



QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

November 2004

A Publication of International Children's Care
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Changed Lives



Daniela was 7 years old, Jorge Ernesto 5, Gabriela 3, Liz Sofia 2 and Ana Paula 1, they were hit with sticks, stones, shoes, and anything their parents found every time they got angry. Since Daniela was 5 years old, she worked with her father cleaning tombs. One day, when Daniela began attending school, her mother told her that she would leave to find a job. Their mother left, but she never returned. Soon after, their father also abandoned them, although from time to time they saw him, he never returned home nor was interested in being with them anymore. Daniela quit school and started working to feed herself, her brother and sisters, since they had no other family to take care of them.

Days, weeks and months passed. The children survived thanks to the intrepid action of Daniela, who daily left the children to go and work cleaning houses. Once in a while, a neighbor shared something to eat with the children. Daniela says: "I remember that some days we ate a little, and some days not at all. We were cold and we didn't have blankets, we were very dirty because we hardly ever had a bath. Since we didn't have enough money to buy food, much less soap. Daniela felt that she couldn't handle this difficult situation any longer. She was very sad to see that other children of her age laughed and played, while she had to work, feed and take

care of her 4 little brothers and sisters. She thought their life would never change, "One day, a lady knocked on the door of our 'house' and told us that she would take us to a better place where people could help us". They were all taken to an orphanage in Tijuana where they could eat three times a day and take a daily bath, but they lacked a family. After 5 years living there, the orphanage was closed and Daniela and her siblings were transferred to a temporary place in Mexicali.

Soon after that, DIF - Department of the Mexican Government that looks after the well-being of the children called ICC to see if we had a

— continued on back —

PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

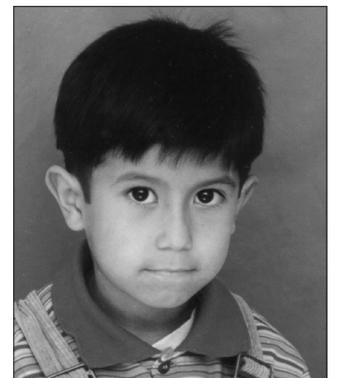
My name is José

I need a sponsor. I am 7 years old and live in Colombia. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. Thanks!

\$25 \$50 \$_____

(800)422-7729

Sponsorship Department



Changed lives – continued

place for the little family in our facility. On March 6th, 2001, Daniela and her family arrived at El Oasis. At the beginning, Daniela was unsure and afraid of her new home. These first days she cried, but after a while, she realized they finally had found a real family at El Oasis. A family that provides food, home, school, clothes, and much more. Most importantly, they found a family who loved them, treated them well and showed them the love of Jesus.

Months later, Daniela chose to be baptized, Jorge and Gabriela followed soon after. The children now love to participate in church, Pathfinder Club, and singing in our children's choir. Daniela is now 16 years old and graduated from 9th Grade in June. She wants to continue studying and to graduate from the university to serve God, support her siblings and help other children of ICC that have gone through similar situations.

Without the help and the support of each one of you, Daniela, her siblings and many other children, wouldn't have the opportunity they have now, the opportunity to know what hope and love can bring into their lives.

No where to turn



Claudia, the 29 year old mother of two children, María eleven years old and José seven years old, lives in Colombia. This single mom found it hard enough to make ends meet before doctors discovered that she had rheumatoid arthritis in 1998.

Today Claudia is unable to walk or even bath herself. The children do most of the chores and take care of their mother's needs. They are unable to go to school because they have no money and they are needed at home. They live with Claudias sister, a single mom who is a domestic worker and has two of her own children.

Two year ago, Claudia was given a wheelchair so that she could move about the house. Before this, she would crawl around on the floor trying to prepare food.

Claudia's biggest worry in life is that she can't provide a better future for her children. If you look on the front page, you will see José's picture in the Sponsor Me highlight. Please give it some thought.

Honors

Bob Babcock-82nd Birthday

By Ota Babcock

Alec/Christian Bivans-1st Birthday

By Lee & Susan Long

Ken & Alcyon Fleck-63rd Anniversary

By Jean Duncan

Guy & Ruth Hess-

By Melva Perry

Sam & Gretta Pellecer

By Richard & Jeanne Fearing

Louise Smith-99th Birthday

By Ona Greve

Julie Winkle-Birthday

By Bill & Nancy Pellow

Jonathan-7th Birthday

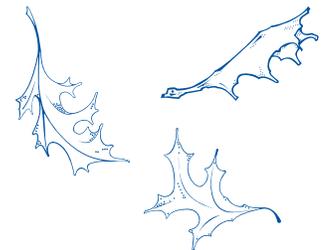
By Don & Pam York

Sarah Anne-1st Birthday

By Don & Pam York

Daughter's Anniversary

By Don & Pam York



A Legacy of Love

*P*roviding for the future
through planned giving

Contact Doug Congleton at ICC
for more information on how
you can become part of the
"Legacy of Love"

(800) 422-7729
Doug@ForHisKids.org

A Personal Message

November 2004

Dear ICC Family,

Some of you will remember when we were operating a Receiving Center in Bogota, Colombia. It was a country with desperate needs for the homeless children, many of whom literally lived on the streets. We rented a large house that accommodated 20 or more little ones and the Fagenstroms volunteered their services to direct the program. Our plan was to operate the Receiving Center for babies, sick children and as a first facility to care for new children, and then send those with documents qualifying them for permanent custody to a Children's Village.

We looked at several options of land to buy for the Village. However, in working with the Department of Children's Care in the Colombia government, we found that we would not be able to have custody of the ones we took in. That meant that those in charge of that department could take our children back at any time and adopt them out to anyone of their choice. They actually were using us as caretakers to take care of the children's medical and emotional needs and then taking them back. With deep regret, we chose to close that facility, and transfer the budget to a country where we could work effectively in providing permanent homes.

However, there were children with acute needs who had a relative or someone able to care for them, but with no ability to provide food and clothing. The first family was a group of small children whose parents were killed in an accident. Their aged and infirm grandmother was doing her best and dearly loved them. We began providing her with funds each month that were furnished by ICC sponsors. That plan worked so well that we decided to continue in Colombia, but with a sponsorship plan for children who had someone able to house them, if help could be provided. It has grown until today we are sponsoring 28 children each month.

Those who were in the program when it first started are now growing up and finding their places in life. There are pastors, teachers and others soon to graduate with a profession, as well as younger ones coming along. Rosibel Sosa, who was working for us in the Receiving Center, is now the director of the sponsorship program there in Bogota. Ken has been in charge of directing that program from the office, and has made many trips to Colombia to visit the children and help Rosibel manage the program. Al and Donna Strawn, members of the ICC board, have gone with him several times and have personally sponsored some of the children. As these little ones have grown, ICC has made it possible for them to study in Christian schools and on into university in Medellin.

Homes For The Homeless

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Matthew 25:40

Some years ago, when word came to us that four young children from nine to fifteen years of age were orphaned by a terrible tragedy, we knew we would help them. The pastor of their church told us about Jorge, 9, Lucero, 11, Darwin, 13, and Marly, 15.

It happened in a remote village in the foothills of the Andes. It was a crime-infested area, where the government itself did not always attempt to track down criminals. It seems that the children's mother had been pursued by a military officer. When she continued to reject his attentions and refused to go and live with him, she was killed in front of her children, and the father taken away. His tortured body was found two days later.

The distraught children ran to the home of some church members who took them in temporarily. Finally, an aunt, who was employed, agreed to stay home and care for them, if she could have some financial help.

The aunt, who is a faithful Christian woman, has dedicated herself to raising these nieces and nephews. They have taken active parts in the church activities and Pathfinders, and each of them have been good students and well-behaved.

Marly, now 23, is pursuing her studies as well as carrying responsibilities in her church. She is a teacher in the children's department and one of the secretaries of the church.

Darwin, now 21, is studying at a technical school as well as working in a clothing store. His report indicates that he has a good record of behavior and cooperation.

Lucero, now 19, is in grade 11, and is looking forward to attending university. She is a good student and is also a teacher in the children's Sabbath School in her church.

Jorge, now 17, is in grade 9, and is looking forward to finishing high school so he can get on with his education. He also has a good report of diligence in his school work, helping at home, and taking part in the church activities.

Their Aunt Elisa has been a loving second mother, furnishing a stable, Christian home and inspiring the children to prepare themselves to be of service to God and their fellowmen. It has been the sponsors among the ICC family who have made this all possible, with their commitment and faithful support.

ICC is dedicated to furnishing homes for homeless children, whether it is for children with no one to care for them in our Children's Villages, an adoptive home, or, as in the case of these four children, our sponsored homes. We thank each one of you who have had a part in helping us help children.

With our love and prayers,

Aleyou and Jen

