



QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

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A Publication of International Children's Care
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Your Support Helps to Provide Lasting Memories!



Many ICC children, such as Claribel, lived in such poverty before coming to a Children's Village that they seldom experienced celebrations such as holiday meals with family or birthday gifts. Thank you for helping to rescue these children from poverty. Not only do you give them a reason to celebrate, but you give them the possibility to celebrate!

"Still today, I remember the first Christmas I spent in the home."

Those were the touching words of Claribel as she recently reflected on what it was like when she arrived as a young girl at the Las Palmas Children's Village in the Dominican Republic.

Poverty has a way of sapping the joy from holiday celebrations. Claribel's family was poor, and her parents weren't together. She

lived with her father who was very sick. Then, one November many years ago, she was brought to Las Palmas and became a part of the ICC family there.

Claribel is currently attending the Adventist University which is only a few miles away from Las Palmas. Samilin, the Las Palmas director recently asked Claribel about her experience when she first arrived. What stood out in Claribel's mind was the excitement surrounding the Christmas dinner held each

year on December 24th. Claribel was wide-eyed with amazement as she saw the table of food that had been prepared by the house mother and other members of the family.

Claribel said, "I become very emotional because I saw so many different dishes, so many grapes, so many apples, and that was very beautiful for me."

You may not realize it, but the monthly budget at a children's village like Las Palmas, does not include funds for special meals and gifts for events like Christmas, birthdays and other occasions like a girl's quinceañera (15th birthday event). The children depend upon the special gifts of love from ICC donors like you to experience these wonderful, and unforgettable occasions.

Do these occasions matter to the children?

Most definitely, and probably more so than we can imagine! For when an orphan or vulnerable child is taken into the ICC family they are filled with sorrow, fear and anxiety. They have experienced a tremendous sense of loss. And a special celebration provides an opportunity to say in a very tangible way...

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Your Support Helps to Provide Lasting Memories!

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We care for you!

You are special to us!

We love you!

We are happy that you are a part of our family!

These are vital messages that the children cling to. They are an important part of what provides healing to a child like Claribel, when they enter the ICC family. The memory is vivid. The memory is sweet. The memory continues to go with her as she prepares

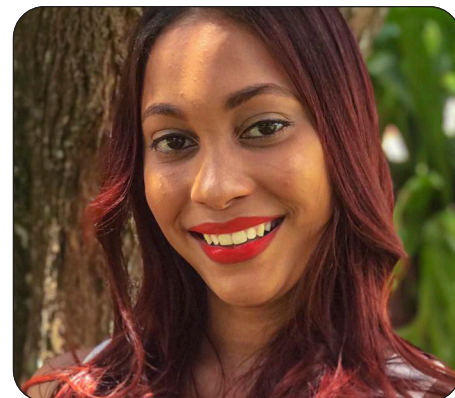
to live a life of usefulness and service for others.

The gift fund enables ICC caregivers to help celebrate the special occasions each child looks forward to within the ICC family. As we begin a new year, please consider giving an extra gift today of \$35, \$50 or even \$100 to help make memories for the children in 2021 and beyond. The children very much appreciate you!

P.S. In the latest edition of “The Gathering Place” video series, Samilin shares this story about Claribel in an interview she participated in with ICC President Rick Fleck.

You can access that interview online at the following link:

InternationalChildrensCare.org/TheGatheringPlace



Thanks to your support, Claribel is now attending the Universidad Adventista Dominicana. She no longer lives a life of poverty, but of joy and celebration.

Embark on a Virtual Mission Trip

"Mission Experiences for Kids" Launches

A new orphan-care mission experience is “taking off” for your children’s group this year! International mission trips make a lasting impact on children of all ages. Yet, due to the many travel restrictions this year, as well as the fact that many people may not be able to travel for multiple reasons, taking part in a mission experience is not always possible... Until now!

Mission Experience for Kids is a new ICC program intended to simulate a mission trip. You can actually take your classroom on a virtual mission trip! Students will choose a country and help a children’s village from that country.

This is a wonderful opportunity for learning about new cultures. At the same time, it gives children

an opportunity to serve and cultivate a missionary spirit.

Although this is a new program, one school is already getting started with their mission experience. As part of their Mission Experience, students from Lewis County Adventist School collected over 15 backpacks and supplies to donate to ICC’s children in need. Students also listened to character transforming stories from William Hurtado, ICC’s Orphan-Care Advocate. These stories inspired them to have courage and be a light in the world.

They plan to raise \$150 every month for a total of at least \$1500 for the year. That is the average cost of a mission trip for a student to Central America. It may seem like a lot, but for the school of

around 80 people, that equates to fifty cents per student and staff each week. Fifty cents per week is doable!

Thank you teachers and students of Lewis Adventist School for your missional spirit, and for giving to the children of International Children’s Care! The children in Central America will be truly blessed because of you.

Would your school, children’s Sabbath School, Pathfinder club, or youth group like to join an ICC Mission Experience together?

Right now, visit our website to get started on your own virtual mission trip!

InternationalChildrensCare.org/MissionExperience

2021 Week of Prayer

For International Missions to Children – January 25-30

Join ICC missionaries & supporters worldwide in praying for children in need: Orphans, the abandoned and abused, and specifically those who ICC reaches.

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“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.” Psalm 82:3

Prayer is such a vital spiritual discipline. It can help us focus our attention on issues that truly matter to God. Will you allow God to inspire you to lift children and their ICC family-of-workers up in prayer?

From Monday, January 25 through Sabbath, January 30 at 2:00 PST, ICC staff members worldwide will join supporters like you to pray for specific needs. We will be using the Zoom video conferencing program. It would be an honor to have you join with us for these 30-minute seasons of prayer. If you are unable to join us, you may wish to pray during a time that best fits your needs and schedule. **We will be focusing on the following prayer requests:**

1 **Pray for healing of the “Holes in the Hearts” of orphaned and abandoned children.**

When a new child comes to live at an ICC children’s village, he or she is immediately placed in a loving family. Yet, emotional healing does not take place overnight. The pain of being neglected, abused, or orphaned leaves a big hole in the heart of a child. It takes a while for a hurting child to be happy and to feel loved. Pray that God will provide the healing that ICC children need.

2 **Pray for the children’s caregivers and support staff.**

It is a true mission to be a house parent at an ICC Children’s Village. Children come to ICC from all different situations and walks of life. Also, each child responds to trauma in different ways. Some children respond to pain by acting out, others by suppressing their emotions.

Caregivers have to be capable, adaptable, and available to many different children. They are truly the on-the-ground “hands and feet” of Christ. Pray that they may have wisdom. And pray for the administration and staff who are responsible for making sure that children are cared for properly and that the Villages run smoothly.

3 **Pray for the teachers of ICC’s young school children.**

Every child at an ICC children’s village is provided education. Yet, outside of ICC, education is not a guarantee for many children around the world. Those who have been orphaned or abused are even more disadvantaged. It’s not uncommon for children to arrive at ICC with no prior formal education, or to be delayed in learning because of trauma. Pray that children may overcome these disadvantages, so that they may do well in school.

4 **Pray for ICC’s grown children.**

As children grow, they must prepare for life outside of the Children’s Village. Thanks to the care of donors, like you, higher education and technical training is possible. It is this “finishing touch” that helps the young people to thrive on their own in the world. Yet,

it can be difficult for them to decide on the best way to be independent. Pray for the young people as they make important decisions about their education and future. Pray that they follow God’s guidance, and that they become productive and thriving members of the community.

5 **Pray for the worldwide ICC Family of supporters.**

ICC’s mission for orphan and vulnerable children is only possible because of the many generous donors like you. We realize that supporting the children often requires sacrifice, especially during a pandemic that continues to affect much of our lives. It may not always be possible to give. Pray for each donor and volunteer that God will bless them and that they will realize the vital part they play through their prayers and financial support.

Join us live at 2pm Pacific Standard Time. A Zoom link will be provided in the physical version of the Que Pasa. If you do not have access, but would like to attend, please contact the ICC office, 800-422-7729. You won’t want to miss the special presentations from ICC’s children, and getting to know more of the ICC family you lovingly support.



One of the staff members at Los Pinos leads out in prayer. Just as you pray for the children, they pray for you as well.

Los Pinos Children Celebrate Graduation



You are part of a world-wide family of open-hearted individuals who make it possible for orphan children to attend school in a safe environment. Children have the opportunity to grow and develop in an environment where they are learning about Jesus and His offer of eternal life.

Your ongoing support of ICC children enables them to live a full life, even during a world-wide pandemic. One good example of this is the children at Los Pinos in Guatemala. These children are blessed that the Los Pinos campus is located in a remote area of the country. And because of the special precautions the administration and staff have taken, the campus operates within a virtual bubble. For the most part, this has allowed Los Pinos to operate normally.

At the conclusion of the school term this past October, students who completed their primary school education (6th grade) and “Basico” (9th grade) were able to celebrate at an “in-person” graduation ceremony. The church was decorated for the special event, and the entire Los Pinos on-campus family was invited to attend and recognize the achievements of the students.

Of course, this milestone in their lives would not have been possible if it weren't for the faithful financial support of ICC family members like YOU! You help provide quality education in a protected environment. Thanks to you, these children continue to grow, develop and prepare themselves for a productive life here on earth. And most importantly they are learning about Jesus and His offer of eternal life. What a blessing you are to these children! Thank you!



This October, sixth and ninth grade students celebrated a graduation ceremony on campus. Thanks to the remote location of the Children's Village, as well as an on-campus school with teacher housing, students have been able to safely attend "in-person" school throughout the pandemic. Thank you for helping to make this possible!

*Faces are blurred in online photo to protect the privacy of children.



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.