

# Tres Islas Orphanage Fund

## November 2016 Newsletter

It's been a busy few months since our last communication in August. Thank you all for your continuing support! As you will observe in this November 2016 Newsletter, TIOF with your generous contribution continues to address the needs of the children in Mazatlán.

TIOF's most important and regular expense is purchasing fresh fruits and vegetables for all of the children in the (5) orphanages served by TIOF. The majority of your donations go directly towards providing the children with nutritious food that keeps them healthy and allows them to concentrate on their school work. In addition to the food purchases, your donations have allowed TIOF to accomplish the following projects during the past 2 months:

- School supplies and clothing were purchased for all of the children at each orphanage for the upcoming school year
- Plumbing was fixed at both FloreSer and Ciudad de los Nino's – leaks repaired, toilets and shower areas fixed, deteriorated sanitary pipe replaced and rainwater redirected to keep it from running down the side of building
- Assistance for orthodontic procedures was provided for a young lady at Ciudad de los Nino's
- Financial assistance was provided for the purchase of text books for a first-year college student
- The repairs made to the leaking chapel roof at Hogar San Pablo were completed

Additionally, a few more updates have been made. The Donation form has been updated and streamlined. Also, the fiscal year was changed to a calendar year to make tax reporting and accounting easier.

**Upcoming Needs:** As you know, the TIOF donors have provided funds for Christmas dinners in honor of Christopher an inspiring young man – you can read more about him on the web-site.

Our need this year is for donations to assist in purchasing basic Christmas presents. We have a donor who has sponsored the gifts for Ciudad de los Nino's, however, we are looking for donors to help out for the other (4) sites. I've been fortunate to participate in Christmas the past few years at FloreSer. I will tell you that it was one of the most humbling and joyful experiences that I've had in a long time. On the first opportunity two years ago, I was mentally fretting what to get my two teenage children for Christmas. I had already made some significant purchases, but was contemplating buying more gifts. When my daughter, her friend and I went to FloreSer, we did a craft with the girls, shared lunch and then went into the house to pass out the gifts. The absolute radiant joy on their faces when they opened packages of new underwear and maybe a new shirt or perhaps a pair of pants was unbelievable. That was it – 1 or 2 items and they were overjoyed. It really helped put my thoughts and priorities into perspective. Please help provide the funds to make this possible again for the all the children this year.

**Web Site update:** Another exciting TIOF development is the unveiling of the new TIOF web site. It was introduced in our last newsletter and is now operational. One of the great features will be the ability to make a donation online through the Pay Pal. We have received several requests for this functionality, especially from folks that spend a lot of time traveling or living in Mazatlan. The new website also has a News tab so you are aware of TIOF events and projects that need your assistance. Please check out the new website and let us know what you think. You can reach the new website by using [www.orphanagefunds.org](http://www.orphanagefunds.org) or [www.tresisl.org](http://www.tresisl.org).

**Honorarium:** Just a reminder, we have a process where you can make a donation in honor of someone else. You just need to provide their name and contact information along with your donation. They will receive a special card from Connie Montanye – Treasurer of Tres Islas Orphanage Fund that explains the TIOF vision and provides your name as the

giver. The feedback on several requests has been very positive. Just a reminder, as TIOF is a 501c(3) designated charity, it may be on the list for your company that provides donation matches – it's worth checking out.

**Volunteers:** We are looking for folks that want to partner with us in on two committees: Fundraising /Marketing and Spring Mission Week. We anticipate about a 1 hour a month commitment to meet to share ideas and execute plans. Please reply back to this email if you are interested and on which committee you'd like to participate.

### **Spring Mission Week 2017**

It seems like we have a long time before March and Spring Mission Week. There are two holidays and several weeks of winter before we have to think about going to Mazatlan. Unfortunately, that is not so. If you are considering going (and we hope many of you are), you need to start making reservations. Rooms at the resorts get scheduled quite awhile in advance as do flights into and out of Mazatlan. The flights can especially be difficult because of the limited number of them. The dates for the week are March 18-24. Most volunteers arrive on Saturday. We have dinner together in the evening and make plans for the fiesta on Sunday. We work one day at each orphanage for the next 5 days. We have our final dinner together on Friday evening. Volunteers usually leave on Saturday. If you cannot come for the full week, come for several days. Last year we did something new which was a lot of fun for the kids and very rewarding for the volunteers. Instead of a beach party, we had a fiesta/carnival at Ciudad de los Niños. The children loved the games and prizes and every volunteer had a part, which gave them some personal contact with the kids. We plan to do this again this year. In addition, we will do our regular work days at each orphanage.

Please consider participating with us this year. For more information or to make a commitment to volunteer, please email Phyllis and Bruce Allen at [allendome@frontier.com](mailto:allendome@frontier.com).

Once again, this work is only possible through the faithful donations from the TIOF donors. I'd like to thank you again for all you do! Your Board wishes you and your families a peaceful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. I look forward to the next newsletter to providing you with more information and pictures of Christmas at the orphanages in Mazatlan!

Just a reminder the new mailing address is: Tres Islas Orphanage Fund PO Box 3005, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83816