



December 2019 Newsletter

Tres Islas Orphanage Fund

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!" These words keep repeating over and over in my mind as the first snow of the season is falling outside my window. A sign that the Holiday season is upon us!

At Tres Islas Orphanage Fund (TIOF) we are blessed to have such generous and loyal donors. I personally would like to thank each of you and share one of my favorite Christmas thoughts that remind me of your sacrifices.



Christmas means giving.
The Father gave his Son, and the Son gave his life.
Without giving there is no true Christmas,
and without sacrifice there is no true worship.
Giving of self; giving of substance; giving of heart
and mind and strength in assisting those in need
and in spreading the cause of His eternal truth—
these are of the very essence of the true spirit
of Christmas.

Gordon B. Hinckley



Thank you for your true Christmas spirit!

I also wanted to let you know what we are working towards this Holiday season. TIOF would like to ensure that all the children at each home receive a Christmas present. This year we have a goal of \$25 (USD) per child for a Christmas present. We also would love to include our caregivers as they give so much time and love to the children. TIOF also provides a Christmas dinner (about \$150 USD depending on the amount of children) to each of the Orphanage homes. All of this is possible through your donations.

May you all be blessed in your giving to TIOF whether it be monetary, personal time or your prayers. We are so grateful that you are a part of our team!



Warmest Wishes this Holiday Season,

Michelle





Christmas at the Orphanages

Each year Tres Islas provides presents and the funds for a Christmas Dinner at each orphanage.

We provide \$25 for each child's gift. The Director of each orphanage selects appropriate gifts. Each orphanage can also purchase the needed food of their choice of a Christmas dinner.

Here is the breakdown of this expense:

Christmas Dinner 2018

<u>Children at Each Orphanage]</u>		CDLN	\$196
Ciudad de los Niños	24	FS	\$146
FloreSer	12	HSP	\$249
Hogar San Pablo	37	OM	\$146
Orfanatorio	16	REF	\$147
Refugio	24	SAC	<u>\$197</u>
Salvation Army C/H	<u>25</u>		
Total Children	138		
	X \$25/gift		\$1,082
	=\$3,450		

Total Estimated Christmas Expenses: \$4,532

Other Ways to Give

While **Christmas is our main concern** in donations at this time, there are other needs to be met at some of the orphanages at this time of year. If you are thinking of **an end-of-year gift** here are some needs: **leaky roof repair** on the office at Salvation Army, **tutoring expenses** also at Salvation Army, and due to a storm in September, **storage shed repair** at Ciudad.

Donations may be made with **Pay Pal** on our website or by **check** to PO Box 3005, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83816.

Qualified Charitable Distribution-donors older than age 70 1/2 who are taking required minimum distribution from their IRA's can designate a portion to qualified charities of their choice. We believe this is tax free. Check with your investment adviser for more information.

If you do Christmas shopping online, you can go to **smile.amazon.com** and designate Tres Islas as your charity. A portion of each order will then go to Tres Islas.



Other Happenings



Reusable grocery bags were purchased for each orphanage



A donor from Washington provides a Halloween party

Looking Ahead

As we look ahead to 2020, we rely on our donors support to continue our mission of feeding approximately 135 children 3 meals a day. In addition we provide school supplies, health & grooming aids, some medications, and tutoring. This planning is made easier by you donors who faithfully provide the funds to make the lives of these children in Mazatlán filled with happy memories of full stomachs, nice school uniforms, a safe and comfortable place to live and medical help when needed.

Our thanks goes out to you!

Please consider Tres Islas Orphanage Fund as you make your year end contributions!



Spring Volunteer Week

The board decided that the title Spring Volunteer Week seemed much more appropriate for what we do each spring. This year's dates are **March 14-21, 2020**. During that week in Mazatlán, we meet each day and proceed to a different orphanage/home to complete a project or two, painting, small repairs, etc. We finish by approximately 1-1:30PM and have lunch with the kids if possible. We schedule 2-3 evening meals together if you choose to join the group. Everyone pays their own expenses.

It is not too early to make your arrangements and reservations for hotels. It is a great time together and really gives you a feel for the work we do there.

*It is helpful if you let **Phyllis Allen**, allendome@frontier.com know when you have decided to participate or have questions.*

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year
From
Michelle, Connie
Guillermo, Phyllis
& Chris

