



# CASA mission report

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# AUTUMN **[Otoño]** 2020

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# Planning for the Future and a long-awaited **ANSWER TO PRAYER**



## A DEPUTY DIRECTOR TO JOIN THE MINISTRY TEAM AT CASA

Charting the future course for Casa is a continual process and is essential for ensuring its long-term well-being, growth, and development. We have long prayed and searched for a candidate to serve as Deputy Director of Casa. This Deputy Director would be trained and groomed until such time as they are prepared to assume the full Directorship role of overseeing and directing all the affairs of the Casa ministry. We are very pleased to announce that Jose Villicaña will be joining our ministry team as Deputy Director beginning December 1st. Jose (Pepe) and Pamala, his wife of 12 years, along with their eight year old daughter Romina have been members of the Church of Christ Metropolitana in Mexico City for the last seven years. While serving at Metropolitana, Pamala headed the Children's Ministry and brings these very important skills and passions to Casa. Pepe served as an evangelist/administrator at Metropolitana while completing two years of study online at IBIT (Instituto Biblico Internacional de Texas) in Houston Texas. Prior to serving at the Church of Christ Metropolitana, Pepe gained extensive experience in manufacturing, plant management, and finance. We look forward to welcoming Pepe and his family to Casa, and fully expect that they will be an immeasurable blessing to the ministry.

#### AN EVANGELIST TO JOIN THE CASA MINISTRY

We will also be blessed to have Osvaldo Martinez Sanchez joining our ministry team as the evangelist overseeing the Church in Anáhuac. Osvaldo will be joining us, along with his wife Edith and his two children Karla (16) and Oswaldo (11). The couple have been married for nineteen years and will be relocating from Mexico City. While completing his studies at IBIT (Instituto Biblico Internacional de Texas) in Houston Texas, Osvaldo has been serving as an evangelist and working with the Church of Christ Metropolitana in Mexico City for the last five years. Osvaldo and family are scheduled to begin their service January 1 and we have tentatively set a date of January 24th for our first worship service at the church in Anáhuac. And that is just the beginning!

For the last twenty-two years the name Casa de la Esperanza has become well known to the residents of Anáhuac. Over these many years, our children and visiting group members have distributed 113+ tons of food in twenty-pound bags containing rice, beans, and potatoes, as well as a bible to anyone needing one. We have also distributed an untold amount of clothing during this time and conducted numerous medical, dental and vision clinics – thanks to the wonderful volunteers who come to Casa. These ministry activities, and more, have laid the groundwork to grow the church in Anáhuac. We believe that our neighbors will be open and receptive to hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ because of the relationships we have built with the community over the years.

As Osvaldo gets settled into his role of establishing contacts in the community and conducting individual and group bible studies, we will begin a schedule of streaming programs on subjects of general interest the community as a means of drawing them to the building and further establishing relationships. These streaming programs would include topics such as diabetes, family relationships, indolence, marriage, etc. We will also seek to continue to organize medical, dental and eye glass clinics with the assistance and involvement of brethren in the US and in Mexico. As we work to carry out the Great Commission, our prayer is that the building the Lord has blessed us with will become a center for community involvement and a place where all who enter can experience the love of our Father.



# BAPTISMS

The daily devotionals, memory verses and scripture reading that the children participate in at Casa are some of the steppingstones that guide our kids towards baptism and discipleship of God the Father, His Son, and the Holy Spirit. During the daily devotionals our children study God's word, delving deeply into its meaning, while pausing regularly to raise their voices in song and praise to God our Father. Just as important as these daily routines is the teaching of God's Word by example. This example is demonstrated by the actions, words, deeds, and every Godly expression of love of each staff and ministry team member. The whole of these activities continues to bear fruit, and we are pleased to share that four of our children were recently baptized! The baptisms were done with all our children in attendance surrounding the baptistry, singing songs and united in prayer. While we continually endeavor to plant the seeds of truth, praise God who gives growth.



From Left to right | Idali | Anali | Victoria | Imelda |

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

James 1:12 NIV



# new children

The pandemic has placed a lot of stress on families throughout our towns and villages. We are grateful that Casa is a place where our Father's love leads to healing, peace, and hope, and that we are able to respond with open arms whenever the situation calls for intervention. We whole-heartedly welcome with the following children to our Casa family.



Agustin



Idaly



Narcizo



Alejandra



Issac



Paulina



Anali





Norma







Diana



Lucia



Sarahi



Elizabeth



Nallely



Rosas











Reyna

# ANNUAL REVIEWS

In September we had our annual review from DEF (the Mexican equivalent to our departments of social services agency). As we have in the past, Casa passed with flying colors. When our COVID-19 mitigating procedures were reviewed, they were found to be exemplary. We always do our best to assure the health and safety of our children and our staff. **Praise God**, all our children and staff are doing well.



complete the construction on the first and second floors of the church building. Our goal is to have these two floors complete before our first day of worship, which is tentatively scheduled for January 24, 2021.

We are so excited to see this day arrive!

# **Construction Results**

Construction progress continues in the new school/assembly wing, which also includes two infirmaries to isolate and care for children with infectious conditions, and a physician exam room. The physician exam room will house an examine table, a dental chair and related equipment, storage for medicines, supplies, and other medical equipment that are needed to care for the health of our children and members of the local community, as the need arises. We are in the final stages of installing sheet rock in the remaining 20% of the wing and estimate another two weeks to complete taping and the texturing of the walls. Once the church building is complete, our focus will shift to the completion of this wing. What remains on our final checklist is to install flooring, cabinets, and plumbing fixtures, and to paint the walls and trim. Our scheduled completion date for this wing is the end of February.



## **Contact Information**

## Needs List

As work progresses on the Anáhuac Church of Christ and Community Center and the three duplex units, furnishing the housing units still remains a priority. Thank you for generous donations that have been made by our supporters. If you are able to donate any larger items, please contact us as soon as possible so pick up or delivery can be arranged, as moving certain items through the border crossing process can be quite time consuming.

#### **Mailing Address:**

For mail, packages, boxes

5844 Angel Street El Paso Texas, 79932 (719) 252-9423

Attention: Gil Sanchez, Casa de la Esperanza

#### **Telephone and Email Information:**

Gil Sanchez, Director

USA Cell Phone: (719) 252-9423

Mexico Telephone: 011-52-625-585-0068

Email: children01@prodigy.net.mx casakids01@yahoo.com

Web Site: www.ahouseofhope.com

#### **Overseeing Congregation:**

Southwest Church of Christ

#### **Current Needs:**

- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- #10 cans of green beans and corn
- Sugar
- Rice

As always, I am overwhelmed by God's provision and your faithful support of the mission at Casa de la Esperanza.

#### Special Opportunity:

Sponsor for Christmas Meal (\$320.00)



# Wanting to Visit Us?



If you plan to visit Casa, 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 if necessary. Unless you plan on traveling to Casa on a chartered bus, we are using the Santa Teressa 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.

Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf.

Psalm 66:5