



# QUIE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care  
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## Quarters For Congo Kids

It is a heartwarming experience to see how easily and compassionately children empathize with the plight of children less fortunate than themselves. The children attending the Vacation Bible School at the Grandview SDA Church in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada showed a fine example of this recently.

ICC worked with several VBS programs throughout this summer to raise money for our Patmos Children's Village in the DR Congo. The money raised will go to purchase mattresses for the children at the village. As of now many of our children are sleeping four to a single bed.

Each child that came to VBS was asked to bring three quarters each day they attended. They heard stories about the children and got to experience

20 staff each day. At the end of the VBS program the children had given \$816 Canadian (over \$600 U.S.)! The goal was to raise \$540 U.S. Jennifer Campbell-Gertzen who was in charge of the Grandview VBS

had this to say: "God touched hearts beyond my expectations... We are so thrilled with the interest and caring that has been demonstrated by all concerned." Two more churches joined in the Serengeti Trek to raise Quarters.

Meadow Glade VBS in Battle Ground, WA had about 90-100 children each night and raised enough to buy 17 mattresses! Yeah! Five more than their goal! In Gladstone Park, near Portland, OR they just had their VBS this last week. We should receive their results soon. Thanks to all of those in Vancouver, B.C., Battle Ground, WA and Gladstone, OR whose loving generosity will make a big difference for "His Kids!"



Promotion Posters

**"God touched hearts beyond my expectations..."**

what it's like to have four kids laying on a twin mattress at the same time with a mosquito net around them. The program is known as "Quarters for Congo Kids". The Grandview VBS had an average of 35 children and

## PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

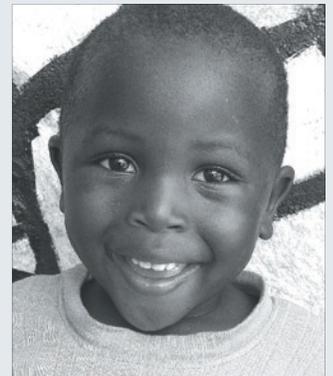
**My name is Elia**

I need a sponsor. I am 5 years old and live in the Congo. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. Thanks!

\$25    \$50    \$\_\_\_\_\_

**(800)422-7729**

Sponsorship Department



## “Circle of Hope” Update

**W**e love it when a plan comes together. After months of planning and effort, the “Circle of Hope” fund raising breakfast on May 1, 2005 was a real success. With about a 175 people in attendance, the room at the Heathman Lodge here in Vancouver, WA was filled.



Dining hall of “Circle of Hope”

Attendees heard presentations by various members of the ICC leadership team. Rick Fleck, ICC president, spoke about ICC’s vision and what is in store for ICC’s future. Doug Congleton, executive director of ICC Americas, related what it means

to be part of ICC and how it has affected his life. Alcyon Fleck, founder of ICC, offered a few stories of what life was like in the early days of ICC.

Bill Zeimet and several members of his youth group from Everett presented the funds they had raised for ICC during the previous weeks and the audience was treated to a special viewing of ICC’s latest video “The Difference That Changes Lives”. A new Multiple Year Giving Circle was introduced called the Circle of Hope for people who want to pledge a 5 year commitment to provide financial support in unrestricted funds. Gift of Joy: Support a child \$1,000 per year for 5 years; Gift of Love: Support a family \$5,000 per year for 5 years, and Gift of Faith: Support a village at \$10,000 per year for 5 years. 12 individuals joined the Circle of Hope. Many others pledged at other levels and still oth-

ers increased or continued their sponsorships for children. This group of individuals pledged or paid over \$90,000 towards our annual budget which will be paid over the next 5 years. We plan to make this an annual event.

By all accounts, those who attended the event were immensely pleased with the proceedings. Special thanks to Liana St. Clair, our Table Captains, and Liana’s support staff for their months of extraordinary efforts on behalf of “His Kids” in bringing this event to pass. Also, thank you to all who attended and helped to raise awareness and funds for ICC.



Everett youth group and Mr. and Mrs. Fleck

## ICC at ASI Convention

**A**t the recent ASI convention in Sacramento, California (August 3-6), ICC was prominently featured. At one of the evening meetings, Mr. Gary Bartholomew was interviewed regarding his family’s involvement in digging wells at the ICC children’s village and school in Guatemala. He shared his testimony of the many miracles that took place during this project and how the children now have a tremendous source of clean water. In addition to this interview, Gary and his wife, Angie, had an information booth that presented the Guatemala water project. It was wonderful to have

the Bartholomews as partners in this work for ICC children.

During the Sabbath morning service, ASI also featured ICC as one of many projects that would receive funds from the special offering appeal. A short video was presented on our project in Congo, and then Rick and Sharon Fleck gave a personal report about our work there.

Both of these presentations were carried live by the 3ABN television network. As well, there was a large local audience in attendance. The Lord blessed as ICC will receive \$20,000 from the offering which is designated to

help build a home in Congo for our ICC children.

In the ICC booth there was a buzz of activity. Many conference attendees were impressed by the presentations made at the general sessions and stopped by to sign up for the Que Pasa mailing. Some decided to sponsor a child. And there were many current donors and sponsors who dropped by to chat and receive an update on the children of ICC. What a blessing it was to connect with our dear ICC family members.

Next year the ASI convention will be in Dallas. We hope to see many of you there.

# A Personal Note

Dear ICC Family,

A very pregnant young woman was working in the field with other farm laborers. She knew her baby was due soon, but she had talked to no one about it. Her supervisor only knew her name, and the girl avoided contact with any of the other workers. No one knew of the terrible struggle going on in her mind. It was unbelievable that she had come this far in her condition with none of her fellow workers knowing anything about her.

The woman working closest noticed she was heading for the rest room, but forgot about her until she noticed the girl staggering back to her place in the row. But when she fell to the ground, apparently fainting, the supervisor was called, who found her barely able to talk. She was pale and moaning in pain. A car was called to take her to a local clinic.

Upon examination, the doctor told the supervisor, "This woman has just delivered a baby. Where is it?"

"I don't know anything about it," he answered. "Take care of her, and I'll go back and find out what I can."

The supervisor hurried back to the field, and questioned those who had been working close to the sick girl. "Tell me what you know about this girl"

The woman, who had been working closest told her, "I saw her heading for the rest room, and she was gone a long time. When she came back is when I saw how sick she was and called you."

The supervisor hurried over to the rest rooms and began to look around. Suddenly, he heard a baby crying. Hurrying toward the sound, he found not just one baby but two babies on the ground. They were covered with some dirty rags. He called to one of his helpers. "Come, quick! Take this baby. I'll bring the other!"

Driving at top speed, he knew the babies needed help immediately. At the clinic nurses took the two little naked, new-born babies, so tiny they must have been premature, to the doctor, who immediately began working on them. The smallest one, a little girl, soon died, and the doctor and nurses cared for the little boy, although it was doubtful they could save him either. However, in intensive care, the tiny little fellow began to improve.

When he was well enough to go home, they contacted the mother, but she refused to take him. Our report from the children's court only says that the mother expected the babies would both die.

We can only imagine the real truth behind this tragic story. The fact that the young woman was out in the fields working in her condition could indicate that there were other children at home she had to find food for, but that she knew she couldn't take care of two more, twins and premature at that. Only God knows all about her.

However, we do know that God led in the events that saved little Daniel's\* life, and when he was able to leave the clinic after 22 days, he was brought to El Oasis, our Children's Village in Mexico.

Daniel is five years old now. It took awhile for him to catch up after the traumatic start he had, but he is a normal little boy now. He has had a home of his own, loving care, good food, and when he is a little older, he will go to school.

Whenever little children are brought to us after entering this world with no earthly parent to love and care for them, and having survived the worst possible conditions, I thank God that they were rescued, but I grieve for all the children who are the victims of the tragedies and results of sin in this world.

ICC is growing all the time. More people are learning how they can help us rescue these unfortunate children. There is no end in sight until Jesus comes and puts an end to the terrible blight of sin on this planet. But, for us, every one of these children is precious, and it is worth doing everything we can to save as many as possible. We aren't just saving them from suffering and death, but we are saving them to be candidates for Heaven. Jesus remembers what each of you does for the children!

Thank you, for what you are doing to make this beautiful program possible!

With our love and prayers,

*Aleyou and Jen*

\* Note: Name has been changed to protect the identity of our children

## NICARAGUA PROJECT SURGES AHEAD

It seems that each month brings new developments for our project in Nicaragua. In July we reported how the land purchase had been finalized and we were ready to develop a site plan. Well, the site plan is finished. Paul Edgren went to Nicaragua in late July, surveyed the property and drew up plans on how our children's village will be laid out and constructed. This means that we are ready to break ground on the first buildings for the children's village as soon as we receive the funds to do so.

We are now formally requesting that you consider donating funds that will help us in the construction of the initial phase of our children's village in Nicaragua. The children are anxiously awaiting their new homes. This also means that we are ready for mission groups to travel to Nicaragua to help us build the children's village. The "window of opportunity" for mission trips will first open in January of 2006.



# The ICC Family is EXPANDING Again!

It's always exciting when new members are added to the ICC family. On September 30, 2005 International Children's Care will add 120 children to our growing family when we assume operation of the "Hogar Escuela Adventista" orphanage located in San Juan Opico, El Salvador. Established in 1995, this facility was developed by Maranatha Volunteers International. Though orphan care is not the core mission of Maranatha, a group of their supporters desired to make a difference in the lives of orphaned children. They set about to create a children's village in El Salvador that would provide children with a caring and healthy environment much like that of our traditional ICC children's villages. To help better serve the needs of the children, Maranatha created the non-profit organization, Our Children International, to operate the facility.

On different occasions during the past few years, Maranatha representatives expressed an interest in having ICC assume responsibility for this project. After all, ICC's core mission is to care for orphaned children and ICC has extensive experience in this area. Recently, Maranatha and ICC entered into more intense discussions. A team from ICC visited the facility in June and was impressed by the campus setting and facilities. More importantly, team members were drawn to the children, and they could easily envision them being happy, thriving members of ICC's world-wide family. After consulting with the ICC board, it was decided that ICC would enter into a partnership with Maranatha to operate Hogar Escuela Adventista in El Salvador. There will be a transition period, and Maranatha will continue to be involved but on a more limited basis than in the past.

One of the strengths of Hogar Escuela Adventista is the level of support Maranatha donors have provided for the care of the children. All of the children are fully sponsored. There are funds in reserve. This means that rather than creating a financial drain on the resources of ICC, it will provide a financial boost as new sponsors are added to the ICC family.

The plan now is for ICC to assume day-to-day operations for the care of the children on September 30. The Lord has blessed and has provided the personnel resources required to take on this endeavor. However, change is difficult for children. ICC personnel want to be sensitive to the needs and feelings of the children during this time of transition.

Please pray that our new family members in El Salvador will feel secure and happy with the changes that will be taking place. Please pray for our administrators and staff as they embrace the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Children and staff of Hogar Escuela Adventista – Welcome to the ICC Family! We are looking forward to getting to know you better in the future.

For more information on this project please see the Our Children International Website at: [www.forthethechildren.com](http://www.forthethechildren.com).

