



Tres Islas Orphanage Fund

2022 Newsletter

“Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great **LOVE**”

Mother Teresa

My family and I were recently in Mazatlan and I wanted to share one of our wonderful experiences. Since we have been going to Mazatlan for over 20 years, we have watched many of the children become adults!

We took the opportunity to visit and spend the day with a few of these adults that we have grown to **LOVE** over the years.

We spent the day on a catamaran talking with them, enjoying their company on the beautiful Sea of Cortez with the sun warming our skin.

We knew them when they got braces, their graduation from High School, attending college and graduating with a degree, finding a job and moving into their own place.

It brought our family so much joy to see these kids transitioning to adult life.

So much of this is possible because of our donors—TIOF has very caring, **LOVING** and generous donors who have helped these kids transition to adults.

We **LOVE** our donors and are grateful that you are one of them!

If you would like to see more wonderful experiences with these children then follow us on our Facebook page!

You can find us on www.facebook.com and then search for Tres Islas. Or go to our website, Tresislal.org and there is a Facebook icon that will take you to our Facebook page.

Kim Giles, our newest board member has been posting some great happenings with the children and their homes that TIOF supports.

We also want to welcome all of our new donors and supporters that have just started following us! TIOF hopes that you can feel the **LOVE** that is felt from making a difference in the children’s lives.

These children are wonderful little souls with so much potential who just need a little help and to know they are worthy of feeling important to other people! Feeling **LOVED** is a deeply rooted need in all of us.

May you feel the **LOVE** that TIOF and our board has for each of you is our hope!

Michelle

New Board Member



Kim Giles joined our Board in January. Her volunteer work in our homes was highlighted in our newsletter last February. She spends several weeks each year in Mazatlán and volunteers, especially at FloreSer, while she is there. **Welcome Kim!**



FloreSer

Regarding the [groceries](#), we greatly appreciate your help since they are a great support for FloreSer, we don't know how we would make it without your help and tutors.

Thanks to your contribution the girls have [improved considerably in classes](#), Ángela obtained her primary certificate thanks to the support of the math tutor, although it is that subject, he helps with the others too, and the English classes have even helped them to understand a little when we have foreign visitors at home. Not to mention at school, since their [grades in math and English have improved](#). We are grateful everything you do for us. We have 8 girls right now and regarding the covid, we have thanked God that we have not been infected except for the psychologist, but fortunately no girl has gotten sick.

.We also thank Tres Islas for their [support in health concerns](#), since you support us with dental help for some girls... [Thank you so much for helping us care for these amazing girls](#).

Last weekend we had a birthday party for one of the girls and Kim Giles from your board was able to come. The girls love playing games and having a caring visitor come by. Thanks again,

Caty and Francis

Refugio

We still have 26 young men at Refugio Mazatlan, and they are all thankfully doing well. The good news is that after almost 2 full years of online classes [schools are finally re-opening](#). Some boys attend for just 2 or 3 days a week, and others are fully back. It is a big relief to have some normality back in their lives. [Omicron](#) is still pretty prevalent in Mazatlan, [but we have had no serious cases in Refugio](#). Most of the staff got it which was very challenging at the time, but they have all now returned to work. We are especially grateful for the Tres Islas education support now that uniforms are needed again, not to mention all the usual school expenses.

[Current needs](#) include a [commercial extractor fan/hood](#) in the kitchen (it gets extremely hot in there in the summer), and [proper lighting in the patio](#) area so that the boys can enjoy basketball now that the evenings are cool again. We would also be very grateful for any financial help to provide a weekend away for the kids. As always, [we thank Tres Islas for the weekly Soriana shopping trips](#). It is an enormous help.

Best regards
Nicole and Guy

Hogar San Pablo

Hogar San Pablo contacted us with an urgent need for a projector to make homeschool for the boys work better. We were so happy to be able to provide that within a couple days and the kids can finally see what they are learning. It's made things for the teacher so much easier.



Thank you for all the support you give us. This projector is very useful for the learning of the children and adolescents of this Casa Hogar. They take private lessons in this house and they have been advancing according to their diverse situations

Thanks thanks. Hogar San Pablo will continue to be very grateful to all of you. 😊😊😊😊

Orfanatorio Mazatlán

I want to share that three of the girls will be starting college this year. Thank you so much for your help.

Rafaela Cornejo Valdovinos

Directora

Looking Ahead

*We are again [postponing Spring Volunteer Week](#). The money you would use to travel could be donated for repair projects or a large item at a home.

*We plan to continue our [special parties for each home](#). The next one will likely be in March or April. If you want to be involved, contact Michelle.

*[Schools are reopening](#) so we will be purchasing uniforms and school supplies where needed.



Donation Specifically for the Girls

Tres Islas Orphanage Fund received a generous donation in November from Philanthropic Ventures Foundation for the stated purpose of helping the girls in the homes that Tres Islas serves. After much discussion by our board, it was decided to first find a vocational counselor who will inform the teenage girls of the various vocational choices for their future. This is a timely process and we look forward to taking the first steps toward aiding the girls in planning for their futures.



TidBITS

- *The 2021 Tres Islas expense report is on our website.
- *Check our Facebook page for more pictures and news of activities at our homes.
- *We continue to receive money from Amazon Smile. If you shop Amazon, check out shopping at Smile. Amazon and designate Tres Islas to receive donations.
- *All the homes have been very vigilant in their response to protection from COVID. There have been no reports of serious illness.

Well Done!!



Our homes continue to be blessed by independent donors who spend several weeks to months in Mazatlán. They bring gifts and necessities and provide services to the homes. They are appreciated!

P Jay Peterson, one of our Tres Islas Orphanage Fund donors, has brought to our attention two young ladies who have been making a difference at Orfanatorio Mazatlán.

Heather is teaching several girls sewing using machines that she provides. They are making aprons, hot pads, purses, and microwave bowl cozies. The finished items are sold at a weekly market with 1/3 used to buy fabric and supplies, 1/3 is given to Orfanatorio Mazatlán, and 1/3 is given to the seamstresses. We thank Heather very much for using her expertise to help these girls.



Another young lady, **Pamela**, who makes jewelry, brought some of her items to Mazatlán. Her mother, **Maria**, has staffed the sale's table and sold Pamela's jewelry. **Heather**, a friend of Maria's, suggested that Pamela donate half of the proceeds, **\$270**, from the jewelry sales to Orfanatorio Mazatlán. These funds were used to purchase needed supplies. [Thank you Pamela and Maria for your generosity.](#)



A joint effort was made by two women to take stuffed animals and other needed items to Salvation Army Children's Home and Ciudad de los Niños for Christmas. Lindsey Mair collected stuffed animals and needed items from her Instagram friends. Marie Loveless and her family took these items to Mazatlán and distributed to the homes in time for Christmas.