



QUÉ PASA

What's Happening

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A Publication of International Children's Care
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The Ripple Effect of YOUR Support



Raúl Torra Gutiérrez lost his mother when he was 12 years old. Because of the prayers and support from donors like you, ICC was able to assist. Raúl was blessed with the opportunity to receive higher education. He now leads others to Jesus in his daily work.

The impact of YOUR support of orphan and vulnerable children is long lasting. It has a ripple effect as the children grow to independence and "pay forward" your loving generosity. They are grateful for the opportunities given them, and this can be seen in the following testimony we received recently. May it be a blessing to you.

My name is **Raúl Torra Gutiérrez**. In 1985, tragedy struck our lives when my siblings and I lost our mother. I was only 12 years old, and together with my five siblings, we faced profound grief. However, even in the midst of darkness, **God in His love provided for us and set us on the**

path to fulfill His mission.

Two years later, the **ICC Ministry** came into our lives to stay, strengthening our journey and guiding us with hope. I am especially grateful for the support of Pastor **Kenneth L. Fleck** (ICC Co-founder), who was an instrument of God in sustaining us and giving us the opportunity to move forward. I also extend my gratitude to **Mrs. Rosibel**, who was present throughout that process and offered us her help with generosity and affection.

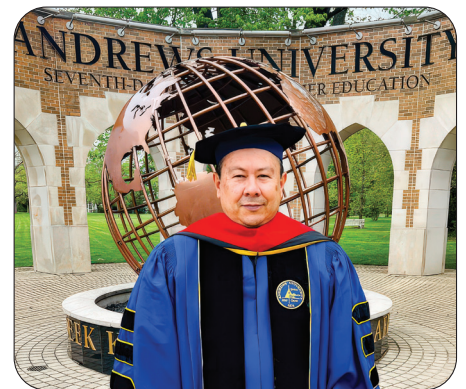
By God's grace, I was able to advance in my education: I graduated with a **Bachelor's Degree in Theology**, later pursued a **Master's Degree in Pastoral**

Ministry with an emphasis on youth leadership, and on May 2, I completed my **Doctorate in Urban Ministry at Andrews University**.

Today, I have the privilege of serving as **executive secretary of the Northeast Colombian Conference**. I am married to **Eliana Pedrozo**, and together we have raised a family with three children...

I give all the glory to God, who transformed a story of pain into a testimony of faithfulness, hope, and service.

Thank you ICC family for loving the children and for helping to transform their lives enabling them to bless and serve others.



Thanks to the ICC family, Raul was ICC's first university graduate. He has gone on to obtain his Master's Degree and recently completed his Doctorate at Andrews University.

Project Spotlight – Los Pinos, Guatemala

The Impact of Your Support



The National Forest Institute of Guatemala visited Los Pinos and shared about the importance of forests. The children learned about the importance of forests and reforestation as they played environment-centered games and planted trees.

YOUR love and support for ICC children is making a crucial difference in their lives. One essential element of the care you help to provide is quality education. An excellent example of this is the school at the Los Pinos Children's village where ICC children and children from the community engage in learning experiences designed to help them grow physically, mentally, and spiritually. These children enjoy a well-rounded education and thrive because of it – and because of YOU!

Learning About Forests

With the goal of raising awareness about the importance of forests, representatives of the National Forest Institute of Guatemala visited the Los Pinos school. They planned a playful fair and a reforestation day, through educational activities and participatory dynamics. This event was accompanied by a reforestation activity as part of the learning process, allowing the children to put into practice what they had learned and to instill values related to forest conservation.

The children were able to take part in various activities and games which made it fun for the children to learn about forests. The most beautiful part was that they had the experience of planting trees and understanding the importance of this type of activity for helping to maintain a healthy natural environment.

Well-balanced Growth and Development

The Los Pinos school strives to provide every child with a space where they can experience well-balanced growth and development beyond traditional academic education. Practical learning and the formation of values are encouraged through activities that strengthen responsibility, creativity, and teamwork.

One of the activities promoted is baking, where the children have the opportunity to prepare bread and other products. This experience not only gives them useful tools for the future but also teaches discipline, teamwork, and the joy of sharing what they have created themselves.

In addition, the school promotes crafts and other creative activities that allow the children to discover and develop their talents. These experiences help them express their emotions and strengthen their self-esteem.

Los Pinos continues moving forward thanks to the support of kind-hearted people who believe in the transformation of lives. Every donation helps more children and young people gain the opportunity to learn, grow, and



The children at Los Pinos learn practical life skills alongside traditional education. One cherished activity is bread baking. Thank you for your support that provides the children with life-long skills!



The children enjoyed a beautiful, cultural event where outstanding students were recognized. They celebrated and gave thanks to God for their culture and freedoms.

dream of a better future.

Encouraging a Patriotic Spirit

The Los Pinos School enthusiastically joins activities and traditions that remind the children that they live in a nation rich in culture and values. The children learn to love their roots through civic and cultural programs, honoring the national symbols and

acts that identify them as Guatemalans.

The school community enjoyed a beautiful cultural event, where the effort and dedication of outstanding students were also recognized. Everyone took delight in a food fair and experienced the emotional moment of the proclamation of freedom. Carrying torches and flags in hand, the children walked through the main streets of Poptún, the closest town. The event concluded with activities at the school.

Joel Carpio, Los Pinos director, reminded everyone that we also celebrate the freedom that Christ offers us—the forgiveness of our sins and the promise of a life free from evil in Him.

Celebrating a Year of Achievement

Thanks to the commitment and

support that so many have shown for the educational program of Los Pinos, in November there was great joy when 12 students graduated from primary level (6th grade) and 4 others graduated from the basic Level (9th grade).

For another year, God has been good to Los Pinos. Through the generosity of ICC family members like you, God has provided all the necessary resources to help transform lives through the comprehensive education being offered. It is a team effort that would be impossible to accomplish without the support of each one of you. **THANK YOU! THANK YOU VERY MUCH** for believing in our work.

"I can do things you cannot; you can do things I cannot. Together we can do great things." – Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Will You Sponsor Me?

ICC believes that siblings should stay together even if their families are torn apart. When possible, we try to facilitate welcoming sibling groups. Here are two children who need the loving care of the ICC family in Guatemala. Their care is made possible through the loving generosity of sponsors within the ICC family. Will you help to provide the care these children need by sponsoring one or both today? To sponsor, please contact Lorena at the ICC office (800-4227-729) or use the QR code. Thank you!



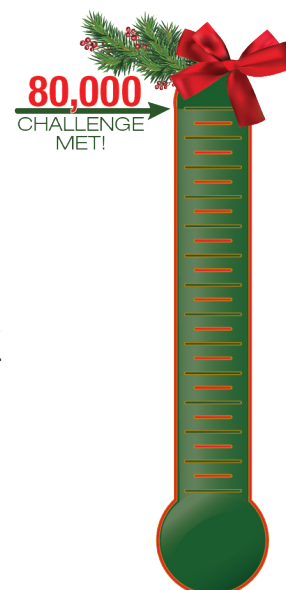
**ForHisKids.
org/sponsor-
a-child**



Quality education is life-changing. On behalf of the children, **THANK YOU!**

YOU did it!

Christmas Matching Challenge Update



YOU are such a big blessing to the children! Through your love, kindness, and collective generosity the \$80,000 Christmas Hope Matching Challenge was reached and exceeded! These funds have been helping to provide for the care the children need. That in turn helps to provide a legacy as these children grow, develop, and prepare themselves for a hopeful future in this life and for eternity! **Thank you for blessing the children through this program!**

Stay tuned for other upcoming matching challenge opportunities where you can double the impact of your support! And if you'd like to be involved in setting up a challenge in the future, please contact Rick Bowes at the ICC office **800-422-7729** or rickbowes@forhiskids.org

Memorials

In Memory of Don Bechtel
Cathy Bechtel

In Memory of Carolyn Bohlman
Jan Truttman

In Memory of Elaine Brasuell
Cathy Bechtel
Bechtel Factoring, LLC

In Memory of Bob Cowan
Janet Cowan

In Memory of Bob Davis
Fred & Berniece Smith

In Memory of Charlotte Doris
Fred & Berniece Smith

In Memory of Carl G Downey Jr
Carl G. & Katherine Swenson

In Memory of Donald Downey
Carl G. & Katherine Swenson

In Memory of Helen Downey
Carl G. & Katherine Swenson

In Memory of Nellie Downey
Carl G. & Katherine Swenson

In Memory of Thomas Downey
Carl G. & Katherine Swenson

In Memory of David Flowers
Phyllis Flowers

In Memory of Fay Iseminger
Fred & Berniece Smith

In Memory of Marion Lakusta
Diana Lakusta

In Memory of Rosemary Lewis
Linda Scott

In Memory of Peggy Rice
Cathy Bechtel
Bechtel Factoring, LLC
Roderick & Lily Dail

In Memory of Rick Flett
Mrs. Joyce Patterson

In Memory of LaVern Riffel-Beltz
Jan Truttman

In Honor of Juan Carlos Way's Birthday
Debra & Michael Case

Honorariums

In honor of Tena Bachm's 90th birthday
Jan Barnes
Francine Bergmann
Michaelan & David Bowers
Ellen & Dan Butler
Edward & Audine Dieter
Leanne Drexler
Rick & Sharon Fleck
Celeste Flores
Douglas Franklin
Camille Gilley
Kent & Jan Greve

Lori Hagele
Paula Haynes
Lois Jaecks
Beverly King
Carolyn Liers
Jimmy & Elizabeth Loyless
Janna Mansfield
Nancy & Neal McCoy-Wearner
Marjory McNeilus
Luella Mirasol
Andrea Morgan-Bedasse
Dan & Valerie Morikone

Wanda Nelson
Ernie & Dolores Ott
Catherine Parrott
Mary Lou Warner
John & Perle Westerberg
John & Selma Wolfswinkel
Hee Jang Young

In Honor of Don Bunker
Dale Bunker

In Honor of Khadija Ibeh's Birthday
Ruchi & Krishna Nadella

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.