

TRES ISLAS ORPHANAGE FUND SPRING 2017 NEWSLETTER

Hello – greetings to the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund family on this spring day. In this newsletter, you'll find information on the recent Spring Mission Trip, additional items that were done to help out the orphanages, new partnerships and upcoming needs. I hope you enjoy reading the latest updates. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or comments.

2017 Spring Mission Week

This year's Spring Mission Week was especially rewarding as we had over 30 volunteers work on the various projects. Having such a great task force enabled those board members present to spend some valuable time meeting with the directors from each orphanage. We had many questions answered and were able to better understand their needs.

We also renewed our friendships with previous volunteers and met some awesome new volunteers.



Meeting the volunteers first evening

Fiesta

On the Sunday preceding the work week, all 6 orphanages attended the fiesta at Ciudad for many well organized games, as well as hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, ice cream, and cake. Several of the groups arrived much later than the starting time, so that those kids did not have much time for participating in the games. Next year, we plan to emphasize that we're operating on "American Time" so that all the kids will have an opportunity to get in on the games.



Fun games and good food.

Ciudad de los Niños

About 75 yards of the outside wall was painted on its interior surface and had the graffiti covered over on its exterior surface. In one of the girl's bedrooms, a large portion of the ceiling plaster had been repaired, which we primed and painted, along with the rest of the ceiling. Tiled walls were also cleaned. The kitchen and the receiving room were also cleaned and organized, with many donated, but worthless items, being discarded. On the playground, several swings were repaired.



Salvation Army

The interior of the dining room/kitchen was painted with a washable paint. The remains of a shelter above the soccer field, including much concrete, was removed, with the debris wheel-barrowed to piles out along the main road.



Hard work and entertainment.

FloreSer

We split into 2 groups this day. The walls of the lower entry way and the balcony above were painted by the group that went here. The rest of the group went to Refugio.



Refugio

The dormitory and exercise rooms were painted. Shelving for the supply room and a step ladder were also purchased for them.



Orfanatorio Mazatlán

The room where the younger children watch TV, as well as the dining room and the hallways in between, were painted. Also, arrangements to reupholster the couch in this room, as well as purchase additional silverware, were made.



Hogar San Pablo

Much outdoor painting was done here. The outside of the building with the new meeting room, the building closer to the entry gate, the front of the building that houses the nuns (particularly where the planters had been removed), the upper wall of the chapel above the entryway, and some of the courtyard walls were all painted.



Farewell Dinner

On Friday evening we all met at Casa Country to celebrate our week together and have a chance to bid everyone goodbye until Spring Mission Week 2018.



We worked hard but we have many special memories to keep until next year!

We thought it might be interesting for you to see the list of volunteers and where they live

Heidi	New Mexico	Mary	New Mexico	Paula	New Mexico
Donna & Floyd	Alberta	Bill & Deb	Washington	Connie & Terry	Idaho
Ashley & Karlyn	Idaho	Linda	Vancouver, BC	Len	Alberta
Matt	Pennsylvania	Lindsay & Natalie	Washington	Robert & Carmen	New Mexico
Bruce & Phyllis	Washington	Jan & Chris	Washington	Natalie	Washington
Loretta & Hugh	Alberta	Janet	California	Judy	California
Bee	New Mexico	Janet	New Mexico	Kurt & Victoria	
Kim & Stan	Alberta	Jennifer	California	Lois	
Cheryl & Scott	Minnesota				

In addition to all the work completed by this group, the following was also approved and implemented.

- Due to generous donations from 2 of our long time faithful donors specifically designated for Ciudad, we were able to replace 2 windows, repair a sewer problem, and complete much needed roof repairs. We also removed (2) rusty water tanks off the roof – eliminating a lovely breeding area for mosquito's.
- Paid medical expenses for Luciana who is now living at FloreSer
- Paid for fans for Hogar, Ciudad and Orfanatorio
- Donor specific donations to paint the outside wall of Hogar

NEW: The Salvation Army is planting fruit trees in the field that was just cleared. If you would like to purchase a tree, you can do this by sending in \$50 per tree and designate that on your check or the donation sheet.

New Partnerships

As was mentioned in the Spring Mission report, the Board members were able to spend more time with the site directors as well as meet with other groups that are helping out in various sites. We are looking to build partnerships with a few other groups including Back 2 Back (Salvation Army and FloreSer) and Gems of Mazatlan mainly at Ciudad and the Patranata for OM. The purpose is to combine our efforts and maximize the impact of the donations. For example, Judy's (Gems of Mazatlan) team has spent many hours clearing out over 98 loads of garbage and un-usable donations that people dropped off at Ciudad. They are actively working on getting the roofs repaired as well on several of the buildings. These groups are working to put together a directory of services and needs, so if you are visiting outside of Spring Mission

week and want to volunteer, this directory will provide you with a list of opportunities. Stay tuned for more information.

Upcoming Needs

The major upcoming budget items for all sites for May – July includes the following:

Food - \$16,500

School supplies - \$5,000

School shoes - \$ 2,700

School uniforms - \$3,000

Misc. Other

A huge **Thank-you** to the parish of St. Louise de Marillac in Pittsburgh. The congregation provided a very generous donation through special collections received during Lent. Additionally, the school children wrote over 150 letters and cards in English and Spanish and these were sent to each orphanage site. It's fun for the children to receive cards and letters from the children in the USA and it was fun for the kids in Pittsburgh to make and write them.

If you are in Mazatlan – please stop by Ricos café and also express your thanks to Marianne for providing the coffee supplied each morning to the volunteers during SMW.

Once again – if you have any questions or comments, please send an email to: email@orphanagefunds.org. The impact TIOF is making is tremendous and the Tres Islas Orphanage Fund is a faithful partner with the orphanages by consistently providing food, school necessities and other needed items.

Best Regards,

Phyllis Allen

Matt Domines

Julie Foster

Connie Montanye