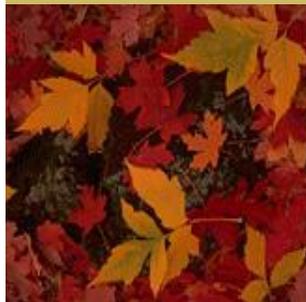




Children of Hope



Caring for Kids in Mexico

Celebrate the Faithfulness of God With Us

A Note of Thanks: We are very excited to look back and celebrate the first 10 years of *Children of Hope* in Mexico. The blessings Christ poured out on the ministry are incredible. We witnessed projects completed, love shown to children that need it most and lives transformed. This was accomplished by God's grace and your faithful support. Your partnership in prayer, funds, and service has blessed many lives. Children of Hope started with just two orphanages. Now we have expanded to four orphanages and two soup kitchens and we want to extend a heartfelt thank you from all of us to all of you!



History: Let's look back!



2006

August-Children of Hope is born starting with two orphanages

November-The "Child Sponsorship" program officially begins.

2007

February-First mission team sent to Aguascalientes

2008

September-Casa Otomi soup kitchen in the mountains near Queretaro is added to serve the indigenous people

2010

May-Children of Hope logo introduced.

2011

April-Esperanza para Ti orphanage in Queretaro is added

September-Children of Hope moves to the new office in Abbotsford

2014

May-Ancla de Amor orphanage on a ranch near Guaymas, Sonora is added.

2016

January-Brazos de Amistad soup kitchen serving children and their families in Guadalajara joins Children of Hope family

September-Children of Hope celebrates 10 years of ministry.

Mission Teams:

Mission teams allow the Lord to work both in and through the team members in Mexico.



They can experience

how God is moving in the nation to bring His hope and love. The team steps out of their comfort zone which allows them to see the work of the ministries firsthand and hear the testimonies of the children. Since 2007 we have coordinated about 80 teams of families and churches to serve in Mexico. They have blessed the ministries with their work on projects, serving meals, bringing joy to those in difficult transition and much more. If you want to know more about going to serve a ministry in Mexico we encourage you to visit

<http://childrenofhope.info/be-part-of-a-team/>

Our Missionaries:

Children of Hope missionaries give up the comforts of living in North America and move to Mexico to serve. Currently, we have 10 long-term missionaries and their families who are on the front lines in the orphanages and soup kitchens. Daily, these families commit their efforts to the physical, spiritual and emotional support of these ministries. These missionaries continue to obey God's call to service to aid the widow and orphan in times of need. How we wish there was space to tell each triumphant story and to thank each one in this newsletter.

However, you can visit our website to read more about their incredible journeys.



The Children: At the very heart of these ministries are children. Despite the often tragic circumstances that bring these children into the care of our ministries it is an honour to care for them and help them grow in the ways of the Lord. We have seen wounded hearts healed by God. Here are two of the many incredible stories of the work of our Heavenly Father in the lives of children who came to our ministries.



Violeta, 25 (Pan de Vida)

Arriving at the orphanage when she was 10 years old, Violeta acted badly to receive attention. Her life lacked any sense of direction. She had several dental issues which were fixed when a family sponsored her orthodontics. Now she experiences God's power in her life and puts her energy into leadership. She leads youth worship, plays drums in the worship band, plays football and mentors the younger children. She learned English and uses it as much as possible. She learned English praise songs and performed for a Canadian congregation.

At 18 she graduated from Pan de Vida to live independently at the Transition house. She went on to study at college in the area of Business. Violeta explains how excited she is to use this degree to honour and glorify God, even though studying may be very difficult.

She explains how she feels about her time at the orphanage: "You know, living in Pan de Vida has been one of the best experiences that I had in my life. They gave me the support and encouragement to keep advancing and fighting for what I want to be. I learned to always please God in everything I do and to search for His will, day after day, so He can bless me. It is clear by how you came into my life, God, and gave me a big and beautiful heart, humble to help others like me."

Celene, 27 (Pan de Vida)



Celene was born in Queretaro and has a sister who is four year younger. Her journey to Pan de Vida was one of physical and emotional pain. Growing up, she spent some time living with her grandmother as her mother was very busy. When it was time to move back home, things turned very dark as her mother had married a man suffering from alcoholism and violent tendencies. Celene describes her home as a 'battlefield' where she, her little sister and mother were all subjected to severe physical abuse. Finally, when she was 11 she took her little sister by the hand and ran away. By God's grace, the two arrived safely at Pan de Vida, enduring lengthy legal and psychological assessments. Celene writes about her early memories of her time at the orphanage, "A few months after I lived there, I knew that being in that place was the best thing that could have happened to me, an affirmation that is real to me until this day. God in His infinite wisdom took me to the only place where I could be physically, emotionally and spiritually restored. I kept studying and living the life that every child wants to live. Among many other things, they spoke of God's love for me, and they told me that He has a plan for me since before I was born." After successfully completing high school, she was determined to become a lawyer. Celene was told she would have to move away in order to attend a law school in Tabasco. This was a time of fear and trial. There were struggles during the transition which led her to temporarily leave law school, yet she was able to return and trust in God once more. She finished her studies and found a job as a lawyer quickly. Now she has made the decision to come back to Pan de Vida spending her days reciprocating God's great love for her to the children who are at the orphanage and being involved in some of the regular, necessary legal work as well.

Looking Upward: We glorify God for all that He has done through Children of Hope and we ask you to join us in continuing to ask God for:

- healing of the physical or emotional wounds that each child carries from their previous experiences
- lots of love, patience and perseverance for the Caregivers who interact with the sometimes challenging behaviors of the children

Involvement: You can be involved with us through much needed prayer, by following us on Facebook at "Children of Hope" or sponsoring a child, supporting a ministry, missionary or project or directing funds to "where it is most needed".



Funding Futures: With your help Children of Hope changes the lives of children today AND we want to change the futures of those children who grow up in our orphanages.

These young adults desire to pursue careers in areas such as law or education where they can give back; BUT they need financial help to receive the necessary university education. This is the gift that keeps on giving for a lifetime. If this is an opportunity that interests you, we would be pleased to give you more information by phone or Email.

Questions or Comments: Please contact us.

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Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you. **James 1:27** (NLT)