



# QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care  
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## RUNNING FROM THE WAVES! TSUNAMI STORY

**A**s reported in the last Qué Pasa Marilyn Beveridge, ICC's Asia Pacific regional director and her assistant Jessie, have been visiting the areas hit

**They had clung to coconut trees and had all survived.**

by the tsunami. Here is just one of the amazing stories of survival.

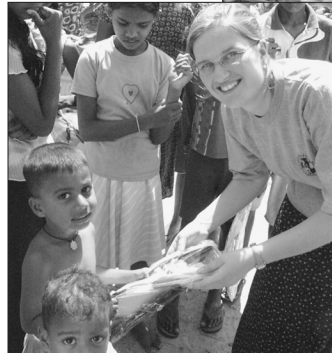
A mother and her boy (see photo of the boy with a new shorts in

his hands) saw the first wave coming, and stared running. In her excitement, the mother decided to turn back with her son and retrieve some of the families important papers. By that time, the water was in the house and rising fast. She tossed her little boy onto a high cupboard, then got onto it herself and smashed a hole in the ceiling just before the water covered them.

After the first wave receded, she ran to locate her other children, who had clung to coconut trees to survive. They kept together and started running away from the sea. Others further inland



Happy to be alive



Jessie hands out clothes



Tents become homes for survivors

saw the people running away, but they choose to run towards the sea to watch what was happening.

When the second wave hit, it was far bigger and stronger than the first one. All of the people who ran towards the sea were swept away and the homes there were completely destroyed.

This surviving family now lives on the cement slab that was once their home and they sleep in a tent. The father was fishing with others out at sea when the tsunami struck. None of the fishermen noticed anything. When the man came home, his house was completely destroyed but he was thankful his family had survived.

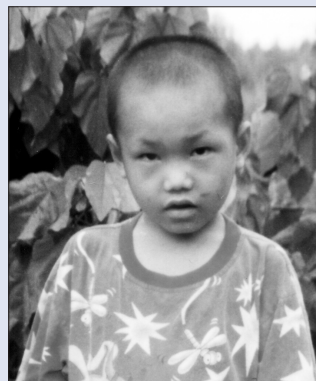
## PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

**My name is Suthep**

I need a sponsor. I am 6 years old and live in Thailand. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. Thanks!

\$25    \$50    \$\_\_\_\_\_

**(800)422-7729**  
Sponsorship Department



## Christmas Card Project for ICC Children

Just before Christmas last year, ICC Netherlands Director, Lambro Triantos, came up with the idea that each ICC child needed a special Christmas greeting. Lambro worked with two of his staff members, Sandra Nab and Christa Breure, to plan the details for this project.

### It gives them a feeling of, "Hey, I am somebody, too."

A special volunteer day was arranged at the Dutch office. On December 12, twenty-seven young volunteers participated in writing more than 1,100 Christmas Cards for children and staff members at the various ICC projects around the world. Lambro indicated that "receiving a card is something special to all our kids. It gives them a feeling of, 'Hey, I am somebody, too.'"

The volunteers enjoyed the project, and the song "Feliz Navidad" was sung more than once. The cards included a printed message (written in Spanish, English or French). According to Lambro, the Thai and Cambodian languages were difficult. The volunteer's primary activity was to fill in the name of the child who would receive the card.



Netherlands volunteers and staff

The Dutch staff were able to obtain a sponsorship from DHL who delivered most of the cards to ICC's projects around the world. The cards were



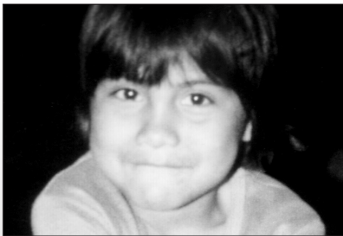
One of the ICC Thailand families

enthusiastically received by ICC children as can be seen in the photo above.

Many thanks to the Dutch volunteers and staff who made this special Christmas project a success.

## Graduation Letter

Gricelda Lopez came to ICC's Los Pinos project very sick. She had been abandoned. She was thought to be about one or two years of age when she came to us. After receiving tender loving care, Gricelda responded beautifully and was making great progress in no time. That was over 22 years ago, and today Gricelda is a healthy happy, young woman.



Gricelda at 6 years old

Recently, Griceida graduated from college. She included the following letter to our ICC family in her graduation notice.

Dear ICC Family,

I am so thankful for the unconditional love that you give me and all your other children in the world.

I feel so privileged to form part of ICC. I will always feel privileged because I know that God has chosen every child to be in a loving family that you provide through many different people.

I am sure that the mission that you are doing here on earth is done with lots of love and dedication for us and I am very grateful. On this occasion my gratitude is special because with the help of God, you and my sponsors, I have reached another goal in my life. As you already know I have graduated with Business Administration with emphasis in Accounting.



Taken at Graduation

And I owe it all to God and you. You were the people who gave me strength and advice during my most difficult times.

I thank you with all my heart and now that I am studying my degree, I ask God to always guide me even when making the smallest decisions. I love you so much and I feel so proud of being part of the great ICC family.

I Love you. With love,  
Gricelda Lopez

# A Personal Note

## From the President of ICC

Dear ICC Family,

The year 2005 already has been a very busy one for International Children's Care. In addition to the increasing expenses that we are facing in our existing projects around the world, the December 26 Asia tsunami disaster is presenting us with many new challenges.

Our Asia-Pacific regional director, Marilyn Beveridge, is traveling in that region to assess what ICC can do to help. We are already working on sending seven containers from our offices in the Netherlands, Hong Kong, the USA and Australia with medicines, clothing, blankets and other supplies to help the families who were devastated by this massive disaster. As you read in last month's newsletter, children in our projects are sharing what food they can spare with the children in Asia that were left homeless.

As soon as possible, we will share Marilyn's report with you. So far it appears there is a need for ICC to start another project in India, and expand our projects in some of the other countries affected by the tsunami. But the question that burns in my mind is, How can we do this?

Right now I am also concerned because we do not have enough sponsors for all the children that we currently have in our care. In many countries, the cost of basic necessities, such as rice and beans, is increasing at an alarming rate. We thank God for each of you who are faithfully supporting these children each month. Without your consistent support, we would not be able to provide these children with the food, clothing, medicines and loving care that they need and deserve.

But, as we help more children, and as the costs rise, the needs outpace the income. Perhaps, you can help find one more sponsor that would be willing to care for one of these children?

Recently, Sharon and I visited the El Oasis Children's Village in Mexico. My parents, Ken and Alcyon, joined us there for a visit with the children. Next month my mother plans to share that experience with you, and we will include some pictures as "Mommy and Papi" Fleck played and sang with the kids.

These kids are getting big! And we are committed to providing for them as they grow up and become independent.

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you are doing to make it possible for these children to have a chance in life. Whenever I visit them, they always want me to let you know how much they appreciate the opportunities that you are helping to give them. God bless you for continuing to provide for His kids!

On Behalf of the Children,



RICK FLECK

P.S. Please check out the back page for ideas of how you can make a difference through your prayers and contributions.



Area hit by the tsunami

## Join Us for an Introduction to ICC – *Dare To Imagine*

To increase awareness of ICC's work, ICC is holding a series of one-hour informational sessions here at the headquarters office in Vancouver, WA. These *Dare to Imagine Tours* are designed to provide a clear overview of ICC's mission, programs, and vision for saving more lives and sponsoring the children who are already part of our family. This is an opportunity for you to bring a friend who lives in this area. These tours...

Will last no more than one hour,

Will be informative,

And will likely change (or at least update) your perceptions about who ICC is and what we do.

*You will not be pressured for money.*

To RSVP for a tour or for more information, contact Liana St.Clair at (360) 573-0429 or [Liana@forhiskids.org](mailto:Liana@forhiskids.org).

## Upcoming Tours include:

March 10 – 12:00-1:00 p.m.

March 24 - 6:30-7:30 p.m.

April 7 – 12:00-1:00 p.m.

## Memorials

### **Marian Arechiga**

Herb & Anna May Waters

Aprilla USA

Paul & Rosie Bennett

Eleanor Berecz

Meadow Glade SS Class

First Data Merchant Services

### **Catalino Bautista**

Esther Kerr

### **Red Brouillette**

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Smith

### **Howard Burbank**

Tom & Helen Ipes

### **Gerald Clause**

Raymond & Jean Greve

### **Justin Doty**

Ruth Edwards

### **William Fisher- Husband**

Dorothy Fisher

### **Gaede Gaede - Ida & Menno**

Mary Jane Nevis

### **Theola Geedey**

Blanch & Stephen Butler

### **Lena Gemberling**

Winnie & Ron Wright

### **Forrest Givens**

George & Joyce White

### **Ida & Menno Goede**

Mary Jane Nevis

### **Don & Velma Guptill**

Mary Jane Nevis

### **Rose Harriman**

Agnes Breitigam

### **Catrina Hebert**

Carol & John Hebert

### **Guy & Ruth Hess Parents**

Melva Perry

### **Ruth Ipes**

Tom & Helen Ipes

### **Guy Kelley**

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Smith

# CHANGE OF DATE:

## Washington & Oregon ICC Family Members

### International Children's Care

### "Circle of Hope"

### Fundraising Breakfast

**Date:** Sunday, May 1, 2005

**Time:** 9:29 a.m. Sharp!

**Place:** Heathman Lodge Ballroom  
7801 NE Greenwood Drive  
Vancouver, WA

Reservations required - Contact Liana St.Clair at (360) 573-0429 or [Liana@forhiskids.org](mailto:Liana@forhiskids.org)

Please Note: We're looking for Table Captains

**SAVE THIS DATE**

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## by praying for...

Wisdom and Discernment as we evaluate how ICC will help orphan children affected by the tsunami.

The physical and spiritual safety of all of ICC's children world-wide

## by praising for...

The safety of Merilyn, Jessie and Lilly during their trip in Southeast Asia

## by contributing towards...

The on-going monthly operational needs of ICC's projects,

The sponsorship of a child in need.