



CASA DE LA **Esperanza**

One God, One Hope, One Casa

mission report

GRATEFUL TO BE BACK

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It will be a year ago this January that I learned that I had cancer...again. At first it was thought to be a sinus infection only to find out a short time later that I had two forms of cancer, Lymphoma and Papilloma on the right side of my face. Soon after the diagnosis, I underwent six sessions of chemo followed by 20 days of radiation. As a result of recent tests, my oncologist says that the cancer is in remission. If it doesn't reoccur within the next seven years, I will be considered cancer free.

I have much to be thankful for, especially to a gracious and loving God who is the giver of all life and hope. I am grateful for God's answer to prayer and for the many who prayed on our behalf. I am furthermore grateful for the mysterious way of our Lord works through circumstance and individuals endowed with God-given talents, for medicines and treatments that give healing, hope and life. Yes, I love life and, as a two-time cancer survivor, I have come to learn that living "ready" is what really matters — as well as maintaining faith and trust in the one who lay down His life so we can share in His eternal life.

Since Casa is a relatively short five-hour commute from our home in El Paso, I have been able to make runs to Casa between chemo sessions and on weekends while undergoing radiation. My recent return to Casa was more than special because the Lord has spared me to serve another day and to resume a loving relationship with the children He has privileged us to care for and parent.

Home
Sweet
Home



This summer and fall were filled with great fellowship and accomplishments!

Nine groups visited Casa this summer and fall and blessed our children with fellowship, devotionals and more loving attention than ever. Marshmallows and hotdogs were roasted most evenings around the bonfire and praise songs filled the still of the evenings. Much love was expressed by all to all.

Each group purchased and distributed food to our poor and needy neighbors including clothing, bibles and toys for the children. This year, visiting Christians added 6½ tons of food purchased and distributed to the already 104 tons given out in 2013. The current total of 110½ tons of food converts to 11,050 bags of food given out door to door.

Many hours of hard work and resources transformed the school wing closer to completion this summer. Steel trusses were fabricated on site and welded in place; metal roofing panels were laid in and secured; windows installed; interior walls were framed; electrical and plumbing roughed in; and the mechanical system was installed; the roof and walls were insulated making way for hanging the sheetrock to commence.

special DINNER GUESTS

On four different occasions while distributing food to our neighbors, some of the poorest families we encountered were singled out and invited to share in a dinner with us. Twenty-six families in all joined us for an evening of fellowship. Each of the families was profiled at the time of invitation so before arriving we knew the number of adults, children, their clothing sizes and ages. After dinner each family was presented with toys, books, crayons, coloring books and clothing for the children. Adults also received shoes and clothing depending on need.



So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find!

— Matthew 22:9 NIV

Bienvenidos

New Members to the Casa Family

Three of our children returned to us after being united with their mother. Unfortunately, she abandoned them and they lingered in an abandoned warehouse for nine days before being found and returned to Casa. We anticipate they will become permanent residents at Casa.

Julio



Juan



Armando



Ralfa



Pricila



Santiago



Esmeralda





Progress is being made on the Casa de la Esperanza Christian Academy school building

Our goal is to start up with classes in the fall of 2015. The effort to complete the wing of our building housing the school has been intense in order to meet our goal. Thanks to the countless hours of hard work and financial support of brethren and Casa staff, it looks like we are on our target goal. The wing housing the Academy consists of five classrooms, a storage room, bathrooms, an entry/lobby area, and a janitorial room. The library, teachers planning room, one other classroom, a stage area, and dining room are part of the main building.

The Academy is a private Christian school and will initially consist of pre-kinder through the 6th grade accounting for about 95% of our current child population of 47. We plan to add high school classes as the need arises. The capacity of the Academy, when fully operational, will be in the neighborhood of 90 children providing an excess capacity of about 40 students.

Some of the students will pay tuition while a select number of students whose families are very poor but exhibit a high degree of scholastic talent will be scholarship. To scholarship academically gifted children from the community and from very poor families along with academically gifted Casa children serves the dual purpose of raising bar on the academic performance level of the Academy while giving an educational opportunity to children who would never have the opportunity to receive a quality education.

SEEKING AN EVANGELIST

When in session, our school day would begin with Chapel where the children would hear a brief message from the Word, have a prayer to start the day and sing a song or two. At some scheduled times during the school day, each class would have a half hour age-appropriate Bible lesson. In the evening, the children would participate in our regularly schedule devotionals and worship on Sunday.

We are currently seeking an evangelist who would assist in planning and conducting these bible studies as well as conducting bible studies in the community. Other duties of the evangelist would include conducting studies with our baptized children to further ground them in the Word; offering studies with children of age to be baptized and directing studies specific to the age and gender of our girls and boys.



EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP SEARCH

An age-old business development principal is that leadership should plan for its succession in consideration of the organizations future leadership needs. With that in mind, we are looking for a married couple that can train for a period of time and eventually serve in a directorship role of Casa. My role would shift from one of administration to monitoring the operations and replication of Casa as outlined in our five-year plan. Applicants must be grounded in their Christian faith, have had successful child-rearing experience, be self-starters, have seasoned management skills, and be able to communicate in Spanish and English. **Interested parties can contact our office for more detailed information.**



Needs List

If a congregation is interested in doing a food drive for Casa de la Esperanza, we will arrange to have the food items picked up. Please let us know by contacting us at children01@prodigy.net.mx.

Laundry Soap

Sugar

Canned Foods: 1-gallon cans of peas, green beans, corn, fruit, pudding

Rice

Dehydrated Potatoes

As always, thank you for any and all of your contributions towards this list of needs at Casa de la Esperanza!

Contact Information

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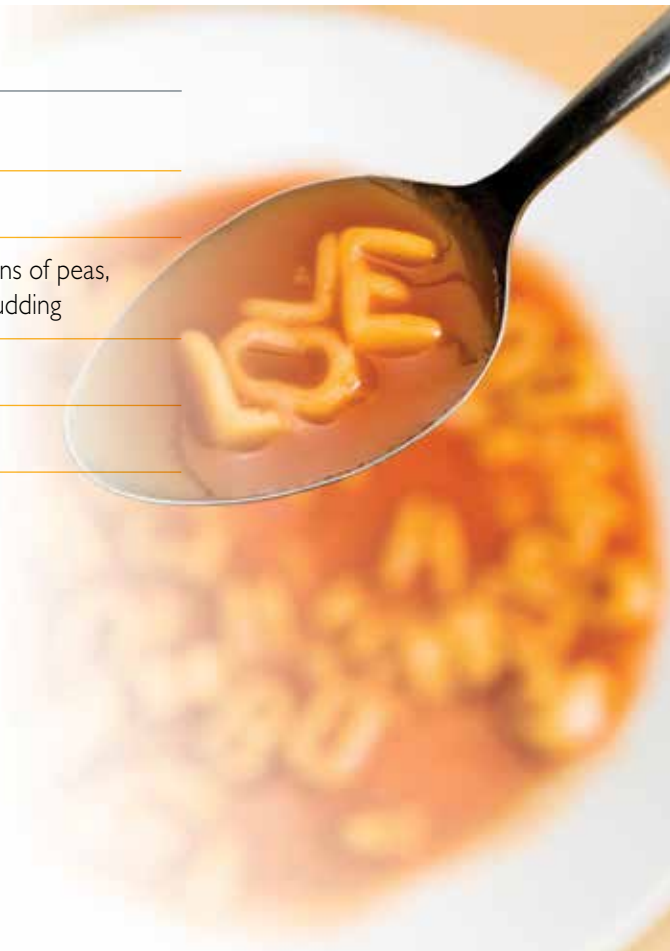
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Visiting Casa in 2014?

If you plan to visit Casa in 2014, this is a friendly reminder that we operate on a first come first serve basis. If you are not certain of your exact arrival and departure date, we will schedule you on a tentative basis reserving your spot. As in previous years, we will provide assistance with border crossing and travel from El Paso to Casa and back again. Unless you plan on traveling to Casa on a chartered bus, we are using the Santa Teresa border crossing located on the far west end of El Paso avoiding travel through Juarez all together.

Hope to see you this spring or summer.

*For you are great
and do marvelous deeds,
you alone are God.*

— Psalm 86:10