

## LIFE AND TIMES AT CASA HOGAR LA GLORIA

### *Back to School -*

Its Back to School time at the Casa Hogar and this summer has been busy preparing the children to be ready for school. We have had weekly visits from a group who has engaged all the children in both physical and academic challenges to keep them sharp during the summer and have a bit of fun at the same time. As always, the children have tutors working on site with the children to ensure their homework is being done well and helping when problems arise.

This year marks an amazing opportunity for one of our students, thanks to the generosity of Villanova Prep in Ojai California one of our children has started high school in the United States. The journey to this point has been blessed by amazing efforts by the staff and supporters of our Casa Hogar La Gloria. From petitioning DIF, the Mexican Social Services organization, for permission to continue educating this youngster in California to actually getting the go-ahead and the U.S. visas, we have encountered one miracle after another. I hesitate to recount too many details as I want to ensure the privacy of our student. Suffice to say we are grateful for the opportunities. Please pray for our student and all the children still in Tijuana, as we start the new school year with well-rested brains and eager hearts. Providing a strong support system for their academic needs is a top priority. If you'd like to donate to help defray the cost of tuition or tutors for any of the children donations are welcome and can be made on the website. [www.hogar\\_infantil.org](http://www.hogar_infantil.org)

### *Health and Welfare News from TJ -*

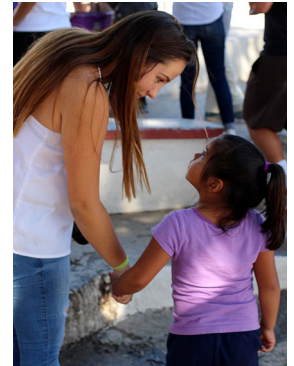
There are currently 26 children living at the orphanage. Two of our youngest children have been diagnosed with severe hearing loss. As you can imagine it is urgent that they are treated as soon as possible to facilitate their language skills developing on time. The Medical Group, SIMSA, in Tijuana has graciously agreed to provide surgeries for these two toddlers and we are so grateful. Health issues and hospital visits for any child are fraught with fear and some pain and we are sure to send devoted caregivers with the children to stay by their sides as they go through the procedures and recover. This extra time is often put in by our staff above and beyond their normal working hours.

Some of the older children are attended a weekend program at Hospital de Las Californias to learn about nutrition and health related topics. Our older children have all shown themselves to be conscientious and caring people and exposing them to professionals who are in the healthcare field gives them exposure to career avenues which they may not have considered.

## #PORLOSINOS

### *A Reflection on Service*

My name is Geneva Pfeifer and I recently graduated from The Academy of Our Lady of Peace in 2018 and I am a current Sophomore at American University in Washington D.C. Majoring in Spanish and International Relations, concentrating in US-Mexico border affairs.



“Por Los Ninos” This is our motto for the Hogar Infantil Club, which translates into “for the kids”, because everything we do at Casa Hogar truly is for the kids.

Back in 2014, myself and 4 - now alumnus- started the OLP chapter of the Hogar Infantil Club. As new leaders in the Saints and OLP community, the response to our ‘grand opening’ was phenomenal. Many students were curious to see what truly lies on the other side of the border that divides Tijuana and San Diego. As the OLP chapter of the Hogar Infantil Club added more trips under our belts we truly felt like we were making a difference in our community. By spending a day with the kids at Casa Hogar, privilege and class was able to be thrown to the curb, making us all equal, making us all human.

The positive effects of spending one day at Casa Hogar does not stop at the end of the day, students who had never previously crossed the border before, were now able to come back and show their peers photos to see just how lovely ‘the other side’ really is. Thus, through Hogar we are not only able to spread a message of hope and break down stereotypes, but we are able to truly follow our Christian Ministry and do just as Jesus would have done, help the helpless.

As a graduate of OLP, I cherished my time at OLP and will forever remember the bonds forged with the kids at Casa Hogar. Undoubtedly, through the myriad of trips to Casa Hogar in Tijuana, I was able to find my true life's vocation. This past summer I was granted the privilege to Intern for Border Angels. Border Angels is an NGO that advocated for humane immigration reform and social justice for all with an emphasis on issues related to the US-Mexican border. I can not thank Casa Hogar enough for teaching me invaluable life lessons and showing me what true kindness looks like, just as Jesus would do.

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

We are constantly humbled by the countless acts of kindness and remembrances which we receive every month. Our long-time supporters have kept our doors open over the past four decades. This year while serving as the Missionary Liaison to the Casa Hogar La Gloria Brother Robert Baiocco took on the task of getting to know one of our major donors. Brother Bobby has a passion for our children, and he was eager to discover the story behind Don Roberto's Jewelers and their amazing monthly donations. The company, which has locations throughout Southern California, has a philanthropy program which gives employees the choice to donate a portion of their earnings to Casa Hogar La Gloria with every paycheck. The company then matches their donations. A wonderful tradition of service and philanthropy which greatly supports our efforts to keep our

mission afloat. Brother Bobby was captivated by the spirit of generosity and support shown by all he met. He commented that some of the employees have copies of the annual Christmas card on their desks to remind them of the children. We welcome all types of fundraising on behalf of our children.



## MISSION

Our Mission is to give each child in our care a secure home and loving family in which to develop and grow. Hogar Infantil, Inc. is committed to providing for children in need and does so by providing support to the children's home, Hogar Infantil La Gloria.

Contact us at [hogar.infantil.lg@gmail.com](mailto:hogar.infantil.lg@gmail.com), (619) 618-0348, or visit us online at [www.hogar-infantil.org](http://www.hogar-infantil.org)

*Hogar Infantil Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization incorporated in California and recognized by the United States of America. Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.*



## BECOME A MONTHLY SUSTAINING SUPPORTER!

Cash Donations welcome to defray cost of Utilities, Medical Expenses, Tuition, Clothing, Diapers, Formula etc.

Recurring cash/credit donations can be set up at our website, [www.hogar-infantil.org](http://www.hogar-infantil.org). These ongoing donations help us better budget and provide for all of the children's needs.

Like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/hogarinfantil> and follow us on Twitter, @HogarInfantilLG.



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## NEW DORM AND IMPROVED LANDSCAPING

After many years of planning and fundraising we are going ahead with building new structures and improving the landscaping at the Casa Hogar. The site is now officially owned by our Casa Hogar La Gloria, A.C and it took literally years to get all the title documents arranged. After consultation with our director, Beatriz Tovar, we have had conceptual plans drawn up by a Tijuana architect. Miguel Enciso, the president of the A.C., will lead the efforts to make this dream come to a reality. His strong connections and expertise in building in the Tijuana area are a blessing to us. He has commissioned the engineering and plumb-

ing, and electrical plans being drafted so that work can start in the new year. It has been a long time coming. The new plans will improve the sleeping and bathroom facilities for our children and provide an updated classroom for afterschool work. The laundry facilities are also being modernized and moved on the campus to another spot. Frequent visitors may remember that clotheslines span the area over one of the play grounds to take advantage of sun light to dry the clothes. The new setup will move the lines to an underused location at the northwest side of the campus near the Chapel. Pictures to follow as we get underway....

