

CASA DE ANGELES FOUNDATION

Fall Newsletter 2015

MEMO FROM MICKEY

This has been a very difficult year for the Sisters and the orphanage. In response to international pressure the Guatemalan congress ruled that children in “institutions” should be returned to the homes of their families. Despite the fact that the government did not support these institutions, that the family might not want the child, and that the children generally did not want to leave the only home most of them had ever known, this became the law and the practice of the government. From January to June, 2015 our orphanage had 20 of its 105 children removed. We are forbidden to contact them and do not know where or with whom they now reside. This has been devastating to the Sisters, to the children removed and to the children still in the orphanage wondering whether tomorrow would be their turn to be taken. This has also been the experience of other orphanages with which we are in contact. Since June no further children have been removed and the orphanages are in “waiting mode”. Our orphanage (and others) stopped taking in children because of the uncertainty of the situation. A new government takes office January 1st., and if a few months pass with no further governmental action, I believe the orphanages will all start to taken in children once again.

We have 80 children now in the orphanage who are healthy and happy (five of the most damaged

children were moved to Las Obras Sociales). The children are happiest that the school year and the rainy season are both about to end. For us, it means we can start the re-roofing project (in Jan.) and this will continue at the rate at which we can raise the money to pay for it...

The work that Casa de Angeles is doing is only possible because of your continuing spiritual, psychological and financial support. The Board of Directors, on behalf of the children, continues to be thankful for this generous support. You continue to change the future for these children. We continue to need your generous support, so in this season of giving (and Thanksgiving) please think once again of our orphanage and its children.

EDUCATION MILESTONE!

We have reached a milestone in that our first student has finished his first year at the University. He is majoring in Agronomics (Agriculture) and has just been awarded a full scholarship for his second year!

January will also see six students in an academic high school (leading to University), two in the third year of trade school, one in a certified child care program, two in middle school, and 60 in our own preschool and primary school.

Education continues to be the single largest item in the budget (\$85-90,000), and we continue to feel that this is well spent money!

SUCCESS IN OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISERS

The San Francisco Bay Area supporters of the orphanage grossed more that \$38,000 in their annual fundraiser, and the Corvallis area supporters of the orphanage grossed more that \$43,000 at their event. These two events have jointly been the greatest fund raisers over the 16 years of the foundation!

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT: CASAANGELES.ORG