



QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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REMEMBER THE CHILDREN

It's hard to believe that another year is almost over. There have been so many things that have happened in our ICC family in 2008.

"His kids" have been growing rapidly and this year we have seen more of our children go on to high school than ever before. We also have 45 young people in college now. We had numerous young people get married in our projects, babies have been born into our children's homes, many children were baptized this past year and through all of these things, we have seen God continue to move.

We have also had some very difficult times in our family this year as well. Pastor Fleck passed away as well as Herb Wecker. We lost several children to sickness and disease. I am sure that there are others that we just have not been told have gone to rest in Jesus as well. Even though these things are sad to us now, we rejoice that there will come a day soon when we will be reunited with our loved ones where we will never experience this kind of loss again. What a blessed day that will be!

As this year comes to an end, we ask that you prayerfully consider



your year-end giving plan. We pray that you will remember the children of ICC in a great way with a financial commitment so that they will be able to continue to grow, hope and reach His plans for their futures. We know that the economy is difficult right now and that our world continues to talk about financial gloom. But, we know that everything belongs to our Heavenly Father and this is truly His work at ICC. These are "His kids" and we rest assured that He will not let them down, even in the toughest of times. He has carried ICC through the tough times in the past and He has done this through each one of you. We rejoice in that fact!

Snap shots of the years events

—Continued on back page—

PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

My name is Rosa

I need a sponsor. I am 16 years old and live in El Salvador. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. God bless you for helping me have a chance.

\$30 \$60 \$_____

(800)422-7729
Sponsorship Department



A Personal Note (continued from last



Dear ICC Family,

Rosibel's biological mother had come to ICC's project in El Salvador and taken her home so she could help sell things in the market. The house parents from the Children's Village felt compelled to visit Rosibel in her home and found out that she was not going to school. When they visited the local school in an effort to enroll her, they were horrified when the principal stated, "If I were you, I would do all I can to get that little girl out of that house as soon as possible any way I could. Right now we are investigating possible sexual abuse to one of the other children in that house. We suspect the father or older brother..."

"Our house parents went back to the house. After talking to the mother, they realized that she had brought Rosibel home without her husband's consent, and he wasn't happy about it. The house only had two rooms, and Rosibel was assigned to share a bed with her 17-year-old step-brother whom she didn't know. She refused and slept on the floor in the living area. Even though the mother wanted Rosibel home to help her sell in the market, she was willing for her to live somewhere else because the husband didn't want her in the house.

"According to the law here, we couldn't take her back until the Child Protective Service investigated and gave her to us with documents. Then they could protect her and we wouldn't have more problems.

"The house father told me," Joel (our El Salvador administrator) wrote, "I have a friend who lives nearby. He says they have room and would let her come and live with them, until we can make other arrangements, and I will pay them to do it."

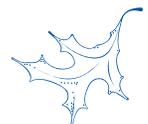
Joel went on, "I was deeply impressed with the love and commitment that our house parents have toward Rosibel and the children. I talked to Letty, our social worker, who had tried to persuade the mother to leave her with us. She admitted that she cried when she realized there was nothing she could do to protect Rosibel. Letty got on to it and made the proper arrangements with the government agency. I was running some errands in San Salvador when Letty called me, very excited. The first thing I heard was, 'Rosibel is ours!! The authorities are not only giving us documents for her, but for all of our children!'"

Rosibel is now back with the parents she loves. That house had a party the day she came home. Everybody celebrated and Mommy Yonny feels vindicated to know that she kept her promise to Rosibel – "I will do all I can to protect and help you."

Joel continued, "Rosibel sleeps in peace now and has a new outlook on life knowing that nobody is going to come and take her away from the people that love and care for her. She arrived at church the following Sabbath holding tight to Mommy Yonny's hand and it would have been impossible to separate them. I sat in the back of the church and saw how Mommy Yanny kept her arm around her little girl the whole time, while the rest of the children sat around them."

Rosibel is just one little girl who has learned what real love and security is all about, and she has learned what God's love is all about too. She is looking forward to the permanent home they will all have when Jesus comes to take them home.

Earlier when I met with the ICC committee about the problems with the Salvador Children's Home, we faced the fact that we could not go on with the status quo. When this project had been given to us, it had neither the agreement with the mission for the permanent use of the land, nor did it have the license to operate with the government, although the officials had assured us that if we had the property secure so that we were permanent there, they were happy to work with us.



month)



Vehicle maintenance



At play in El Salvador



Cooking for our large family

Rick has been working through the proper channels to get the agreement worked out, and we see that the government is already helping us with the children's documents. When the problems loomed so big for that project we realized that unless God helped us with the legalities and with the income for that budget to care for the children's needs, we could be forced to close it down. That would be a tragedy not only for Rosibel, but also for the approximately 80 children totally dependent on us as well.

This story about Rosibel and the dangers she faced, besides the heartbreak and trauma, made the picture very real to us. We have to find a way to give these children the security and future that they need so much. As we work toward making the Salvador Children's Home a regular ICC Children's Village, we will be looking to you our ICC Family to help us with your prayers, first of all, and your support as you have been doing for all of the other Homes for Children around the world. We will be giving you updates on our progress.

We all know that in the critical economical times we are passing through, we will have to depend more and more on God's intervention. But we have learned through the last 30 years that this is His program and these are His children and God is not broke. He knows where His faithful stewards are who care about the orphans and suffering children. I have learned that God is our partner, and has been ever since we started ICC thirty years ago. Thank you, each of you who have so faithfully supported us through all the ups and downs. God keeps track of everything that is done for the children in His name.

With my love and prayers,

Aleyou



Happy Thanksgiving

For October's issue of this story you can download it at our website: www.forhiskids.org/newsletters.php.
* Name has been changed to protect privacy.

Remember- continued

Please know that all of the staff and children of ICC are so grateful to each one of you for all that you have done and continue to do for "His kids." As each one of us count our blessings around the great big table of our ICC family, we count each one of you as some of our greatest blessings and just want to let you know that we continue to pray for you this year, and far into the future!

God bless all of our ICC family and we wish all the blessings of this holiday season for your families in your homes!

Thank you for doing your part in His work,

Your ICC Family



Creating families for 30 years.

Severe Damage to Dominican Yucca

The last couple of months have been difficult for our project in the Dominican Republic. Our children's village there, Las Palmas, has been inundated several times by very heavy rains since the middle of August. All thanks to one tropical storm and two hurricanes that crossed the island of Hispaniola between August 15th and September 7th.

It was the rain that did all the damage. While rain is vital to good crops, the fifteen inches of rain that was dumped by tropical storm Fay over a couple of days, is not. The result of that much rain in such a short time was that seventy-five percent of our yucca crop, before it could be harvested, rotted in the ground due to the water-logged soil. The estimated loss to Las Palmas is \$15,000 dollars.

The secondary effect is that now we must purchase food rather than use our yucca crop to feed the children. This has meant a significant and unplanned increase in our food budget for Las Palmas. We would deeply appreciate your aid in defraying these unexpected costs. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help feed our children at Las Palmas.



Our crops in better days

Mr. or Ms. Fixit Needed!

ICC needs your help. Especially if your a Mr. or Ms. Fixit kinda guy or gal. We are in real need of a volunteer who can provide general maintenance services for our campus in El Salvador. We are looking for a special person who can perform plumbing and electrical repairs and maintenance as well as other general maintenance duties for our campus infrastructure. And while not necessary, being able to speak Spanish would be a plus.

So if your the type of person who likes fixing stuff and would like to volunteer your time and expertise to ICC, please contact Sharon Fleck here at ICC HQ. You can reach Sharon by phone at (800) 422-7729. Please consider this request. We could really use your help.



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for more information on how
you can become part of the
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(800) 422-7729
Doug@ForHisKids.org