



Noticias from Mi Casa

A Newsletter from Mi Casa Foundation

Helping others help themselves

Vol. 7 Issue 2

www.micasafoundation.org

Spring 2009

Catching up in School

Meet Keila, a smiling, spirited seven-year-old girl in first grade who loves playing with dolls. Keila is the baby of the family with brothers who are much older than she is. It is a family that has faced hardship due to the absence of Keila's father.



Out of necessity, Keila's mother worked to support her, but when Keila's peers all began school, she was unable to enroll her daughter. Hoping to repair the damage caused by this situation of neglect, she brought Keila to the mission.

Now in her first year there, Keila attends school every day, and also receives attention from a child psychologist who has helped her to catch up to her classmates and feel prepared to move on to the next grade level. The mission also attends to her physical and spiritual needs. She now lives in a safe and nurturing environment where she can eat and sleep well, study, and play. In this environment she can also learn more about God's love and how to love others.

Thanks to your support of the Mi Casa ministry, Keila now receives the tools that will afford her positive opportunities in life.

New Publications From the Mi Casa Office

- Thanks to a dedicated volunteer, our **website** now has an updated look as well as several new features. Check back as we continue to add even more.
- We recently published our **2008 Annual Report**. You can access the 12-page document online here:
www.micasafoundation.org/downloads/2008annualreport.pdf
- Every **appreciation letter** we send you now includes a **personal story** of a child or elder, so that you may see how your contributions are touching lives in Mexico.

Yearlong Missioners Needed – Act Now!

Would you like to be a part of the response that sends laborers into God's 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. Whether you are single, married, young, or old, it promises to be a life-changing experience. This year's commitment begins on July 29. If you or anyone you know would be interested, call us or visit our website. **Important: the deadline for applications has been extended to May 15. If you are interested, don't let this opportunity pass you by!**



Former Mi Casa missionaries Mary and John.

The Aid You Have Made Possible in 2009

Your generosity to our ministry allowed us to support the missions in the following ways during the last quarter:

- At Casa San José in Linares, Nuevo León, we provided funds to cover staff salaries and utilities at the mission, as well as for purchases of needed personal hygiene items and medications.
- At Hogar de Niños in Saltillo, Coahuila, we responded to a request from the mission by providing funds to purchase needed food items for the 27 children living there.

Two Weeklong Mission Opportunities

Join us for a week this summer or fall on one of our mission trips! We will be traveling to Chihuahua, Chihuahua from June 27 to July 4 and to Saltillo, Coahuila from November 1 to 7. Projects include sewing, painting, carpentry, electrical work, and general help. If you would like to join us, download a flyer from our website (*click on "Weeklong Service Trip Flyer"*) and mail it to us, or give us a call. *A U.S. Passport is required to participate on a trip.*



The summer mission trip will take us to La Granja Hogar in Chihuahua.

A Gift that Keeps on Giving

Wills are a very important part of estate planning. Whether you have a large estate or a modest estate, a will makes it much easier to distribute your possessions after your death. A will presents an opportunity to give a gift that will keep on giving after your death. Mi Casa Foundation can serve as a beneficiary of your will. If you would like to leave a percentage or specific dollar amount to the Foundation, you can add a codicil (addendum) to your present will or a line in your future will that states, "I bequeath the sum of (specify dollar or percentage amount) of my estate to Mi Casa Foundation, 15600 San Pedro Ave Ste 401, San Antonio, TX, 78232." If you have any questions or would like to name Mi Casa Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, please contact us.

If you don't have a will, please create one as soon as possible for the sake of your loved ones.



Single, But Not Alone

Amparo (pictured above) finds herself in a significantly weakened physical state because of her age – she can no longer walk, and has limited movement in her right arm. These acute ailments leave her unable to function independently. She never married or had children, and had no one to take care of her until two years ago, when a niece brought her to the mission. Now 85 years old, Amparo has a new family, which provides love and compassion rather than neglect. At the mission, she receives the personal attention and special care that others could not give her.



Mark Your Calendar

Our 2009 Gala, *A Night in Old México*, will be held on October 9th at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in San Antonio. Come support Mi Casa 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.

Muchas Gracias to:

- Xerox agent **Century Business Equipment**, for printing our newsletters and flyers for our mission trips.
- **Knights of Columbus Council 786** and all those who supported the event, for making the Fish and Shrimp Dinners during Lent a success and, in doing so, aiding our ministry in Mexico.