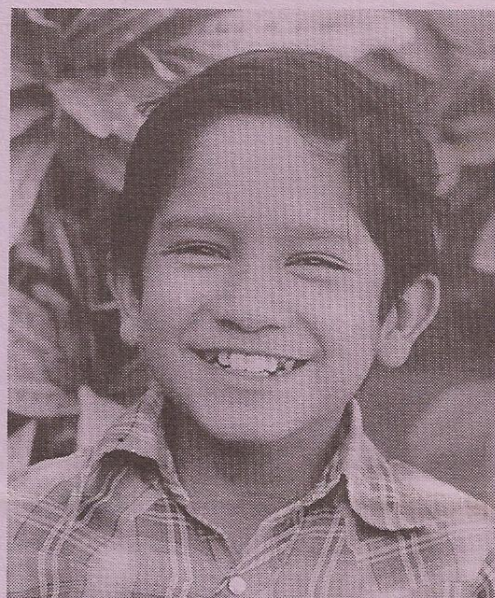


Caring **action** *for Children, Inc.*
P.O. Box 64324 Los Angeles, CA 90064



APRIL 1998 - 32 years in Mexico

Dear Action Partners,

I just came back from visiting your children in Mexico. On every visit I wish some of you could also be there to share the hugs and love which children express in their universal language. Their complete trust in me as a friend is always amazing. When I tell them that I come representing a thousand friends living in foreign countries, they smile with thanks and "Gracia a Dios!" (Thanks to God). Then they always like to ask how we can live in the snow of the cold North. I tell them again and again that we have heat inside our houses and that children have to wear many clothes when they go outside. That is hard to imagine by children in hot climates.

Before long, they want to play games with them. I find out that their soccer ball is all worn out and does not hold air, but that is O.K., the game goes on. Or the girls share dolls with arms, legs or hair missing but the playing and imagination goes on just as well as with our girls with the latest "Barbie doll". The gift from the donors of a toy or snack becomes the big event of the day especially if the children can come to the store with me for the purchase.

When I am with the young children, I get a better understanding of the saying, "Unless your faith becomes like that of little children, you will not discover the Kingdom of Heaven" (or what is important in life). The children accept, on faith, that their thousand friends listen to God and give money for food, a secure home to live in, an opportunity to attend school and Christian houseparents that will care for their needs and hurts. I do not understand all words of the Spanish prayers at the dinner table, but I do catch the thanks to God for all the "donativos" and that includes all of you who give.

The houseparents keep all the receipts for the expenses and are eager to show them to me to let us know that the money is put to good use. Average costs in 1997 for one month for one child or youth can be summarized as follows : Meals are \$35, Housing is \$20, Salaries for houseparents and helpers who cook, clean, help with school work, serve 3 meals a day and comfort when hurt are \$10. Schooling for basic education and Christian instruction cost \$5.

With our friends in USA, Norway and Sweden, we help our Mexican friends with an average of 65% of costs per child. In 1997, we donated \$79,471 to the 8 different homes and projects you support. The interest on our contingency fund paid for our operating expenses. Therefore, we can say that 100% of your donations went to the children.

Tor Jansen

Caring Action for Children, Inc.
P.O. Box 64324 Los Angeles Ca 90064

OPERATING STAFF

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 HONORARY ORIGINAL MEMBERS

As a nonprofit, interdenominational organization, it is our goal to respond to the needs of the under privileged children of the world. It is our belief that these needs must be met at all levels in a child's life - 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 opportunity for worship thus encouraging spiritual growth.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS CAN BE MAILED TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS

The federal tax registration number is 95-61155992

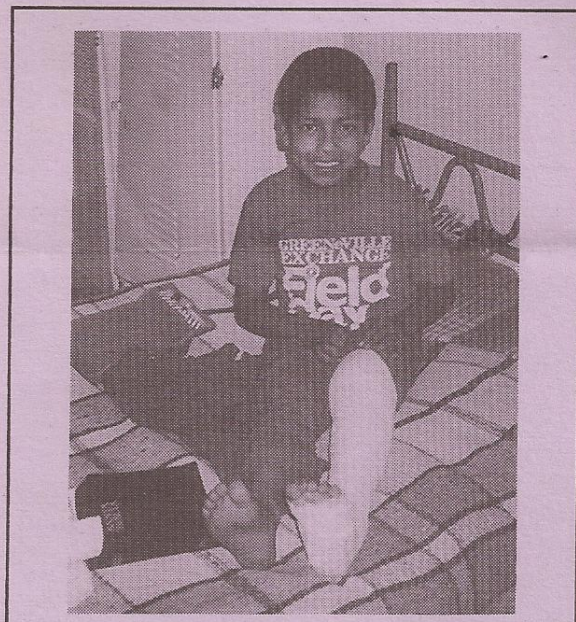
For additional information, please contact
 Caring Action for Children, Inc., Tor W. Jansen
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LA FAMILIA HOME, Serdan, Pue



Why the sad faces on this boy and girl? They were just taken from the street by the authorities and brought to La Familia. Miguel 10 and Rosa 9 don't know what is going to happen to them in this strange place with 22 other children. Their mother could not take care of them because she was selling sodas and snacks on the streets for a living. She would keep her other two very young children with her while selling. The father had died some time ago. Miguel and Rosa should be in school but with no parent to tell them to go and no money for books and proper clothes, they would stay around the shack they called home and beg people for food. After some time, a neighbor had called the authorities. Right after this picture was taken, they would get clean clothes, a good meal and be introduced to their new "brothers" and "sisters". By the end of the day those sad faces were all smiles. The gate was open and they could go back to where they came from but they chose not to. The clean bed and kind houseparents were too good to be true! The promise that they would go to school like other kids did not sound bad.

In the dorm, Tio Tor found Crisoforo (*pictured to the left*) at his bed all day. He had come to the home four months ago with a badly twisted foot. He was born with



that and a slightly deformed arm. Right away, the houseparents Eliezer and Berna Braveo sought out doctors which could operate. Crisoforo had his operation a month ago and now he was in a full leg cast. He was told he had to stay in bed 3 months because there were no wheel chairs or crutches in town. Tio Tor made sure he got some crutches. Now Crisoforo can go to school with the others. He was so happy he was going to be normal.

MAMA PAULITA HOME, El Limon, Tamps.

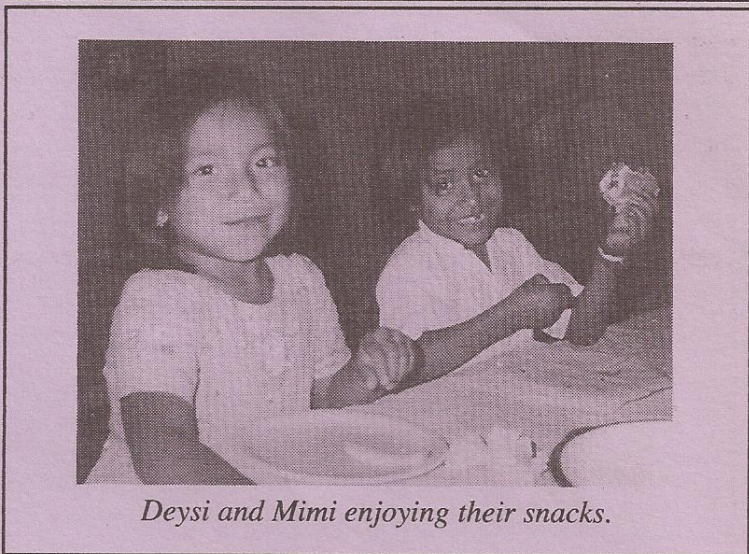
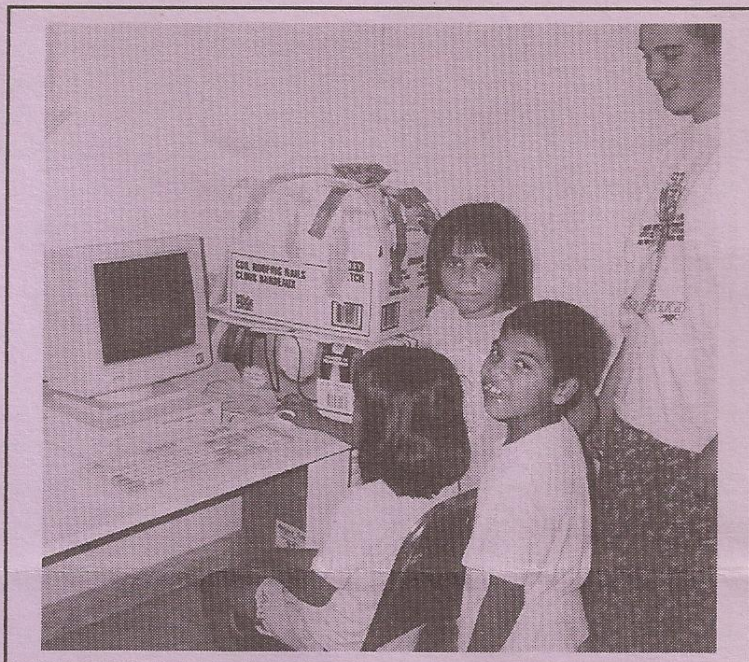
There were 39 happy children from 6 to 16+ at the Home. Some of the older children were learning to operate computers. Celia and Arturo, the houseparents, had assembled used components received from USA and had two computers and one printer in working order. Susan, the American volunteer, was teaching computing to some girls after homework was done. I think the boys preferred soccer. The home is still looking for more volunteer help, especially some Spanish speaking persons who can live in the Home and spend time with children on Christian education.

A much needed soccer ball for the boys, a volleyball and some recorder flutes for the girls were given from the donors. They send their thanks for all your help.

ESPERANZA HOME, Bonfil, Q. Roo

The 20 children from 4 to 13 were eager to have Tio Tor walk with them to school. It took almost a half hour to reach the public school. In this village all the classes are on one floor with windows and doors all open for ventilation. The temperature gets to 95° even in the winter. The classes start at 8 AM and finish at 1 PM.

After the walk home, the children are hungry and the housemother Flori has dinner ready. The children then do chores, homework, and get ready for the arrival of the Pastor. He teaches songs, Bible stories and prays with them. Then it is play time. A light supper is served at about 8 PM. and then bed time starts for the young ones. Sometimes on Saturdays the young people in the Cancun church come in a van and take the children to the beach. On Sunday all go church.



Deysi and Mimi enjoying their snacks.

SHELTER FOR BABIES AND TEEN MOTHERS, Monterrey, NL.

There are 20 children and one mother, Graciela, living at the Shelter. Graciela works with all the children and receives a small salary. Between her and two older paid women, they are on duty caring, feeding, cleaning and diapering 24 hours a day. Volunteers come to help in the daytime. The children are up to 5 years old so some are taken to kindergarten part of the day. The children play in the dining area or outside in the fenced yard when the sun is shining.

The shelter leaders were concerned about what to do when children become older and do not fit in with toddlers. They do not want to send their "babies" to another home. One caring Mexican Christian architect, Carlos, volunteered to build two separated dorm buildings for elementary age children. His family will pay for everything. The shell of the first dorm was almost finished when I visited.

You should have seen the excitement of the children when they all wore new T-shirts with our logo. These shirts (*see left*) and four handmade baby blankets were donated by Methodists in Hatboro, PA. Thank you very much!



MANO STUDENT HOME FOR GIRLS, San Nicolas, NL

The 15 young ladies with their director, Cordelia, served coffee, tea, and fruit juices along with sandwiches and cakes when I visited with the Board at the Home. The main decision to be made was the design of the expansion for additional baths and dorm space. A drawing for an annex in the yard was approved with enthusiasm from the girls who will not have to wait so long to get ready for school. Construction started the next day because I brought funds from donors in Sweden and USA for this project. One young lady, Concha, came back to share her Nursing diploma and give thanks. You have helped her develop from a little girl at La Familia to a happy self-sufficient person, serving other people in need at a Nursing Home.

CINCO BANDERAS STUDENT HOME FOR BOYS, Monterrey, NL

The 15 young men with their director couple, Cristobal and Anna, showed us that they had two of the computers working which our friend Mike Fischer had brought last fall. They did not have a printer yet so they could not use them for printing homework. They also served a fiesta meal of Mexican specialties. From you they received two soccer balls for their favorite sport. Four more boys are expected this summer from the Mama Paulita Home. Four boys whom had spent their earlier years in our Homes and Cinco Banderas came to visit and tell me of their successful careers. They asked me to pass on their appreciation to you!

OUTREACH PROJECT, Almaguer, Guadalupe NL

Over 60 children waited for us when we arrived up the steep mountain path. I had brought donated sweatshirts and candy to give out following the worship with the children. What joy! We are progressing with help for a building that people will use for a social / medical center as well as a church. The leaders were very happy to receive \$3,000 from Caring Action for a roof to replace the tarps they now erect every time they meet. We continue to help serve meals to the children of Almaguer.



Students you support go to schools like this when you help with uniforms and school supplies. They know someone cares for them!



Some children are left to play in the streets and rubble all day. They may never learn of life's opportunities or the Promise of God.