



# QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

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A Publication of International Children's Care  
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## Serving Orphan Children Together for 40 Years!

1978–2018

**Y**our support has made a tremendous impact around the world in the lives of orphan children. Some of you may have been involved with this ministry since its early beginnings way back in 1978 or even before then.

In late December 1977, a group of compassionate individuals met to organize a new ministry that would become known as International Children's Care. Ken and Alcyon Fleck helped to organize that initial meeting.

Ken and Alcyon faithfully served ICC as founders and inspirational leaders for over 30 years. Ken and Alcyon became known affectionately as "Mami and Papi Fleck" to hundreds of orphan children.

The mission of International Children's Care (ICC) is to provide nurturing care for orphaned and abandoned children.

ICC received its Certificate of Incorporation from the state of Oregon and began operations in April 1978. Later, ICC moved to its present headquarters office in Vancouver, Washington.

During this special year of remembrance, we plan to celebrate God's blessing and recognize



Alcyon and Ken Fleck, the co-founders of International Children's Care. Alcyon and Ken (Mami and Papi to the children) served ICC as volunteers for 30 years. Their inspirational leadership was the cornerstone in establishing and guiding this ministry.

the contributions of many people who have been used by God in special ways to power this ministry forward.

Most importantly, we want to thank you for your support of the children! Your support continues to be vital for new children who have just arrived.

**Please read on to find out more about the latest orphans who have become a part of the ICC family.**

**40**  
**Years**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**CHILDREN'S CARE**

# Snatched from the Clutches of Death



This little child is still in need of close medical attention. Thank you for your prayers and support.

***“I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me in. I needed clothes, and you clothed me. I was sick, and you looked after me... whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me.” Matthew 25:34-36, 40.***

**R**efugee camps are supposed to be safe havens — free from surrounding conflicts. At least that’s what they are supposed to be. But in the D.R. Congo it sometimes happens that refugee camps become caught up in the strife and bloodshed.

Recently three camps in north-eastern D.R. Congo came under attack from rebel fighters. In the aftermath, when UN military peace-keeping forces arrived to see what had transpired, they found a sickening sight — over nine hundred children were left behind to fend for themselves. The children recounted having

only limited food in the camps. At times, they had to survive on wild fruit and edible leaves.

***“Thanks to the support you’ve given in the past and the confidence that you will stand by the ‘least of these’, Désiré set about clothing, feeding, soothing, and welcoming them into the ICC family.”***

You may recall that in September, our Patmos Children’s Village received seven children because of a mudslide that barreled through a village leaving many children orphaned. Now, just 43 days after these children arrived, another 17 were brought to us. An additional seven arrived the following day bringing the total number of new children to 31 — all within two months.

Patmos director, Désiré, tried to reason with the officials. He pleaded that he didn’t have the

resources to provide for these children, many of whom were nearly dead.

But the Ministry of Social Affairs, working with the UN troops, were working with seven organizations in the region, and Désiré agreed to try to save the lives of these little children

These children were a pitiful sight when they arrived!

Photos that Désiré sent tell the story of the children’s meager existence all too well — distended bellies, skeletons covered by skin without tissue to hide the bones, colorless hair (or not having hair at all), splotchy skin, and sad eyes.

The children suffered from some form or combination of health issues: malnutrition and/or kwashiorkor, malaria, typhoid fever, intestinal worms, diarrhea.

Much like Matthew’s description in the Bible of those in need, these children were naked, hungry, sick, a stranger. However,

## — Editor’s Note —

The mission of ICC was conceived in the aftermath of a terrible earthquake that decimated Guatemala City leaving hundreds of children orphaned.

Now, 40 years after ICC’s humble beginning, your ongoing support helps to provide a refuge and nurturing home environment for children who’s lives have been devastated by natural disasters, social problems and civil unrest.

As you’ll read in this update, ICC continues to play a critical role in the lives of children who have lost everything and have been rescued from the very clutches of death. Your continued help ensures these children receive the care they need!

**Please read on to find out more —**



# Orphans in Desperate Need – You can help!

thanks to the support you've given in the past and the confidence that you will stand by the "least of these," Désiré set about clothing, feeding, soothing and welcoming them into the ICC family.

Nine of the children needed immediate medical care in the clinic. As of the writing of this update, four remain in serious condition, one of whom you can see in the picture at the beginning of this article.

After assessing the condition of the children, Désiré believed that 80% of them would have died within a week if they had not come to The Patmos Children's Village.

In the days following, he received reports about children who died in the care of other orphan facilities. We pray to God that none of the children brought to us will die! God is faithful, and Désiré and his team are skilled at providing the care the children need.

Please pray that God will work through them to restore the health of these children and make a way for them to be fully integrated into the ICC family in the D.R. Congo. But, where to from here — and how can you help?

The Bible makes it clear that caring for orphan children is not an option if you want to demonstrate "true religion" before God (See *James 1:27*).

The ministry of ICC exists to help rescue and restore the lives of children like this. It will take sustained effort. We will need to work together.

## The Plan

In consultation with Désiré, we have established a plan going forward. Within the next three months, 13 of the older children at The Patmos Children's Village will leave the project to become independent. This will bring some relief to the budget.

However, the net gain from having 31 new children means they need more of the following: care givers, furniture and equipment, food, educational supplies, and ongoing medical care.

For five months, it will cost an additional \$9,300 per month to provide for the new children. After the 13 older children leave The Patmos Children's Village, that amount will decrease to \$4,800.

It will take some time before sponsors can be assigned to these new children. In the meantime, the Patmos Children's Village needs extra financial support. For the sake of all the children in other children's villages like Guatemala, the Dominican

Republic and India, the extra financial support needs to be on top of support given to those projects as well.

The world is hurtling into chaos. Many of the innocent victims are children. But, the Bible makes it plain that there are no "throw away children." And how we respond says much about us and what we value.

Your extra gift today of \$50 or \$150 or even \$350 will go a long way to helping these new children in Congo. Thank you for answering the call to feed, cloth and welcome orphan children who need you so very much right now!

Please pray for the ICC Congo situation and especially for the children who are still fighting for their lives. Who knows, someday we might see some of them become teachers, pastors, mechanics and nurses! God definitely has a plan for each one of these kids, or He wouldn't have brought them specifically to Patmos Children's Village.



Your support will help to provide what these children need so very much.





The container you helped send to Las Palmas in August 2017 finally arrived on campus during the last week of November 2017.

Delivered around 2 AM, (an answer to prayer, actually) the families at Las Palmas had only a few hours to unload the container. The container's contents were safely stored in the campus warehouse awaiting the soon-after arrival of Rick and Sharon Fleck. Rick and Sharon then helped to distribute your gifts amongst the families. Thanks for giving so generously to the families of "His Kids" at Las Palmas!



# Wills

## TRUSTS

*A Legacy of Love*

*Providing for the future through planned giving*

You can leave a lasting legacy in the life of an orphan child.

Contact Doug today for more details.

(800) 422-7729  
DougC@ForHisKids.org

When soliciting funds for a specific need, we occasionally receive more in donations than requested. In those instances when we do receive more money than solicited, those extra funds are placed in "Alcyon's Angel Fund." To protect the privacy of our children, ICC uses fictitious names in the Que Pasa when referring to minor children.