

Caring **action** *for Children, Inc.*
P.O. Box 64324 Los Angeles, CA 90064



THANK YOU!!!

WINTER 1991

THE 25th YEAR OF PEOPLE
REACHING OUT TO HELP GOD'S NEEDY
CHILDREN IN MEXICO

*Financial help will be gratefully
received at:*
Caring ACTION for Children, Inc.
P.O. Box 64324
Los Angeles, CA 90064

For any questions, write to:
Tor Jansen, Executive Director
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Dear Friends:

1991 marks our 25th year of serving poor children and youth in Mexico. I was reflecting on how all of you have supported us for so long in this mission. The answer came to me that you must have the same understanding in your hearts that James (2:15-17) expresses in the Bible. His idea is that your Faith in God is nothing if you do not help those in need.

Your continued help has made your faith alive and given hope for a better world.

Before Christmas, I had the opportunity to visit the children and our workers on our projects in Mexico. Wish you could have been with me and seen the many happy faces of those we support. More than 300 are touched by friends like you in distant countries. They all wanted me to tell you a BIG THANK YOU!

For the first time, I spent a few days in the area of Cancun on the Yucatan Peninsula to learn if we can help there. This area was selected by the Mexican Government about 25 years ago for development of hotels for American and European tourists. Many Mexicans moved to this remote area to find jobs and a better life for their families. The problem now is that new construction has almost stopped and there are many more people than jobs and housing for them.

Thousands of families and single parents with many children live in very primitive conditions on small lots marked out in the jungle. I visited several sites and saw huts made from planks and cardboard salvaged from hotel construction. Children were everywhere. Churches and social services did not exist here. I would not have felt safe here if the pastor from the Cancun Presby-

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As a non-profit, interdenomational organization, it is our goal to respond to the needs for the underprivileged children of the world. It is our belief that these needs must be met at all levels in a child's life - we must relate to the total being; the physical, the mental, the spiritual. When put into ACTION, this means providing food, shelter, and clothing to meet the children's physical needs; providing educational opportunities to enrich and enhance the mental capacities of the children, and providing the opportunity for worship thus encouraging spiritual growth.

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TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MAILED TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE.

terian Church and Luis, our local coordinator had not been with me.

One mother we visited had been carrying her crippled girl, Delmi, for seven years. The girl was getting too heavy to carry now and Luis had called me before I left USA to see if we could help with a wheel chair. A Masonic Lodge had found one for us. I wish you could have seen the joy of both mother and girl when they tried out the chair for the first time! The following Sunday they rolled Delmi to the church in town to thank the Lord for hearing their prayers and also to have their picture taken for the Masons.



DELMY IN HER WHEELCHAIR WITH HER MOTHER AND TOR

I also visited one of our students and her family of seven. They lived in a two room hut. Guadalupe showed me her excellent report card from school. The parents were so proud of her and expressed so many thanks for your help. The father was unemployed. The only income is from hand weaving of rugs done in the hut so the small monthly support we provide for her education is greatly needed and appreciated. I gave Guadalupe her \$5 Christmas gift and a card from you. The card had said that she could share the gift with those she loved. When I next met the family, the father proudly showed me the Bible he had received from Guadalupe. This was his first Bible and he would not stop reading it when last I saw him.

I was amazed how eager some of the Mexican Christians were to help those in the poor areas. Several times during the week they would travel to the barrios for Bible studies. Every Wednesday, the pastor and Luis led a group to a town called Bonfil to start clearing donated land, dig a well, and start foundations for a children's home and chapel. They have just started on faith, not knowing where the money would come from. The photo on the following page shows Pastor Mancilla, Tor, and the foundation for the Bonfil Children's Home.

With your faith and action, we can celebrate our 25th anniversary by helping the Mexican people build this home for the homeless and neglected. A little extra donation by you or your organization will speed up the day when the children can move in. We will keep you informed on progress. Perhaps some day you could even visit the home if you vacation in Cancun!



BONFIL CHILDREN'S HOME
A new project for our 25th
year. (photo to the left)

The picture below shows
Lourdes and David having
fun with the children at
the dining table.

LA FAMILIA HOME - SERDAN, PUEBLA

The biggest excitement this Fall was the marriage of David Aguilar to the Director Lourdes Rojo. Can you imagine a wedding with 27 of your children attending? David will continue with his sales job, but will help Lourdes with the children when he can. We wish God's Blessing in their new life together.

MAMA PAULITA HOME- EL LIMON

The Director, Sra. Hernandez writes to us that the children are doing fine in school this year. They had to work extra hard in the home this Fall, because Sra. Hernandez fell and twisted her backbone. She could not sit up or move for two months. Still she could keep the home and 40 children going. She wrote "Thank God, that I had so many volunteering children eager to come for instructions when I rang my bell." At an age of almost 83, she is an inspiration to all of us. She reports that she can walk now with someone beside her. Please pray that she may continue to have the strength to continue her mission.



The adult trade school connected with the home is doing great. During this Fall, 120 persons learned new skills which will improve the economic situation of their families.

LA FE HOME - TORREON, COAH.

All our reports tell us that this home is doing fine with 100% Mexican support. The Director, Mario, was able to get publicity on the local TV station for his children. Many people and organizations have responded. We are glad we were able to get this home started. Now we can move on to other needs.

Our coordinator in Torreon, Sra. Rachel Ibarra, continues to support our 25 students. She reports many more requests from poor families. We will try to help more next school year, depending on our finances.

CINCO BANDERAS YOUTH HOME - MONTERREY, NUEVO LEON

Plans were made during the pre-Christmas visit to expand facilities for 8 more men. Several are waiting to move from the Children's Homes and start their training for adult careers. We plan to have a volunteer work party from USA do some of the construction starting April 3-10, 1991 and also in the Fall. The volunteers would raise their own funds for transportation and construction materials. Let us know if you are interested and we will send you details.

STUDENT PROGRAM - MONTERREY, TOREEON, AND CANCUN

Some of our 100+ students met with Tor in Monterrey. They all received your Christmas card and a \$5 gift. Many thanks were expressed including two from past students. They came back to tell their success stories and to encourage those still struggling with school. One young man told how our former director, Trygve Jansen, had given him the incentive to get an education. Now, 7 years later, he told us he is a factory supervisor with many men working for him. A young lady also spoke of her appreciation. She now works as a secretary in a well known firm. She had lived with her family in one of those shacks we had pictures in the Spring 1990 issue. Now she is helping her parents with income. With the help of the Mexican Sertoma Service Club, they have since moved into a new brick house. We see that your donations are changing the lives and conditions of those we help.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM - ESCOBEDA

We continue to serve breakfast to neighborhood children before they go to school. Currently, a lay pastor and his wife in the town of Escobeda, Nuevo Leon prepare hot soup and tortillas very early, load the food in their car and serve hungry children at 7:00 to 7:30 AM every school morning. The picture to the right shows some of the children with their soup in the hut of a volunteer host family.



Please share this newsletter with a friend because we need more people just like you to participate in our work with the children. Anyone who would like their own copy, please write to our Los Angeles address. We will write to you again in the spring.

Have a great New Year, Sincerely,
Tor