



# QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

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A Publication of International Children's Care  
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## One of the Most Needed Persons at ICC Is...

By William Hurtado

**D**orothy Larson is not only the oldest and longest serving volunteer of ICC, she is one of the most needed. At 94 years old, she has been volunteering at ICC's main office for 29 years. She has been faithfully organizing other volunteers to help prepare the monthly *Que Pasa* mailings. What a blessing she continues to be!

There is a lot to tell about Dorothy's life; but one detail about the times she lived in may exhilarate you.

In 1922, three years before Dorothy was born, the Oregon Compulsory Education Act required that every person having custody of a child between eight and sixteen years of age must send the child to a public school.

Children were being forced to receive instruction from public teachers only. This law, taking away the right to oversee the religious development of children, was bitterly resisted by many, so a suit was filed to have it declared unconstitutional.

In 1925, the year Dorothy was born, the court ruled in favor of faith-based instruction. It said



Dorothy Larson, who coordinates our monthly mailing, has been serving as a volunteer for 29 years at ICC HQ. Thank you, Dorothy, for your continuing dedication.

that “the child is not the mere creature of the State; those who nurture him and direct his destiny have the right, coupled with the high duty, to recognize and prepare him for additional obligations.” (Pierce, 1925, p. 535)

Dorothy's beginning of life coincided with a historical event allowing children to be educated within a faith community.

Now—for 29 years and running—Dorothy contributes to an orphan-care ministry that operates Adventist schools for children coming from destabilized situations.

These schools teach ICC children about their “additional obligations”—to love God with all their

hearts, souls, and minds, and their neighbors as themselves.

Do you think Dorothy's 29-year investment at International Children's Care has been worth it? You bet! Every second, every minute, every hour, every day, every year, every decade has been worth it. Why? Because every child needs a family. Because every child God has given to ICC needs her. And needs you.

For an educated future and for a faith-filled life, will you continue your dedicated support—alongside Dorothy, and all of the other devoted staff and volunteers—to ICC's cause? Like a contemporary of Dorothy said, “We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”

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# A Personal Message

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*From Doug Congleton*

**I**t was like an electric charge that went from my fingers into my very soul. It was so simple, yet it was one of the most amazing things that has happened to me since joining God's service for His kids at ICC. Let me tell you how it happened.

I was on the campus at the Las Palmas Children's Village in The Dominican Republic working with our new industries planning team. Things were going really well, and I was pleased with the work that had been done.

We were working on new ideas and the implementation of the things we had decided to get going previously. As always, we stopped during the Sabbath hours to take time to rest and contemplate the good things God is doing in the children's lives.

Sabbath morning I went to the on-campus church. At the end of the service I went outside and started walking down the road back to where I was staying on the campus.

As I walked I heard footsteps running up behind me, and then I felt little fingers reach out and take hold of my hand without ever saying a word.

That may sound simple to you, but in that moment, those little fingers touching mine sent what felt like an electrical current into my very being.

This little girl who I had never even been introduced to, ran up and just wanted to share her heart with me in taking my hand and walking with me those few hundred yards.

So, we walked together hand-in-hand down that little roadway until she let go in order to run off to her home to have lunch with her family.

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***“In that moment, those little fingers touching mine sent what felt like an electrical current into my very being.”***

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After running a short distance, she stopped, turned back and smiled a huge smile at me as if to say, “Thank you for loving me. It feels so good!” I know my heart felt the same way!

In those brief moments I thought of our many family members of donors at ICC who give so unselfishly and faithfully. God's people who care enough to make a commitment to providing for these little children each day.

In a very real sense, these are the people that little hand was reaching out to. That electrical charge is something that was meant for each one of you to feel for yourselves.

It's a moment where time stands still, and you know that what you are doing is the very thing that Jesus wants from you. I totally understand now what was on the heart of Jesus when He told us in His word to “Take care of the widows and orphans.” (James 1: 27).

It is a responsibility that He left to each one of us to take care of



these children until He comes again. It is something that I will always remember for the rest of my life.

These special children need you so much. It is only possible with your help for ICC to take loving care of these children. This is the moment when I believe that Jesus is looking to see who will stand for what is right for His children.

He is wanting to see who it is that will take the hands of these precious children and lead them to His kingdom.

# Charity Navigator Awards ICC 4 Stars

There is no higher honor in the nonprofit realm than receiving a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.

ICC's strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency have earned us a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator.

This is the first time that ICC has earned this top distinction.

Since 2002, Charity Navigator has awarded only the most fiscally responsible organizations a 4-star rating.

Accountability and transparency metrics, account for 50 percent of a charity's overall rating, revealing which charities operate in accordance with industry best practices and whether they are open with their donors and stakeholders.

"ICC's exceptional 4-star rating sets it apart from its peers and demonstrates its trustworthiness to the public," according to Michael Thatcher, President & CEO of Charity Navigator.

"Only a quarter of charities rated by Charity Navigator receive the distinction of our 4-star rating. Based on its 4-star rating, people can trust their donations are going to a financially responsible and ethical charity."

ICC's rating is available free of charge on CharityNavigator.org.

Charity Navigator, is the largest charity evaluator in America. The organization evaluates more than 8,000 charities.

Charity Navigator accepts no advertising or donations from



Members of ICC's staff celebrate ICC being rewarded a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. Charity Navigator, is the largest charity evaluator in America and its website attracts more visitors than all other charity rating groups combined.

the organizations it evaluates, ensuring unbiased evaluations, nor does it charge the public for this trusted data.

Charity Navigator, a 501 (c) (3) public charity itself, depends on support from individuals, corporations and foundations that believe it provides a much-needed service to America's charitable givers.



**B**ecause of you, there's a 'new' tractor in town! The El Oasis Children's Village in Mexico recently acquired a used John Deere 6615 tractor for their farm.

Purchased from a farmer with the help of three generous donors, this tractor will allow the El Oasis farm to become much more efficient as it will no longer be necessary to rent a tractor when preparing and maintaining the fields and crops.

**This tractor does however have an immediate need** for implements to be truly effective. They require for this coming season;

- A Fumigator
- A Disc
- A Plow
- And a Harrow,

that will fit a John Deere 6615. As of right now, any implement we require must be rented. And those implements are only available when they're not in use by other farmers.

This puts the El Oasis farm at a disadvantage when dealing with either crop-munching insects, time-sensitive and/or weather-related issues. Creating the real risk of losing crops. And losing funds that support the children.

The farm at El Oasis helps generate income that offsets the expenses of operating the children's village. Giving your investment in "His Kids" a greater effectiveness because of funds generated by campus industries.

**Please, your help is needed now. Contact Doug Congleton at 800.422.7729 today!**



*A Legacy of Love*

*P*roviding 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](mailto:DougC@ForHisKids.org)



## **Backhoe Needed For Las Palmas Industries**

The Las Palmas campus, and the on-campus industries, require drainage, canals, lagoons, and ditches be dug to benefit the campus and its industries.

Right now, those projects are done with shovels and manual labor or a rented backhoe.

Even a small backhoe purchased for Las Palmas would make these much-needed excavation projects much more efficient as well as less costly in the long run.

Please Contact Doug Congleton for details at — 800.422.7729.