



# 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

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## PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

- ✝ Pray with us about our finances.
- ✝ For God to continue the work He has started in the children that have left us.
- ✝ For the spiritual, mental, and physical health of the children that are under our care.

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

God has allowed us to start up the preschool program again at Hogar de Vida. It's a "new and improved" edition! Every morning the one-year olds attend from 8 to 8:30 a.m. After our devotional time in the "rancho", the 2 to 3 year-olds have their time. From 10:00 until lunch, the 3 ½ and 4 year-olds are busy. Each week, Cherie and the tias teach a letter, number, color, and shape as well as a Bible story each day. During the morning, each group spends time outside walking together, playing in the sand box, or jumping on the trampoline, unless it's raining. The kids have adapted and are eating and sleeping better now!

A physical therapist comes once a week to work with the children and also to deal with the tias whose health problems that can be corrected through therapy. Alison has been a wonderful addition to our team here.

With Dena gone this year, and to comply with new regulations from PANI, we have been fortunate to have two nurses on staff. They take care of the doctors' visits and the time-consuming charting that has to be done. Cindy works with us part time and Christy is living on campus and working full time. They have put many extra miles on our tires while meeting the medical needs of our 35 children. There's plenty of doctors' appointments each week!

Grant is working himself out of a job as he finishes up his year here and is training Oscar to take over the maintenance program. Oscar is doing a great job at fixing the things on his mile long list each day.

Helen is trying to get manuals ready for each department in the Hogar to outline procedures, internal regulations and fulfill all the new requirements from PANI (Govt. Family Services). Completing these will help us to maintain our level of achievement and the honor of being among one of the top ten homes in Costa Rica. PANI is very pleased with our progress.

These last few months have brought some changes in staff but we acknowledge the privilege of being a part of the team God has put together. People comment when they visit us that there is a feeling of peace here "on campus". There's a sense of unity as we work towards the common goal of loving one another, and ESPECIALLY the kids! It's been a good year, so far!

## FRUIT FROM THE FIELD

- 🍇 The office area at Hogar de Vida looks different these days; instead of a large parking area we now have added 2 offices and a conference room.
- 🍇 The preschool program is once again up and running. Children from age 1 to 5 have time in the preschool Monday through Friday.
- 🍇 Due to Frannia being ready to give birth soon, Nancy is taking over the position of secretary.

## UNITED -o- REUNITED

Since the last newsletter we have had several children come and go.

Juan Pablo, from house 2, who lived here for most of his life was adopted by a very nice family. Anyendall, from house 3 was adopted on the same day at Juan Pablo. Sasha, house 2, went to live with her aunt. Gabriel went back to his parents (house 2). Michelle (house 3) went to live with her father. Luis and Elias, one year old twins, came to us for a few months and have been reunited with their mother. Harold left from house 3. Maria del Mar was adopted after living here for several months. Vincent from house 3 will be leaving tomorrow to live with his new adoptive parents. We encounter feelings of loss and sadness here at Hogar de Vida when children leave but we also encounter the great joy of receiving other kids.



We have added Jacsury in house 1, Abdul and Vahid (twin 1 ½ year olds) in house 2, Jasser and his brother Jeremy in house 3 and three siblings Katherin, Juan and Cristopher (pictured here) also in house 3. Our newest additions are Zeidy,

7 months old and Wilbert who is 6 months old. The two of them came to us a few days ago and live in house 2.

Wilbert, our new baby boy came with a full head of hair. Zeidy didn't have much and the kids wanted to share his with her! Doesn't work that way!

## CASA UNO ¿QUE PASA ?

We were sad to say good- bye to Coni who had worked here for 9 years. Due to changes in the law and new requirements for Costa Rican work permits, she is now there getting her paperwork straightened out. We hope to have her back home and working with us again soon.

The old psychologist's office in House 1 has now become a bedroom for some of the girls. It's ideal to have a downstairs room large enough for four beds. The new occupants are very happy!

The kitchen was given a badly-needed facelift and is now looking great and getting the normal daily use. It was tough for a few days when it couldn't be used normally but now it is all back together and functioning well.

Thanks to several day teams that came to visit we got the bathrooms repainted and they are looking great.

After Coni left and Nancy changed jobs from tia to secretary, this has put House 1 short of tias so we are looking for new employees to take up the slack.



House 1 was having huge problems with their septic system. Thanks to a wonderful team of hardworking men and women we were able to install a new septic tank that will handle the needs of the house. This was a huge job and our thanks to our faithful friends who put out the word and in no time the work was accomplished. We

appreciate all that our supporters do to keep us up and running!

## CASA DOS ¿QUE PASA ?

House 2 seems to be one of constant flux. In the last months, five children have been added, three of which have already left along with Juan Pablo.



The oldest child in House 2 is Jacsell -- he is 4 which makes for interesting days. There are 12 children under 4 and half of them are one years old and under.

Two of the children were added just last week and both are almost ready for adoption so we don't expect them to be with us for long. They both came from another short-term home here in Costa Rica.

For a while we had two sets of twin boys under the age of 2 but one set of twins went back to live with their mother. It was fun to watch all 4 boys about the same age interacting with each other.

Connie, who came to us as a baby, is now able to run and jump and is definitely not a baby anymore. She almost always has a big smile on her face and is doing great.

Some of the older kids are confronting difficulties when children in their house leave the Hogar. One of the 4 year olds told me today that her mom never comes to visit but that some of the other moms visit each week. To some extent, they are old enough to understand what is happening and it is hard for them to accept these challenges.

Several kids in this house will be going out in adoption or being reunited with their families. By the end of the year it will look very different in house 2.

## CASA TRES ¿QUE PASA ?

There have been a lot of changes in House 3 with 5 new children coming in. Two groups of siblings -- Jasser and Jeremy are 3 and 4 years old and the group of three pictured above in the photo, 7, 5, and 3 years old.

The house had been recently remodeled to accommodate different groupings of children and all the beds are now full. Like the other houses, the children have to deal with issues, but the house is mainly at peace.

The usual changes have to be dealt with first in prayer and with lots of love from the tias. Marisol, our psychologist, gives us necessary tools to continue in the restoration of our kids. Team work makes the difference.



Vincent, the youngest member of the family, left today with his new adoptive family. At first sight this baby chose "his" Daddy. It was heart-warming and part of the reward for the work we do.

All of the staff hopes that some of the children will be granted their heart's desire before the end of the year. They yearn to have a family, or be reunited with their own. Please pray for the emotions of the children that are "left behind" when others leave.

God is good! There have been some difficult days this year but it is very obvious that God is in control and taking care of us each day.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Moses said, Lord if you don't go with me, I will not go! (Paraphrased). I'm sure glad the Lord has been with me. Without love, a sense of humor and His continual encouragement I might have been overwhelmed while Tim and Dena are away on furlough. But we have an incredible team here. God's shoulders are big enough for us all and despite the challenges He is carrying this ministry.

We are now open for VOLUNTEERS! Anyone dreaming of a chance to hang laundry and change diapers may apply. Write to us for an application.

We are also open for TEAMS! We need a new workshop, new office furniture purchased or to be built here on the premises, our telephone system overhauled and installed (TOSHIBA), a security wall built around the property, plus someone to paint new signs, and all this between now and December!!! Please write us.

With the end of the year coming up there are always added EXPENSES. In Costa Rica, we pay the "thirteenth" month -- an extra month's salary for each staff member. We anticipate God filling the Christmas stockings for each member on staff here.

Thank you for your past efforts to help us financially. Thank you for your help again this year. Thank you for loving us and loving our kids and for keeping this ministry afloat.

Helen

Please email us at [info@homesoflife.org](mailto:info@homesoflife.org)

*For financial details see the information on our website.*