



October 2022

QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

A Publication of International Children's Care
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Learning And Teaching To Read, Thanks to YOU!

Your support helps to provide children at the Las Palmas Children's Village with a quality education. This includes the vital skill of learning to read.

When the children arrive at Las Palmas, they have many learning challenges. The teachers work diligently with the children using various motivational activities. One goal for the first-grade class is for them to be able to celebrate their graduation. This celebration is called "Ya se leer!" (Now I can read!) This is important for the children and places them on a path for success.

When the children finish their studies in high school, they are given the opportunity to help in the school.

This was the case for Marva Jean Louis. When she finished high school, she became a teacher's assistant. When the school staff saw that she had the ability to work as a teacher she was given that task.

Writing about her experience recently, Marva Jean said, "Being a teacher at Las Palmas Adventist

School has been a blessing for me, since teaching my brothers and sisters at HOCAP has helped me in my own learning. Working with their minds has been a challenge. . . . Sometimes my mind gets exhausted, but seeing the steps they take each day in their learning renews my strength. Teaching them has helped my character, and seeing their sincerity and tenderness encourages me to be like them. I thank God and the institution for this privilege."



Yanna was the top student in her first grade class. In her graduation speech she shared the following, "I want to thank God for helping me in my learning process, my teacher for her love and dedication during class time, my parents because they never left me alone and the institution "Las Palmas" for their financial support."



Your support enabled Marva Jean to learn valuable lessons while teaching her younger siblings.

Las Palmas director, Samilin, sees firsthand the positive impact that your support has on the children. Here is a message of appreciation she shares with you.

Thank you to all the donors who, with your efforts for so many years, have changed the lives of children... Thank you for showing justice to them and rejoicing in giving so many children the opportunity to reach their goals. You are fulfilling Jesus' principle where it says, "As you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to Me."

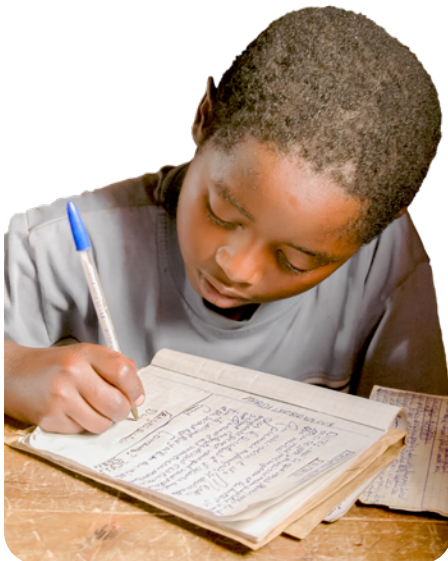
The Impact Of Your Support Of The Patmos Children

Part 2 – Continued From The September 2022 Que Pasa

Editor's Note: The September *Qué Pasa* featured ICC president, Rick Fleck, asking some questions of Patmos director, Désiré Murhima, regarding ICC's ministry for children there. Following is part two of an edited excerpt of what Désiré shared.

Q: How important is education in the lives of the children?

A: First and foremost, education brings self-discipline, a sense of responsibility, teamwork among children and prevents children from feeling social insecurity. It helps a child become self-confident and a good decision-maker. Hence, every child should be educated so that they can lead a happy life and/or face life challenges. In our experience, Patmos children who graduate from advanced education are more successful than those who are limited to vocational training or a state diploma as well as those who drop out from school for personal reasons. Education sets a



House mothers and staff from the Patmos Children's Village. Désiré Murhima is standing second from the right.

person free and increases one's confidence. We have drawn a conclusion that education constitutes the first inheritance that a parent should leave to their children because it goes with us throughout our lives. Educating a child is the best way to make their future bright and help him fulfill their dreams so that they live their ideal life. We thank ICC for emphasizing the children's education.

Q: What is happening in the DR Congo that causes you concerns?

A: Generally, growing insecurity is what matters most. The outcomes of recurrent wars result in high prices of items like food, clothes, and construction materials, and ends up in mass-killings, disharmony in the society, high rates of taxes, etc. People living on islands, like in the Patmos Children's Village, face a lot of challenges since prices for the fuel for our boat have increased, and we are obliged to travel since we cannot get everything we

need for the children's survival on Idjwi Island. On the other hand, the salaries of employees have increased only slightly (compared to costs). The prices of items have tripled, and the employees can no longer afford to buy what they need. The current situation is generalized to all the inhabitants of the D.R. Congo, because they live and face the same life context.

Q: How important are ICC donors to the children?

A: ICC donors remain very important for both the children and the personnel. They help the children to be healthy, to study, and to have food to eat. They help provide the children with a place to live and clothe them. They treat them fairly to such an extent that even though they are orphans by the law of nature, they are treated better than many children whose parents are still alive. Our children are the healthiest in the village and the best clothed. They live in the most beautiful houses,

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and they are spiritually nourished and live in the safest family environment.

Q: Is there anything else that you would like to share with the donors?

A: Honestly and truly speaking, we first of all praise the donors' efforts and sacrifices so that children are given a new chance to survive. They are saviors to children as Jesus Christ is a savior to the world. We can't forget to plead in favor of the children to the project donors. We pray that they continue helping children



because their reward in Heaven will be great. Children from Patmos Village always like to be told about their sponsors. They also like to receive their letters, postcards, their photos, and to learn that the sponsor has sent money for school supplies, food, construction, school fees, clothes, etc. In short, the children from Pat-

mos Village know that their sponsors live abroad and that they provide for their needs. We request that this connection goes on until God Himself decides that we meet in Heaven where we will be crowned for a seed we sowed on Earth, a gift we gave to the needy and the child's life we completely changed.

Your ICC Family Was Represented At ASI 2022

Your ICC family was recently represented at a display at the Adventist-Layman's Services and Industries (ASI) national convention. This gathering of Adventist business owners and supporting ministries was held from August 3-5 in Orlando, Florida. ASI conventions are well known for strong spiritual programming as well as an exhibit hall where hundreds of ministries display materials and tell their stories.

As in recent years, attention was drawn to the ICC's display booth due to the artistic talent of volunteer Jean Parchment. Jean paints and dresses "Reborn Dolls," making them look and feel like real babies. Many passersby have a difficult time at first believing the dolls are not real babies. Sev-

eral doll lovers have "adopted" these life-like baby dolls, for a minimum donation. Over several years, the doll project has raised thousands of dollars in support of special project needs at the Patmos Children's Village in the DR Congo. This includes helping to provide a new clean water system and new outdoor kitchens. Jean is affectionately known as "The Baby Lady" and "she delivers!" By the end of this year's convention, all four of the dolls on display were adopted into new homes. What a blessing to ICC's children!

Many people dropped by to visit staff and volunteers at ICC's booth. If you were one of the visitors who signed up to receive the *Qué Pasa* monthly newsletter, we welcome you to the ICC family.



Jean Parchment's artistry was on display at the national ASI convention. The "adoption" of her "Reborn Dolls" provide funding to bless ICC children in the D.R. Congo.

Like Jean, members in this family have a passion for serving the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children, providing them the best care possible.

How To Rescue A Child

Your sponsorship will save a life today

A few days ago, I received an urgent message. There is an immediate need of sponsors for five children in the D.R. Congo.

Four boys and one girl, all suffering from an extremely painful past, desperately need our help.

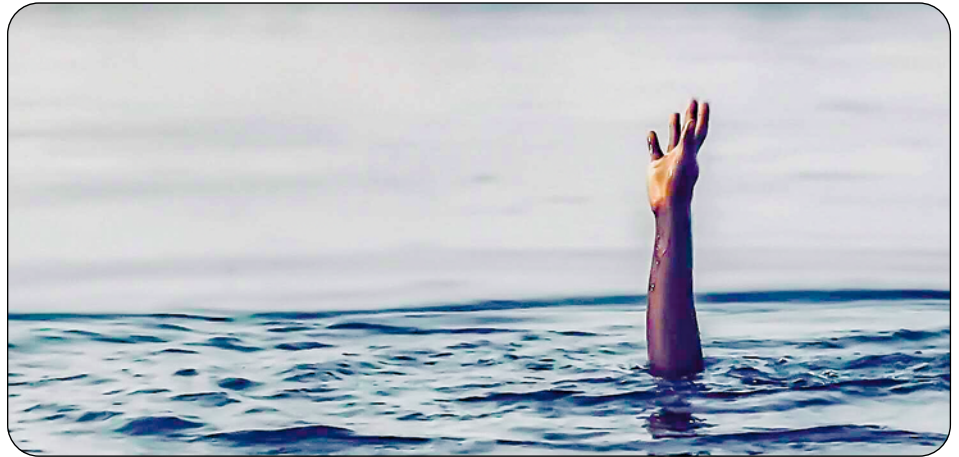
The \$35 a month sponsorship rescues these deserving kids from an incredibly uncertain future. It gives them clean clothes, a place to sleep, nutritious food, loving house parents and siblings, and a Christian education. In short, it not only saves their lives, but it also changes them.

Would you be able to commit to sponsoring one of these children today?

As I was thinking of this urgent call for help, I remembered a similar call I received a few years ago from a young girl in our church asking if my wife and I would commit to sponsoring an ICC child.

In the process of making the request, she mentioned the word “rescue” — which brought back a flood of memories about a time when I desperately needed someone to rescue me.

While on a family outing when I was about ten years old, I got caught in a riptide at Laguna Beach. Once I realized what was happening, I thought that a few powerful strokes would bring me back to safety. When those strokes



did nothing, I panicked. It seemed like the harder I swam, the further I was being swept out to sea.

My dad and brother on the beach, although knowing the techniques of escaping a riptide which could have easily saved me, were eating, laughing, and playing catch, and they were totally oblivious to the fact that I was in the process of drowning.

Long story made short, when I was totally exhausted from my efforts, I gave up trying to get back to the beach. When I did that, I drifted my way out of the riptide.

As I staggered back to my family and threw myself down on the sand, I soon came to the unsettling conclusion that no one there had even realized my peril.

Today, we can very clearly see the peril of these four boys and one girl in the Congo. Just as there was a right technique for me to get out the riptide, so there is a right technique for rescuing these kids. That technique is “sponsorship.”

Because you can rescue a child today, will you commit to sponsoring one of these children? Please contact Alanna, our sponsorship supervisor, at (800) 422-7729. You will save the life of a child who needs your help.

In service for His Kids,

Rick Bowes

Wills
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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 Rick Bowes today
for more details.

(800) 422-7729

RickBowes@ForHisKids.org