



January 2025

QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

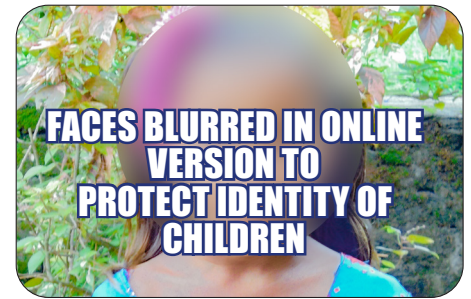
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An Opportunity to Care for "His Kids" in the New Year



quickly learned that their new surroundings are safe, and their new caregivers are loving and kind. They've learned that there is plenty of nutritious food on the table at mealtimes and there is a warm bed waiting for them at the end of a busy and eventful day.



Thanks to the support of caring ICC family members like you, the new year arrives filled with renewed hope that ICC's children will continue to thrive. This is important for all "His Kids" but especially for the newly arrived children like the ones at Sweet Home Children's Village in India that you see on this page. These children have come because of difficult and tragic circumstances, and they need the nurturing care that ICC family members like you can provide.

One thing that they are still learning is what it means to have

Would you or someone you know respond today and sponsor a newly arrived child? What a difference you will make!

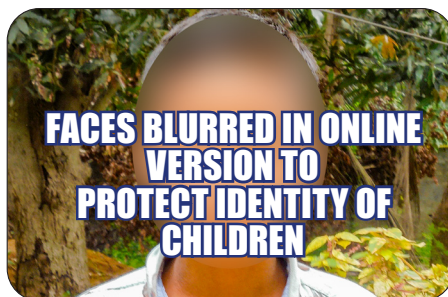


The children have experienced suffering, hunger, pain, and neglect. But they can experience a new life of opportunity and that includes learning about their new Best Friend, Jesus who loves children and who is preparing a permanent, forever home for them in Heaven!

They have spent their first New Year's Day with their new family. There are so many new experiences, but the children have

When Kundan's mother died his father was unable to provide proper care for him. An uncle contacted the police, and they contacted Sweet Home. Can you please help provide care for Kundan or one of the other newly arrived children in India? Thank you!

Please pray for these and other newly arrived children as they grow and develop and transform as children of God. Thank you for your loving support of "His Kids!"



a sponsor who helps to provide for their care. These children are so new to the Sweet Home Family that they don't have any sponsors yet. But you can help to change that.



Project Spotlight – El Oasis, Mexico

The Impact of Your Support



The children have been earning honors and badges to fill up their new Pathfinder sashes.

Over the next few months, we'll be using this space to share information about the impact of your support on the lives of children around the world. This first update comes from El Oasis Children's Village in Mexico.

The children of El Oasis have joined another small Pathfinder Club nearby. They have been enjoying themselves very much. The club attended the area camporee and were thrilled to see themselves as part of a bigger group of children. Because El Oasis is a village campus there is tremendous synergy among the homes and children. The children have been busy earning honors and filling up their once empty sashes. And one exciting result is that seven children have

been baptized! Pathfinders has played an important role in this.

A child who had to be returned to their biological home soon discovered there was an Adventist Church down the street. "That's an Adventist church down there," they said. "I want to be able to go to church." The seeds had been sown through Pathfinders and other El Oasis church programs that are especially geared for children. The church where the child now lives can continue what ICC started. That's just one of the meaningful impacts made possible through your support!

For Christmas, El Oasis families enjoyed the festive tradition of decorating their homes in their own style, tastes, preference and personality. Then, the families took turns visiting each other's



Seven El Oasis children have recently been baptized!



It is Christmas time at El Oasis! Thank you for your support that allows the children to spend this season getting to know their Savior.

homes. Christmas is a wonderful time on the El Oasis campus. The staff work to build a feeling of unity and to introduce to the children their Savior, Christ the Lord. The memories of these special times will last a lifetime. Thanks for making celebrations like this possible through your support!

Last year, saw a transition to new administrative leadership at El Oasis. The transition has gone very well. There's a strong music program on the campus, and the farm continues to grow in size and in an increasing variety of crops. Please continue to pray for the ministry of El Oasis!

The El Oasis campus and children's homes are in need of some repairs and upgrades. Please consider extending your support by providing a gift for one of the following:

\$ 200 ***New Curtains***

\$ 600 ***Bookcases***

\$4,000 ***Pathfinder club – uniforms, equipment, camporee costs***

\$5,000 ***Upgrading/replacing furniture in children's homes***

\$9,470 ***Electrical transformer (150 KVA) with capacity to power 10 homes***

Note: this will allow for the installation of heat in homes.

Remembering Malcolm Smith: Motorcycle Champion and Friend of “His Kids”

By Doug Conleton



Malcolm Smith (left) was a renowned motor sports racer and long time supporter of ICC. Malcolm hosted a yearly charity ride to better the lives of children in Mexico. Not only this, he would often visit the children's village to tirelessly work on improvements to the campus. There was a mutual love and respect between him and the children at El Oasis. We will never forget the impact Malcolm Smith and his family had on the lives of El Oasis children.

The heart of a warrior and champion has been quieted this past month. I say “quieted” because it cannot be silenced.

Malcolm Smith was laid to rest this past month, but his heart will never be silenced due to the many lives he touched. I knew Malcolm personally, and I know just what an amazing heart this man not only had, but exercised every day.

One of the many ways Malcolm used his big heart was for the children of El Oasis, ICC’s Children’s Village in Mexico. Malcolm and his wife, Joyce, have done so many amazing things for those special children and the kids that preceded them who are now adults.

I remember being on the campus one week when Malcolm, Joyce, and one of their many groups were working at El Oasis to

improve the campus for the children there in Mexico. They were creating the footings and pouring the concrete slab for the big basketball and volleyball court. I distinctly remember this because I can still picture Malcolm working tirelessly all day, then he drove his truck up to the edge of that area and shined the headlights onto the court area so that he could continue to work on it well into the evening. The energy that man had was an amazing thing to watch!

The Smith Family also stepped in when the educational center was being built and extra funds were needed. They single-handedly funded the entire remaining financial need and the labor to build that facility! I’m talking about people that have been so influential on El Oasis campus and in the lives of those precious children. These are only a couple of the many, many projects that Malcolm spearheaded for the children of El Oasis.

I also remember when Malcolm visited, the children would gather around him because they loved him and were so grateful for all he did and continued to do for them. Malcolm set up a non-profit foundation to encourage others in the off-road community to give for the education of children in Mexico. So many of the ICC kids were included in that effort, and still are.

Malcolm’s son, Alexander, has taken over for Malcolm, and he

continues to share from his own big heart that he inherited from his father.

I am sharing a few photos for you to enjoy so that each one of us in the ICC Family can know something about a man who has made such a huge impact in the lives of the children of Mexico, at El Oasis, and beyond. ICC and El Oasis have truly been blessed to have been touched by the heart of a true warrior in this world of ours. We will never forget the heartfelt ways that Malcolm has touched the lives of the children of El Oasis. And to help us remember, I’m pleased to announce that the El Oasis school is being given the endearing name of “Malcolm & Joyce Smith Educational Learning Center.”

Our prayers go out to the Smith family in this difficult time.



Malcolm Smith’s heart for “His Kids” was even more remarkable than his racing skills.



Thank you Malcolm Smith and family for all your amazing and substantial efforts to bless God’s children!

An Answer to Prayer to Bless Orphan Children

By Rick Bowes



Many years ago, Fran Murphy was prayerfully searching for an organization that was helping orphaned children. Her main criteria was to choose whoever gave the highest percentage of donations to the children. Then she found ICC.

Not long ago I heard the most amazing “two-part answered prayer story” from a lady named Fran Murphy.

It seems that back in the year 2006, Fran, who lives in Athol, MA, and is a member of Athol SDA church family, was convicted that God was calling her to do something to help feed and clothe children who had been orphaned.

Following up on that conviction, Fran began to investigate the various children’s charities, asking the question, “Which one gives the most of the donations received directly to the children?”

As time went on it seemed that the more she asked that question of each charity, the more confused she became.

Finally, it dawned on her that God had the answer, and she prayed the simple prayer, “Lord,

I want to help children, but I want the money to go to them, and not to fundraisers.”

One week went by with no direct guidance, but on the Sabbath morning of the second week, when the church secretary handed her a packet of information about ICC, Fran knew that she had received a dramatic answer to her prayer.

Long story made short: Not only did Fran make the decision to sponsor an ICC child, but as she told the answered prayer story to others in the church, one member after another decided to do the same.

That’s the first part of Fran’s answered prayer story.

The second part, equally as dramatic as the first, is that the church members then gathered together and decided to call the first Sabbath of each month “ICC Day”.

And so it is that ever since that first ICC Day way back in 2006, month in, month out, year in, year out, Fran has read a mission story from the latest edition of the *Que Pasa*.

This week, pondering Fran’s 18 years of story reading, I realized that though the stories came from different places and different circumstances, they were all the same in that they always began with pain and suffering, but they always ended with lives being changed, and lives being saved... thanks to ICC family members

like Fran – and like YOU!

Sharing stories and features in the *Que Pasa* is another way that you can support and care for the children. And just as receiving new children vitalizes this mission so does having new members join the ICC family of supporters.

Thank you for sharing and caring for ‘His Kids!’

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Contact Wendy Clark today.

(800) 422-7729

Wendy@ForHisKids.org