

Tres Islas Orphanage Fund

3717 Monroe Avenue

Cheyenne, WY 82001

Now in our 25th year serving the children in Mazatlan's orphanages!

Please visit the Fund's website at: www.orphanagefunds.org

Email the Fund at: email@orphanagefunds.org

U.S. Phone Number:

Tres Islas Main Number (Donelle & Tom Manton) 1-888-459-TIOF (8463)

Mazatlan Telephone Number:

(When dialing from outside Mexico, first dial 01152669)

Gaudelia "Fella" Cruz Hernandez 982-25-80

Annual Report 2011

With their expressions of appreciation to all of you. . .



Nalleli

Ciudad de los Ninos



Gloria

Ciudad de los Ninos

To the friends of the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund,

I first want to thank each of you for all the support you have given me in every way and for believing in me all these years. I promise not to disappoint you.

Because of your help, I am attending UAS university here in Mazatlan. I want to be a teacher because I feel being a teacher is the best thing I can do. I enjoy every moment of school. When I finish at the university each day, I come home to the orphanage and eat and then go to English classes with Professor Gabino Covarrubias. He personally teaches me, Gloria and Aida.

After I finish my studies at the university, I would like to work here in Mazatlan. I want to teach English or Spanish. I really want to be a teacher and I study and study every day.

Thank you for helping all of us. We are all very happy!

See you soon, with love, Nalleli

Hola Tres Islas Amigos,

I hope you are fine. I am writing with great appreciation for you because of all of your help for me and the others here at Ciudad. Thank you for always coming to Ciudad and for helping us with our food and school needs and house needs. You are always here for us and we are doing well, because of you.

I am studying English. I passed my first book test with 7.86, my second with 8.4 and my third exam with 9! (Ten is perfect). I think I'm doing better!

Thank you for helping us, always, Gloria

"Sometimes in life, you find a special friend. Someone who changes your life just by being a part of it. Someone who makes you laugh until you can't stop. Someone who makes you believe that there really is good in the world. Someone who convinces you that there really is an unlocked door just waiting for you to open it. This is forever friendship. When you're down and the world seems dark and empty, your forever friend lifts you up in spirit and makes that dark and empty world suddenly seem bright and full. Your forever friend gets you through the hard times, the sad times and the confused times. If you turn and walk away, your forever friend follows. If you lose your way, your forever friend guides you and cheers you on. Your forever friend holds your hand and tells you that everything is going to be okay. And if you find such a friend, you feel happy and complete because you need not worry: You have a forever friend. . .and *forever* has no end. . ."

- Author Unknown

November 15, 2011

Dear Tres Islas Orphanage Fund Donors, Friends of the Children,

As we gratefully prepare this annual report for you, thanks to your generous and loyal support of Mazatlan's children who reside in the orphanages, the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund has reached **two significant milestones this year!**

First, **the Fund is now in its 25th year serving five orphanages with 114 wonderful youngsters!**

As you read the two letters on the previous page from Nalleli and Gloria, who reside at Ciudad de los Ninos, there was a common theme in each - in that they think of you and call you their friends. It's that way for the youngsters in all the orphanages. They consider all of you as their friends.

The last 24 years, Tres Islas Orphanage Fund donors have realized many blessings. The blessing of helping children, the blessing of making a positive difference in children's lives, watching them grow into fine young adults capable of taking care of themselves and becoming good, contributing members of society.

The children's stability comes from living in quality homes - the orphanages - that are safe inside, filled with love and possibilities - thanks to the combination of their dedicated caregivers and you, who provide their essential needs each and every day. As an added blessing, the youngsters consider their caregivers and you as their friends and "family" on whom they can count.

During the Fund's Spring Mission Week, one of the youngsters we visited with was Juan, who resides at the Salvation Army Children's Home. Now 17, Juan has lived there the better part of his life.

Juan came from terrible, sad and abusive beginnings. The children's home is the only real home - and quality home atmosphere - Juan has ever known. Here he and the other youngsters have experienced the blessings of the Lord; proper love, respect, kindness, nourishing food, educations, goal-setting and opportunities.

Juan has always volunteered to help, stepped forward to participate whenever Tres Islas donors have visited the children's home and sought-out interaction with donors.

When we asked Juan what he would like to do with his life, though, what profession he'd like to pursue? - he looked at us with puzzlement. Then he said, "I've never thought about it. I didn't know I didn't know I would have choices. I'll tell you what I know, I know today."

When we shared that over the years we've watched him grow into a fine young man, always ready to help, participate and quick to smile, and we recognize what a good person he is, he blushed with pride.

We shared with Juan that he and all the youngsters have possibilities and, if he needed permission to think about his future and what he would like to become professionally, we were giving him that permission.

Captain David Sanchez, one of the children's home directors, who participated in the conversation, quickly added that Juan is a good boy and good student who just needs to be given "a chance." David asked Juan if over the next several months, he'd like to think about what he'd like to become? - and - his Tres Islas family of friends would help him achieve his goals. Juan blushed again - and the grandiose smile he frequently flashes - lit up his face.

"Yes, yes I would!" he answered, nodding his head with obvious anticipation!

We'll keep you posted on Juan's thoughts and progression. We're grateful Juan and the other youngsters have options, possibilities, futures to dream about and the opportunity to set and achieve goals - thanks to each of you and your support.

And now for the second milestone that we're incredibly blest, eager and proud to share with you. . .

When the fund began in 1987, we were much like Juan before our conversation with him. We never gave thought to the possibility of 25 years down the road or a monetary number the Fund might one day achieve in providing for the children. When it came to the children's needs - food, education, medicine and orphanage needs such as replacing a non-functioning stove or refrigerator or the possibility purchasing a new washing machine, we only knew "today" and on each and every day, we were given the blessing of helping the children. We were in survival mode - but we didn't know that - because we were given that blessing of helping the children and that was enough to be thankful for, to think about and to concentrate on.

At first, it was, "Wow! We (everyone who donated) provided the children their food for an entire week!"

And then it was, "Wow! (Again ☺) Tres Islas donors provided the children their food for a whole month!"

Then as six months approached, we felt the biggest joy of being able to help the children for half a year!

We never looked ahead nor back. We all just knew that we needed to concentrate on each and every day. And that was good enough - and enough for which to be grateful.

Pretty soon more children and more orphanages came to the Fund. Fine folks like Lena Brown, now a Tres Islas Facilitator, shared the good news that another orphanage needed help. And so, the Fund grew, with more children, more orphanages and more donors. Thank God for you donors!

On-and-on, "poco-a-poco" (little-by-little) as they say in Mexico, word of the opportunity to help the children spread to each and all of you. Thanks to your loyal donations, Tres Islas progressed in helping the children - first in one orphanage, Orfanatorio Mazatlan; then another, The Salvation Army Children's Home; then the next, Fr. Tovar's Home for Boys Hogar San Pablo; then came Ciudad de los Ninos; and just two years ago, FloreSer.

From the inception of the Fund 24 years ago in 1987, through the close of our 2011 annual reporting period on September 30, 2011, Tres Islas Orphanage Fund's total purchases these past 24 years for food, school supplies, shoes, uniforms, backpacks, education, medical needs, appliances, health, safety and welfare improvements for the children in Mazatlan's orphanages reached

\$527,137.00! (Last year: \$420,324.00). **Thank you, Tres Islas donors for your loyal, continued support in helping the children!**

As the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund begins its 25th year helping the children, **we thank God and each of you for these monumental milestones** that we **all** have accomplished **together!** We **gratefully and humbly ask please, for your continued support of these youngsters.**

The Fund could not do all it does for the children if it weren't for you.

From October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011 (the Fund's 12-month annual reporting period), the Fund provided \$106,813.10 for the benefit of the children; primarily for their food, educational and medical needs and necessary orphanage repairs – compared with \$87,826.12 the previous year.

Here is what you did for the children in Mazatlan's orphanages this past year. . .

Introduction

All amounts listed in Tres Islas annual reports are in U.S. dollars. Everything purchased in Mexico is purchased with pesos. The Fund is also blest to have Canadian donors who make their donations in Canadian dollars, so we want to clarify which monetary denomination we use as we report expenditures to you.

The Fund was again blest this year to receive donations specifically dedicated to provide educational classes and purchase school supplies for the children. This permitted the Fund to purchase required updated school books, new school uniforms, shoes and educational supplies for all the children. The children, orphanage caregivers and we are so grateful for this!

Thank you!

The caregivers are always respectful of donors' contributions – uniforms and shoes are used until they can no longer be worn. When possible, school books are shared and passed down from one year to the next by the previous year's students.

Frequently, though, school books for each subject studied also serve as the work book, so homework assignments are written in the books. For this reason, it's often necessary for us to purchase new books each year (which don't have the answers written in them from the previous year).

Orphanages Served

The Tres Islas Orphanage Fund is blest to serve five orphanages in Mazatlan full-time:

1. **Orfanatorio Mazatlan, 20 children;** (the first orphanage the Fund began helping in 1987)
Avenida Zaragoza 227-A, El Centro
Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico C.P. 82000
Telephone: (When dialing outside Mexico): 011-52-669-981-2214
Telephone: (When dialing in or around Mazatlan) 981-2214
President: Cristina Pena de Herrera (whose grandmother was a board president and great-grandmother was once treasurer)
2. **Ejercito de Salvacion Hogar de Ninos (Salvation Army Children's Home), 30 youngsters;**
(Served part-time by the Fund beginning in 1998 and full-time since 2003)
Angel Flores S/N Antiguo Camino a la Culebra, El Venadillo
Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico C.P. 82129
Telephone: (When dialing outside Mexico): 011-52-669-980-7609
Telephone: (When dialing from in or around Mazatlan) 980-7609

Directors: Captains David and Marianela Sanchez

3. **Father Tovar's Home for Boys Hogar San Pablo, 26 youngsters;**
(Served part-time by the Fund beginning in 2003 and full-time since 2005)
Paseo del Centenario S/N, Apartado Postal 1233
Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico
Phone/fax: (When dialing outside Mexico) 011-52-669-982-3720 or 011-52-669-981-6121;
Telephone/fax: (When dialing in or around Mazatlan) 982-3720 or 981-6121
Executive Director: Padre Horacio Rabelo

4. **Ciudad de los Ninos, 24 youngsters;**
(Served full-time by the Fund since 2006)
Carretera Internacional Norte KM.1207 Apartado Postal 629
Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico
Telephone: (When dialing outside Mexico) 011-52-669-980-6026
Telephone: (When dialing in or around Mazatlan) 980-6026
Directora: Madre Velia Morales Moreno

5. **FloreSer, 14 youngsters;**
(Served full-time by the Fund since 2009)
Rio Quelite 812, Col. Palos Prietos
Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico
Telephone: (When dialing outside Mexico): 011-52-669-176-9521
Telephone: (When dialing in or around Mazatlan) 176-9521
Directora: Gabriela Perez Jimenez; Founder and Vice President: Cristina Pena Miranda

The lists providing the names and ages of the children in each orphanage the Fund serves are attached to this report for you, along with thank you cards from the youngsters and thank you letters from the directors of each orphanage for all the help you gave them this past year.

The number of children in each orphanage fluctuates throughout the year depending on new arrivals or when youngsters leave the orphanages. As of this annual report, there are 114 youngsters in the five orphanages the Fund now serves. Three more are expected in the near future at Fr. Tovar's Home for Boys. Last year at this time there were 105 children in the five orphanages.

On the orphanage lists of children, are names of some who live at the orphanages and are past the age of 21, the typical age when most have graduated from college or trade school and have left the orphanage to begin life on their own. Here are four explanations - examples - of why:

- In the case of Elizabeth "Elle," who resides at Orfanatorio Mazatlan, and who is older than the other children, she cannot hear nor speak. Elle has called Orfanatorio Mazatlan home the majority of her life. Most likely, Elle will never leave. Loved, appreciated and wanted, Elizabeth is included in every activity; she's happy and safe. Three years ago, Elle began working part-time bagging groceries at a local mercado and then went on to work at the local aquarium - accomplishments for which she and all of us are proud! At home at the orphanage, Elle takes care of the younger children, enjoys cleaning and helping the caregivers.

- It's the same situation for Jesus "Grande" at Ciudad de los Ninos. As a baby, he had a brain tumor that left him permanently brain-damaged. Unable to clearly speak, Jesus communicates

via a whispering voice, his kind smiles and signing. He, too, is very much loved and included in all Ciudad activities and Ciudad will always be his home. Jesus Grande enjoys keeping the orphanage grounds well-groomed. Gardening is his contribution to his home, the orphanage.

- At Fr. Tovar's Home for Boys, Hogar San Pablo, there is Saul, who is also past the age of 18. Saul has an acute case of cerebral palsy and frequently suffers from epilepsy. Saul has nowhere else to live. Saul is blest Fr. Tovar found him at a young age and provided him a loving home.

Four years ago Saul wanted to study computer classes and thanks to specified Tres Islas donations that enabled him to do so, Saul not only studied computers – he aced every class! Psychologically, this did wonders for him. It provided him with a sense of accomplishment, a host of new friends and made him more outgoing and confident.

Please pray for Saul as earlier this summer, he had a seizure that caused him to fall to the floor and hit his head. He is still the same wonderful young man, always greeting people with a smile and kind word, but has lost weight and is weaker. He now uses a walker to get around and doesn't often leave his room or go very far.

Saul's life, his determination and sweet spirit has always encouraged and humbled all of us. We all want to make his life as easy and to continue to be meaningful to him. Thank you for keeping Saul in your prayers.

Purchases

As we wrote earlier in this report, the **money expended this for the care of the children** in the orphanages (food, school supplies, school shoes, uniforms, backpacks, English/tech school classes, medical and orphanage repairs) this year **totaled \$106,813.10**. Last year, total money allocated to support all five orphanages totaled \$87,826.12.

The itemization of the benefits from your contributions is presented below with a summary spreadsheet enclosed showing expenditures for this year, last year and projections for next year.

Food

In the spring of 2008, the Fund began increasing weekly food purchases for the orphanages from \$130.00 to \$150.00 per week due to the rising cost of food – with the exception of Fr. Tovar's Home for Boys which had fewer youngsters than the other orphanages at that time. In March that year, girls began arriving at FloreSer, the newest orphanage the Fund serves. Because there are 14 girls (mostly teenagers) at this orphanage, the Fund currently purchases \$120.00 worth of food each week for them.

In the spring of 2010, orphanage caregivers from Orfanatorio Mazatlan, Ciudad de los Ninos, the Salvation Army Children's Home and FloreSer asked if the Fund would please increase the amount of fruits and vegetables purchased for them. While a majority of the food the Fund purchases for each orphanage is already comprised of fruit and vegetables, the youngsters were asking for more and due to rising food prices, the amount of the food purchases decreased. The caregivers and we felt the request to increase the amount fruit and vegetables the children received each day was justified.

Madre Velia, from Ciudad de los Ninos, made the "trial run" on the requested weekly purchases. She selected and bought the quantity and type of fruit and vegetables necessary to

provide each child with a balanced weekly allowance. The increased weekly cost of fruit for Orfanatorio Mazatlan, the Salvation Army Children's Home and Ciudad came to \$50.00 each. For FloreSer, based on their need and request, the Fund increased their weekly purchases from \$100.00 to \$120.00 to include the additional fruit and vegetables. The patronatos (board of directors) of Hogar San Pablo are currently able to purchase the boys' fruit and vegetables.

So, the Fund is now purchasing \$150.00 worth of food each week for Orfanatorio Mazatlan, Salvation Army Children's Home and Ciudad de los Ninos plus an additional \$50.00 each week for additional fruit and vegetables for each of these orphanages. So, the total for each of these orphanages groceries each week totals \$200.00

The Fund currently purchases \$118.00 worth of food each week for FloreSer and \$20.00 additional fruit and vegetables.

At Fr. Tovar's this past year, the Fund purchased \$105.00 worth of food each week and no additional fruit or vegetables because the patronatos (board of directors) purchase these. At the end of September, Padre Horacio let us know the number of boys increased from 14 last year to 28 - with two more expected in the near future. They asked if they could have the amount of groceries increase each week to \$150.00 and we of course, said yes - to be equitable, based on what we provide the others.

As the number of youngsters increase or sometimes decrease, this determines the amount expended each week for food.

We greatly need assistance, please, in supporting the additional purchase of weekly fruit and vegetables.

The name of the area to which you may designate your donations is "Gloria's Kitchen." This Tres Islas Fund is named in honor of the late Gloria Geraths who, for a number of years, was instrumental in helping the children through Tres Islas. Gloria frequently prepared homemade meals for the children. Please read more about the positive impact Gloria's life had on the children and how you may carry-on her goal of providing the children nourishing food each week in the latter section titled, "Passages."

The orphanage caregivers are very mindful and respectful of the amount of money they spend each week and the type and quality of food they purchase for their youngsters. They only ask for additional food when it's absolutely necessary.

The total food purchases for each orphanage are as follows (Christmas dinners are itemized separately in their own category):

Orfanatorio Mazatlan: \$10,655.43 (Last year: \$9,379.87).

Salvation Army Children's Home: \$10,530.15 (Last year: \$8,551.69).

Father Tovar's Home for Boys Hogar San Pablo: \$5,938.64 (Last year: \$7,735.70).

Ciudad de Los Ninos: \$11,094.80 (Last year: \$9,421.27).

FloreSer: \$6,157.58 (Last year: \$4,586.65).

Total food purchased for all five orphanages this year: \$44,376.61 (Last year: \$39,675.19).

This year's food purchases represent 58.93% of the Fund's expenditures, excluding construction costs. (Last year's food purchases represented 65.56% of the Fund's expenditures, excluding construction costs).

Christmas Dinners ("The Christopher Fund") 2010

We itemize the orphanages' Christmas dinners separately for you because they are a special event where specified donations are received for this occasion in addition to weekly grocery purchases. This way, you'll know exactly how your donations have been spent.

Based on the number of children in each orphanage, we allow up to \$250.00 per orphanage for Christmas dinners and the entire celebration.

Orfanatorio Mazatlan: \$281.80 (Last year: \$247.05)

Salvation Army Children's Home: \$244.10 (Last year: \$247.05).

Father Tovar's Home for Boys Hogar San Pablo: \$115.87 (Last year: \$247.05).

Ciudad de los Ninos: \$288.27 (Last year: \$246.50).

FloreSer: \$116.51 (Last year: \$98.07).

Christmas Trees

Because we strive to be monetarily prudent with each and every purchase as possible, due to the price increase for fresh-cut Christmas trees, beginning in 2008 we began purchasing quality artificial trees for each orphanage. The artificial trees are also less of a fire hazard - which made additional good sense in their purchase. We completed purchasing artificial Christmas trees for the orphanages in December 2009.

In this year's accounting spreadsheet summary, the former Christmas tree purchase column has been replaced with "Special Occasions" for donor-specified purchases not covered in other categories.

Special Occasions

Sometimes when donors take a Tres Islas tour of the orphanages or when reading our annual reports or emails, donors learn about areas of needs that touch their hearts so much, they are immediately able to step-forward and meet the need.

Other times, as was the case for donor Charlotte from Virginia, who was so impressed with the thank you Christmas card she received last year from then 10-year old Heidi at Orfanatorio Mazatlan, Charlotte wanted to do something special for Heidi - yet be respectful and inclusive of all the children.

So, Charlotte offered to sponsor Heidi's birthday party - which would include all of the children's birthdays that month (April) - and to purchase Heidi - and all the children at Orfanatorio Mazatlan - their much-needed summer sandals. Thank you, Charlotte!

Tres Islas facilitator Gaudelia "Fella" Cruz Hernandez purchased the birthday cake, ice cream and sandal on behalf of Charlotte.

As another example, donor Julie, from Minnesota, noticed on her visit at Ciudad de los Ninos, that the caregiver nuns needed new shoes.

Julie earmarked one of her donations to specifically purchase the caregiver nuns' shoes.

As an added bonus, Julie accompanied the caregiver nuns and Fella to make the purchases and enjoyed a special one-on-one time with them.

And so, Tres Islas' "Special Occasions and Gifts" category itemizes these areas so you may know about all purchases made for each of the orphanages.

Orfanatorio Mazatlan: \$1,253.28.

- Christmas presents including necessary undergarments: \$959.05.
- Summer sandals: \$294.23.

Salvation Army Children's Home: None.

- Christmas presents individually sponsored/coordinated by Mike Veselik, owner and publisher of Mazatlan's *Pacific Pearl* newsmagazine and Yoopers Sports Bar & Grill and Tres Islas Facilitators Janet and Bob Schmitt.

Father Tovar's Home for Boys Hogar San Pablo: \$498.24.

- Nuns blouses and undergarments: \$236.54
- Five soccer balls: \$61.70
- Twelve soccer uniforms: \$200.00
- Christmas presents individually coordinated by Tres Islas facilitator Lena Brown through Mazatlan residents and visitors to Mazatlan.

Ciudad de los Ninos: \$461.55.

- Christmas presents including pajamas: \$119.69.
- Tee-shirts: \$80.29.
- Shoes for caregiver nuns: \$79.14.
- Graduation dress clothes, shoes for Jesus Alberto's (valedictorian of his high school graduating class): \$182.43.

FloreSer: \$443.21.

- Christmas presents, including necessary pajamas, undergarments: \$320.21.
- Pajamas mid-year: \$123.00.

If you'd like to sponsor any area of need you may know about or have an idea – aka “heart for” – such as Christmas presents, birthday celebrations, please contact us and we'll gladly make it happen!

April 2011 Beach Barbecue Fiesta for All Orphanages

Food purchased: \$663.28 (114 children) (hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, chips, buns, cakes, ice cream) (Donor-specified).

Previous year: \$481.65 (105 children) (Donor-specified).

Education Funds

Tres Islas has two funds related to education. One, the “Education School Supply Fund” purchases all school supplies (school books, English books, paper, notebooks, pens, pencils, etc.), school shoes, school uniforms and backpacks to carry the children's books and supplies.

The second, the “Education Classes Fund,” provides classes for the children – such as English, computer and tech/trade classes in addition to their daily school subjects as well as paying for class registrations and tuitions, when required. (Not all schools and programs require registration or tuition fees.)

We need and encourage your donations, please, to each of these funds. It is one of Tres Islas' major goals that upon each youngster graduating from high school, he or she will attend college or

will receive English lessons, computer classes and/or tech/trade school classes for them to be able to enter the workforce - and one day be self-sufficient, capable of taking care of themselves and becoming good, contributing members of society.

This year, the Fund was grateful to again receive donations specified for the Education School Supply Fund and Education Classes Fund. This enables us to purchase the much-needed new uniforms, shoes, backpacks and school supplies without having sparingly-delegate what may be expended for this important area in the children's lives.

We are most-appreciative to have received these donations that permitted every child to start the school year with the supplies they needed and to be able to take required classes and elective classes, as permitted, where they have special interests.

In 2009, the Fund began purchasing all school shoes, uniforms and backpacks for Fr. Tovar's Home for Boys. Previously Friends of Mexico purchased these items but they are no longer able to do so. Now, more than ever, the donations for education supplies and education classes are vital to providing the youngsters the best-possible education.

With the addition of FloreSer Orphanage in 2009, we learned that when most girls arrive at this orphanage they haven't received much of a school education - if any. It's important to place them in the type of specialized school that provides one-on-one instruction, and allows them, for the first time in their lives, to receive the education they deserve and one where they have the opportunity learn at a pace that permits them to absorb what they are being taught. Because of this, and thanks again to the timely, specified donations that arrived, the Fund was able to enroll them in these schools - Instituto Cultural de Occidente, AC and ICS. Thank you so much for the support of this vital area!

School Supplies

If new school items aren't needed at the beginning of a school year due to their being in good enough condition from the previous year to reuse, or, if there are enough school supplies on hand, the orphanage caregivers don't request them and the Fund doesn't purchase them. School item needs are assessed a second time - mid-year - and only purchased if needed. The orphanage directors and the Fund are prudent with all purchases. This also teaches the children fiscal responsibility - an important life lesson. Orphanages do not stock pile items but honestly request them as they become necessary. This is one reason we have such a wonderful working relationship with each of the orphanages: because they make all purchases, including food, only as needed. We are blest are to work with individuals who possess such high-integrity!

School Supplies, Shoes, Uniforms Backpacks and Education Classes

Orfanatorio Mazatlan

School supplies: \$1,627.53- plus \$64.42 for school registration (Last year: \$2,202.83 - incl. \$1,650.00 for school books).

School shoes: \$400.53 (Last year: \$1,135.84).

School uniforms: \$669.06 (Last year: \$860.93).

Backpacks: \$235.16 (Last year: \$234.67).

Education classes: \$64.74 (Last year: none).

Total purchases this year for Orfanatorio Mazatlan for school supplies, shoes, uniforms and backpacks: \$2,997.02 (Last year: \$4,434.27).

Salvation Army Children's Home

School supplies: \$510.97 (Last year: \$482.22).

School shoes: \$639.54 (Last year: \$601.23).

School uniforms: \$709.45 (Last year: \$548.59).

Backpacks: \$206.47 (Last year: \$239.79).

Education classes: \$708.01 (Last year: \$1,190.68).

Total purchases this year for the Salvation Army Children's Home for school supplies, shoes, uniforms, backpacks and education classes: \$2,774.45 (Last year: \$3,062.51).

Father Tovar's Home for Boys Hogar San Pablo

School supplies: \$708.13 (Last year: \$442.72).

School shoes: \$1,279.42 – incl. \$587.25 for tennis shoes (Last year: \$285.53).

School uniforms: \$793.65 (Last year: \$843.60).

Backpacks: \$187.22 (Last year: \$243.64).

Education classes – tutoring, tuition and registration: \$2,854.21 (Last year: \$276.93).

Total purchases this year for Father Tovar's Home for Boys Hogar San Pablo for school supplies, school shoes, uniforms, backpacks and education classes: \$5,822.63 (Last year: \$2,092.42).

Ciudad de los Ninos

School supplies: \$918.39 – incl. school books (Last year: \$509.85).

School shoes: \$1,304.95 (Last Year: \$522.51).

School uniforms: \$1,109.72 (Last year: \$1,232.62).

Backpacks: \$207.96 (Last year: \$235.78).

Education classes – tuition and registration: \$936.17 (Last year: \$103.73).

Total purchases this year for Ciudad de los Ninos for school supplies, uniforms, backpacks and education classes: \$4,477.19 (Last year: \$2,604.49).

Flore Ser

School supplies: \$970.71 – incl. school books and tuition (Last year: \$503.81).

School shoes: \$183.36 (Last year: \$148.83).

School uniforms: \$623.46 (Last year: \$394.64).

Backpacks: \$222.66 (Last year: \$98.91).

Education classes: \$262.69 (Last year: \$735.66).

Total purchases this year for FloreSer for school supplies, uniforms, backpacks and education classes: \$2,262.88 (Last year: \$1,881.85).

Total school supplies, uniforms and backpacks purchased for all orphanages: \$9,700.54 (Last year: \$9,074.60).

Total school supplies, uniforms and backpacks purchased represent 12.88% of the Fund's expenditures, not including construction (Last year: 19.86%).

Total school shoes purchased for all orphanages: \$3,807.80. (Last year: \$2,693.94).

School shoes purchased represent 5.06% of the Fund's expenditures, not including construction (Last year: 3.95%).

Total education classes purchased for all orphanages: \$4,825.82 (Last year: \$2,307.00). Education classes represent 6.41% of the Fund's expenditures, not including construction (Last year: 2.99%).

School supplies represent 6.29% of the Fund's expenditures (Last year: 8.83%).
School shoes represent 5.06% of the Fund's expenditures (Last year: 3.95%).
School uniforms represent 5.19% of the Fund's expenditures (Last year: 9.40%).
School backpacks represent 1.41% of the Fund's expenditures (Last year: 1.62%).
Education classes (Tech/English classes/tuition/registration) represent 6.41% of the Fund's expenditures (Last year: 2.99%).

This year, all school related items (school supplies, shoes, uniforms, backpacks and education classes represent 24.35% of the Fund's expenditures (Last year: 26.80%).

Christmas 2010

Christmas dinners are made possible for the children in each of the orphanages thanks to the establishment of and donations to "The Christopher Fund." Named in honor of Christopher Jemio, a kind-hearted young man from Pennsylvania who volunteered at Ciudad de los Ninos, Christopher died of a brain aneurysm on Christmas day, 2005. Not long after, Christopher's mother donated \$250.00 in Christopher's honor to provide Christmas dinner for the children at Ciudad. It was only natural to honor this sweet young man who had a heart for children in orphanages, by creating a fund so all children in the orphanages would always have a bountiful Christmas dinner. Christopher's good mother, Teresa Jemio, kindly heads the Christopher Fund. If you'd like to honor the life of a very special young man who enjoyed helping the children in orphanages and provide these children a traditional Christmas dinner, please remember the Christopher Fund when making your Tres Islas donations.

Christmas 2010 was again a meaningful time for the children. In addition to enjoying a delicious, traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, the children received exceptionally nice gifts from Tres Islas donors. From new shoes, sweaters, pajamas, undergarments - and of course some toys! - each child felt loved and appreciated during this most-special of seasons.

For those of us who've had the pleasure of being at the orphanages at Christmas, seeing and hearing the children's excitement as they receive nice presents is so heart-warming.

We thank each of you who help support these children in the many exceptional ways that you do each day, each month and throughout the year. To go beyond that and provide the children a nice time at Christmas is greatly appreciated.

If you would like to help purchase Christmas gifts for the children, we would appreciate your support; please contact us. If you'd like to help purchase Christmas dinners, please designate your Tres Islas donations to the Christopher Fund.

To show how meaningful your Christmas support is, imagine being a child returning to school the day after the Christmas season has ended and being asked, "What did you eat for Christmas dinner?" And responding, "Nothing."

Or, being asked, "What did you get for Christmas?"

And again, having to answer, "Nothing; I didn't get anything."

The children in the orphanages aren't unlike other children in their yearning for love and kindness and to feel important and loved.

To have them be able to answer that they ate the best turkey of their life and they received a new outfit, or shoes and a doll - or sheets and pillowcases selected just for them - and they had the best Christmas ever - really does positive things for their psyche.

This past Christmas, Canadian and U.S. donors provided gifts from new shoes to requested gifts for the children.

The children carefully – with emphasis on the word *carefully* – open their gifts, not ripping the paper; instead gently removing it and then after they’ve opened their gifts, they either place their gifts back in the wrapping paper and re-wrap the gift to take it to their bedrooms or they carefully fold the wrapping paper to be used a second time. All of this without being told! For the children, the anticipation of receiving and opening a gift is held in high regard and a moment to truly enjoy – a precious site to watch and appreciate.

Thank you for making magical Christmas moments happen.

Construction Fund

Many construction improvements take place as part of – or in conjunction with – the Fund’s annual Spring Mission Week, which traditionally begins the first Friday after Easter. We invite everyone to join next year’s trip (Friday, April 13th – Saturday April 21st) and all the fun!

Other construction improvements are made as needed. For example, this year, the stoves at Orfanatorio Mazatlan and Ciudad de los Ninos both needed to be replaced. The stove at Ciudad de los Ninos, approximately 40 years old, had completely ceased to operate. In addition to the stove at Orfanatorio Mazatlan “popping like a mini-explosion” when the stove was ignited, it was quite small compared to the demands required of it – feeding 21 girls three times each day, was about 20 years old and had no oven.

The Salvation Army Children’s Home has a smaller stove (with an oven) in good working condition. We had the small stove from Orfanatorio Mazatlan taken to Nieto Pacifico – the store in Mazatlan where commercial-grade, stainless steel appliances and utensils are sold and where we purchased the new stoves – to be totally refurbished, almost brand new. We added it to the existing, smaller stove at the Salvation Army Children’s Home to make one big stove – large enough to now adequately take care of the needs of the 30 children who reside there.

So, we truly do our best to steward every donation and item to its maximum.

Several projects are earmarked, “donor-specified” – meaning, donors have made donations specifically to cover the cost of the improvement itemized.

Construction fund projects are detailed below under the orphanage where they were completed.

The individual itemizations are for actual purchases and repairs – because we want to accurately show you the actual cost of each item. The amounts don’t include the bank transaction fees automatically added on; thus, the difference between the total of the itemized amounts and the grand total for each orphanage.

Orfanatorio Mazatlan

Orphanage improvements this year, including the purchase of appliances, totaled \$5,227.76 – including the bank fee automatically added for each transaction (Last year: \$7,144.28).

- \$465.19 – Twelve ceiling fans – purchased to replace non-working fans
- \$33.07 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$150.05 – New toilet and parts – purchased to replace non-working toilet
- \$10.23 – Construction paper for children to make thank you Christmas cards
- \$32.99 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$8.04 – Name tags for the children to make/wear during donor visits
- 182.22 – Bath towels

- 133.26 – Dishes, glasses for dining room – have not been replaced in over 25 years
- \$51.88 – Pressure cooker – to replace worn-out/non-functioning one
- \$512.87 – Restock receiving room supplies (Donor-specified)
- \$1,237.00 – Picture frames to display the children’s school artwork, plastic shower totes for the children to carry their bathroom supplies in, table cloth and curtains for the dining room (where the children eat), installation of the ceiling fans, fabrication and installation of window screens for girls’ dormitory, bathroom wall repairs (adobe was crumbling down) and paint for the donors to paint the bathroom walls after the repairs and dining room walls during Spring Mission Week 2011
- \$2,253.98 – New and larger commercial-grade kitchen stove to replace non-working, smaller stove
- \$117.05 – Removal of former stove and installation of new stove

Salvation Army Children’s Home

Orphanage improvements this year, including the purchase of appliances, totaled \$8,205.08 (Last year: \$2,340.50).

- \$33.07 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$10.23 – Construction paper for children to make thank you Christmas cards
- \$32.99 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$1,055.35 – Classroom and office tables and chairs
- \$581.93 – Classroom, office and laundry room paint and supplies
- \$7.25 – Lamination of receiving room labels
- \$51.80 – Classroom, office and laundry room curtain rods
- \$174.87 – Classroom, office and laundry room construction materials
- \$1,237.24 – Payment for the construction of the classroom, office and laundry room
- \$46.90 – Restock receiving room supplies (Donor-specified)
- \$377.63 – Classroom, office and laundry room floor tile and materials
- \$338.52 – Payment for preparing the floors and laying the tile in the classroom, office and laundry room floors
- \$3,209.51 – Three bunk beds, six mattresses, one clothes dryer and four metal dorm bathroom doors (Request made for assistance in last year’s annual report; of this, \$2,665.00 was paid for thanks to Cole Philipp’s Pay-it-Forward project)
- \$823.27 – Water pump repairs: refurbish motor, reinstall, purchase and place protective lid and lock on top
- \$166.44 – Refurbish former Orfanatorio Mazatlan stove (no oven) donated to the Salvation Army Children’s Home

Fr. Tovar’s Home for Boys. . .Hogar San Pablo

Orphanage improvements this year, including the purchase of appliances, totaled \$1,806.33 (Last year: \$6,841.62).

- \$33.07 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$145.25 – Large cabinet for storage of medicine
- \$357.83 – Paint, supplies and padlocks

- \$40.00 – Iron and ironing board
- \$10.23 – Construction paper for children to make thank you Christmas cards
- \$32.99 – Photo print ink and paper.
- \$183.23 – Level receiving room floor and install tile, including supplies
- \$147.74 – Shop vacuum
- \$74.17 – Potting soil, fertilizer and plants
- \$325.48 – Restock receiving room supplies (Donor-specified)
- \$163.36 – Ten pillows, two toasters, electric mixer
- \$212.11 – Three black shelving units for storage of supplies
- \$29.98 – Garden hose, potting soil
- \$34.65 – Paint spray gun

Ciudad de los Niños

Orphanage improvements this year, including the purchase of appliances, totaled \$8,066.62 (Last year: \$6,252.01).

- \$33.07 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$3,454.23 – New storage room, kitchen repairs (ceiling adobe crumbling down) remove non-working commercial-grade exhaust fan, replace with new commercial-grade exhaust fan, remove torn window screens, replace and/or add new window screens in kitchen – plus pizza party for children (All donor specified)
- \$10.23 – Construction paper for children to make thank you Christmas cards
- \$266.88 – Commercial-grade pots and pans to replace old, worn-out pans since 1970 (Donor specified)
- \$228.70 – Commercial-grade kitchen utensils (Donor specified)
- \$154.57 – Two commercial-grade folding tables
- \$27.29 – New shovel to replace old, non- useable shovel (handle also broke)
- \$347.05 – Restock receiving room supplies (Donor-specified)
- \$10.50 – Lamination of receiving room labels
- \$8.31 – Miscellaneous-sized paint brushes
- \$32.99 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$343.95 –Five drawer filing cabinet, file hangers and file supplies – so Madre may organize and properly retain the children’s records
- \$141.23 – Two shelving units for kitchen supplies (Donor specified)
- \$257.15 – Ladder and paint for donors to paint family room area during Spring Mission Week
- \$87.41 – Two pedestal fans
- \$42.95 – One ceiling fan
- \$6.76 – Batteries for the two pedestal fans
- \$1,095.99 – New commercial-grade stove to replace non-working, very old stove (Donor specified)
- \$453.14 – Nine new toilets to replace non-functioning toilets (1970s)

FloreSer

Orphanage improvements this year, including the purchase of appliances, totaled \$8,198.86. (Last year: \$6,908.30).

Thanks to the amazing – and we don't use that word lightly – fundraising efforts of first 11, 12 and now 13-year old Cole Phillip, from the Northwest Territory in Canada, whom you'll read about later in this report, the much-needed electrical, plumbing and structural improvements that would enable the creation of a room designated for a future psychology area and dreamed-about sewing center came to fruition from January through April.

And, with special thanks to the generosity and fund-raising of long-time donor Laura M from Wyoming who is a clothes designer and owns her own clothing store, the long-awaited sewing center – including sewing machines and every notion and implement needed– became a reality this past spring.

Laura spent January through April in Mazatlan overseeing the massive construction project that Cole's herculean fundraising efforts enabled – as well as the ever-loyal and steadfast fundraising by Laura and her wonderful friends and clients in Wyoming and Colorado that enabled the implementation of the sewing room project. Day-after-day, Laura volunteered her exceptional talents of taking projects from start to finish to complete the construction projects.

To Cole and Laura: Your kind-hearted, caring endeavors thousands of miles away from girls you had yet to meet, took a barren building and turned it into two functional and needed facilities and put a new face on the direction of the purpose of FloreSer and the girls who are rescued and live there. Thank you and God bless you and all of the donors who came on board to help!

- \$1,179.13 – Sewing center and psychology rooms electrical and plumbing materials (Request made for assistance in last year's annual report; accomplished in full thanks to Cole Philipp's Pay-it-Forward project)
- \$257.66 – Sewing center repair materials (Request made for assistance in last year's annual report; accomplished in full thanks to Cole Philipp's Pay-it-Forward project)
- \$973.17 – Sewing center and psychology rooms electrical and plumbing labor (Request made for assistance in last year's annual report; accomplished in full thanks to Cole Philipp's Pay-it-Forward project)
- \$577.93 – Sewing Center demolition of walls/remodel for functional sewing center \$45.74 – Sewing center floor repair \$606.06 – Paint and supplies
- \$111.00 – Sewing center supplies
- \$430.19 – Sewing center chairs and tables
- \$1,578.46 – Sewing center industrial-grade sewing machine and surger
- \$350.30 – Sewing center shelving units
- 95.20 – Plastic containers to store sewing supplies
- \$37.38 – Iron and ironing board for sewing center
- \$90.63 – Irons and ironing boards for main FloreSer home
- \$33.07 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$32.99 – Photo print ink and paper
- \$10.23 – Construction paper for girls to make thank you Christmas cards
- \$355.11 – Restock receiving room supplies (Donor-specified)
- \$537.51 – Ten wall fans for girls' bedrooms
- \$103.37 – Installation of ten wall fans

- \$340.26 – Family room wall mural (Donor-specified), handrail for stairs leading from first to second floor, family room shelf, painting
- \$371.45 – Hallway mirrors, bathroom mirrors, repair one chair seat (was donated broken) cushions for couch and chairs

Spring Mission Week 2011

Twenty-eight energized donors came to Mazatlan in April 2011 for the Fund's seventh annual Spring Mission Week to upgrade the children's homes, the orphanages, spend time with the youngsters and their caregivers and get to know other donors.

On Sunday, donors hosted the annual barbeque fiesta on the beach for all the children from the orphanages. The food for the fiesta was purchased by a specified donation. La Costa Marinera Restaurant grilled hamburgers and hot dogs and provided tables, chairs and tents for the party as part of their annual contribution to Tres Islas and the children. Donors served the children lunch, which also included all the cake and ice cream the children could eat.

Before serving the children their lunch, the donors and children formed the traditional giant prayer circle on the beach and joined hands with one another. Father Horacio and the caregiver nuns from Fr. Tovar's Home for Boys, David Sanchez from the Salvation Army Children's Home and the caregiver nuns from Ciudad de los Ninos and Tres Islas donor Janet, from New Mexico, stood in the center of the circle, turning around and around as Father Horacio first prayed out loud in Spanish and Janet translated into English so each child could understand. They thanked God for each of the children's and donors' lives and asked God to continue blessing the life of every child and donors who help them.

The circle of prayer has become a meaningful part of the all-children's beach barbecue. Having the children from all five orphanages stand side-by-side and hold hands with donors, caregivers and one another on the beach, steps away from the aqua-colored waters of the Sea of Cortez as their caregivers stand center and pray for them is a heartwarming, memorable moment. Those dining inside La Costa Marinera Restaurante are awe-struck at the sight and waiters tell us that the patrons, too, assume a moment of silence as the prayers are being offered.

When the prayer-in-the-round concluded, the children ate all the delicious barbecue and desserts their tummies could hold!

After lunch, the donors and children shared time together on the beach playing, swimming, building sandcastles and digging in the sand while orphanage caregivers enjoyed a much-deserved afternoon of relaxation at the beach.

As you'll see in the compact disk presentation we've included, the beach barbecue continues to be a highlight of the week for children and donors. The children always ask if we'll please continue making it an annual event during upcoming Spring Mission Weeks. We want to honor that wish. If you'd like to donate and help sponsor upcoming beach barbecue fiestas, please feel welcome to specify that area on Tres Islas' donation form.

In conjunction with Spring Mission Week 2011, donors and youngsters enjoyed a hearty lunch at each of the orphanages and a tamale fiesta was provided at Orfanatorio Mazatlan - all by specified donations.

Spring Mission Week 2011 – What Donors Accomplished

Spring Mission Weeks would not be possible without each of you, your kind donations that permit making necessary improvements to the children's homes, your coming to Mazatlan to spend

time with the children, volunteering at the orphanages to make the improvements and verifying how your donations are being stewarded. Thank you for the support you give to the construction fund; your donations enable all of the improvements needed to be implemented.

Visitors to the orphanages say Tres Islas' sponsored orphanages are the most up-to-date, positive and nurturing orphanages they've ever visited – this is thanks to each and all of you.

Before each Spring Mission Week begins, several months of planning and preparation takes place to ensure we accomplish the goals established to meet the needs of the children and provide volunteers with a life-time of wonderful memories.

We continue to be deeply grateful and are proud to give credit for a large portion of the planning, estimates and purchases that take place to Tres Islas facilitator Lena Brown of Mazatlan. Lena spends countless hours making sure all the goodness happens during Spring Mission Weeks and throughout the remainder of each year when additional items need repairing or replacing. At Christmas, Lena helps organize Christmas parties, makes Christmas purchases and ensuring each detail is met – including all lights on the Christmas trees light up as they should!

When donors visit Mazatlan, Lena meets them at Fr. Tovar's and Ciudad de los Ninos for a valuable tour of the orphanage and time with the children and caregivers. Thank you Lena Brown for being the exceptional, kind, giving and devoted volunteer you are to the children. You're like no other volunteer we've ever known or heard of and we thank God for you, your pure (and fun!) friendship. You're tops!

+ + +

So, wonderful donors, as you read the improvements made, please take a moment to reflect that it is because of and thanks to you that the improvements to the children's homes take place – and without you and your support, they wouldn't happen.

Orfanatorio Mazatlan

During Spring Mission Week 2011 donors:

- Sorted and organized donated items and restocked the receiving room with supplies for the upcoming six-months.
- Painted the main girls' bathroom after the walls had been repaired due to crumbling adobe.
- Painted the dining room after which the girls' beautiful artwork from school was hung on the walls – in colorful picture frames! – for the girls to enjoy and be proud of while they eat. In conjunction with the dining room project, new curtains and a tablecloth were made and dishes were purchased for the first time in 25 years. All were in café, deep purple and lime green colors to brighten the dining room along with the girls' beautiful artwork in the colorful picture frames.
- Filled shower totes with shower goodies for the girls to take their bathroom supplies in to and from the shower. The totes are varied colors and donors personalized them by adding each girl's name to hers.

A tasty lunch was generously sponsored by Heidi, from New Mexico – delicious, homemade pizza and Caesar salad – from Pizza Moreno’s located in historic, old town Mazatlan. Thank you, Heidi for this tasty, tasty treat for all of us! This was so generous of you!

After lunch, New Mexico professional clowns Janet, Benita, Delores and Janet put on a “circus” show for the children and had the children participate – which none were shy about! The clowns rode the tiniest bicycle you’ve ever seen and made balloon hats into the shape of circus animals for the girls to wear and participate in the circus! Afterwards, there was ice cream for all!

This event was a big hit with all the children who laughed and laughed and smiled the biggest smiles we’ve ever seen! Thank you New Mexico clowns for clowning around with all the children!

Salvation Army Children’s Home

During Spring Mission Week 2011 donors:

- Painted what will become the children’s classroom – which Tres Islas paid to have constructed prior to donors’ arrival, including computer desks and tiled floors. (We’re now focusing on purchasing computers for the classroom).
- Painted the newly-created laundry room. Prior to donors’ arrival, Tres Islas paid to have the laundry room created and complete with a tile floor. It is complete with a new, first-ever clothes dryer (thanks to Cole Phillip’s Pay-It-Forward project!).
- Removed former, sagging, PVC pipes and replaced them with wooden curtain rods and washed and rehung the existing curtains which were in good condition.
- Assembled shelves to store laundry soap and other laundry items.
- Organized donated items and restocked the receiving room with needed, every day supplies.
- Power-washed sidewalks and children’s outdoor dishwashing area, then painted the dishwashing area.
- Cleaned wind-blown debris from the roofs of all buildings and cleared roof drain spouts.

At noon, the children, caregivers and donors were treated to a delicious, homemade lunch with a variety of authentic Mexican dishes prepared by Tres Islas facilitator Gaudelia “Fella” Cruz Hernandez.

After lunch, the children donned their traditional dance costumes and for an hour, performed the historic folk dances of Mexico for donors, often including donors on the dances.

As part of the children’s education, Tres Islas pays for the children to learn the folkloric dance steps from each region in Mexico, the history of the region, the history behind the dance and the costuming.

During Christmas seasons, the youngsters perform their dances for Mazatlan residents and visitors.

Father Tovar's Home for Boys. . .Hogar San Pablo

During Spring Mission Week 2011 donors:

- Restocked the receiving room with needed every day supplies and purged outdated medicine. New medicine was sorted and expiration dates were prominently placed on the labels and placed in the medicine cabinet in the receiving room.
- Painted the dining room and patio-walkway areas of the orphanage.
- Painted portions of the exterior walls of the dining room, kitchen and nuns' living quarters.
- Presented the boys their new pillows.
- Planted flowers and plants in large pots in the patio area.
- Presented the orphanage staff with a new mixer, two toasters and a shop vacuum for everyday use.

At noon, the orphanage patronatos (board of directors) arrived to share time with the donors and have lunch together. The patronatos are comprised of the some of the finest group of businessmen in Mazatlan who genuinely take an interest each and every day in the boys' life and all aspects of the orphanage goings-on.

Donors ate an exceptionally delicious lunch with the boys, caregivers and patronatos that Father Horacio prepared on the commercial-grade barbecue grill that a wonderful Tres Islas donor purchased for them last year. Father Horacio said he regularly uses the grill (he's also quite the master chef!) as an incentive for the boys and on special occasions for them.

After lunch, the wonderful ladies from New Mexico who are professional clowns, Janet, Benita, Delores and Janet painted clown, pirate and a variety of wonderful, colorful faces on the boys and Father Horacio - who chose to be a pirate!

They also made balloon figures and hats - which the boys and Father Horacio promptly donned and proudly paraded around in!

Ciudad de los Ninos Orphanage

During Spring Mission Week 2011 donors:

- Painted freshly repaired walls and ceiling of newly created family room where the children and caregivers will gather to relax, read, study and watch television together.
- Washed many windows.

- Moved the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund's arsenal of Spring Mission Week tools and supplies to the newly created "bodega" - storage room - at Ciudad de los Ninos. Here, all the tools we use at each orphanage will be permanently housed when they're not in use.
- Moved tables to upper-level room for setup of computer classroom, which will have new computers and printers to come later, where the children will be able to complete their homework, learn computer skills and study English.
- Installed a new door handle and deadbolt in Madre Velia's office door to replace the failing one, which sometimes wouldn't unlock for her.
- Restocked and organized the receiving room.
- Sorted and organized donated clothing items.

The children, orphanage staff and donors enjoyed a very delicious lunch of fresh garden salad, spaghetti and BBQ ribs. Following lunch, the children had fun decorating their own cupcakes with the frosting and sprinkles of their choice.

FloreSer

During Spring Mission Week 2011 donors:

- Painted the girls' bedrooms and bathrooms white (there are three bedrooms with bunk beds, which Tres Islas donors previously purchased). In addition to painting the bedrooms, the donors and girls also painted the bedroom doors, trim and closet doors bright colors - gecko green, passionate purple and blueberry blue - that are coordinated to match with the bright colors on the quilts the girls and Laura made.
- Outfitted the girls' bathrooms complete with matching wastepaper baskets, soap dispensers and shower curtains.
- Painted the stairwell, "great room" walls and bench and chair just outside the girls' bedrooms.
- Installed the colorful cushions on the bench and on the sofa in the girls' family room sofa and chairs.
- Helped the girls put their bedrooms together, topping it all off with placing the girls' quilts - again, which they made for their beds thanks to Laura's help and guidance - on their beds for the first time! This included new pillows and sheets for the girls to go with the beautiful quilts they made!
- Hung the new curtains Laura and the girls made for the girls' bedrooms.
- Stocked the receiving room bins for the coming year.

- Helped the girls make earrings under the tutelage of donor Heidi, from Albuquerque, who creates and sells jewelry as part her fund-raising endeavors for Tres Islas. Heidi brought all the necessary supplies and tools so the girls could design and make their own earrings!
- New Mexico professional clowns Janet, Benita, Delores and Janet painted the girls' faces - letting them decide what colors and patterns they wanted. The girls coordinated their face-painting themes to match the earrings they had just made with Heidi and the rest of the donors! Talk about being, "all decked-out!" The girls were definitely "styling!" - thanks to the thoughtful - and fun! - efforts of Tres Islas donors.

Donors Donna and Loretta, from Alberta, Canada, prepared a wonderful array of tropical fruit and veggie trays and hoagie sandwiches with a variety of meats and cheese, which were enjoyed by the girls, staff and donors on the freshly-renovated covered patio. Thank you Donna and Loretta for making this an annual tradition a part of your many contributions during Spring Mission Weeks!

New Stoves

Beginning in late spring, the gas stove at Orfanatorio Mazatlan began severely "popping" whenever the cook attempted to light it. And, it began to function less and less efficiently. After repairs and more repairs, orphanage caregivers and we became concerned that the popping could turn into an explosion. Plus, the stove didn't have an oven - it was a stove top that only had burners - no oven.

After looking for the best-equipped stove for the orphanage's needs, Nieto Pacifico - whose name you've heard and read about before from us - offered the best price for the product, a stainless steel, commercial-grade stove for \$2,253.98 U.S. dollars plus \$117.05 to remove the former stove, deliver the new stove and install it. Total cost for the stove and installation: \$2,371.03.

Whenever feasible, we prefer to purchase commercial -grade appliances. With 20 - 30 children in an orphanage and preparation of food three times a day, home-grade stoves don't last as long as do commercial-grade stoves - which are designed and made for repetitive use and large volumes of cooking.

Several weeks after Tres Islas purchased the stove at Orfanatorio Mazatlan, Ciudad de los Ninos' stove quit working. That stove was around 20 years old. Madre Velia went with Tres Islas Facilitator Fella to Nieto Pacifico and felt the same model stove Orfanatorio Mazatlan selected was also the best stove and best price for the needs at Ciudad.

Due to the fluctuating U.S. Dollar and Mexican Peso, the price for the same model stove was less money: \$1,992.24 U.S. Dollars and the installation cost was \$111.14. Total cost for the stove and installation: \$2,103.38.

Because Ciudad's stove was installed after our fiscal year closed - September 30th - the installation was not paid for until the installation was complete - which was after our reporting period for this annual report.

We're letting you know the cost of installation, however, so you won't wonder why Orfanatorio Mazatlan had an installation fee but Ciudad de los Ninos did not.

The thanks go to 13-year old Cole Philipp's "Pay-it-Forward" project for these two stoves.

Nieto Pacifico completely refurbished the stove that was formerly at Orfanatorio Mazatlan for \$166.44.

The Salvation Army Children's Home has a stainless steel stove with an oven; however, it's a smaller unit and with 30 youngsters, they could use a larger stove-top - so we had the refurbished

stove delivered there. Captain David said the new stove is a wonderful addition to the kitchen and they use it every day.

So, we really do our best to steward your donations well and use and re-use each product for as long as possible.

The purchase and installation of the stove for Orfanatorio Mazatlan (\$2,371.03) and Ciudad de los Ninos (\$2,103.38) are being paid for because of the exceptional fundraising efforts of Cole Philipp's Pay-it-Forward project.

Upcoming and On-going Needs at the Orphanages

These are the upcoming and on-going needs at the orphanages. If you'd like to help with these needs, please let us know and/or designate so on your donation form. Thank you in advance, for your meaningful support.

Stocking the Receiving Rooms

An on-going need is to keep the receiving rooms at all five orphanages stocked with every day supplies such as hand/bath soap, shampoo, conditioner, tooth paste, toothbrushes, deodorant, undergarments and cleaning supplies - everything any household would use daily. If you'd like to help with these items, please mark your donation accordingly - it would be a big, big help.

Orfanatorio Mazatlan

Little Luciana

The last four years, we've shared with you the needs of adorable Little Luciana who was born with facial and left ear deformities.

Luciana has a congenital anomaly known as hemifacial left microsomal (HMF). HMF is a genetic disorder in which one side of the face is underdeveloped and as a result, affects the auditory, oral and mandibular regions.

This disorder twisted Luciana's facial alignment and impeded her ability to clearly speak, properly chew (and ultimately properly digest) her food.

Thanks to your support, the Fund has been able to send Luciana, who is now 7 years old, to Casa Azul in Monterrey, Mexico - the only medical clinic in Mexico which treats this type of defect.

Doctors took an impression of Luciana's mouth and a device that looks much like a ball was placed in Luciana's mouth which she wore 24-hours a day, with the exception of when she ate. The device, used to straighten Luciana's jaw with the rest of her face, was adjusted every four months. The cost of creating and fitting new device was \$150.00 U.S. dollars. For this reason, each quarter Luciana and her caregiver traveled to Monterrey - so she could be measured for a new device, allow 24-hours to create and mold it and then fit it into her mouth.

Since receiving her treatments over the past year, orphanage caregivers are able to understand Luciana's words and she's correctly able to chew her food.

While her medical treatment by doctors is free, Luciana and one of the orphanage caregivers, Rafaela, who is the director of day-to-day administration, must travel from Mazatlan, which is located on the west coast of Mexico, to Monterrey, which is located on the east side of Mexico. The journey also includes the need for a hotel room, usually for one night and occasionally for two - and taxis.

The medical device improved her defect and began the alignment. Because she succeeded so quickly, she became a candidate to have one of her ribs removed and implanted into her jaw that will hopefully enable her jaw to properly begin normally growing on its own.

In August, Luciana's condition was optimum for her surgery. Tres Islas donations the last three years provided the funds needed and, thanks to you, Tres Islas donors, Luciana and Rafaela made the trip to Monterey right on time, as scheduled!

While the surgeon's donated their skills free, the anesthetic and related operating room supplies were not able to be provided. For those costs, Tres Islas paid \$3,100.00. The total cost of the trip - including the anesthetic and related operating room supplies and first follow-up visit one month later, came to \$7,770.59.

Prior to her surgery, doctors drew Luciana's blood to run the usual post-op tests. One test they performed was to learn the status of her vitamin and mineral levels - expecting that she would need to take vitamin and mineral supplements prior to her surgery.

To their surprise, her blood work showed Luciana's vitamin and mineral levels were fine - and no supplements were needed! This is a testimony to the quality of food your donations purchase for the children in the orphanages - so thank you, once again, Tres Islas donors, for all that you do for the children!

Luciana's surgery was a success!

She did have one minor complication that was addressed during her follow-up visit one month later. An infection remained in her jaw for which antibiotics couldn't alleviate. Doctors needed to make an incision to remove the infection.

Luciana and Rafaela will need to make follow-up doctor visits to Monterrey to monitor her progress.

She was also seen by a plastic surgeon, who will in the near future, create a left "ear" for Luciana. It's estimated that surgery will take place when she is around 14 years old. It's not known at this time if she'll ever hear from this ear.

Your continued donations to help Luciana for her upcoming doctor visits and for her future surgery would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your prayers, your donations, your kindnesses and concern for this precious little girl who has a wonderful future - thanks in very large part - to each and every one of you. Thank you!

Lockers

Orfanatorio Mazatlan is still greatly in need of new lockers for all the children. The old, wooden lockers at the orphanage have been there longer than anyone can remember - but pretty close to the time the orphanage was built in the early 1900s. They are termite-ridden, have splinters (not kind to little hands and fingers reaching inside) and are falling apart.

The caregivers and we have real concerns that one day a locker door could fall off onto a child or that they could be cut from the splintery wood to the extent that they would need stitches.

Lockers are a very necessary part of the children's lives because they each need a place where they may store their clothes, including undergarments and other personal items like toothbrushes, toothpaste and school items. They don't have individual closets at the orphanage - the lockers serve this purpose.

If you'd like to help with this project, please let us know and earmark your donation for the "Orfanatorio Mazatlan lockers." Thank you.

Salvation Army Children's Home

Classroom and computer needs

The long-awaited and much-dreamed about classroom and laundry for the Salvation Army Children's Home came to fruition this past year.

In the building to the west of the kitchen and dining room, we forged a plan with Captains David and Marianela and donors Bob and Deb, of Michigan, who volunteered to create a plan to scale - thanks, Bob and Deb - job well done! - for three separate rooms: a designated classroom complete with computer workstations, a finished laundry room (as those of you who've visited the Salvation Army Children's Home will remember, the "laundry" was a washing machine housed in a shed-type atmosphere with dirt floors and among tools, hoses and "whatever" piled on top of each other) and an office for Captains David and Marianela.

The goal was to have a classroom where the children would study (currently they study on the dining room table that is then reverted to an eating area - for which they must clear-off their school books and study materials, even if they are in the middle of a project). The classroom would also have computers for the students to complete their homework on - and a place where they will learn computer technology and English.

Each room was completed with tile floors.

During Spring Mission Week 2011, donors painted the classroom and laundry walls and constructed shelves to store laundry soap and incidentals on and erected a table where clothes could be folded.

And, for the first time, the Salvation Army Children's home has a clothes dryer, thanks, also, to Tres Islas donations.

Remaining to complete the classroom are computers, printers and chairs.

We are now fundraising for these and we ask, please, for your financial support.

One of our paramount goals is that each child will graduate from high school, and then go on to either trade school or college. Having computer skills and knowing English, is vital to succeed in today's world.

Your donations designated for the computers would be greatly-appreciated and put to immediate use.

Dance Classes and Regional Costumes

As many of you know, the children at the Salvation Army Children's Home learn the historic, ethnic dances of Mexico, and, donning authentic costumes of each region, perform the dances and sing Christmas carols throughout the Christmas season for residents and tourists. At the end of each performance, they pass a donation plate. Money collected helps pay for items such as electricity, gasoline for the van (which takes the children to-and-from school and their dance performances), cleaning and other assorted items Tres Islas does not provide.

The cost of the children's dance lessons is \$30.00 per week. These dance classes teach the children the history of the various regions of Mexico, how dance evolved into the specific pattern of the region, respect for their country's heritage, the meaning behind the intricate costumes, intricate dance steps and how to work together.

Dancing in front of those who reside in Mazatlan and tourists - then interacting with them after the dances - is invaluable. If you'd like to sponsor one week - or as many weeks as you'd like - please feel welcome! - and indicate that your donation is for the "Salvation Army Children's Home dance lessons" on your donation form.

In addition, the regional costumes, including shoes, are starting to wear out. Many of the little children start their dancing in jean slacks or skirts and white shirts. Their jean slacks and skirts are fading and becoming frizzled.

Dressing for success is paramount. The children take pride in their clothing and looking nice. Having the children be able to accurately portray the regional dances of Mexico with enthusiasm – and in costumes that aren't tattered or worn, only enhances the importance to them.

If you'd like to support having new regional costumes made for them, please designate your donations for this area.

Father Tovar's Home for Boys...Hogar San Pablo

After School Tutoring

Last year a professional teacher came after school each day to tutor the boys and help them complete their homework – primary grade boys in one session and secondary grade boys in another session. It was a big help to the boys and a success.

This year, the orphanage is starting the school year by having the caregiver nuns work with the boys on their homework. The success will be evaluated mid-year.

If a teacher/tutor is hired again, the cost will be between \$425.00 and \$500.00 per month, depending on the number of days tutored.

The majority of the boys are brought to this orphanage from lives most of us could not begin to imagine. To give them a quality education and the opportunity to make something positive with their lives and become good contributing members of society is a reward from which all of us will reap the benefits.

Ciudad de los Ninos Orphanage

Education needs

Nalleli's College Needs

As you read on the first page of this year's annual report from Ciudad youngster Nalleli, has begun college. She'll live at Ciudad while she attends college.

Having the privilege of knowing Nalleli for 13 years, and knowing the exceptional student and young lady she is, we couldn't make a finer recommendation to you for your support.

If you're interested in supporting Nalleli's college education, please let us know. As in every area, we'll atone to you for every cost and keep you updated on her college life and studies.

Computers

While there is a designated classroom at Ciudad, like the Salvation Army Children's Home, Ciudad needs computers also.

The need for computers seems to be the theme of the year when it comes to education this year and we ask, please, for your consideration in this area. We're in the process of working with local computer companies to receive their best prices for computers for both orphanages. We want to buy locally because any service needs can be quickly taken care of by local IT people.

FloreSer

Sewing Center

Currently a volunteer is teaching the girls how to sew. She came to the orphanage from DIF – the equivalent of our social services agency. At Christmas, we'll learn the success of this project and depending how it goes, we may need to expend money for a sewing teacher.

Also needed are supplies for on-going sewing projects such as notions and material.

To support this project, please indicate that your donations for the "FloreSer Sewing Center" on your donation form.

Tres Islas Orphanage Fund's Spring Mission Week April 13th – April 20th, 2012

We accomplished a great deal during Spring Mission Week 2011 and everyone had a grand time! As in past years, there was constant conversation and laughter throughout the week as we "labored-in-love" at the orphanages. From planting to painting to sharing creative activities with the children, donors experienced a week to remember.

We thank all donors who could help this year and we invite everyone to join us for Tres Islas' next Spring Mission Week, April 13th – April 21st, 2012. We encourage volunteers to arrive Friday, April 13th, as we'll start orphanage improvements and activities at one of the orphanages Saturday, April 14th.

We're frequently asked if there's a possibility of having too many people come on one trip. The answer is an emphatic, "No!" ☺ ☺ – We always need and want more donor participation.

This is your personal invitation to join other Tres Islas donors in the fun and reaping the rewards of helping the wonderful children!

If you'd like to participate in this coming year's trip April 13th – April 21st, 2012, please let us know. Donors have been signing-up since mid-summer and everyone is welcome.

We promise you will:

- Experience a rewarding and memorable time.
- Interact one-on-one with the children – who'll be grateful for the time you share.
- Make a positive difference in the children's lives.
- Meet other donors who, like yourself, care about the children.
- Share smiles, laughter and the most wonderful "work" you'll know in one week.
- Want to return to participate in the children's lives again and again.
- Have time to enjoy beautiful Mazatlan and its delightful, friendly citizens.

Please join us! You're invited!

Tres Islas Orphanage Fund Accounts Escrow Account

The escrow account serves as the main depository account for the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund. Each donation is deposited in the Fund's escrow account. From there, donations earmarked for other accounts are transferred into those accounts.

At the conclusion of each calendar year, we transfer all money from the escrow account, with the exception of the amount needed for the upcoming year's food purchases for the orphanages, into a sixth-month (or longer) certificate of deposit to earn interest.

Grocery Account

Donations earmarked for the grocery account or “where most needed” remain in the escrow account until needed. On the last day of each month, the amount needed to purchase the children’s food in each of the orphanages for the upcoming month is transferred into the grocery account.

Christopher Fund (Christmas Dinner Account)

The Christopher Fund was established in 2007 to honor the late Christopher Jemio, a fine and gentle-hearted young man who had compassion for children in orphanages. He volunteered at Ciudad de los Ninos Orphanage. Christopher was exemplary of having a heart of gold for giving.

Christopher died from a brain aneurysm on Christmas Day 2005. The following year, his mother, Teresa, sent \$250.00 to help Ciudad – the exact amount needed to purchase the orphanage’s Christmas dinner. It was appropriate – and an honor to name the Christmas dinner account in honor of kind-hearted Christopher. We’re pleased that Christopher’s mother, Teresa, is stewarding the fundraising of this meaningful account.

If you’d like to help provide Christmas dinners for any or all five of the orphanages (\$250.00 per orphanage), please designate your check – for any amount – to the Christopher Fund. You’ll make many children happy on this most special of Mexican holidays and keep the memory of a kind and selfless young man named Christopher Jemio, who had a dream of going to Mexico to make a positive difference in an orphanage, alive forever.

Education Classes Account

Established by Rev. Robert Mischke, M.D., and Genca Mischke, this Tres Islas account sponsors education classes that may not be taught in all schools such as computer and English classes. It also sponsors college and/or tech classes for youngsters after they have graduated from high school.

In the case of the newest orphanage, FloreSer, many of these girls have received no education and must be placed in special classes that will, even though they are in their teens, allow them to “start from the beginning.”

It is a goal of the Fund that after each youngster graduates from high school, he or she may have the opportunity to enter college or tech school so when they leave the orphanage, each young lady or young man leaves being able to take care of themselves financially and becomes good, contributing members of society.

While Dr. and Mrs. Mischke established this account, they encourage and invite everyone’s support of it to ensure each child receives a quality education. Donations are needed and appreciated for the education classes’ account throughout the year.

Education Supplies Account

From this account, the Fund purchases the youngsters’ school supplies, including school books, school shoes, school uniforms and school backpacks in which the youngsters carry their school books and supplies.

The condition of the backpacks is assessed annually. If they’re in good condition, they aren’t automatically replaced at the beginning of the school year. Like the education classes account, donations are needed and appreciated for education supplies throughout the year.

Construction Account

Donations to this account make necessary orphanage improvements such as replacing water pumps, appliances and roof and building repairs. When the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund began serving the orphanages, each was in a sad state of disrepair from sewage flowing on the ground to bare floors to rodents living in appliances.

Thanks to donations, the orphanages have been upgraded to meet health, safety and welfare needs, including all improvements made by specific donations to the construction account for improvements during the Fund's annual Spring Mission Weeks.

Your continued support of this invaluable account will be greatly appreciated and will allow the children to live in safe and sanitary homes.

"Because of Kenny Project"

Minnesota donor Julie Foster loves taking pictures. She has an entire wall in one room of her and her husband Mark's home lined with photo albums. When their daughter Amelia was born, she took so many photographs that her husband Mark suggested she buy stock in the company she uses to develop her pictures. She loves to show Amelia her baby pictures and the progression of her growth, documenting her youth.

A few years after Amelia was born, the Fosters adopted Kenny, from Russia, when he was 18-months old. Julie shares that it's difficult to explain to him why they don't have any baby pictures of him, adding, they detect sadness in his eyes because he doesn't have pictures for this part of his life.

Because of Kenny, it occurred to her that the children in the orphanages the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund supports don't have memories of their children in photographs either. Realizing it's the same for the children in the orphanages as it is for her son Kenny, they won't have pictures to show their families how they looked and what they did while they were growing up.

The Fosters approached the Fund this year about creating the "Because of Kenny Project" to establish funding to equip each orphanage with a digital camera, a photo printer and a photo album for each child's pictures. What a great idea! The Fosters have donated the funds, the purchases have been made and the delivery of the fifth orphanage's set of equipment is taking place this Christmas.

Donations are needed to supply on-going materials such as ink-printer cartridges, printer photo paper and a photo album to be presented to each child residing in an orphanage or to give to each child who comes to the orphanage.

Everyone is welcome to help each child document their childhood and have fond memories of their young life to take with them when it comes time for them to leave the orphanage by donating to the "Because of Kenny Project."

"Sophia's Fund"

Expecting their third child, a girl, on February 25, 2008, Sally and Paul Schumack were thrilled at the prospect of adding Sophia to their and their twin daughters' family. While the delivery "went off without a hitch," Sally shares that a special-care nurse brought their newborn daughter to them saying they needed to monitor Sophia's breathing. That night, their baby experienced several "spells" in which she stopped breathing, appeared to choke and turn blue. After two days, she was transferred to a neonatal intensive care nursery where it was determined she lacked gagging, sucking and swallowing reflexes.

Ultimately, Sophia's ability to live without full-support declined and on March 21, 2009, Sophia's family made the decision to stop interventions and release Sophia to God.

Connecting with other families who've experienced similar losses, they've learned children truly are a gift and while we don't know how long they'll be with us, Sophia's family said they, "learned to lean on God; because He truly will walk with us through grief if we ask and allow him to."

Sophia's aunt, Julie Foster, wanted to keep Sophia's memory alive in a meaningful manner. Over the past several years, her family has fallen in love with the children residing at Ciudad de los Ninos and supported them through their donations to the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund. Working with Mother Superior, Madre Velia, who helped found Ciudad de los Ninos, they were able to establish a garden in honor of Sophia - for the children living at Ciudad to enjoy. Included in the garden is a memorial plaque dedicated to Sophia and all children everywhere.

Everyone is invited to help purchase fruit trees, flowers or vegetable plants for the gardens at each of the orphanages in honor of children living, or as a memorial for children or family members who've passed away. Please indicate which orphanage you'd like to receive your living gift on the donation for under the construction account and earmark it for "Sophia's Fund" in honor of the children and loved ones in your life.

"Gloria's Kitchen"

"Gloria's Kitchen" is named in honor of the late, benevolent Gloria Geraths, who, for a number of years was instrumental in helping the children in Mazatlan's orphanages as part of the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund. Gloria frequently prepared homemade meals and desserts for the children. She was instrumental in organizing the first barbecue beach parties for the children in the orphanages. And, she and her good husband, Lloyd, often took the children to purchase their school shoes and stopped for ice cream on the way home - in addition to taking the children to dinner for their birthdays.

Donations to this fund will allow the purchase of an additional \$50.00 per week of fresh fruits and vegetables for each of the orphanages. Won't you please continue the positive impact Gloria's life had on the children and how by carrying on her goal of providing the children nourishing food each week by supporting "Gloria's Kitchen?"

Next Year's Projections

The Fund's number one priority each year is to continue purchasing healthy, nutritious food for each child at the orphanages. We're budgeting \$200.00 for food per week each for three of the orphanages (Orfanatorio Mazatlan, Salvation Army Children's Home and Ciudad de los Ninos because of the number of children living in these orphanages or who are expected to arrive the next few months). For Fr. Tovar's Home for Boys, we're budgeting \$150.00 per week because there are 26 boys there now. We're budgeting \$125.00 per week for FloreSer, which currently has 14 girls.

On average, how much have we budgeted for each child's food in the coming year?

Here's the math:

- The total food budget for all five orphanages = \$45,500.00.
- \$45,500.00 divided by the 114 children in all five orphanage = \$399.12 per child per year.

- \$399.12 per child per year divided by 52 weeks per year = \$7.68 per week to feed one child.

The summary table below presents the projected costs for all five orphanages during the coming year; not including costs for construction, appliances, and Luciana’s medical assistance.

Projections for all five orphanages for the coming year:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Food	\$45,500.00
Christmas dinners	\$ 1,150.00
School supplies	\$ 5,000.00
School shoes	\$ 4,150.00
School uniforms	\$ 4,600.00
School backpacks	\$ 1,110.00
Education (Classes)	\$ 9,600.00
Medical	<u>\$ 2,100.00</u>
Total for <u>all five</u> orphanages	\$73,210.00

Total projected expenditures for all five orphanages for the coming year, including construction, appliances and Luciana’s medical assistance, is \$95,510.00.

Please refer to the attached summary spreadsheet for itemizations of expenditures at each orphanage for this past year, projected expenditures for the coming year and a comparison with expenditures during the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Dividing the projected \$95,510.00 for the coming year by the 114 children present in the five orphanages at this time, amounts to \$837.81, or \$2.30 per youngster, per day, to provide nourishing food, school supplies, shoes, uniforms, backpacks, education classes and orphanage improvements at their homes, the orphanages. This small amount of money daily equates to a huge impact...the children have a nourishing, well-educated, productive, safe and quality life for an entire year!

This past year’s expenditures of \$106,813.10 divided by the then 105 children in the five orphanages at that time equaled \$1,017.27 annually or \$2.79 per youngster, per day, for their care.

The goal of the Fund has always been to provide the quality of life to each child in the orphanages that will help them grow up to be well-nourished, healthy, educated, motivated and positive-contributing members of society. We strive to be prudent in our purchases and not extravagant. We value your trust and your donations. Without you, the children would not have the quality of life they now do.

The Fund operates on a “donations received basis” meaning, we never know from year-to-year how much we will be able to provide the orphanages each year. We have always trusted in the Lord to touch the hearts of donors to provide and we will continue to do so.

See the Benefits

We invite you to visit the children any time you’d like. Part of the beauty of the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund is that you’re always welcome to participate in the children’s lives.

So donors may participate in the children’s lives and meet one another, we especially invite donors to gather in Mazatlan:

- At Christmas – to see the benefits your donations have accomplished over the years. You’ll enjoy Christmas dinners with the children as you spend time with them and see the great

difference your contributions make. Please let us know how we may help as you make your plans.

- For Spring Mission Weeks – please be sure to sign-up for the Fund’s next Spring Mission Week April 13th – April 21st, 2012 (arriving April 13th). As you’ll see in the accompanying compact disk, the rewards are many, true friendships are forged and at the end of the week, you’ll be glad that you came and for the great accomplishments you’ve made

The presentation on this year’s enclosed compact disk was made with *Windows Live Movie Maker* software for viewing on your computer. If you need the presentation in a different format (DVD or VCR to play on a television instead), please let us know. We want to be sure you can enjoy the many pictures of the children. Please share them with family, friends and others – such as your church and organizations with whom you’re affiliated.

Tres Islas Facilitators

Gaudelia “Fella” and Jasmine Cruz Hernandez

We always do our best to provide you the most detailed and accountable information for your donations because we value you and your contributions. Without you, the Fund would not exist.

The food, school supplies, uniforms, backpacks, shoes and many of the construction projects for all five orphanages continues to be purchased by Gaudelia “Fella” Cruz Hernandez and her lovely daughter, Jasmine. Were it not for their dedication, generosity, love and good-heartedness, the Fund could not operate as it does. Each week they spend many hours tending to the grocery shopping needs of the orphanages and maintaining accurate records for verification to each of you.

Fella has been with us from the beginning of the Fund. When Donelle received a newspaper assignment in 1987 to “photograph the children of Mexico” and wanted to visit an orphanage, it was Fella who took her to Orfanatorio Mazatlan – where Donelle discovered there was little food and her “assignment” changed from taking photos of some awfully cute kids to that of raising the awareness and donations to help the children in Mazatlan’s orphanages. For 23 years, Fella has remained a steadfast and intricate part of Tres Islas.

Imagine buying more than 100 pairs of school shoes, uniforms, backpacks and coordinating purchasing enough school supplies for an entire year for more than 100 children! Whew! But yes! That is exactly what Fella and Jasmine do. Fella and Jasmine are two other angels on earth.

In addition, Fella also takes donors on tours of the orphanages.

Because of Fella’s 24 years of loving and loyal service to the children and caregivers in Mazatlan’s orphanages on behalf of the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund, Fella was selected to be “Tres Islas Orphanage Fund Volunteer of the Year 2008.”

Lena Brown

We thank Lena for her help in bringing to fruition many projects your donations make possible.

From getting estimates to making purchases in advance of each year’s Spring Mission Week and throughout the year as needed, the Fund is grateful for Lena’s time and help.

Because of Lena’s efforts on behalf of Tres Islas and the children, she was selected to be “Tres Islas Orphanage Fund Volunteer of the Year 2009.”

Bob and Janet Schmitt

The Fund continues to be blessed by Bob and Janet Schmitt, winter residents of Mazatlan each year from November through May. While in Mazatlan, Bob and Janet are “on call” to help Fella and Jasmine purchase food, take children to dinner on their birthdays (as part of Bob and Janet’s donations), purchase piñatas and cakes for the children on special days such as birthdays or Christmas, and participate in the children’s lives. Additionally, they help sponsor the college tuition, books and lab supplies for some of the youngsters’ – which provides the youngsters the higher-education they otherwise would not receive.

Janet organizes the “Adopt-a-Child-for-Christmas” program at the Salvation Army Children’s Home. Bob and Janet take photos of the children and record the children’s clothing and shoe sizes. They post the children’s pictures and needs for winter residents and visitors to “adopt.” They collect all the gifts, wrap those that are not wrapped, buy treats and take any one who would like to participate to the orphanage to share in the children’s Christmas. As you have seen over the years and in the accompanying photos, the children are thrilled to receive such lovely gifts.

If you’d like to sponsor a child for Christmas, we encourage you to do so! We’ll email you the picture of “your” child and the gifts you bought them if you can’t make it to Mazatlan for the Christmas party. Both Lena and Cliff and Bob and Janet do an outstanding job of making Christmas special for each child and are to be commended for their painstaking efforts.

Bob and Janet also represent the Fund in meeting those of you who visit Mazatlan when we aren’t there and take you on tours of the orphanages.

Tres Islas Volunteer of the Year 2011



Teresa Jemio, center, being presented this year's award by Mike Veselik, last year's recipient and owner of Mazatlan's *Pacific Pearl* News Magazine shares the poignant moment with Christopher's girlfriend, Eileen

Teresa, Christopher Jemio named 'Volunteers of the Year'

Teresa Jemio and her late son, Christopher, were named Tres Islas Orphanage Fund's 2011 'Volunteers of the Year' during Tres Islas' Spring Mission Week in April.

Presented by 2010's honoree, Michael J. Veselik, owner and publisher of Mazatlan's *Pacific Pearl* Newsmagazine, Teresa accepted the award on behalf of her son, who died on Christmas in 2005 at the age of 27 from a cerebral hemorrhage. They were named this year's recipients because of the significance Christopher's life and memory have had in providing bountiful Christmas dinners to all the children in each of Mazatlan's five orphanages the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund serves and because Teresa has raised awareness in fulfilling the need.

As Mike presented the award, he said he was especially pleased to give the award to a mother and her son who have been responsible for bringing so much joy to so many children each year.

The plaque was first presented to all Tres Islas donors by Cristina Pena and the board of directors of Orfanatorio Mazatlan for over 20 years of service to that orphanage. The plaque has since become a "traveling plaque" which is awarded to a Tres Islas donor or

donors each year for the exceptional difference they've made for children residing in the orphanages.

In 2005, Christopher and his girlfriend, Eileen Lindbuchler, trekked from Pennsylvania to Mazatlan where they spent time volunteering at Ciudad de los Ninos and brought the children soccer balls and the nuns cleaning supplies.

He and Eileen planned to return soon but his unexpected death that Christmas changed everything.

A few months later, while she held a photo taken of Christopher, Eileen and Sister Ofelia, one of the founding nuns of Ciudad de los Ninos, Teresa and Eileen phoned the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund to inquire if Ciudad is one of the orphanages the fund serves. She then sent \$250.00 with a note to "use it where most needed" at Ciudad and explained it the gift was being sent in Christopher's honor.

Donelle Manton, founder of Tres Islas, quickly realized the orphanage didn't have a Christmas dinner sponsor that year – while the other orphanages did. And, the amount to purchase Christmas dinner for each of the orphanages is \$250.00 – the exact amount Teresa had donated in Christopher's honor.

Phoning Teresa to thank her for her donation and for sharing Christopher's meaningful visit to Ciudad, Donelle had a special request. Because Christopher volunteered at Ciudad, planned to return but died on Christmas day, would Teresa permit Tres Islas' Christmas fund to be named "The Christopher Fund" in Christopher's honor and would she like to serve as its chairperson? Teresa agreed – and has kindly spearheaded the fund ever since. And since naming the fund in Christopher's honor and with his goodly mother raising awareness, the children in all the orphanages Tres Islas serves have dined on delicious and plentiful Christmas dinners.

As part of honoring Teresa and Christopher, Eileen returned to Mazatlan, and Ciudad de los Ninos for the first time since she and Christopher came in 2003. She stood by Teresa's side as Teresa was presented the award. Christopher's brother, Rob, also flew in from Washington, D.C. for the event.

Upon receiving the award, Teresa said Christopher would be happy his memory was helping children in the orphanages. She said he was well-loved by everyone who knew him because he had a kind and generous heart, especially for those in need. She said sharing her son's legacy is not only beneficial for The Christopher Fund but hopes it will inspire others to do good as well.

Eileen said even though Christopher and she had known each other as friends since high school, when Christopher told her in 2003 he planned to go help an orphanage in Mexico, it was at that moment she fell in love with him.

The first Volunteer of the Year recipients were Helen and Bill from Michigan and Bucerias, Nayarit, Mexico who were two of the Fund's first donors and who have loyally helped the children for 14 years.

Gaudelia "Fella" Cruz Hernandez was the recipient in 2008; 2009's recipient was Lena Brown.

Passages

Each and every donor is a very special friend in varying and vast ways. The Tres Islas Orphanage Fund could not do all that it does for the children in the five orphanages if it weren't for the truly wonderful donors.

And so, when one of Tres Islas' "family of friends" becomes ill or passes away, we are all deeply and sadly affected.

William P. McDonough



March 19, 1956 - August 27, 2011

William "Billy" McDonough, of Wilkes-Barre, PA was a loving member of the wonderful McDonough-Jemio family and was an uncle to Christopher Jemio, whom the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund's Christmas account - The Christopher Fund - is named in honor of. Bill was only 55 when he passed away from a heart attack this summer. The son of the late Harold and Teresa O'Connell McDonough, Bill attended King's College and was employed by Quick Courier Service. He spent many years working in the restaurant industry and owned Culinary Adventures on Scott Street in Wilkes-Barre. Bill was the family historian and an avid traveler to Ireland and he enjoyed cooking for his many family members and friends. Bill was a Tres Islas donor who loved his nephew, Christopher, and helped keep the memory of Christopher's meaningful life alive. He's survived by his sister, Teresa Jemio, Christopher's mother, who spearheads The Christopher Fund, siblings Dr. Patrick McDonough and wife, Marie-Ann; John McDonough and wife, Anne; Mark T. McDonough, Frank D. McDonough and wife, Kathleen; Joseph P. McDonough, Mary McDonough, Harold McDonough and wife, Sally; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family kindly requested memorial contributions be made to The Christopher Fund to provide meaningful Christmas dinners to the children in Mazatlan's orphanages.

+ + +

A Tres Islas 'tip of the hat' to the Following Businesses. . .

Mazatlan's *Pacific Pearl* News Magazine

When you're away from Mazatlan, please be sure and read Mazatlan's best news magazine, Mazatlan's *Pacific Pearl*, by going online to www.pacificpearl.com. When you're in Mazatlan, pick up a copy - it's free! And it's Mazatlan's most helpful guide!

For 19 years, Mike Veselik has been the "eyes and ears" between the English-speaking, living and visiting community in Mazatlan. Mike is a steadfast supporter of the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund - publishing at least one story about the Fund and the children each year. Thank you, Mike for helping the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund - and all Mazatlan charities!

Mazatlan's *Noroeste* Newspaper

We're grateful for the faithful support of Mazatlan's *Noroeste* newspaper, its owners, editorial staff and photographers for their continued documentation of Tres Islas' Spring Mission Weeks. *Noroeste* always lets the good people of Mazatlan know about the endeavors of Tres Islas and

spotlights all donors who come to offer friendship, kindness and help to the children in the orphanages.

KPNW 11.90 AM Radio – Oregon

Radio talk show hosts Bill Lundun and Robb Holloway kindly invited us to join them for a second time on their radio program *The Wake-up Call*. Reaching homes and businesses throughout Oregon’s Central Willamette Valley, we’re grateful to Bill and Robb for graciously inviting us to share Tres Islas goodness and needs with their listeners “loud and clear” across Oregon’s airwaves.

Thank you to the following compassionate companies for their outstanding support of the children and the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund with their kind services:

- **EPUERTO**, the Fund’s Internet provider and webpage host headquartered in Coos Bay, Oregon. You may visit EPUERTO at www.epuerto.com.
- **Staples** in Roseburg, Oregon for donating the paper on which you read this annual report.
- **Oce’ North America, Inc.** in Roseburg, Oregon for providing all copy services used to produce this annual report for you free of charge.

We sincerely thank each of the above businesses for their generosity in helping us serve the children. . .

In closing. . .because of each of you, the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund is heading into its 25th year serving the children. We ask please, for your continued support. Your on-going help continues to make positive differences in the lives of the children who are equally grateful to you.

One hundred percent of all Tres Islas donations go toward the betterment of the children with nothing ever taken from any donation for administration, salaries, stipends or compensation.

Your Tres Islas Orphanage Fund donations are 100% tax deductible because all donations truly go to the children and the IRS recognizes the Fund as a 501(c) (3) charitable organization.

May our Lord bless you and yours as you have blessed the children which the Fund humbly serves on your behalf.

With immense gratitude,

Donelle Manton, Founder

Tom Manton, Vice-President



Enclosures – extras – lots and lots of good things to read and pictures to see – just like always!
Yahoo!