



SIRVIENDO A MAZATLÁN

Desde 1951

"Con el corazón a Dios y la mano al hombre"

Hogar de Niños

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Mayora Candice Frizzell

Oficial Directivo

October 1, 2010

Dear Friends,

Once again I am thrilled to be able to write a letter to you and attempt in a very small way to tell you how much we appreciate all that you do for The Salvation Army's Children's Home here in Mazatlan, Mexico.

Although the support we receive from the Tres Islas fund is vast and varied, probably the thing we notice most on a daily basis is the \$200.00 of groceries we receive each week. Our menus are planned very carefully to make sure that we can maximize the monies received and to make sure that the twenty-five children here at the Home receive wholesome and filling meals. It is obvious to us that when some children arrive here that they have had very little to eat, perhaps only beans and tortillas, if that, and so to feed them meat and milk and fresh vegetables and fruits is satisfying, indeed, and we hope that the Tres Islas donors such as yourselves know the same satisfaction.

A new school year has now started, and what a joy it has been to present the children with their school uniforms, new shoes, school supplies and backpacks. Some of them couldn't believe they were given new items and not cast-offs or hand-me-downs. Here at The Salvation Army, your generosity helps the children's education in another way, too. Last year we were the happy recipients of funds from Tres Islas to pay for a dance teacher, which has been a wonderful addition here at the Home. Some of you might know that for the past several years the children here have been taught how to dance some of the regional Mexican Folkloric dances, and those, along with the children singing Christmas songs, was a big part of our fundraising each year. Unfortunately, because of the economy and budget cuts, the city was no longer able to supply a teacher and we were stumped as what to do. And then blessedly.....Tres Islas to the rescue! We applied to Tres Islas and included the information as what we would like to pay for a certain number of days, and we then received approval for this project. The dancing is important for many reasons: not only is it helpful to our income, but the children learn so much from it, such a coordination, cooperation, follow-thru and persistence. Last Christmas we invited the family members of the children to come and see them perform here at the Children's Home, and it was obvious that they were impressed with all that the children presented. I have to admit....I was, too! However, The best part was to see the look on the children's faces. They saw that all of their hard work paid off, and the pride and joy in their faces was a sight to behold.

And speaking of Christmas, we are also so grateful for the additional funds given through Tres Islas for the special Christmas dinner, Christmas tree and gifts. As an American, I had no idea that it is somewhat of a tradition for Mexican children (at least children here in Mazatlan) to receive and wear new clothes and shoes for Christmas, but having lived here through one Christmas, I was prepared for the second one. Each child received a pair of shoes, an article of clothing and a toy, and again, everyone was so proud to put on their new things and wear them all Christmas Day.....just like all of their friends at school.

Of course, one of our real highlights of the year is the arrival of the Spring Mission Week. It was great to see old friends from last year, but to meet new ones, too. This year's team painted the inside of our kitchen and pantry area, put up movable plastic shelving and put all of the food in new plastic containers. This will help to cut down on 'critters' helping themselves to our food! Some of the group also did yard work outside and painted the bottom half of our trees, and I must admit, things are looking pretty spiffy around here, all thanks to Tres Islas donors! And what a great time we had at the beach barbeque! As you can imagine, the children love going to the beach, but it is also a great opportunity to meet and greet the Team.

During the Team's time here, they also cleaned out and restocked our 'Receiving Room', so that we have plenty of supplies for the new children when they arrive, and also everyday necessities for all, such as toiletry items for all.

So again, I want to thank each and everyone of the Tres Islas donors for ALL that you do for us. I know these are difficult economic times for everyone, but your continued support is making it possible here in Mexico to feed and care for children who, without your help, would not be receiving even the basic care that every child deserves. I truly believe that lives are being changed because of you.

May God bless you all

Sincerely,

Candi Frizzell
Candi Frizzell
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