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QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

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New Life For Orphan Children — Thanks To You!

Special report from Guatemala about children whose orphanage is closing

It's hard to imagine what it's like to be orphaned once—let alone have it happen to you twice in your short lifetime. That is a living reality for Sofia, Luis, Luciana and Isabella.

Thanks to support from faithful donors like you, these four children have joined the Los Pinos children's village in Guatemala. They came from one of the local orphanages that is closing.

Your response to the special appeal in December has been terrific! Thank-you so very much for your support of orphan children who needed you in a time of crisis! We want to share some exciting news with you because you are such a faithful supporter of this ministry.

Late last year the Children's Court in Guatemala asked us to take in a number of kids from two orphanages. The government was shutting these facilities.

If we could not help, the only alternative was to place the children in a jail adapted to serve as an orphanage. What a frightening position for these children. Not only had they lost their biological family, they were going to be orphaned all over again!



Luciana, Luis, Sofia and Isabella now have a family and a home thanks to you!

We were compelled to do anything we could, but we realized that we needed your help! While the Los Pinos children's village did have room for some of the children, there simply were not sufficient funds in the budget to match the need.

Your response to this crisis over the past several weeks has been truly amazing! Many of you gave an extra gift. One donor wants to help cover the cost of operating one additional home. That's fantastic!

We are very happy to report that already four children have been taken in from one of the orphanages that was closing. You can see them in the picture on this page.

They are now experiencing a new life in the safe haven of the Los Pinos children's village. What a huge blessing you have been to support these children!

And we are not finished with the mission of mercy that you are enabling us to pursue! As funding allows, we continue taking in more children who are in need.

This is just a beginning. Your support has set us on a course to open another home on the Los Pinos campus. There are other children right now who are in the process of being welcomed into an ICC family, and more will be able to have a home because of your support. You are a blessing!

Orphans Welcomed Home!

Their orphanage was closing. Now—thanks to YOU—they have a new life at Los Pinos!

Sofia and Luis are siblings. Sofia is five years old and Luis is eight. All we know is that they were abandoned by their mother and that they were eventually turned over to the Children's Court. The Children's Court then placed them in the orphanage.

Luciana is five years old and Isabella is seven. While these girls are not siblings, they did arrive at the Los Pinos children's village on the same day. Unfortunately, no other details about their family backgrounds are available.

When they arrived, these children were thin and unhealthy. They desperately needed loving care. And that's what they received! They were given a nourishing meal, a bath and clean clothes and were quickly accepted into the family circle. They have already shown that they like their new families at Los Pinos. They are settling in and have begun participating in family activities.

Thanks to you and your support, these children have been rescued and now are living with a loving family; the ICC family!



Luis and Sophia



Luciana

Isabella

You Can Help FILL or SHIP a Container to HIS KIDS!

Little is more exciting to ICC children than seeing a truck pulling a container full of wonderful treasures onto campus. Currently we are preparing a shipment for Las Palmas, in the Dominican Republic.

You can bless the children in one of two ways. First, by donating needed supplies to the container. Or, you can give a gift to help cover shipping costs. Either choice will benefit the children.

To the right you will find a sample list of needed items. The complete list is on our website at the following link: bit.ly/1KryDns. You can send your choices from the list directly to ICC or make a donation to cover the costs of buying them.

If you prefer, you may send a donation to help cover shipping costs. Remember, every dollar you give will ship as much as \$5 worth of valuable, needed supplies! Thank you for supporting the children!



All of these kids are celebrating the arrival of a shipping container full of supplies. Will you please help send the next container?

- Twin bed sheets—full sets
- Bath towels
- 50—Large, heavy cooking pots
- 10—Large pressure cookers
- 200—place settings of silverware
- 12 clothing irons
- School backpacks
- School notebooks
- Pencils
- Pens

ICC Co-Founder Laid To Rest

A Special Note of Remembrance From Rick Fleck

On December 24, 2015, we all lost a very dear person who was a treasured member of the ICC family. Robert S. Folkenberg, or Bob, as many of us knew him, led a full life and ministered in many ways and in many parts of the world. Most of our readers are familiar with Bob and his inspiring life as a pastor, preacher and church leader. But Bob also played a pivotal role in the history of ICC.



Elder Robert (Bob) Folkenberg 1941–2015

In 1976 a terrible earthquake devastated much of Guatemala City. Thousands died, and many children were left homeless. Elder Bob Folkenberg, president of the Adventist work in Central America at that time, quickly went into action. He was able to get a pledge of funding to start a work for orphaned children in Guatemala, and then he contacted my parents, Kenneth and Alcyon Fleck. They had been missionaries in Central America, so Bob talked with them about starting a special work for orphaned children in Guatemala.

Bob and my parents met several times until he was able to convince them to lead out in this initiative. He helped to develop a new organization, International Children's Care, with a board of

directors. They first met in my parents' home in St. Helens, Oregon, where my dad was pastoring.

Bob's leadership and initiative was key in setting up ICC as a pseudo-church organization. It was not owned or managed by the Adventist Church, but agreements were in place where it would operate independently, yet key employees in the Guatemala Los Pinos project would be considered denominational employees with full retirement benefits. This was a new way of looking at "supporting" institutions, something that Bob continued to develop over the years.



Bob Folkenberg at ICC's Los Pinos Children's Village, Guatemala, circa 1980's

When Bob became president of the Adventist Church, he promoted the concept that everyone should use his/her gifts to work for the Lord. He also encouraged and promoted the growth of "supporting" institutions. That opened doors for ICC to tell about our ministry and find more funds to help children around the world.

Bob loved children and was passionate about helping the helpless. He would take those little children into his arms as he visited the ICC children's villages. He especially liked to talk about how there will someday be a large gathering of children in the kingdom of Heaven where we can be reunited and joyfully live with our Creator forever!

We so look forward to that day when together with Bob we can join hands at our Savior's feet. Bob would often remind us of the words of Jesus: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." *Matt. 25:40 NIV*

Rick Fleck

\$27 Helps Provide Medical Care, Welcome Kit For New Arrivals

When orphans like Luciana arrive at the doorstep of one of our homes, their needs are great and they don't have anything to call their own. They are frightened and insecure and are usually very hungry. They may not have eaten nourishing food for a number of days.

Many are weak and sick and show signs of mistreatment and neglect. They have little or nothing of their own except the clothes on their backs, and those clothes are often better suited for the rag bin.

These children are in desperate need of everything you would give your own child: nourishing food, a bath, clean clothes and bedding, a visit to the doctor, medicine.

Orphan children like Luciana need you especially when they first arrive. Here is something tangible you can do for them.

Your gift of \$27 helps to provide medical care and a welcome kit for a newly arrived orphan. This ensures the child will receive the essential care needed in those first few critical hours.

This may include such things as a trip to the doctor and any needed medicine or treatment. Your gift may also cover the cost of a new outfit, shoes or a warm blanket in which they can snuggle. Your gift to welcome an orphan child will do much to make a child feel safe and secure—maybe for the first time in their life!

Each child will arrive with almost nothing—but with a gift right now, you can provide what a child needs for their first day and night. Make this a turning point in a child's life. Welcoming an orphan child is something that ICC does very well. It's what we do. But it's your partnership that enables us to make it a warm welcome for an orphan during a very traumatic time in his or her life. Thank you for all you do for the children!

P.S. And don't forget—ICC's overhead costs have been covered for 2016. This means that your entire gift will benefit the children!



Your gift of \$27 will help a child like Luciana with medical care, and will welcome her with everything she needs to feel at home!
