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QUE PASA

W H A T ' S H A P P E N I N G

A Publication of International Children's Care
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COLOMBIA

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS



Raul and his wife.

In 2006, ICC celebrates the 20-year anniversary of our work in Colombia. Because of the political unrest that has plagued the country, ICC's presence has been low-profile with children being cared for in foster homes. However, the results, as you will see, are a credit to the love and nurturing care the children have received.

Many of them are grown now and have families of their own. This is the case with Raul Torra and his three brothers and two sisters, all members of the ICC family of children. These grown children are talented and dedicated. Raul has been in the ministry for 10 years and currently serves as a district pastor in a remote area of Colombia. Recently,

Pastor Ken Fleck received a letter from Raul. Here is an excerpt.

"The worship services in the churches are held at 6:00 p.m. because after 8:00 p.m. it is dangerous to be on the streets because war is going on. There are frequent combats between the gorilla groups and government troops. In these days there is a shutdown of activities, with no land transportation to the surrounding villages...so we have moments of anguish because of the members who are lost, and others who are threatened by the gorillas.

For my part, I am not able to visit half of my district. That is to say, I am not permitted to leave the

area of the small town where I live. A number of our churches are closed because these rebel groups do not permit our members to meet and do not allow the pastor into those places. It is very

... the Lord has given us the privilege of baptizing 200 people.

impressive that in spite of the war, the gospel is not detained and every day it is going forward.

Our lay brethren are working most diligently and carrying forward the work. On Sabbaths these laymen meet in their homes and invite their friends and family members to meet with

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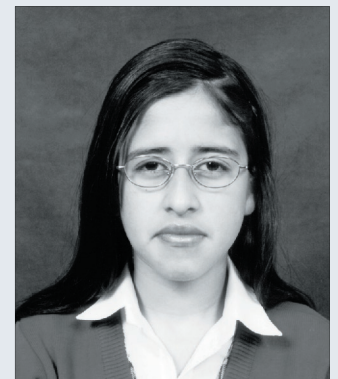
PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

My name is Julieth

I need a sponsor. I am 11 years old and live in Colombia. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. Thanks!

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$_____

(800)422-7729
Sponsorship Department



Honors

Eleanor Berez - Birthday

By Paul & Rosie
John Berez
Joseph Berez
Ruby Cornelius
Jean Duncan
Susan Highland
Doris James
Doreen Kaiser
Karrla May
Sue Patzer
Tod & Kari Schroeder
Evelyn Witt
Lowell, Marsha, Sarah, & Shari Booth

Irelis Damaris - 6th Birthday

By Tony & Mayda Suarez

Tony & Kathy Matheny

By Jim & Gina Strawn

Lenora Miller - 95th Birthday

By Lenora Miller

Sam & Greta Pellecer

By Elder Richard D. Fearing

Byron & Marcia Roberts - Gift

By Neil & Linda Peterson

Marcia Roberts - Gift to Mom

By Malaika & Christofer Childers Family

Alice Schultz

By Aaron Koelsch

Sofia Van Schaik

By E. Nichols Trucking
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Mark /Theresa Bergthold
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Russell & Chrystal Trout
Donna Veach-Buttgen
Winston & Alice Yur
Moti Meditation Center, Inc
Decatur SDA Church

20 Years in Colombia continued

them. And so, even though the church may be closed, hearts are even more open to the message.

We have held baptisms in the enclosed yards of the homes...in a secret manner. The brethren prepare a temporary baptismal tank with poles and plastic material, and there we baptize the new believers, glorifying God for His miracles and for the new conversions. And in that way, from November 2004 to the present date, the Lord has given us the privilege of baptizing 200 people. We are happy for this marvelous task that God has given into our hands for it is a great privilege. May God be glorified."

Certainly God is glorified through the dedicated service of Raul and others like him. Please continue to pray for and support the children of ICC – young and old.

PROJECTORS REQUESTED

ICC is earnestly seeking good quality data projectors for several of our children's villages. If ICC has a choice, we would prefer projectors with the following specifications: Ten pounds or less, at least SVGA resolution and a minimum of 1000 lumens.

There are many educational and spiritual opportunities at our projects of which we could take advantage, if we just had a projector. We need one projector as soon as possible for our Dominican project, and we would love to be able to take one to as many other projects as possible.

If there are any of our ICC family members that either have a projector that they would be willing to donate, or they know of somewhere they could acquire a projector for our children, please let us know. Please contact Doug Congleton in our Vancouver office. You can reach Doug by phone at 360-573-0429, or 800-422-7729. You can email Doug at Doug@ForHisKids.org



A Legacy of Love

*P*roviding for the future
through planned giving

Contact Doug Congleton at ICC
for more information on how
you can become part of the
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(800) 422-7729
Doug@ForHisKids.org

A Personal Note

Dear ICC Family,

Nancy, a young teenager in Thailand, was excited. Her parents had given their consent for her to study at a university in the USA. Her father told her, "You can't go to just any university. We have to be sure it is a school that has appropriate regulations to protect an innocent young lady like you. I have consulted the American Embassy and been given a list of appropriate universities. Here is the list. You can look at it and tell us your preference."

"Thank you, Father. I know you want the best for me. I will look at it."

Nancy took the paper to her room. She was a privileged child of a well-to-do family and part of the royal house of the king. Unbeknown to her father she had been hearing about all the exciting things to be seen and done in the United States. She was especially interested in all she had heard about Hollywood. *I wonder if any of these schools are close to Hollywood*, she thought, scanning the list carefully. Then she saw one that caught her eye, La Sierra, California. *This one is in California. Maybe it will be close to Hollywood!*

After consulting a map and finding that La Sierra is close to Hollywood, she went to her father. "I like the looks of this one, Father."

Arrangements were made and Nancy finally arrived at La Sierra University, a Seventh-day Adventist school. The language was a problem, even though she had studied English in Thailand. But there was a young man, a Theology student, who noticed that she seemed alone and confused. "Can I help you?" he asked.

It was the beginning of a warm friendship that changed the whole course of Nancy's life. Her new friend not only helped her with her English and other things, but also gave her Bible studies. Nancy accepted this new faith, even though it might not please her Buddhist parents. She married young Steve Bassham, and they were eventually sent to Thailand, where he would be the mission president for the Adventist church.

Years later when Elder Folkenberg called me from Thailand, he said, "Anita and I are here in Bangkok, visiting with Nancy Bassham. She has a tremendous burden for the abandoned children here, especially the little girls. It seems that foreign tourists have made child prostitution a big business. Anita and I will pay for tickets for you and Ken if you will come and see if ICC can set up a program here."

When we arrived at the airport in Bangkok, Nancy was there to meet us, and she took us to her lovely home and arranged everything for our visit. "I think the children's village should be in Chiangmai at our Mission School. This is in the northern part of the country and close to the tribal villages where the prostitution rings target the children, and especially girls of the poorest families. They offer rewards to parents who will let them take the girls to the big city, supposedly to work in factories, but actually to become slaves of prostitution."

We spent time with Nancy discussing possibilities of land at the mission school, and possible programs. Through it all, her overwhelming concern was for the little girls, victims of this terrible business. "I took a trip to a large city in the orient," she told me. "While in a taxi, the driver told me how he loved to go to Thailand for his vacations, because of all the beautiful girls there, especially the real young ones, little girls of even ten or twelve, virgins."

ICC's village, The Kirsten Jade Rescue Center, became a reality. Soon after beginning, we received a call at the ICC office. "We have word that the pimps are up in a tribal village, trying to get two little girls, around ten to twelve years old. Their parents will make a deal, but the girls are frantic and looking for help."

We sent word to do all they could to rescue them. Sadly, word came back that the pimps already had one of the girls and the other had run into the mountains. We were heartsick and determined not to let that happen again. Then, a little later word came that a baby girl had been found being buried with her dead mother. The tribe believed that a baby causing the mother's death would bring a curse on the tribe if the baby were not buried alive with the mother. Fortunately, in this case a teacher came along, and with threats of reporting it to the authorities, succeeded in getting the baby girl out of the big pot she was already in to be buried. That little girl is growing up at our village there.

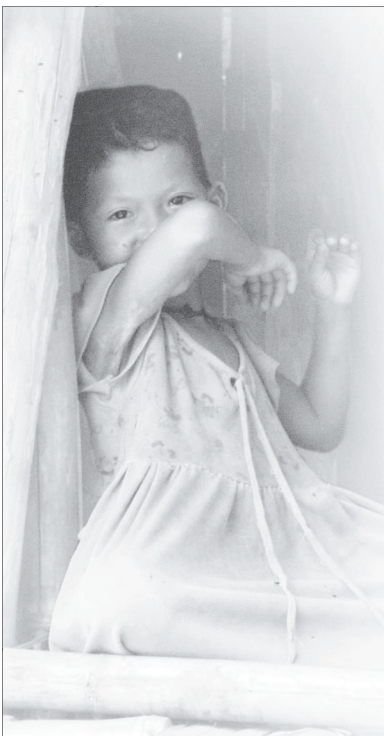
A few days ago, a poem was sent to us by an ICC family member, Mrs. Linda J. Bodicoat, from England, who has been thinking about this cruel practice of child prostitution. It tells of the tragedy of these little girls. This poem won the writer a National Poetry Competition a few years ago. She sent it to us asking if it can be used in any way to benefit the children of ICC and hopes that it might help to open the eyes of the general public as to the plight of street children everywhere.

Thankfully, ICC has a village in Thailand now full of happy little girls and boys who are safe and secure, learning about Jesus who died to save them and even give them a forever home in Heaven. Nancy's dream is now being fulfilled through your continued support. We can all be part of that dream.

With our love and prayers,

Aleyou and Zen

Street Child



In the stillness of the morning,
See the sadness in her eyes.
As the world looks on in silence
On the child that cannot cry.
She's the victim of the tourist;
Sells her body, just to eat.
All her clothes are torn and dirty,
She has blisters on her feet.

If we bow our heads in sorrow
But then turn and walk away.
We deny her precious childhood,
Steal her innocence, her play.
See the child that is within her,

See the crime that should appall.
She's the child the world's forgotten,
She's the daughter of us all.

Help her face a new tomorrow,
Give her hope and happiness.
Help to save her from defilement,
All her suffering and distress.
If we speak aloud, condemning
All the evil that we see.
Give our wealth and our compassion,
Give her love and set her free.

© Mrs. Linda J. Bodicoat