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QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

A Publication of International Children's Care
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Thanks to You, Sibling Orphans Able To Stay Together!

For many years, generous ICC family members like you have made it possible for orphan siblings to stay together. This is very important for the children. And whenever children are referred to an ICC children's village, if there are siblings involved, attempts are made to include all the children, so they can continue growing up together.

This year, we've featured several sibling groups that have been rescued together and who have been able to remain together as part of the larger ICC family.

A little while ago, the four siblings you see on this page arrived at the Las Palmas children's village in the Dominican Republic. The children's father was no longer a part of the family, and their mother was very poor. She had no way to work and provide care for her young children at the same



Thanks to support from people like you, we were able to rescue these four siblings from a desperate family situation. These four are now part of the Las Palmas family.

time. The children were going hungry, and eventually the family was kicked out of the place they were staying because they couldn't pay the rent. No family member stepped forward to assist.

Because she had run out of options, the mother contacted the Las Palmas administrator and asked her to take the children. After investigating the situation to verify the need and that Las Palmas could provide for the children, the Las Palmas administrator welcomed the children.

Again, it is because of the faithful support of ICC family members like you that makes it possible for ICC to take in, not just one of the siblings, but all of the siblings.

What a blessing for them — and what an opportunity you have now to continue your support through monthly gifts or sponsorship so that these children's lives will be fully restored.

Thank you for making this ministry for orphans and orphan sibling groups possible!

Thank you for supporting the Summer Rescue Matching Fund!

There's still time for you to DOUBLE the impact of your gift!

Thank you very much for your support of the "Summer Rescue" fund. Many have responded to this challenge. Yet, as you can see in the graphic, over half of the money still needs to be matched before this campaign ends.

Children like the siblings above are counting on the generosity of caring individuals like you to help provide for them. Now is a wonderful time to double your gift in support of the children this summer! Please designate this special donation as "My Rescue Gift." **Thank you!**

60K

30K

Extending The Impact Of Your Support!

Agriculture Project Proving A Blessing at ICC's Children's Village in El Salvador.

— Editor's Note —

As you may recall, last month's *Que Pasa* featured the Jalapeño project at the El Oasis Children's Village in Mexico. To have success in any agriculture or industry project, we've found that four essential things must be in place: 1) Resources, 2) Technical Expertise, 3) Business Expertise, and 4) God's Guidance and Blessings.

This month we want to share how God is blessing the greenhouse industry at the Hogar Escuela Adventista (HEA) Children's Village in El Salvador.

Your support enables ICC to help fund initiatives like the greenhouse industry at HEA. When a project becomes more self-sustaining as a result, it extends the impact of your contributions!



Jesús (left; HEA's administrator), and Merlin (right; providing technical expertise on farming), have joined forces to expand the capacity and yield of the produce-production greenhouses on ICC's HEA campus in El Salvador.



Several attempts have been made over the years to get the best possible yield from twenty greenhouses on the HEA campus. However, because of issues with the construction of the greenhouses, there have been significant challenges in maximizing productivity.

Not long ago, Jesús, our HEA administrator, became acquainted with Merlin who has worked as a foreman on a large farm.

Merlin moved close to the local Adventist school so he could put his girls in that school since the family is Christian.

Merlin has been working with Jesús to develop a business plan to enclose one of the greenhouses

with netting — much like a glove — to grow peppers. They also decided to use an additional greenhouse space to grow cucumbers.

The objective was to pay back the initial investment of \$10,000 in one year. This was ambitious!

The two men set to work on implementing the plan. Two of the greenhouses were enclosed with netting. Modifications were made to other greenhouses as to enlarge their capacity to grow cucumbers.

We're happy to report that this project is expected to meet projections and the initial funding is on track to be repaid on schedule.

Jesús leads out on the business side of the project. He has found a strong market for the produce in the nearby village.

Merlin is using his skills in production. The unique abilities of these two men, along with better utilization of the existing resources, is making a big difference. And most important of all, God is blessing!

Additional investments are being made so Jesús and Merlin can work toward their goal of making all 20 greenhouses productive. This, in turn, will lead to the project being more self-sustaining. What a blessing this will be!

The Importance Of “The Finishing Touch”

— Part 1 —

August! Summer is quickly passing! A new school year is closing in. And with it, we are yet again reminded of the critical role that education plays in restoring the life of an orphan child.

Education helps to prepare an orphan child for a life of independence. This is true for children in every ICC project around the world. But perhaps, it's especially so for ICC Children in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Desire, director of ICC's Patmos Children's Village, recently sent a message regarding the importance of higher education for our ICC children.

We consider this to be “the finishing touch” for them as they near the time of becoming independent. This is especially true for girls.

This month and next month, we'll be sharing excerpts from Desire's message which also includes examples of ICC children who have benefitted from the support that ICC family members like you have given.

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ICC-Congo is happy to express good feelings for the work of God that ICC and its sponsors or partners are doing for God's children here at Patmos Children's Village.

First and foremost, we need to mention that the mission of ICC is broadly successful and a real relief to the children in need in Congo.

From the very beginning of the project, children came to ICC with

critical health issues as they had lost their parents in war, rebellion and many bloody movements organized by rebels wanting to forcibly take power.

We are certain that ICC has saved so many lives of children who might have died. The sponsors' help is the only way through which they all survive.

“Education is a weapon against poverty and domination as well as dependency... The girls' education is the best way to set them free from the yoke of slavery since uneducated women are treated as slaves by their husbands.”

Because ICC-Congo admitted many children of the same age, we are now facing difficulty when they are now attending higher education. The budget has risen, because one cannot expect to have a successful job in Congo if you did not obtain a university education.

Broadly speaking, if you desire to flee joblessness you need to hold a university degree. We have experienced this for many years and realize that children need advanced education so that they are fully armed to fight for their own welfare when they become independent.

Education is a weapon against poverty and domination as well as dependency. Once the children have obtained advanced education, they

will have necessary tools to overcome poverty and live for themselves when they become independent. The assistance provided to them will remain unforgettable in their lives, in heaven and on earth.

The ICC family is united and works purposely having the fear of the Lord. We would simply like to present the case that our girls attend regularly university and change their lives for the best.

We say, “thank you to God” and to “the sponsors” who willingly took the children into care. It is not always easy we know! The girls' education is the best way to set them free from the yoke of slavery since uneducated women are treated as slaves by their husbands.

We are so satisfied that our girls like their studies and their sponsors have decided to help them forge ahead. May God bless them on their behalf.

Many Africans believe that a girl is worth the price of a cow as dowry
— Continued



Thanks to you, Guillaime was able to attend university. This “finishing touch” allowed her to thrive and launch a successful career.

The Importance Of “The Finishing Touch” — continued —

and cannot become self-reliant. Parents are given a cow as dowry, but their daughters live as slaves.

We thank God because the girls living at Patmos village have thoughts which go beyond this state of things.

Guillaine’s Story

Guillaine was 9 years old when we received her in our program. Guillaine’s story begins with the invasion of the Ugandan military into the DR Congo in November 1999.

They set fire to many houses after having looted all the properties. At the time, they killed many with machetes, swords and heavy hammers.

The survivors ran away to settle in the neighboring regions. Among

Guillaine’s relatives, only her old grandmother survived.

Despite all the unfortunate circumstances, God protected Guillaine through the Adventist Church. They brought her to ICC-Congo, and we kindly received her with another 11 orphan children whose fathers and mothers had also died in North Kivu Region.

At school as well as at church, Guillaine liked reciting poems. She can memorize and recite biblical chapters containing 20 to 30 verses.

At secondary school, Guillaine studied Business Administration and did studies in Information Technology at university.

Guillaine finished her studies in 2017. Something wonderful is that she never applied for a job, because the place where she completed her professional training selected her for a job without any entry exam.

Today, Guillaine is working as a cashier and is well paid. She cou-



The university education you helped to provided allows Guillaine to live and work independently. She is free from the life of slavery that would have likely been her fate without an advanced education.

rageously witnesses in the church giving thanks to ICC who helped her through its sponsorship department. The sponsors’ contributions changed her life and made her what she is today—very helpful to the society and the work of the Lord.



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DougC@ForHisKids.org

Guillaine, and many other young people like her have experienced the wonderful blessing of “the finishing touch.”

Yet, there are many more who currently need sponsors who will also stand by and support them during this critical preparatory time of their life.

For more information on how you can help, please contact Alanna in the ICC sponsorship department at 800-422-7729.

Thank you!