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QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
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A FUTURE, LOVE AND A *Family*

Not wanted? On a recent overseas trip, Marilyn Beveridge was taken to a refugee area in Thailand where there were 43 children under eight years of age, who urgently needed a home and care. Marilyn writes, "My heart went out to one child in particular. He was introduced to me as 'The child no one wants.' This dear little boy had no siblings, his parents had both died and there were no surviving relatives to even give him temporary shelter. All the villagers were so poor themselves, they were only able to care for the others somehow connected to them on a temporary basis. I immediately hugged him and told him that I loved him and wanted him and that Jesus did too."



Following the tsunami ICC cared for a number of children in the Andaman Islands. During the year, one by one, relatives were found to care for them all, except for Daniel. Daniel was a lone survivor in his community and escaped by climbing a tree until rescued days later. Following a lot of red tape Daniel has now been transferred to our Sweet Home on the Indian mainland. This was thought to be a better option as the earthquakes still continue in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



Our Director in India wrote: "Daniel arrived safely and is very excited to be here. He likes his new home and his new brothers and sisters. He especially loves the small children and watches over them. He is loved by everyone. Because of his background, he will need to start in grade

one even though he is 12 years old. I will give him special home schooling to try to catch him up."

There are many other tsunami victims needing our help in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands but at this time there is still a lot of red tape to work through.

PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

My name is Gerson

I need a sponsor. I am 10 years old and live in Dominican. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. Thanks!

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A Personal Note

Dear Friends,

It was December of 1982. Ken and I were in Guatemala City on one of our regular visits to take care of the new program of ICC. Juana, our director, had come on the bus to meet us there. On this occasion we hadn't planned to go out to The Pines. She would take the money for that month as well as review the program with us.

When the phone rang I answered. It was Job, our director of construction, calling from Poptun. I detected the urgency in his voice. "A pickup just drove up with twelve children in the back and three mothers. There has been a massacre in the remote village of Salaquin! Every man they could find was killed. These mothers and their children ran to the mountains and an Adventist pastor found them and brought them to us."

I was almost in shock. He continued, "Since Juana isn't here, and our houses are all full, we don't know what to do. They haven't eaten for three days, and of course, are suffering with the shock of all they went through. Tell us what to do!"

When I could get my thoughts together I told him, "Listen, Job. Juana is right here and Papi Fleck too. We'll talk it over and see if we can come up with something. Call us back in a few minutes. In the meantime, get some of the house mothers to feed them and take care of them for the moment."

It was one of those urgent committee meetings that the three of us had. I asked Juana if she had any ideas.

"Well, you know that Rary house down by the river that belongs to the mission is empty. There are three bedrooms and an outside kitchen. It is right by the river, so water would be available. That's the best I can think of."

I was thinking out loud. "We don't have any house parents available, but maybe the mothers would be willing to stay and take care of them."

"I'm sure they would be thrilled," Juana added. That way they wouldn't have to be separated from the children, and they may not have anyplace to go anyway."

Even though she hadn't done her business in town, Juana took the next bus back to The Pines, a ten hour trip. The next day she called us back.

"Our families all rallied, bringing clothes, food, and supplies to the distraught victims."

It was amazing how all the children with their mothers were soon adjusting to their new home, and when I visited them, I was happily surprised to see how comfortable they were. It was just before Christmas, and the other families brought them food for their Christmas dinner, and Juana managed to find toys in the warehouse so every little child had a present.

Among the twelve children was Julia who was always called "Ameli." As I remember, she was around six years old. She, as well as most of the twelve children, was malnourished and sick. Juana had her hands full, but before long the children were all well and happy. Their mothers washed their clothes in the river, and they all took their baths there. Eventually, the mothers went back to their village, and, with the exception of one or two, left the children with us.

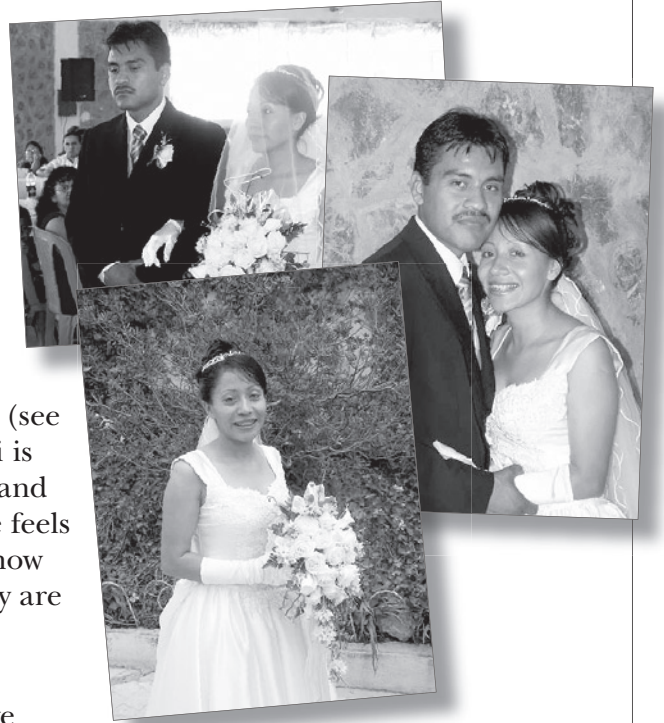


Ameli developed into a very lovely young lady. She obtained a degree in teaching from ICC's school in Guatemala and then went on to Costa Rica to college where she received her nursing degree. For some time now she has been our charge nurse at the City Center in Guatemala and also serves as assistant to the director. We recently received word of her marriage to a young Christian man she met in church in Guatemala City.

You will be interested to read a translation of a letter (see letter below) she just sent to us here at our ICC office. Ameli is an example of our children who have been adopted by ICC and made part of our big family. As you can see in her letter, she feels accepted and loved. Our goal is always to let our children know they are no longer orphans. They belong to us, but also, they are part of God's family too.

With our love
and prayers,

Aleyon and Ken



Dear Friends,

My name is Julia Ameli Medina, and I am thankful to God because He has cared for me with a lot of love.

I am enjoying one of the happiest phases of my life, because on the 28th of May, 2006, I was married to Francis Ernesto Castillo Miranda who I knew from the church. He has a technical degree in auto mechanics, and comes from an Adventist family.

We had the privilege of celebrating a simple but beautiful wedding in the events hall at the Residenciales El Quetzal community center. With God's help, and with some effort we were able to buy a house, and that is where we now live.

Our plans for the future are to continue working and to finish furnishing our house and prepare ourselves to serve where God might need us.

I share my experience with all those young people who like me dream of a happy future. I want to tell you that we have to face difficult and painful situations in life, but we should be faithful to the Lord who in His time will reward us.

I take this opportunity to thank ICC for having taken me as a real daughter and for your support and unconditional trust.

God bless,

Julia Ameli Medina

Early Arrival

Anny is the director of our bakery at the Las Palmas Children's Village in the Dominican Republic. Not only that, Anny, herself is an "ICC child." We're pleased to announce that on Sunday, July 2, Anny and her husband welcomed their little son into the world. Weighing in at only 2 pounds 4 ounces this little fellow was born a few months early. Praise God that both mother and son are doing well. Here is a picture of Anny's son.



Solar Project in India

Last month Don Beveridge worked in India to develop a solar-powered water system for ICC's DEWS Sweet Homes. The solar system pumps water from a newly constructed water bore to overhead tanks. The water then flows to the six orphan homes as well as providing irrigation water for the agricultural program. Previously, the children were carrying water in earthen pots from the well in extremely hot conditions.

Lilly, the ICC India Supervisor writes, "We are using solar power to water our plants. I bought two rolls of hose, one for boys and one for girls. They are so happy."

Special thanks to ICC Belgium and ICC Australia for funding this development project

FLOOD VICTIMS IN NICARAGUA

On the night of June 18 and the morning of June 19 the coast of Nicaragua experienced strong tidal surges that affected 25 rustic homes on the Jiquilillo Beach. This beach is located near the district of El Viejo, just 5 miles from where we are building our new campus, and close to where we have our thatched roof shelter near the beach. Thanks to God, the beach shelter didn't suffer any damage. The cause of these tidal surges was strong winds originating in South Australia and New Zealand, resulting in a marine current going towards Central and South America.

The rustic shacks, made of palm and thatch, were home to 32 families. They were able to escape unharmed, but they lost their belongings. There were 188 people evacuated and housed in a school in a nearby community.

ICC Nicaragua, was one of the first to come to the aid of the

ones affected by this natural phenomenon. We made our tractor and water tank (on a trailer) available to transport water, which was one of the greatest needs. Also, the ICC director, Angelica Campos, along with some of the older children, took food to the refugees, which was a great blessing.

If you would like to assist ICC in helping the people affected by this flood please mark your donation "Nicaragua Disaster Relief."



FAST FACTS!

According to our database, as of July 11, 2006, ICC has taken care of 2,733 children since the inception of our organization. This does not include children in the Brazil Day Care centers who received minimal help and assistance from ICC.

As of July 6, 2006 there are currently 1,137 children in ICC's care. This is 41.6% of the total number of children ICC has cared for through the years.

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Contact Doug Congleton at ICC for more information on how you can become part of the "Legacy of Love"

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