



Hogar de Vida y Nutrición

San Andres, Guatemala

Web site: www.homesoflife.org

Email: info@homesoflife.org

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Financial Donations Administered by Partnering Ministry:
Children of Promise International 6844 Loop Road, Centerville, OH 45459-2159

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

- ✝ for another Godly live-in female staff
- ✝ for additional Child Sponsors - the goal: four sponsors for each child
- ✝ for Norm & Vickie as they study Spanish

IN THE SPOTLIGHT UNO

Nine and a half year old **Benjamin (Beni)** is a bright, smiling ray of sunshine with a positive, enthusiastic out look on life. As an assignment for his third grade social studies class, Beni was asked to write and illustrate his personal history. This is Beni's history and his illustration:



"When I was seven months old, my mother brought me to Hogar de Vida, because she was very sick and could not care for me and in a short time she died. But I thank God that my mother brought me to this place where I am protected, loved, shown attention, cared for with much love and I feel the

love of a father and mother and I am very happy in this place because I have everything that I need. Some people do not believe this, but I do. My papa drank a lot and he could not care for me. Last year he died. We are three siblings. Two live in Chilil and I, the youngest live at Hogar de Vida."



God has gifted Beni with an incredible thirst for learning, thus the reason why Beni is always asking loads of questions about life. Beni likes

to play soccer with his best friend Samuel, help with the babies and wants to be a pastor when he grows up. Beni has accepted Jesus Christ into his heart as his Lord and Savior and loves to attend church and participate in singing worship songs.

To be fully sponsored, Beni needs three additional sponsors. Please email info@homesoflife.org to become one of Beni's sponsors.

PRAISING THE LORD



Lucy and Lorena made the mature decision to stay at Hogar de Vida and continue their post secondary education.



For Kelly King's passion for child sponsorships - 15 new sponsors since Kelly started sharing the need in New York



Norm and Vickie Sutton started language school in preparation for long term missionary service at Hogar de Vida

IN THE SPOTLIGHT DOS

Norm and Vickie Sutton, long time friends and participants in the ministry of Hogar de Vida y Nutrición are putting the plow to the ground and following the call of the Lord to serve as long term, faith missionaries working with Sebastian and Oralia.



Over ten years ago, Norm and Vickie made their first visit to Hogar de Vida on a church mission team. God planted a seed of passion and love in their hearts, which He continued to tend and grow over time.

After participating as team members they felt a stirring to start leading short term mission teams to Hogar de Vida. As God often does, He was showing Norm and Vickie only one step at a time of His wonderful plan for their future. On July 20, 2006, as they stood next to a giant cactus overlooking the beautiful Guatemala valley below, they felt the Lord calling them to "sell the farm". They still didn't know the details of His plan, just that the Lord was stirring a desire to serve Him full time.

In His perfect time, the Lord showed the Suttons that He was calling them to serve as long term faith missionaries at Hogar de Vida. Their skills and life experiences will be a huge blessing and help. Norm's "jack of all trades" skills will be used for the many repairs, renovations and construction needed in the 15 year old adobe brick home. The boys and Sebastian will reap the blessings from having an additional Godly male role model and a new Tío (uncle).

Vickie comes with accounting and numbers skills which have been long needed and will be a greatly appreciated by Amilcar. She will also be the "administrative support" person, writing the newsletter and taking over the responsibilities of the sponsorship program.

Together Norm and Vickie will bring a breath of refreshment to help share the responsibilities of Sebastian, Oralia and the other staff. The Suttons are in Spanish language school for the next eight months before they move permanently to Hogar de Vida.

If you would like to become part of their support team, please email info@homesoflife.org.

DAY TO DAY

We are happy to report we are doing great, succeeding in this school year and enjoying our huge family of Hogar de Vida. We are a total of 37, including 30 kids and seven grown ups. Could life get any better?

Grown Ups: Sebastian and Oralia continue to love, guide, nurture and discipline (on those ever so rare occasions when we may need it!!) us into young sons and daughters of our most beloved Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Hermana Lita is right beside them, quiet and unassuming as ever, but hard working with a passion for this unique family.



Hermana Zoila with her sweet smile is an ever present blessing covering many of the work details and tasks of our family. Alfredo and Mingo spend most afternoons helping us understand and finish our homework no matter how long it takes. Rueben blesses us by stopping in many days to share lunch and pass time with us.

And of course, Amilcar continues to use his skills and knowledge of accounting to keep our finances in order.

Young adults, teens: There is never a lack of chores around here and all of us “young women” enjoy helping out however we can. Chepa



“helps out” by watching the babies and the little kids play. Lorena and Lucy share many of the responsibilities of caring for babies and little ones, laundry and cleaning, while Angelita faithfully washes all the dishes after each meal and cleans up the kitchen and dining areas. Both

Lorena and Lucy recently celebrated their 18th birthdays and made the decision to stay at Hogar de Vida, the “only home and family they have ever known”. Manuela and Juana chose to leave when they turned 18 years old. We miss them but do see and hear from them on occasion.

The teenage boys, Manuel, Hector, Danny, Luis, Edyn, Mingo, Santos, Julio are all busy learning to farm the land this growing season. With Sebastian’s guidance and instruction they have learned how to prepare the soil, plant, weed, cultivate, and fertilize.



The boys decided all their hard work was worth the pain when they started seeing the seeds pop through the ground and begin growing into sturdy stalks of corn and vines filled with beans.

At harvest, the whole family will be enjoying their efforts and the produce from their first crop. You are all invited to stop by for home made corn tortillas and beans.

Pre-Teens: Beni, Minque, Bartolo and Santiago just keep on getting taller and stronger. They love to play soccer, help Sebastian with chores and watch TV on boys TV night. Although they are doing well in school this year, there will be a unanimous, loud celebration of joy when the last exam is graded late this fall.

Blanca, Elsa, Paola, Cata and Wendy are growing into fine, young pre-teens with beautiful hearts for the Lord. Often torn between the grown up aspects of pre-teenhood and the lingering desires to play baby dolls, the girls are a delightful array of giggles, laughter, styling clothes and studious competitions. What a sweet bunch of smiles.



Younger, but catching up fast kids: Grisma, Lesley and Marta most certainly enjoy new styles of clothes and doing up their hair. They are working hard at school learning to add and to read. The younger boys, Samuel and Adriel always enjoy when their friend Jonny visits after school, turning them into quite the majestic trio. With Tonka trucks loaded with whatever precious cargo is available, they race across the yard in lightening speed constructing and destructing everything in sight! But then again boys will be boys.

Toddlers & Babies: Melizza and Sebastina (Tiana) have warmed up to each other and when no one is looking, they are quite busy chattering in whatever dialect toddlers speak. They both love carrying their babies around and playing mommies. Life can be a bit overwhelming at times and then a nap becomes totally unavoidable wherever you may be.

The babies, Venancio (Nancio) and Luisito, are hardly babies any more. Pump and full of energy the two love being around the action, especially when it allows them to be on the ground crawling as fast as their chubby little legs can move. They are the delight of all the kids and staff, constantly being passed around for hugs and loving.



Other news: We had fun with the Grove City College team during Holy Week and then were again blessed in July with two additional teams. Journey Church in New York came with their youth, followed by Trinity Church from Omaha with a family team. Our friend Jenny came from Omaha to help Tim, Dena, Josh, Ben, Maria host the teams. Barbi came to help take care of us.

We want to extend our thanks and appreciation to all of you who are involved in God’s ministry of Hogar de Vida. Our lives would not be the same without your prayers, sponsorships, and visits. We know God chose each of us to be here and that He also chose you to be a part of our big extended family.

Thank you! May the Lord bless you abundantly!