

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

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#### A Season and a Reason to Give Thanks THANK YOU for helping supply food, shelter and much more for "His Kids!"

his Thanksgiving season, ICC children around the world have much for which to be grateful.

Through the generosity of sponsors like YOU, they have nourishing food. They have a safe, comfortable home in which to live. They have the love and nurturing care they need. And they are able to go to school. This stands in stark contrast to their lives before arriving at an ICC children's village.

ICC children show their gratitude for Your support by taking advantage of the opportunities that are possible because YOU give. Sharon is an excellent example of this. You'll find her story on page two of this Que Pasa.

Another example of this is Marieny Sosa. After graduating from Linda Vista University in Mexico she expressed in a letter her gratitude for the support she received.

"It is a pleasure to know that people of great heart decided to help those in need, of which I am one." She went on to say what she planned to do with the opportunities given her. "I have good news for you. I have decided to help in God's work. I will be working at the University and studying to become a Medical Missionary so I can do that in years to come."

ICC children show their gratitude for Your support by taking advantage of the opportunities that are possible because YOU give.

Many of the kids express their desire to be able to help others as they were helped in their darkest hour. They may have been abused. They may have lost family members. That's when YOU helped us step in, rescue them and give them an opportunity for a new life. The older the children get, the more they realize what a blessing they have received because of the care YOU help to provide through your support.



Marieny was a little girl who needed help. Thanks to the support of donors like you, she has grown into a talented young woman who desires to serve others.

This Thanksgiving season, as you recount your blessings, we hope that you consider your support of orphan children as something for which you are grateful. May God Bless YOU with a Happy Thanksgiving!

### **Sharon is Blessing Students in India**

*Editor's Note:* Here is another update on what is happening in the life of Sharon Vakkanthula, one of ICC's grown children from the ICC DEWS Sweet Home in India. It was written by Lilly Kalagithi, founder of the project. Your support blessed Sharon's life tremendously and she is taking full advantage of her opportunity to serve others.

wo beautiful little girls were brought to us by their father. They had lost their mother, and their father could not care for them as he needed to work to provide for them. These two little girls came to us with their bag of clothes and photos of their mother in their hands. They were still grieving for their mother and held on to these precious photos.

These two girls were a blessing to Sweet Home. They always were very special in the way they talked and behaved. They studied well and scored top grades in school. They were very decent and respectful in their behavior, and like little angels they were always willing and ready to help others. They are continuing to do the same today.

The younger girl's name is Sharon Vakkanthula. Sharon studied in the Flaiz Adventist Elementary School and High School. She always had a deep desire to join pastoral ministry. After completing her studies in Narsapur, she enrolled in Spicer Memorial College (now known as Spicer Adventist University). During summer holidays Sharon went out to different towns and villages to assist the gospel ministry. **66** I wish they [sponsors] could see the transformation their support brought in the lives of the children in Sweet Home.**99** 

From the very beginning of her time at Spicer, Sharon gained the favor and confidence of her teachers and professors. She soon became very popular in the college. The Vice Chancellor of the university took her in as his daughter and helped her finish a Master's degree in Theology.

Sharon is now employed by the university as it's very first chaplain. She also teaches theology students.

We are grateful to ICC for the continued support, love and care. We are also grateful to the sponsors for the sacrifice they made to give life to the helpless children. I wish they could see the transformation their support brought in the lives of the children in Sweet Home.

Sharon is very happy to work for the Lord who sustained her all these years. We are also very proud of Sharon and her accomplishments.



Thanks to donors like YOU, Sharon is living a life of service to students at Spicer Memorial University in India.



What a blessing it is to see Sharon use her talents in service to God by serving others! Thank you for your generous support of children like Sharon.



## Part 2: Q & A with Rick Fleck, President of ICC

*Editor's Note:* Last month, you received part one of an interview with ICC President Rick Fleck. In part two of the interview, Rick shares that sometimes kids need help after they turn 18. It's compassionate donors like you who ensure that "His Kids" aren't simply 'turned out' on their 18th birthday. Rick also shares what is happening in ICC projects to help them become more self-sustaining.

It is thrilling to see a young person march up and receive a diploma and then go out into the work force and live a productive and service-filled life.

**Q**: How would you describe the "Finishing Touch" for an ICC child, and why is it so important?

A: Some organizations are done helping a child when she turns 18. In fact, government authorities encourage ICC to end our support of children at 18, because at that point they are adults, and, according to government authorities, there is danger of them doing something inappropriate with the smaller kids. But we feel strongly that we



"YOUR support helps to provide the 'Finishing Touch' so ICC children can live successfully once they leave us."

should help these kids until they are capable of being independent, so long as they cooperate with the rules, have good behavior and do their best to succeed. So we have a scholarship program to help young people get vocational training, a technical degree or a college education.

It is thrilling to see a young person march up and receive a diploma and then go out into the work force and live a productive and service-filled life. That finishing touch makes all the difference and is

the actual culmination of all the care and work done for that child up to that point.

**Q**: What efforts are being made at children's villages to establish self-sustaining industries?

A: From the start, my parents (Ken and Alcyon Fleck) had the vision that each children's village should have practical incomeproducing activities—cottage industries. These would not only provide food for the kids but would give them experiences which would help them later in life—and help donors' gifts go further.

We are also working to establish some industries, which can produce significant income to help to sustain the children's villages. We have a chicken industry in Guatemala and a fish industry in the Dominican Republic. Also, we have a mobile clinic project in Congo which is producing some significant income for the children's village while at the same time providing a real needed service to remote communities. If we can help them to produce income locally, it means we can help more children, and that is always the passion of ICC donors.



in the life of an orphan child. Contact Doug today for more details.

(800) 422-7729 DougC@ForHisKids.org

## **Pathfinder Uniforms Needed!**

# YOU have the opportunity to provide a big blessing for children at the Las Palmas children's village right now. They need uniforms! For \$30 you can help purchase material so that a child can have their very own dress uniform. Here are more details:

ICC children love being a "Pathfinder." If you also had the joy of being a Pathfinder you recall the wonderful experiences of learning skills and earning honors. You'll recall team building activities

such as marching. Best of all, you'll remember camp outs and the big camporee where you could meet kids from other Pathfinder clubs.

Now imagine how you would feel if you were a Pathfinder and didn't have a dress uniform! This is the situation children at the Las Palmas Children's Village face.

#### If you were ever a Pathfinder... please support these children at Las Palmas.

We've had several new children join the ICC family there in recent months. The project's finances don't stretch enough to cover purchasing uniforms for all the kids. Without uniforms, these children have had to wear normal play clothes to Pathfinder activities. In addition, our children and the Las Palmas club will not be able to receive certain achievement

awards if they are not wearing the required dress uniforms. The Las Palmas children want to look and feel just like every other child who participates in Pathfinders —but they need your help.

The Las Palmas Pathfinder Club is trying to purchase the materials needed to make dozens of uniforms for their club. Yes, MAKE their uniforms. Purchasing new uniforms would cost too much. If they can make the uniforms, your support and keep the cost to about \$30 per child.

# This is an urgent need! Your gift is needed by December 15 for the uniforms to be finished before the Pathfinder Fair and Camporee. If the materials aren't available, the children may have to go without.

If you were ever a Pathfinder, or if you know just what a rewarding experience Pathfinder's can be, please support these children at Las Palmas. You can call or send in your donation today for these materials. Please designate your gift as "Las Palmas Uniforms."

God bless you for helping these children to really "look" the part of being a Pathfinder!



Your gift can help a child at Las Palmas to look and feel like a real Pathfinder!

Occasionally when we ask for funds for a specific need we receive more in donations than we requested. In those instances when we have received more money than we solicited, those extra funds will be placed in "Alcyon's Angel Fund." In order to protect the privacy and safety of our children, ICC uses fictitious names when referring to minor children in the Que Pasa.