



After working for the last three months on the foundation of the new boys' dorm, we have finally started to put up the walls. Two weeks ago, an order of 5000 blocks arrived, so we can now finish the walls for the whole first floor of the boys' dorm and part of the second floor. Our Mexican construction workers keep on making progress on the boys' dorm. They are a huge blessing, making the building project advance that much faster. The bricklaying is always a very exciting process to see since things change so quickly from day to day. We hope to start installing and pouring the concrete support beam on top of these walls with the Columbus, Ohio team in the middle of March. Our goal is to pour the first floor by the beginning of July.

Prayer corner:

- Please pray for the bodily and spiritual needs of the orphanages, as the leaders continue to strive to carry out the calling that God has placed before them.
- Pray that Dulce Refugio and Pan de Vida can be that "shining light on a hill" within the city of Aguascalientes and Queretaro, to the neighbours, government bodies and local businesses.
- Please pray for all the teams that will be coming this year to Mexico to serve at these two orphanages. That they will have a great time learning about what God is doing through these homes.

Keeping Yourself Updated

The following website is at your disposal to learn more about the Children of Hope organization and its children's ministries in Mexico:



All you **Facebookers** can now check us out. Follow the **Facebook** link from our website. www.childrenofhope.info

Children of Hope accepts ONLINE donations or you can phone us for donations through:



Children of Hope

7111B - Beatty Drive, Mission, B.C. V2V 6C4
tel: 604-820-7750 fax: 604-820-6376
brian@childrenofhope.info
www.childrenofhope.info
please don't forget to send us your e-mail address



Children of Hope is pleased to announce that it is actively looking into the sponsorship of a new orphanage in the Mexican city of Queretaro. The orphanage is called Esperanza para Ti and is run by two Mexican couples Geno and Augustine and Nicho and Conchita. The orphanage was started in 2010 and they have about 14 children. Children of Hope is looking forward to building a working relationship with this orphanage.



www.childrenofhope.info

The following letter is an example of how God is working in the lives of the children. This is possible in part because of your support.

Dear Supporters.

First of all, I want to thank you for all you have done for me; all you have given so I can realize my dreams and desires; all you have prayed for me to grow spiritually and morally; but most of all, for all the love you have offered to me.

You know, living in Pan de Vida has been one of the best experiences that I have had in my life. But you know what? for your support and encouragement to keep advancing and fighting for what I want to be, and also to always please God in everything I do, and

search for His will day after day so I can be blessed by Him. It's clear by how you came into my life that God gave you a big and beautiful heart, humble to help others like me.

But everything has its reward, and perhaps that can encourage you. Know that what you do is not in vain because God has strengthened me to get ahead even though it has been difficult in many ways.

I will be going to college in August, Lord-willing, and I will study a degree which I can use to honor and glorify God: I will be a great business assistant, even if it is difficult. That is the reason I have now left Pan de Vida, to receive training in business, so I can be more aware of what is involved. I am at the "transition house" (an independent house for Pan de Vida girls who have turned 18 and moved out). And another reason for leaving the orphanage is so that I can start learning how to live independently, so it will not be a difficult change when I start college.



But, that is not all, I left on good terms with everyone, with my head held high and proud that this was my home, my house, my family, and a great part of my life.

I infinitely thank God for your mercy on me, and I reiterate my thanks that He would allow you, my dear supporters, to show me love. I give you all my thanks! May God bless you greatly with your families!

With LOVE:
Violeta Lopez Alegria; 18 years old.

Can you consider 30 dollars per month to sponsor a child? The children need your help. Please contact us @ **604 820 7750** or myriam@childrenofhope.info

THE CHILDREN

Daniel, Julio, Jorge and Mickey (Dulce Refugio)
Meet some of the newest boys at Dulce Refugio. Daniel, Julio, Jorge and Mickey are 4 brothers who came to live with us because their mother was unable

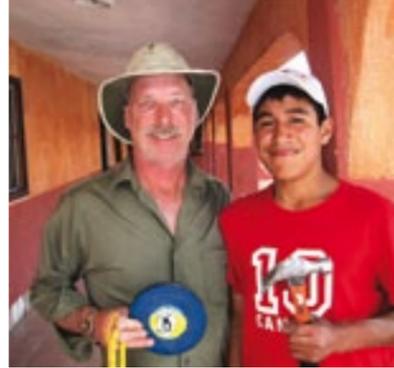


to care for them. Jorge is the oldest. He is 12 years old. He is very intelligent, loves to learn and to study, and is eager to please his caregivers. Jorge loves to play soccer and read books. Daniel is the second oldest at 10 years old. He is a quiet boy, who keeps to himself mostly or with his brothers. He loves to play marbles and soccer. Mickey and Julio are fraternal twins. They are 9 years old and Julio is the mischievous one. He loves to keep his caregivers on their toes. Mickey was with us for two years until he went to live with his grandmother. The orphanage had no idea that he had other siblings. When the social worker brought the boys to Dulce Refugio, Mickey ran around excitedly showing his brothers where everything was and announcing over and over again that they will be given 3 meals a day. We thank God for these four boys and that they are now in a safe, loving home with plenty of food, clothes and a roof over their heads.

Luis (Pan de Vida)

Luis is 15 years old and has been at Pan de Vida several years. Because he struggles to learn, he is still in grade one and admits that he does not like school. In the last year, Ira has taken Luis under his wing and allows him to work with him on the maintenance and other projects of the orphanage. So every afternoon

as soon as lunch is over, Luis shows up at the workshop ready to help. Ira hopes that Luis will learn some mathematics and spelling through this vocational training. Luis is a very hard and dedicated worker and with the recent season of teams, Luis' confidence has increased significantly. He told the director that as much as he dislikes school and learning new things, he now looks forward to working with Ira everyday and learning something new with him. One of his proudest achievements so far has come from learning to weld. Ira even tries to incorporate more of it in the projects so Luis can get better at it. Our prayer is that Luis will learn a specific skill or way of working so that he will be an effective employee and make an honest living without being taken advantage of.



Update from Pan de Vida

(written by: Bobbi Maxwell)

In our last update, we were finishing our school semester as Christmas approached and preparing for the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In the month of December, several organizations came and blessed the children with gifts of toiletries, blankets, shoes, clothes, food for the pantry, toys and bikes. Other groups came to minister through programs. We had puppets, clowns, mimes and dramas. In addition to that, the kids also got to go on several field trips which included a trip to a local amusement park, an ice skating circus and a day trip near Mexico City to a nature park full of exploration. Pan de Vida also had a traditional Christmas Eve service of praise and worship to Jesus, followed by a special Christmas meal.

Can you consider 30 dollars per month to sponsor a child? The children need your help. Please contact us @ 604 820 7750 or myriam@childrenofhope.info

In other news, we received a new water system for the kitchen. The children have also been getting lots of dental work done. A mobile dental unit from Cuauhtemoc, which is a local university, comes 2-3 times a week to Pan de Vida to provide services of



cleaning teeth, fillings and even crowns. In addition to that, 2 days a week some go to a dentist in the city for dental work.

We had teams from Cape Sable Island/Woods Harbour area of Nova Scotia, Seaforth/Waterloo, Ontario and Winkler/Morden Manitoba serving.



They come to do ministry through hard work and caring for the kids. They have been involved painting, cleaning and organizing different things around the property, expanding the entrance, installing new propane and drainage lines, repairing the septic system, built a retaining wall, built cabinets, concrete footings and paving block project located on the back side of the girls' dorm.



In addition to the blessings the teams bring to improvement of the facilities and living conditions for everyone, they bring a new energy for the children. Each day the children enjoy the interaction through a variety of games and even the challenges of communication. The children received special treats of pizza, taco parties and received many wonderful gifts ranging from interior clothes to school supplies.

Update from Dulce Refugio

(written by: Jeremy Van Beelen)

In the last couple of months, we have been able to focus a lot on the finishing work in the director's apartment and the office building. The apartment is pretty much finished, with the carpet and laminate flooring installed, as well as the cabinets for the kitchen. There are still a few minor details to finish, like the lighting and window shades. We hope that within a month Marce, the director, will be able to call this place her home.

Dulce Refugio has its own official soccer club. "Equip Brother" was formed with the help of Jorge, a Mexican volunteer, who has a soccer scholarship at a local university. We are truly blessed to have Jorge putting this team together. And to top it off, the Eigenraam family brought down a donation of soccer uniforms, soccer cleats, and two soccer nets. The kids were so proud of their new uniforms! A big THANK YOU to all those who helped with this donation! We are still waiting for the sod to get laid for the soccer field so the kids will have a better field to practice on.