



Asociación Hogar de Vida Para La Niñez

Apdo. 121-4013 Atenas 20501, Costa Rica
Telephone: (506) 2-446-62-12, 2-446-48-00

Web site: www.homesoflife.org
Email: info@homesoflife.org

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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

- ✝ God's perfect healing for Britany.
- ✝ for a faith missionary in the position of property/construction manager.
- ✝ for more people to accept the challenge to be involved with Hogar de Vida.
- ✝ for additional God chosen Christian tias.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



When child protection of Costa Rica called in early July asking if Hogar de Vida would be able to take in a tiny new born there was not a second of hesitation from the tias. With genuine love and compassion they whole heartedly responded, "Of course! How soon can the baby come?" And so arrived two week old Britany, sent by the Lord to be a special blessing to every one who lays eyes

on her. What an incredible, sweetie she is!!

Shortly after birth, while still in the hospital Britany's doctor discovered her heart was lacking a pulmonary valve. This serious defect causes her heart to work harder than is normal with less efficiency. Because of her condition Britany is more susceptible to respiratory infections, tires more easily and under strict orders from her doctor is not allowed to cry hard for longer than a few minutes (of course Britany doesn't mind this order at all!). Unless God chooses to miraculously heal Britany's heart, she will require heart surgery within the next year. Pray for a miraculous healing!!

When Britany arrived there was much concern regarding her sight and hearing. In her first weeks she did not startle or respond to any noise no matter how close or loud. She did not seem to track any movement with her eyes. Whether God is healing her miraculously or she is just developing at a slower pace, Praise the Lord, Britany is now able to track and does respond to some sounds. She most definitely enjoys being talked to and loves babbling back in response. Every day she is making advances in her development, gaining strength in her muscles and interest in her surroundings. Britany is a special gift from the Lord.

To make a difference in Britany's life by becoming one of her monthly sponsors email info@homesoflife.org

COMIN'S AND GOIN'S

July began with saying good-bye to baby Owen as he left to live with his parents and aunt. Sweet baby Marisol joined the down stairs house just days before the arrival of baby Britany in the upstairs house. The Stromstads, Wendy and Barbi went to Guatemala to host two back to back teams. Everyone returned to Costa Rica just in time to welcome the youth team from Journey church in New York. The 22 youth and leaders blessed everyone with lots of hard work and play time with the kids.

August welcomed friends Tom and Linda as they shared ideas and teachings for publicity, organization and child development with the staff of Hogar de Vida. Teeny, not quite four pound, baby Moisés Jake joined the third household giving Tia Merla another reason why an uninterrupted night's sleep was only a dream for the next months.

September saw Matt and Kris and family come for a month's visit as they continue to seek the Lord's plan of mission in their lives. God answered prayer in the arrival of Kristine to the upstairs house as a live in tia. What was originally a one month commitment turned into a three month stay for Kristine and a great help and blessing to the tias. The downstairs house said good-bye to little Rachel when she left to live with her mom. Good-byes were also heard from the upstairs house when Yerlin and her twin siblings, Deilyn and Anderson were reunited with their mom.



October was the month sweet baby Marisol left to live with her mom and grandmother and the month that Natalia, Esmeralda, Naidelyn and baby Emanuel came to be a part of the large loving family of Hogar de Vida.

November welcomed Mike and son Louis for ten days of hard work and quiet, reflective times with the Lord. Good-byes were said twice in the third house when Yerbin was reunited with his family and when Isidro, Maribel and Tatiana moved to a home in their home country of Nicaragua.

December brought the Trinity Women's team to bless the women staff with a three day retreat. With team members "covering" the houses and caring for the kids, the staff were free to enjoy their time away. Many wonderful testimonies of God's healing love came out of this special time. Deb came from Omaha to give much appreciated teaching on stress, boundaries and caring for oneself emotionally.

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

We wish you all a blessed Christmas and very prosperous New Year.

FROM DAY TO DAY

July started out with two weeks of school vacation which is always more than welcomed by both the kids and the tias. With school schedules and homework set aside, there were wonderful times of splashing in the swimming pools and many hours outside running off excess energy in the warm sunshine.



Even when all other schedules are set aside, one schedule that never changes is devotions each weekday morning. During this special time all the houses come together for spiritual teaching, praise and prayer. The kids always love dancing and praising the Lord.

Recently each house on went on a special paseo. Two houses set off for the beach while the other house enjoyed the beauty of a nearby botanical garden. What fun memories!

Thanksgiving Day was complete with all the trimmings at dinner and the kids in national dress representing Costa Rica, Guatemala and the United States

With December upon us, the home and in particular the kids have been greatly blessed with Christmas fiestas given by local churches, groups and friends. It is always a special time of year for the kids, but especially so because they know that Jesus Christ is the true reason for all the joy and celebration.

For the next few months all are looking forward to enjoying refreshing, dry, windy days with NO SCHOOL !!!!



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.

November saw the happy reuniting of Yerbin Eduardo (left) with his family. Just short of a year after coming to Hogar de Vida, Yerbin was more than excited to return home to his family. For days before the reunion, Yerbin proudly showed everyone the drawing he and the psychologist had made of his "new" house far away where he was going to live with his family. And with each showing he sincerely explained that, "God had his new house ready now, so he was going to live there."



Thank you Lord for lives changed for eternity through your perfect love.

PROJECT PROGRESS

With the rainy season still in full downpour, the men have walked many miles behind lawnmowers trying to keep up with the ever growing grass. Although a seemingly never ending task, the men have done a great job of keeping the property looking great. The other tedious rainy season task is that of power washing the driveway and many yards of cement sidewalks. The large amounts of rain produce slippery moss and mold on cement surfaces making for very dangerous walking. Thanks guys for being diligent in these not so glorious jobs.






Mike and Charly spent many hours designing and building five new sets of bunk beds for the team cabins. With more than one hundred screws in each set, they will no doubt last into the next century.

The women's team pitched in many hands of hard work by raking up bushels of fallen mango leaves and pine needles. While some raked others painted some very peeling walls on one of the houses and the rain gutters on another.

Lester came from Nicaragua for few months to help with the cows and to serve as night guardsman of the property.

New construction or renovations, maintenance and repairs are never-ending at Hogar de Vida and are always areas where finances are welcomed. To be personally involved in this important part of the ministry of Hogar de Vida, please email info@homesoflife.org.

FRUIT FROM THE FIELD

-  All of eight of the school age children and teenagers finished the school year in good standing.
-  After receiving instruction and teaching, ten year old Kimberly and many of the staff publicly proclaimed their decision to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and to live for Him by being baptized in water.
-  Watching intently while the others were baptized, 13 year old Julio was given the opportunity to be baptized. When asked, "Who do you proclaim?" Julio declared in a loud, clear voice, "Jesus!"



Thanks for loving and supporting Hogar de Vida. Blessings