



Dental Mission Group

www.ccadults.com

Over the past few years, a dental group from Phoenix, Arizona, Hands and Hearts Missions, a ministry of Calvary Community Church Contemporary Adults Class, has been travelling to the orphanage 2 or 3 times per year, with equipment to give the children exams and even make minor repairs. This has been a blessing to the children as they have no dental insurance or extra money for dental care. Although there have been times Mexican Customs made it difficult for them to get their equipment across the border, with lots of prayer and the Lord watching over them, they have accomplished a great mission to the children. We ask God to bless their continued mission to help the children.

Contentment Comes from Giving (Author unknown)

2 Corinthians 9:8 – And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

This story is about an expensively dressed, well to do lady who complained to her doctor that she felt that her whole life was empty; it had no meaning.

So the doctor called over the elderly lady who cleaned the office floors, and said to the rich lady, "I'm going to ask Mary to tell you how she found happiness. All I want you to do is listen."

So Mary put down her mops and sat on a chair and told her story: "Well, my husband died of leukemia and three months later my only son was killed in an automobile accident. I had no family... I felt I had nothing left. I couldn't sleep; I couldn't eat; I never smiled anymore, I even thought of taking my own life.

Then one evening a little kitten followed me home from work. Somehow I felt sorry for that kitten. It was cold outside, so I decided to let the kitten in. I gave it some milk, and the kitten licked the bowl clean. Then it purred, rubbed against my leg, and for the first time in months, I smiled. I stopped to think; if helping a little kitten could make me smile, maybe doing something for other people could make me happy. So the next day I baked some cookies and took them to a neighbor who was sick in bed. Every day I tried to do something nice for someone. It made me so happy to see them smile. Today I've found happiness, by giving to others."

When she heard that, the rich lady cried. She had everything that money could buy, but she had lost the things which money cannot buy.



Holidays at the Orphanages

As the holidays approach we find ourselves busy with preparations for family celebrations. Have we bought the right present for Uncle Bill; have we put up enough decorations; have we invited the right people to our Christmas party; will everyone be happy; and the list goes on. Do we tend to forget the real meaning of

Christmas? Do we tend to forget the less fortunate? Do we think too much of our own needs? These are good questions to ask ourselves this time of year.

The children we serve probably don't have many of these questions. There may not be an Uncle Bill; there may not be decorations; they may only have one party to attend, their own. They may not have enough food for a holiday meal. BUT, they are happy for the most part. Yes, they would love to be with family, but when you don't have any or don't know where they are, or you have been deserted, you make an orphanage your home. A home filled with much love, if not materialistic gifts.



Sometimes during the holidays children are "dropped off" at orphanages because parents can't afford them for this period of time. If you have a passion to help during the holidays, here are some suggestions for children ages 4-18. Please keep in mind, **no battery-operated items** (the directors cannot afford to buy batteries); instructions must be in Spanish; no war games or toys; no money; no candy:

- ♡ Toy cars; dolls, books for all ages (Spanish or Spanish to English only), jewelry, makeup, hair decorations, art supplies, outdoor sports equipment, games;
- ♡ Pajamas (any size, any color, male or female);
- ♡ Winter coats (any size, any color, male or female);
- ♡ **Food.**

Gifts for Casa de Elizabeth should be mailed to P.O. Box 6277, Nogales, Arizona 85628-6277 and should arrive by December 19, 2009 to allow for "Santa" to bring the gifts on Christmas Day ☺

After the holidays is a very tough time for Proyecto Compasión as donations are down drastically because people are paying off bills from holiday spending. Food is scarce at orphanages. All monetary donations are tax deductible and can be sent to Proyecto Compasion Inc., P.O. Box 91796, Tucson, Arizona 85752-1796 (Arizona 501c3).



Check out the Casa de Elizabeth website for ongoing needs and updated pictures. Cooking classes, offsite church, remodel of boy's and girl's dorms and many other ongoing projects. www.casadeelizabeth.org.

DRESSES FOR ORPHANS -
www.dressesfororphans.org

In May of 2009, this author (Colene McKee) received an email from the founder of *Dresses for Orphans*. The founder, Darla Carpenter, was impressed by what was being done at Casa de Elizabeth.

Dresses for Orphans makes new dresses for girls and t-shirts for boys in orphanages around the world - *Hearts 'n Hugs for Kids*. Each of the dresses has hearts on it and the boy's shirts have stars on them; all are made in a variety of bright kid colors. Darla believes this is a way she can contribute to their lives, giving them something that is brand new and made just for them.

Darla offered to make t-shirts and dresses for all the children at CDE. What an awesome offer!

Before I brought the outfits to the orphanage on September 12th, I had the directors tell the kids I would have a special present (a surprise) for each child who wrote a letter to their sponsor. What a wonderful surprise for me - 100% of the sponsors received a letter!!



Updates from Casa de Elizabeth

In April of this year the Mexican social services agency made its first ever inspection of Casa de Elizabeth, with focus on the children's safety and security. As a result of the inspection, many, improvements were required.

On a visit to CDE on November 14, 2009, we saw many more changes to comply with the inspection requirements.

- More work has been done on the boy's dorm rooms. Some of them are just waiting for the walls to be painted. Each room has a separate stool area, separate sink area and separate shower area, and a closet. See pictures.



- Work has begun on the girl's dorm rooms. 6 girls will be sharing a room. They too will have the same amenities as the boy's dorm rooms.



As you can see, these rooms are still a work in progress. With only 3 men working on them it is slow going. Everyone is excited to soon have a new, more secure, room to sleep in. Although there will be electricity in each room, there will not be any heat. Want to help paint? There is always a need and your help would be

greatly appreciated. To schedule a visit to CDE, contact Colene McKee, U.S. Coordinator for Casa de Elizabeth at EEKMC@hotmail.com.

FOOD SHORTAGE AT CASA DE ELIZABETH!!

Can you imagine looking into this food pantry and needing to feed 60 kids? What could you make with 10 cans of chicken broth? Do you have a recipe that uses 26 cans of chicken noodle soup? AND, these are not even #10 cans. What a challenge. Now think of what a challenge it is for the cooks at CDE to make a meal with very hungry children at the door. There are no cheese and crackers for between meal snacks.



Simple pleasures ↓ – a new can opener. What we take for granted, it highly appreciated at CDE. Thank you to Northwest Christian School in Phoenix, Arizona for donating this opener.



On November 14th, we fixed lunch for the children. Our lunch is usually made up of bologna/cheese sandwiches, corn, chips, cookies or cupcakes and milk. This is a very simple meal, and plates come back clean. This month was a *clase de cocinar para las muchachas* (girls cooking class). We made Hot dog stew (yes there is a recipe); lettuce salad, jell-o salad and Cheerio treats (similar to rice crispy treats). Fun was had by all. What a learning experience. Even though this author teases my “cooks” “make the kids cut at a diagonal”, this is a learning experience. What if one of the children wants to

become a chef – knowing tricks of the trade can be useful. ☺ ☺

Preparing the Stew ↓



Making Cheerio treats ↓



Finished Cheerio treats ↓



Proyecto Compasión
P.O. Box 91796
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Please feel free to share this newsletter.

About Proyecto Compasión

Proyecto Compasión is incorporated under the authority of the Corporation Commission of the State of Arizona and has been granted 501(c)3 status by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. This means donations to Proyecto Compasión are tax deductible to the donor.

We are a Christian based organization whose goal is to help children living in orphanages in NW Mexico. Currently we provide monthly support to Casa de Elizabeth in Ímuris, Sonora, and have provided project funding to other orphanages as needs are identified and funds are available.

PC is an all volunteer organization presently consisting of three individuals. No salaries are paid and volunteers pay their own expenses incurred on behalf of the organization.

In addition to the primary objective of helping orphans in Mexico, one of Proyecto Compasión's primary goals is to make sure donor's funds are used for their intended purpose . . . helping orphans. In reviewing YTD October 2009 financial information it was gratifying to see that fully 95.3% of donations went directly to the benefit of orphans while only 4.7% went to cover expenses. The primary expense is printing and postage needed to communicate with you, the people who make this mission possible.

It is no secret the U.S. economy is in deep depression. Unemployment is at a 20 year high. It is also no surprise that donations received by Proyecto Compasión are down significantly . . . 45% less YTD October 2009 vs. 2008.

As a consequence of declining donations we have been forced to reduce the amount of assistance provided to orphans. And we have not had the resources to help with project related funding this year.

Is it fair to ask people who have supported to Proyecto Compasión to donate more? We don't think so. But we do know people are interested in how the recession is impacting Proyecto Compasión.

Rather than asking people to donate more, we are asking donors to ***Recommend a Friend*** . . . a prospective new donor who shares your Christian values of helping His less fortunate. Please give our newsletter to someone who you think is a good candidate to help. And please return the enclosed "Recommend a Friend" card with contact information for another potential supporter. Merry Christmas and God's blessings to you.