



June 2020

# QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

A Publication of International Children's Care  
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VISIT OUR WEBSITE [ForHisKids.org](http://ForHisKids.org)

## Paying Forward Your Kindness

This Que Pasa, we are sharing stories of inspiration and thankfulness. These inspiring stories, such as Mabi's testimony, are stories of hope that we so desperately need in this unprecedented time. Most importantly, they show what a life-long difference your care makes in the lives of the children. For that, we are so thankful!

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**I**t was an overcast day. The gloomy weather reflected in Mabi's emotions as she traveled with her family. "Gray, just like our lives," Mabi thought, looking at the sky. At thirteen-years-old, Mabi was the oldest of her siblings. They lived in extreme poverty, with no hope for the future. Yet, thanks to the support of people like you, her life was about to change for good.

Mabi's mother walked with determination. "Where are we going?" The children wanted to know. Tall pine trees lined the country road in Guatemala. Then, a sign appeared. "Hogar Campestre Los Pinos de Adventista." Mabi recognized this as a home for children. "Mom? What's this?" Mabi asked.

"You're going to be in a place where you can study," She answered. "That's something I can't give you."

The decision was a difficult one. Mabi's mother loved her children dearly, but she knew that the best

place for them was in a home where they might have a life free from poverty, and hope for a better future. That day, Mabi hugged her mother goodbye. Although they would still keep in touch often, Mabi and three of her younger siblings were now to be adopted into a new family, an ICC family at Los Pinos Children's Village.

House parents greeted Mabi at a home with a beautiful view. In the evening, when the sun set over Los Pinos, this home on a hill had the best view of campus. It was difficult to understand why she couldn't be with her mother, but Mabi's new house parents helped her to adapt. This place would soon become Mabi's treasured home.

Without the constant stress of poverty, Mabi began to play and laugh easily with the other children. She built lasting memories, and through it all, she felt confident that her life was important and had a purpose.

"The most beautiful thing for me here was learning about God," says Mabi.

Mabi thrived in school. She loved her classwork, but she especially enjoyed writing letters. She wrote detailed letters to send to her sponsors. After growing up with so little, Mabi could hardly believe that people she had never met would take such an interest in her life.



As a child, Mabi could hardly believe that people she had never met wanted to be her sponsor. That gift of love impacted Mabi immensely. She now dedicates her life to helping children from similar situations as her own.

Eight years at Los Pinos went by very quickly. Mabi graduated from the ICAP secondary school with a certificate in accounting. Afterwards, she decided to return to Los Pinos as the book keeper. She was grateful for the kindness of her sponsors, and returning to Los Pinos gave her an opportunity to pay forward the support she received.

Mabi felt motivated to continue her education. There weren't many options available where she could work and study at the same time, so she decided to enroll at a university in Guatemala City.

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# Staying Safe and Studying

ICC kids share their experience as university students during the pandemic.

For people all around the world, life dramatically changed when the global pandemic was announced. On March 17, the President of Guatemala declared a state of emergency and with it some security measures for the population. Anabela, Director of the Receiving Center in Guatemala City, interviewed a few of the college-age students who are currently studying in Guatemala City. Here they share from their experiences.

## What is it like to stay at the receiving center and not go to an actual classroom for your college classes?

"It's totally different because we do not have a fixed schedule to send homework. Homework is given at the time that suits the teacher. I miss the classroom schedule." – Teresa de Jesus Alvarez

## What is the biggest challenge you face while studying in this way?

"Being able to do the work well. Many times when I don't understand something, it is difficult to communicate with the teachers." – Manuela Rubi Marquez Morales

## How is the lockdown impacting your goal to obtain a college degree?

"It was really surprising that suddenly everything changed radically. For example, one of the requirements to graduate is to do a teaching practice in a government or private school, but it is not possible because all the private and public schools are closed, meanwhile I am putting all



Your gifts help make it possible for these students to attend school. Each of these young women are studying to become teachers. From left to right, Manuela Rubi Marquez Morales, Teresa de Jesus Alvarez, and Aura Salome Beteta Feliciano.

my effort to advance what is possible." – Teresa de Jesus Alvarez

"I have really realized that by receiving online classes I am advancing in my career and I can go ahead in the future to be able to obtain the title of Teaching in secondary education and technical in educational administration." – Aura Salome Beteta Feliciano

## What do you look forward to the most once this lockdown is lifted?

"Going to university and receiving face-to-face classes so I can continue learning more and I also want to see my classmates." – Aura Salome Beteta Feliciano

"Three things: 1. Give thanks to God for his care. 2. Start studying formally. 3. See the people that I love." – Manuela Rubi Marquez Morales

Although these changes are difficult, we thank God that there are no positive cases within ICC Projects. Above all, we are sure that God takes care of His children. He uses people like you to provide abundant blessings and love. Thank you very much for supporting this the children. God bless you!

## Paying Forward Your Kindness

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After sundown on Sabbath evening, Mabi travelled eight hours by bus, arriving in time for classes on Sunday. Afterwards, she returned home by bus, arriving in time to be at work Monday morning. She lost a lot of sleep during those six years earning a degree in accounting.

Even though work for an accountant was in high demand, Mabi wanted to continue helping children from situations similar to her own, so she was happy to remain at Los Pinos after she received her degree.

"To all those people who at some point are moved in their hearts to help, I ask that they do it," Says Mabi. "Really, in doing that, they will change many lives. I invite you to give so that together we can change, maybe not the whole world, but at least the lives of the children at ICC Children's Villages."

Mabi's life is no longer a gray reflection of a rainy day. Because of caring people like you, she lives a colorful life, filled with joy and compassion. Thank you for your continued support of the children!

# Celebrating Fathers



Your support enables ICC house fathers to be a positive, guiding force in the lives of children who desperately need the loving security that they provide. We recognize and honor the faithful service of these fathers and thank you for the part you play in helping to make these positive relationships possible within ICC families.

*As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.*

*Psalms 103:13 NIV*

*“Words have an awesome impact. The impression made by a father's voice can set in motion an entire trend on life.”*

*Gordon MacDonald*

## An Exciting Time to Share Our Blessings

*By Doug Congleton*

I get excited every time a shipping container leaves the ICC office filled with wonderful treasures that you have provided for “His kids!” God has blessed us all so much, and it is thrilling to see how generously you continue to share your blessings with the children.

That’s why I’m happy to announce the plan for sending a 40-foot container all the way to the Patmos Children’s Village in the DR Congo. There’s much work to do before this container can be loaded on a ship bound for Patmos. Will you join in this adventure?

Please go to the ICC website where you will find a listing of all

the items needed to help the children in our Congo project. Here is the link: [www.forhiskids.org/container](http://www.forhiskids.org/container). You can start bringing or sending those items to the ICC office after June 15.

We are praying for the financial help the children need in order to make this happen as well. Along with the treasured items needed on the campus, this shipment will require the finances to pay for the container rental, ocean shipping costs, custom’s costs and overland trucking expenses.

Please dedicate prayer time to this great need and see if God is calling you to help with this effort

in whatever way you can. This is a time of excitement for the children, and for all of us that will take part in this amazing blessing for the children!



The children are so grateful to each of you who help make it possible for them to have much-needed items.

# ICC Projects Give to Those in Need

## Outreach During the Global Pandemic

Thank you for providing for the children at this time during the COVID-19 outbreak. While your support continues to meet the needs of the children, there are many people in the surrounding communities who are suffering. Here is how two of the ICC projects are helping those in need.

In the last week of April, staff of Fundación Fuente de Vida in Nicaragua visited families to provide support and deliver food, clothes and toilet paper. They were careful to take the recommended measures regarding the distance between people, and wore PPE.

ICC's Las Palmas Children's Village in the Dominican Republic distributed food and Gospel tracts to families struggling with COVID-19 financial needs. The neighbors joyfully received bread made with the help of ICC children, yucca and plantains from the campus farm, and Steps to Christs and "Centinelas" from the church outreach fund. They also welcomed the prayers and encouragement from ICC staff.

"For us, it was a great joy to share out of what we are blessed with," said Samilin Williams, campus administrator. She and other adults with PPE's visited community homes, which they have done three times now. It has been a great way to win their neighbors' hearts, and to see the exponential difference donors around the world make as they support children.



Your consistent and loving care makes it possible for ICC children and staff to give to their communities. Here, Samilin Williams, director of Las Palmas, prays with local families. The goods delivered to neighbors serve as a tremendous outreach to the community, and are extensions of your love for the children. Thank you!



Fundación Fuente de Vida, was able to deliver needed goods to needy children and families in Nicaragua. María Angelica Campos, program director, is pictured with a local family. To find out more about the Nicaragua project, visit <https://forhiskids.org/category/nicaragua/>.

## International Mail Service Disrupted Due to Pandemic

Whoever coined the phrase "the mail must go through" probably had no idea what a global pandemic would do to the movement of mail. Unfortunately, international mail service has been disrupted, and that is affecting the ability of ICC children to communicate by mail with their sponsors. Also, it is likely affecting delivery of any mail you send to a child you sponsor. We recommend that you postpone mailing items to ICC projects until the mail service begins to flow more normally. We will provide an update when that happens. Thank you for your understanding and continued support of "His kids!"



*A Legacy of Love*

*P*roviding for the future through planned giving

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Contact Doug today for more details.

(800) 422-7729

DougC@ForHisKids.org

When soliciting funds for a specific need, we occasionally receive more in donations than requested. In those instances when we do receive more money than solicited, those extra funds are placed in "Alcyon's Angel Fund." To protect the privacy of our children, ICC uses fictitious names in the Que Pasa when referring to minor children.