground watching the boys play soccer from the sidelines because I was too tired to keep up with them. And then I realized

something great. At this place, at this mission, these kids are safe. They are safe from the dangers of the streets and from abusive situations. Some of my kids have come from broken homes, while others don't have any family at all. Yet, here the kids go to school, eat well, have decent clothes, and have a warm, safe place to sleep. So many children throughout the world lack these necessities. However, the Oasis del Niño Mission is truly a light for these children in a dark and scary world.

The little moments are so precious and this is what I live for. This is why I came to Mexico. Through the children's smiles and laughs, I know God is present at the mission. I knew God had a plan for me to serve his people, but I couldn't imagine that I would enjoy it so much as I do down in Mexico."

Holly's complete presentation can be found at:
www.micasafoundation.org/stories/holly.html

A Year in Review

Following are some of our accomplishments this past year provided through your generosity:

- Provided over 10,000 volunteer hours at different missions that we aid.
- Provided yearlong missionaries who offer the love and care that the children were not able to receive at home.
- Beautified Casa Hogar de Pequeños Mission by sewing and installing curtains and repainting their dining hall.
- Provided a new "face" to La Granja Mission by painting the front of the mission as well as sewing and installing curtains for their school.
- Provided office equipment to El Oasis del Niño so that they can secure donations for the home.
- Provided school supplies to over 250 students so that their lives can be enriched by the gift of an education and give them hope for a better future.
- Provided funding to El Oasis del Niño to repair a roof that was safety hazard to the children as well as threatening the structure of the home.
- Provided funding to Hogar de Niños to purchase eating utensils and meals for the children.
- Provided funding to Casa San José to offer chronic care to its residents and build lodging for future volunteer caregivers.

Support Mi Casa While Searching & Shopping the Web

What if Mi Casa Foundation earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our ministry? Well, now it can!

GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be helping the destitute children and elderly of Mexico.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter "Mi Casa Foundation" as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

Many Thanks to our Gala Corporate Sponsors

Dr. Patricia Olivares, MD
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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.

*May you and yours have a
Blessed 2008! Without you,
the loving work of our ministry
would not be possible.*