



December 2006

QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care
P.O. Box 820610 Vancouver, WA 98682-0013

(360) 573-0429 • FAX: (360) 573-0491
VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.ForHisKids.org

PROJECT UPDATE



Cambodia



Mexico



Romania

ANDAMAN ISLANDS

Following the tsunami, ICC cared for a number of children in the Andaman Islands. During the year, relatives were eventually found to care for all of them, except for Daniel was the lone survivor from his community and escaped by climbing a tree until rescued days later.

After obtaining approval from the government, Daniel has now been transferred to our Sweet Home project 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 school in grade one even though he is 12 years old. I will give him special home schooling to try to catch him up."

BRAZIL

16 CHILDREN

The ICC network is helping with the support of 16 children in Grandma Josephina's Children's Village that has three homes. We are also assisting children in several day care centers in and around the city of Sao Paulo.

CAMBODIA

69 CHILDREN

The Light of Hope Children's Village is home for the ICC children in Cambodia. This past year, 12 of the children graduated from secondary school. This was by far, the largest graduating class at this project. A majority of these children will be going to university to continue their education.

COLOMBIA

24 CHILDREN

ICC continues to provide support for 24 children in foster care settings. One of the children recently graduated from university and is preparing to start her career as a teacher.



CONGO

173 CHILDREN

Most of the 173 children ICC cares for in the Democratic Republic of Congo come from tragic backgrounds. Some have been orphaned because of war, others by extreme poverty.

The Patmos Children's Village on the Island of Idjwi is home for most of the ICC children in Congo. The younger children continue to be cared for in a receiving center in Goma where they are closer to medical facilities.

This year has been a difficult one for the project as elections in the country caused major disruptions to everyday life. Because of safety concerns, the children in the receiving center in Goma had to be temporarily transferred to the children's village on the island.

We continue to have a housing shortage and need more homes for the children as well as the completion of our school. A shipping container of much-needed supplies and equipment left the US in early October headed for Goma and should arrive there by November 25.

Though this project has some of the most urgent needs of any of the ICC projects, the children thrive in the children's village which continues to be a safe haven, free from war and strife.



Dominican Republic



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

89 CHILDREN

The Las Palmas Children's Village is home to 89 children in eight homes. As one of the longest running ICC projects, yearly activities include graduations, weddings and new babies for our children who are now married and having children of their own.

A new special education program has been established to further enhance the project's educational program.

The VersaCare Foundation continues to give significant support to this project. This past year they gave funds for the remodeling some of the children's homes as well as for the building of the secondary school.



El Salvador



EL SALVADOR

115 CHILDREN

It's been over a year since ICC assumed operation of the Hogar Escuela Adventista Children's Village. 111 children are being cared for in seven homes. An additional four children are enrolled in university in Costa Rica.

For the children, the transition has been a good one as new routines and activities have been established. We continue to receive positive reports from visitors.



GHANA

12 CHILDREN

A rented house continues to be home for the 12 children ICC cares for in Ghana. We are still waiting on funds to purchase land and build permanent homes for the children. Once additional funds are available, this project can be expanded.



Guatemala



GUATEMALA

168 CHILDREN

Nine homes are in operation at the Los Pinos Children's Village near Poptun, Guatemala. This is ICC's oldest program, with the first children arriving at the facility in 1979.

One additional home is under construction. The staff and children at Los Pinos have taken the initiative to build a church on the campus. They have provided all the necessary funds and labor.

In addition to the Los Pinos Children's Village, ICC also operates a receiving center in Guatemala City where 28 children are given loving care and attention while their personal status is determined.



INDIA

76 CHILDREN

At Sweet Home Children's Village, we care for 76 children in six homes. Recent improvements on campus include a solar-powered

—Continued on back page—

India continued

water system. The water system pumps water from a newly-drilled well into overhead tanks. The water then flows to the six children's homes and is sufficient to also provide irrigation water for the agricultural program. Previously, the children were carrying water in earthen pots from the well. Special thanks to donors in Australia and Belgium for making this possible.



Nicaragua

SOUTHEAST ASIA 94 CHILDREN

Fifty-nine children receive care in the Mitta Gaye Har Children's Village. In addition, there are 35 children who receive assistance in two other parts of the country.

MEXICO 47 CHILDREN

The El Oasis Children's Village is home to 47 children. A new educational facility is nearly completed thanks to the Malcolm Smith Foundation and others.

NICARAGUA 28 CHILDREN

Construction has begun on the foundation of Life Children's Village in Nicaragua. The local government helped to build roadways within the campus and the first children's home is nearing completion. Funds have been

donated for the next two homes and work on the second home has begun. Currently, the 28 children are being cared for in a small receiving center. The children are enthusiastic about the new facilities being prepared for them where there will be plenty of room to run and play.

PHILIPPINES 21 CHILDREN

ICC's 21 children reside in 3 homes at Shining Jewels Children's Village near Pampanga, Philippines. Recent typhoons caused extensive crop damage, but we are thankful that none of the children and staff were hurt.



Congo

ROMANIA 28 CHILDREN

The ICC children's village will have a new home completed by the end of 2006. This will be the third home on the campus and will serve another eight to ten children. Expansion is possible with more children and homes as long as government cooperation remains strong and funding becomes available.

SRI LANKA 42 CHILDREN

There are three homes in the ICC children's village in Sri Lanka where 42 children receive loving care.

THAILAND 107 CHILDREN

Fifty-five children live in four homes in the Kirsten Jade Rescue Center (KJRC). Three of the latest children to arrive are siblings. Their father had been killed by an elephant and their mother had abandoned them.

It's estimated that the eldest child, a boy, was about 8 years old when the children arrived. It was determined that he had taken care of his younger brother and sister for two and a half to three years since their mother abandoned them. These children have adjusted well to their new family at KJRC.

There are an additional 52 children that receive assistance from ICC in refugee centers in certain troubled areas.

UKRAINE 10 CHILDREN

ICC continues to provide for the needs of 10 children who are being cared for by a former pastor and his wife.

ZAMBIA 9 CHILDREN

ICC's nine children are being cared for in a rented facility in the capital city of Lusaka.



Thailand

A Personal Note



Dear ICC Family,

As I sit here writing to you, I'm westbound over the North Atlantic on my way back home from Europe. I've had the privilege of attending the opening of our third children's home in Romania. What a thrill to see eight more of ICC's children comfortably settling into their new home with loving house parents, Silviu and Denisa.

The mayor of the village and I were invited to cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony. I took a small piece of the ribbon and asked Denisa to write on it the names of all the family members in the home. I told Denisa and Silviu that I would place it in my Bible, and each time I see it, I will pray for their family.

My heart was warmed by the genuine love displayed by the children for one another in that home. One evening, I was able to share in the celebration of Dana's* fifth birthday. The children enjoyed cake, and afterwards, a gift bag was placed in front of Dana. All the children gathered around and helped her empty the contents: a small doll and some toy household tools. Not once did Dana complain about having to share her birthday gifts with the other children. After the children were through looking over the gifts, Dana placed them in the gift bag. Without saying a word, she lovingly placed it in front of the littlest family member, one and a half-year-old Ana*, Silviu and Denisa's daughter. Later, Silviu told me that he and Denisa have been trying to teach the children the importance of sharing. Obviously, it's a lesson the children are learning well.



I was asked to preach on Sabbath, and I chose as my theme the extravagant gift God gave to us by sending Jesus to earth. For an illustration, I decided to place \$5.00 worth of Romanian money in a gift bag and give the money to the first child who came forward to accept it. I didn't have any Romanian currency with me, so I asked our director to exchange with me. I gave her the \$5.00, and she inadvertently gave me nearly \$50 in Romanian currency in return. Not knowing the mistake had been made I used the illustration in the sermon and Simona*, one of the little girls from Silviu and Denisa's home, came forward to receive the gift. It wasn't until later that I realized a "mistake" had been made, and it was really an extravagant gift that she received. Yet, I believe it wasn't a mistake after all. Silviu told me later that Simona came to him and said, "Now, little Ana can get a bicycle!"

The extravagant gift – offered for the good of another.

What lessons we can learn from these children at Christmas time this year! God gave the extravagant gift of the Christ child that we might have eternal life. Let us in return give extravagantly of ourselves and our means to those who are in need. Then, we too, will know the joy of giving that Dana and Simona have experienced.



On behalf of the children,

Kent Greve
Assistant to the President



* Names have been changed to protect the privacy of the children