



Asociación Hogar de Vida Para La Niñez

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Financial Donations Administered by Partnering Ministry:

Children of Promise International: Hogar de Vida Costa Rica
6844 Loop Road, Centerville, OH 45459-2159

Email: info@promise.org

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

for:

- ✦ each child to be 100% sponsored, with 4 sponsors each.
- ✦ an on-site long term missionary to host teams, visitors and volunteers.
- ✦ pray-ers & financial supporters for Merla, Tim, Dena, Olga, Barbi & Noemy.
- ✦ additional God chosen tias and children to fill the third house.

COMIN'S AND GOIN'S

April began by saying thanks, blessings and good-bye to short term Tia Brittney. Good-byes were also in order for Dayaret as she went to live with her siblings at another home. Ciara, Maylin and Antonio also left to live with their mom once again. Hellos went out to pudgy baby Owen who arrived to bless the downstairs house with his sweet disposition, and Dena flew to Guatemala to host two teams over the Easter season.



May welcomed Noemy, with her daughter Ana, and Carla as tias to the upstairs house. Also welcomed were two precious darlings, Mia and Rachel. A team from Concordia University, Texas came with loads of energy to bless abundantly through their hard work and play with the kids. The month drew to a close with a tearful, but joyous good-bye to Joseph and Maria as they were reunited with their mom.

June began with a rush of comings, when Genesis and her two younger brothers, Dorian and Kevin joined the downstairs house. Very shortly after, Isidro and his two younger sisters, Maribel and Tatiana arrived. Sophia came from the states for five weeks as a live-in tia in the upstairs house, filling a great need for another tia. And the most special final hurrah for June was the opening of the third home!

Tia Merla accepted the position of house mom and together with Julio, Kimberly, Isidro, Maribel and Tatiana they formed the nucleus of the third house family.

And, as always, many volunteers gave countless hours of loving to the kids, which meant hours of help and support for the Tias.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Sensing a call of missions on her life Merla came to Hogar de Vida in March to gain hands on experience working in a children's home. It was her desire to spend six months working and learning. Merla has gained much more than just experience; she has gained a deeper and more settled conviction that missions is her life calling.

Together with her siblings, Merla was raised in her

parents' home in the Costa Rican Caribbean port city of Limón where her mother faithfully brought her children to church each Sunday. As Merla recalls, her church attendance was more an obligation than a personal conviction. As a teenager, Merla did make a personal commitment to the Lord but upon graduating from high school, soon fell away from attending church. Even during this wayward time, Merla recognized that she still carried a peace in her heart and spirit that was beyond her own understanding.

After securing a job as a secretary, Merla moved to a nearby town and struck up a friendship with another young woman. Through patient conversations with her new friend about the Lord, Merla accepted an invitation to attend church. Merla soon found herself back on track with the Lord. Back on track, but feeling quite unsettled in her job, Merla began sensing that she should be serving the Lord in a more committed manner. With no clear direction for the future, Merla quit her job and began seeking the Lord with more intensity. When money ran low, Merla took another job in an office, and again soon sensed that this was not for her.

Believing missions was where God was leading her, but not knowing how or where, Merla joined a mission trip to Panama with her local church. During the trip God confirmed and solidified in Merla's heart His call of long term missions on her life.

Shortly after the trip, with the blessing of her home church and at the invitation of Hogar de Vida leadership, Merla began serving at Hogar de Vida as a faith missionary in the position of a live-in tia. Within a few months, sensing God's leading, Merla extended her commitment to Hogar de Vida to one year and accepted the position of house mother for the newly opened third children's home.

Hogar de Vida faith missionaries receive no salary but depend solely on God's provision to meet all of their needs. One of the primary means God uses to meet those needs is through the generosity of financial supporters. Merla is the most recent faith missionary. Tim and Dena, Olga, Noemy, and Barbi are the other faith missionaries serving at Hogar de Vida Children's Home.

For information on how you can become a supporter of Merla or one of the other faith missionaries, for please email info@homesoflife.org.

FROM DAY TO DAY

As always life is never boring in a family as large as Hogar de Vida. With many babies, toddlers and preschoolers about, the noise and activity level is sometimes off the scales. Praise the Lord most of the noise is of a happy nature. The kids are out side as much as possible playing hard and hopefully wearing off some of their energy. They love riding in their new Radio Flyer wagon and can't wait for their turn to ride around the finca. That is after it was explained to them what it was since they had never seen one before.

Kimberly is acing the third grade with great grades on her recent exams, and a helpful compliant attitude about homework. The preschoolers are working hard at playing, but have unintentionally learned some of their colors, numbers and shapes. But don't tell them they are learning! And Maria in her first year of high school is excelling with excellence!



The grand celebration of the month of April was Nancy and Oscar's wedding. Everyone donned their best to attend the festive event. It was truly a blessed day as the young couple, before God, family and friends committed their lives to each other until death due them part.

While the kids rested after lunch, the tias toned up their first aid skills through a 15 hour course given by the Red Cross. Hopefully they will not need to use their skills, but with 28 very active children

about it's always good to be prepared for whatever may come

UNITED -o- REUNITED

Hogar de Vida provides a Christ centered temporary home for "at-risk" children during which time the Costa Rican child protection services investigates the reasons necessitating the removal of the children from their home. Following the investigation and depending on the findings, the children are returned to their family, placed with extended family or made available for adoption into a new family.



Multitudes upon multitudes of prayers were answered on May 23rd when Joseph and Maria were finally able to go home to live with their mom and stepdad. Juliana, the children's mom, pictured with the children and her older brother, was in tears as the big, loving family of Hogar de Vida gathered around and prayed farewell blessings for the family asking the Lord to be with them they began their new life together.

In recent conversations with Juliana, she reports that the children are adjusting well and fully enjoying being in their own family again.

PROJECT PROGRESS

The new one room cabins are finished and in use. Thanks to the Concordia University team, not only are the cabins painted inside and out, but the grounds around the cabins are cleaned up and free from construction debris.

With the engineering know how of EMI missionaries, the drainage runoff problems around the soccer field and adjoining sidewalks have finally been resolved. Gone are the mud filled sidewalks and the soggy soccer field. Let's play soccer.

Valley Christian High School blessed all with their tedious work of painting the playground, and the yucky task of picking up loads of countless, fallen, rotting mangos.



During June the downstairs house evacuated their home to allow for the painting of the entire inside. Taking advantage of the opportunity, workers were hired to install false ceilings in all of the rooms. The guys, Charly, Ben and Josh

worked diligently hard disassembling, cleaning, repairing, and reassembling the ceiling fans for each of the rooms. Now every room has reliable air circulation. With the new lowered ceilings that look great and the ceiling fans that work great, the downstairs house will now enjoy cooler times on those many hot, humid days of life in the tropics.

Interested in **giving towards projects**? Email info@homesoflife.org

FRUIT FROM THE FIELD



During morning devotions, nine year old, Kimberly shared her testimony of when she asked Jesus Christ into her heart and then facilitated worship using one of her favorite praise DVDs.



After many, many months of prayer, preparations and down right hard work, the third children's home is finally opened and operational. A huge thank you to every one who had a part in preparing the way for the birth of this third home.



Thanks for loving and supporting Hogar de Vida. Blessings