



Noticias from Mi Casa

A Newsletter from Mi Casa Foundation

Helping others help themselves

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Summer 2009

Los Tres Hermanos

Gilberto 16, Emanuel 15, and Francisco 14, have been a part of the San Jose de los Pequeños mission longer than any of the other boys. Their road has been tougher than most. As young boys, they witnessed the death of their mother. Soon after, they became orphans as they watched their father pass away as well. Although their half-sister took them in, she realized very quickly that at her age she was unable to care for the needs of these active, energetic, and traumatized boys. It was then, with a heavy heart that she decided to take them to the mission. They have received care, love, and attention, allowing them to now be motivated by their dreams of success. The oldest, Gilberto, has already earned a scholarship to study in one of the most prestigious high schools in Saltillo. *With your help, these brothers, as well as many other boys can continue on their road to becoming educated, responsible, and productive young men!*



2009 Dinner Gala

A Night in Old México will take place Friday, October 9 at Holy Trinity Church. The evening will begin at 7:00pm and will include dinner, live and silent auctions, and entertainment. The emcee for the evening will be Sonny Melendrez. Watch for your invitation in the mail.

If you are interested in supporting our ministry by sponsoring a table or donating auction items such as travel miles, use of vacation lodging, Mexican items/artifacts, or any other items and services, please give us a call.

Please remember that the economy has affected all of us, especially the most needy, so be a part of the effort to make a difference!

What you have made possible...

Due to your generosity, we were able to aid the missions in the following ways:

- La Granja Hogar Mission in Chihuahua:
 - Built six large tables for the children's school projects
 - Painted the afterschool activities building and restrooms in the playground area
 - Painted the main pavilion where many of their special events are held
 - Painted a smaller pavilion in the playground area along with four eating areas
 - Made all new curtains in bright, bold colors for the children's dormitories
 - Made a bulletin posting unit so that the children's art can be displayed in the cafeteria
- Funded staff salaries and utilities for Casa San José.
- Provided 6 full-time missionaries in three missions for the past year.

Muchas Gracias

- Luis & Janiene Garcia, TJ & Maribel Burdick, Laura Ward, and Deanna Jones for dedicating the past year of their lives to serve the needy children of Mexico
- Ottis Poston Guide Service and Pelican Bay Resort in Rockport, TX for the fishing trip with lodging that they donated for our auction at "Eat for a Cause".
- Xerox agent, Century Business Equipment, for printing our newsletter.



(top row, l-r) Janiene Garcia, Rick Jones, Luis Garcia, Humberto Bautista, Ramon Martinez Jr., John Dieterle, Deanna Jones, Daniel Jones, Terry Boeck, Rick Salgueiro (2nd row) Jesse Sandoval, Sandra Velarde, Roxanne Monterastelli, Effie Williams, Delia Rodriguez, Patricia Ponce, Lauren & Marisa Salgueiro

Mission Trip Success

We just returned from a mission trip to La Granja Hogar in Chihuahua, Chihuahua. We were blessed to have 21 volunteers join us for this trip from Texas, Illinois, Wyoming, Tennessee, and Michigan. These hard working volunteers did an amazing job painting the exteriors of several buildings, sewing curtains for the dormitories, and constructing six large and very sturdy tables for after school activities.

La Granja Hogar currently cares for 135 children, and is preparing this summer to make room for approximately 60 more. Without this home, the majority of these children, which come from the indigenous Tarahumara tribe, would not have anywhere else to go. Their families cannot afford to house, educate, and care for them. Thanks to generous donors like you, we can help bring these children the hope, care, and love they deserve.

Another Weeklong Mission Opportunity

Join us for a week this fall on our mission trip to Saltillo on November 1-7. Projects include sewing, painting, carpentry, electrical and plumbing repairs. If you would like to participate, download a flyer from our website and mail it to us, or give us a call. *Important: A U.S. Passport is required for this trip.*



(l-r) Rick Jones, Sandra Velarde, Sr. Inez Quintana Gomez, and Deanna Jones at El Bocado del Pobre mission in Chihuahua.

The New Mi Casa Team

Executive director, Rick Jones, is happy to announce the newest members of the team, pictured above.

Sandra Velarde is the new administrative assistant and volunteer coordinator, arriving with experience in one of the city's poorest school districts along with years of working in a business setting.

Deanna Jones is one of our missionaries who just completed her service in Mexico, where she dedicated an entire year to the children at El Buen Pastor Mission in Saltillo, Coahuila. Deanna decided to join our team and offer another year of volunteer service to Mi Casa Foundation working to provide more aid to the missions we serve.

We are excited about the growth of our staff at Mi Casa Foundation. In these difficult economic times when the needy are suffering the most, we are working to increase our services to the destitute children and elderly of Mexico.

Life Insurance as a Gift?

Using life insurance as a charitable gift offers several opportunities. It can be done as simply as adding the charity as a full or partial beneficiary of the policy. Another option is to gift the policy to the charity and receive a current income tax deduction. Life insurance provides a major gift to a charity with no extra "out-of-pocket" costs. Either of these options could also result in lower estate taxes for the donor.

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