

Caring Action



In Mexico

For Children

Sept.
2002

Our 36th year
in Mexico

Dear Friends of Children and Youth in Mexico

We want to thank you for all your financial help. With your monthly support, we are still able to provide hope for children and youth in six different homes and two outreach mission projects. The building of a seventh home is almost finished. We believe the Lord is walking with us as we take steps for Him into the unknown.

I sometimes wonder how we can do this work for 36 years and not grow tired? A friend of Caring Action sent a letter which may answer the question for me. He quoted a missionary who said something like this:

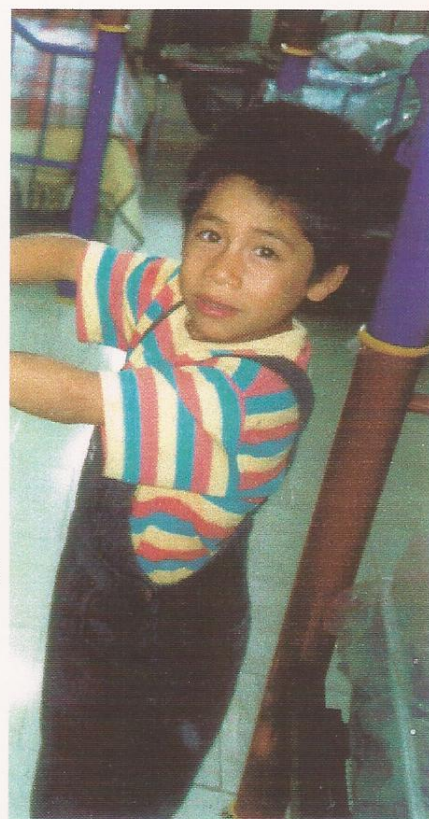
"Unless I realize that God's blessing is coming to me from those I want to serve, my help will be short lived, and soon I will be tired out!"

Mission for Christ is first of all, receiving God's blessing from those whom we serve. What is this blessing? It is a glimpse of the face of God reflected in the faces of all those who need our care!"

We pray you are blessed as much from giving as the child above who is receiving.

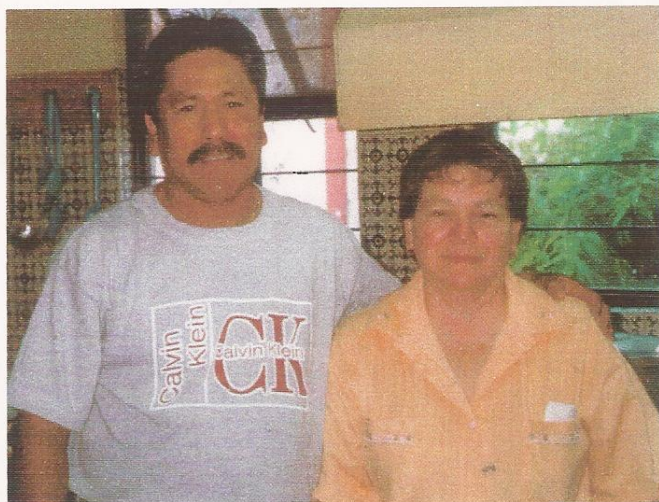
In August I traveled with a volunteer team from Texas to the La Familia Home for Children in Serdan. The Children's faces, and their hugs and smiles blessed the visitors. In return, the visitors promised to support this Christian Home with education and hope for the children. They deserve that! You are invited to make a visit sometime!

Tor, your director



Visit to La Familia Home for Children by Tor Jansen and a Texas Work Team

This home was constructed 22 years ago with a building grant from Norway. During this time two different sets of house parents have operated the home. This summer, a third couple volunteered to be in charge. You can imagine the stress on adults who must look after 20 to 30 children 24 hours a day with very little time off for vacation. Normally, only 2 part time helpers are available for cooking and laundry. We thank the Bravos for six years of service.

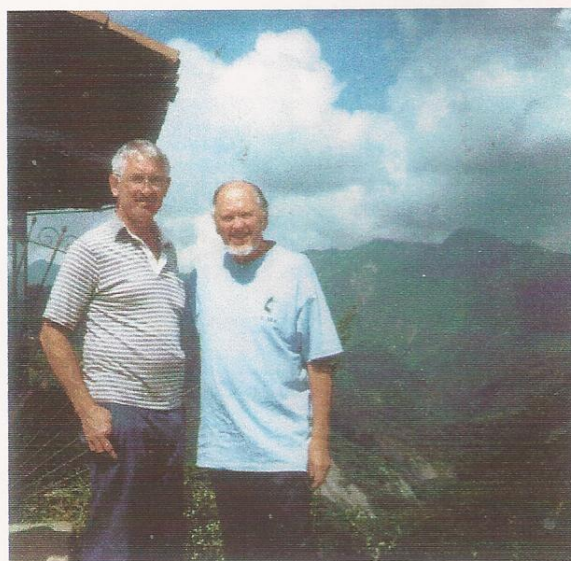


The new couple, Jose-Emigdio and Anna-Laura Sanchez, started this summer. They were assigned to La Familia by the Mexican Methodist Church. Jose gave up a successful sales job and Anna Laura had studied in seminary. They have two boys who integrated well with the children at the home. They need our prayers and support!

When I visited with the work-team from Texas, children and new house parents were in the second week of adjusting to each other. Most of the children are very young, so in a few days we saw how flexible children are to form new relationships.

The Texas United Methodist team of nine, under the leadership of Larry Cotten, made much needed repair, paint and clean-up jobs for the home. But more importantly, they had a chance to be with children and house parents. The Team arranged a barbecue, worship story times, homemade ice cream and fun games. They also walked with excited children to town for snacks and also for pizza. By the end of the week, children, visitors and house parents became a great happy and loving family!

The Team traveled by van from Dallas, Texas to the La Familia Home in Serdan. The picture shows Larry Cotton and Tor in the rugged mountains that must be crossed before reaching Serdan from the Gulf of Mexico. We appreciate Larry who coordinates funding gifts and many volunteer work teams from US churches for this home. These funds now cover 75% of needs for the La Familia Home.



.....the blessing that keeps me going....

During our visit, a Mexican welfare worker came to the home with a woman and two young boys. Most likely, the mother had been deserted and left with too many children to care for. When they departed, one boy was left behind. I never saw such a sad face, but he was determined not to show any tears. Luis was about 10 years old and trying to act like an adult. To the right, you see Luis the day he was dropped off at the home.



The next meal was an American barbecue with steak and hot dogs. I sat next to Luis and showed him how to prepare the first hot dog he ever had. He liked them, and ate three! When it came to the doughnuts, he thought them too strange. Besides, he had eaten more than he had for many days. Some of the boys in the dorm befriended him and showed him his own bed. Pictured to the left is Luis, (in the Caring Action white t-shirt), and his new friends, in his nice new dormitory—a quick change from his sad faced arrival a day earlier.

After the next day's baseball game, and a pizza party, he became all smiles. "Perhaps this place is OK," he probably thought. "Better than living on the street!" When I asked him how he liked the new home, he said with a big smile, "Me Gusta!" (I love it!). That was the blessing to keep me going!

Tor



Children enjoying home-made ice Cream at the La Familia Home. We will have more news and pictures from the other homes in the next issue. Have a pleasant autumn.

Caring ACTION for Children, Inc.

OPERATING STAFF

TOR W. JANSEN
Executive Director
**MIRIAM VALDEZ &
MARTHA FLORES**
Coordinators in Mexico
INGEMAR BERGSTROM
Coordinator in Sweden

TURID ASKEVOLD
Treasurer in Norway
HELGE JANSEN
Coordinator & Publication
in Norway

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SHIRLEY BECKER
President/Treasurer
WILLIAM SMITH
Secretary
RONI CLARK
Member

TERISE PAULSON
Vice-President
MARY CLARK
Donations Secretary
MAY JANSEN
Member

EVELYN LINDSTROM AND MARTHA PEDROSA
Honorary Original Members

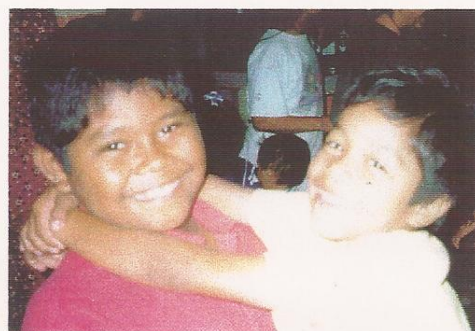
As a nonprofit, interdenominational organization, it is our goal to respond to the needs of the under privileged children of the world. It is our belief that these needs must be met at all levels in a child's life – we must relate to the total being: the physical, the mental, the spiritual. When put 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.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MAILED
TO THE DONATION ADDRESS ABOVE
The Federal Tax Registration Number is 95 61155992

Donations Address:

P.O. Box 23
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-0023

For additional information, please contact
Caring Action for Children, Tor W. Jansen,
38 Elsie Drive, Southampton, PA 18966
or e-mail us at caringaction@juno.com



Memorial

Martha I. De Flores went to be with the Lord 8 August 2002. She faithfully served Caring Action for Children in Mexico for 20 years.



Her inspiration helped start new mission projects which have given hope for many children and youth in the Monterrey, Mexico area. Some of those projects are: Casa Hogar for Orphaned or Mistreated Babies (The Shelter), the MANO Home for Young Women Students, and the Cinco Banderas Home for Young Men Students. During the years she also participated in our Outreach Ministry of Bible Studies and supervised the Student Program in the Monterrey and Torreon areas to help individual boys, girls and seminarians obtain vocations to better economic and spiritual conditions in Mexico. Martha was a volunteer Coordinator and Christian Mentor of our mission projects in the Monterrey area. She was always ready to make arrangements for visitors from the USA, Norway and Sweden. She was the interpreter for all who needed her skill in translating between English and Spanish. She provided reports for projects she coordinated. Without her service, Caring Action for Children could not have prepared newsletters to Christians in foreign countries which resulted in funds for God's children in Mexico. All of us will greatly miss her!

*Martha will always be remembered by the many she served
for our Lord Jesus Christ. She made this a better world!*