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QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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El Oasis Thanks You!

Mexico is like a "Border Sister" to The United States. It shares our southern border with us. It is a country full of color and rich in its ancestral heritage. It's also a place where part of our ICC family resides. The children of El Oasis live just four hours southeast of our southern border. They are amazing kids, as all of our ICC children are, and they find special blessings in meeting the people who care about them.

There have been so many people who have stepped through those gates at El Oasis in order to make a difference in the lives of those special children. One particular group that is not a "normal" group for ICC is the off-road community that has found Mexico to also be rich in exciting, blood-pumping thrills for their sport. I am sure that you have heard of The Baja 500 and The Baja 1000 Races that take place each year in Mexico. Racers from around the world participate in these exciting events.

Did you know that some of these races go right out in front of our

El Oasis property? Our children certainly know this and they look forward to watching the dune buggies, motorcycles and trucks as they go flying by. Because of these events, we have had the opportunity to share the ministry of ICC with this special community and they have responded in amazing ways. From Malcolm Smith and JN Roberts, to companies like Micron Industries and McMillan



Construction, these people have opened up their hearts to the children of El Oasis. Each race now brings more excitement for the children of El Oasis because the drivers, their crews and their

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PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

I need a sponsor. I am 5 years old and live in India. 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



LOS PINOS RECEIVES *a Juicy Donation*

We received a message recently from Anabela de Alejos, our development coordinator in Guatemala, about a donation made to our Los Pinos Children's Village. Here is the story as related by Anabela;

ICC's Hogar Los Pinos project in Guatemala has people that love the work we are doing for the children. When they hear something about a company or any organization making donations, they call and recommend Los Pinos.

One of ICC's friends in Guatemala heard about a company called Ajemaya, S.A. This company was looking for associations or social organizations to whom they could donate orange juice and citrus punch. ICC's friend immediately thought of our children and made a referral. The com-



The truck load of juice donated

pany contacted us and offered to give us 24 pallets of their product if we would be willing to distribute it where needed.

We partner with an organization here in Guatemala called Orphan Resources. They have given us various gifts-in-kind that have been a blessing to our children. It was a pleasure to be able to work with them in distributing this donation. Because of the large supply, we were able to distribute juice to other facilities that help orphan children. Our Los Pinos children's village received 9 pallets. Another 41 orphanages also received a supply of juice. We are very thankful for this company because they chose to share their product with our children.

May God bless all of our donors. With your support we can help many children who need it.

Anabela de Alejos

El Oasis - *Continued*

owners stop by and drop off food, clothing and help in many different ways. Most importantly, they share their hearts with our kids.

Here at ICC, we see it as a privilege and an honor to rub shoulders with this group of caring people. These people have names that are well recognized in this world, but with hearts that are far bigger than any name will ever be.

I want to thank every single person that has shared their heart

in one way or another with the children of El Oasis. Our children are blessed because you all share what you have. Every person who has cared enough to change the life of a child at ICC is appreciated so much, and I just want to say "Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all that you do to give these children hope for a tomorrow!"

Doug Congleton
ICC's Executive Director



El Oasis promotional booth at Baja 500

A Personal Note

From Start to Finish

Dear ICC Family,

If you're like me, you feel somewhat nostalgic this time of year. The shadows lengthen and all too quickly the lingering days of summer slip from the calendar.

As the school year future stretches before us, I realize just how important education is to our ICC children. It is something we don't take for granted, for it is a critical, and often costly, element in our program of care for orphan children. And as important as it is for ICC's children to start a school year strong – with all the books, supplies and uniforms they need – it's even more important that they are able to finish strong. From start to finish, ICC's children depend upon the ongoing support of ICC sponsors and donors like you to help them succeed.

Speaking of finishing strong, please take a look at this picture. It is from a school year past.

These are ICC's most recent high school graduates from the DEWS Sweet Home village in India. These young people are healthy, well-educated, talented, filled with ambition and the capacity to accomplish great things. They owe much of their success to the generosity of ICC donors like you and the long-term care they have received at our children's village. They have much for which to be grateful, and demonstrate that "it's where you finish that counts."



[DEWS Sweet Home graduates last year](#)

Life wasn't always full of promise for these young people. At the start they faced extreme hardships. For instance, imagine how it would feel to be completely orphaned as an infant and left in the care of your older sister who could barely care for herself. You ate only if the neighbors gave food to your sister to give to you. Or what if your mother set herself on fire committing suicide because she was desperate having to live with your alcoholic father? And what would it be like to see your father die and then watch as your mother became too ill and weak to walk or work and there was not enough food in the house to feed all the hungry mouths?

The ministry of ICC was developed specifically for children such as these who have lost one or both parents and who have no other relatives or friends willing or able to care for them. And even though their lives started with tragedy, through the providence of God and the ministry of ICC, these young people have been able to rise above adversity and have finished high school.

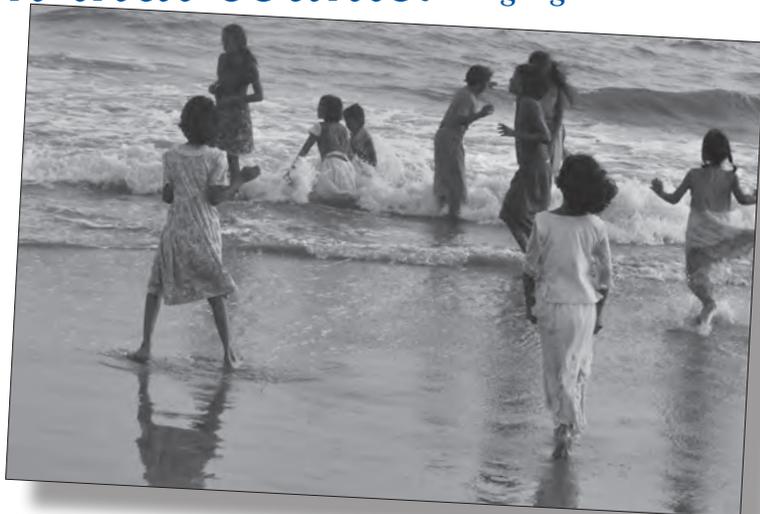
I'd like to share a personal testimony from one of the boys...

My name is Satish Chekka, a very grateful child of Sweet Home, India. I joined this home when I was just eight years of age. I grew up alongside seventy-five brothers and sisters and have been having an enjoyable experience. Our dedicated house parents and our mother, Mrs. Lilly Kaligithi (administrator), have done their best to provide a happy environment. I will never forget the tasty meals that are served. We have a beautiful campus and many times we have visitors coming just to see the beauty of our campus. We have all kinds of fruit trees and we have one kind of fruit or the other to eat throughout the year. I enjoyed the beach trips, bird-watching trips and many recreational tours I have taken over the years. These memories will stay with me forever.

I am especially grateful to ICC and my sponsors for their part in making me what I am today. I have not only received education but was given many opportunities to develop the talents that our Lord has given to me.

*“It’s not where you start –
It’s where you finish that counts.”* Zig Ziglar

I was able to participate in Bible quiz and elocution contests and won many prizes. I am always grateful to my sponsors and with that gratitude I studied well and always got top marks in every subject. I don’t know what my life would have been if it is not for ICC and my sponsors. I am short of words to express my gratitude. My sincere thanks go to my sponsors for their generosity.



The children enjoy a beach trip

I am grateful to Sweet Home for leading me to Christ. It is He who molded my life and I commit myself to His service. Now I am able to share

my faith in many Adventist churches. It’s my desire to become a medical missionary doctor and I trust in the Lord who has been with me all through my life. I have many lasting memories of the wonderful times that we all enjoyed together in Sweet Home.

Though he doesn’t mention it, Satish was the president of his graduating class. In the picture, he’s the tall boy in the middle wearing the dark suit.

Satish and his classmates provide compelling evidence that the time spent by our staff and the money donated by ICC supporters all combine to make a tremendous difference in the lives of ICC children. And even though they’ve finished high school, the really aren’t finished yet as Satish states. He and the others desire to start again by pursuing university or vocational training. These are critical years for them. Now, more than ever, they look to ICC for continued support as they prepare themselves to become independent.

At this time of year, as our attention once again turns to the education of our young people, I want to thank you for all the support you provide to help them start and finish strong.

In His Service,

Kent Greve

P.S. The educational needs of ICC’s kids continue to grow as more of them qualify for advanced education. Also, there are school uniforms to purchase for the primary school children, books and supplies, and of course, teacher’s salaries. For a specific list of needs please visit the following link on our website: www.forhiskids.org/education. On behalf of the children, thank-you for any extra support you can give at this time.