



Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries



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Orphanage: Children's Village, Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Oscar & Amy Serrano, Honduras National Directors

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2008

Celebrating 5th Anniversary with the Serranos

by Mary Frenter

Though involved with WWH2H since 1997, June 2008 marks the fifth anniversary since Oscar and Amy Serrano moved to Honduras. With the guiding light of Jesus Christ, the Serranos and WWH2H have accomplished many miracles. This is a brief story of how Oscar and Amy helped make WWH2H what it is today:

What is WWH2H?

Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries (WWH2H) is known as *Asociación Mundial Corazón a Corazón (ASOCORA)* in Spanish. WWH2H/ASOCORA is a 10-year-old nondenominational Christian volunteer organization dedicated to helping and comforting children in Honduras.

Who are the Serranos?

The Serranos met in the early 1990s while working as young volunteers on The Friendship, a Mercy Ships International vessel in the Caribbean. Oscar was a recently ordained pastor from Honduras, and Amy was a loving young woman from Louisiana with a servant's heart. They fell in love, married, and moved to Washington State with friends they met on the ship to start a ministry to help children in Honduras. This was a dream of Oscar's since he grew up watching the poor living on the streets of his hometown, Puerto Cortes.

Early WWH2H

In 1998, when Hurricane Mitch devastated Honduras, the Serranos led volunteer construction and medical teams for WWH2H. Since those first teams, hundreds of volunteers from the U.S.A., Canada, and Europe have come to Honduras with WWH2H to help provide medical, physical, and spiritual care for literally thousands of people.

Dream of Property

In September 2003, the Serranos, my husband, Lyle, and I went to Honduras to look for property to build a children's home. We met a stranger who told us he had dreamed the night before that we were coming, and God told him to help us. He gave WWH2H eight acres of land to build a Children's Village for the homeless and abandoned children living on the streets and at the dump.

Need for Onsite Leaders

Over the next two years, WWH2H sent small teams, led by the Serranos, to begin construction on the first Children's Village. During that time, the Serranos were pastoring *Iglesia Cristiana Resurrección*, a Spanish-speaking church in Centralia, Washington. When it became evident that our fledgling ministry needed full-time onsite leaders, Oscar and Amy



packed up their two small daughters and moved to Puerto Cortes to become the WWH2H Honduras National Directors.

Serranos Coordinate Efforts

In 2003, the Serranos developed a *Meals from the Heart* program that provided daily food for 80 children living on the streets and at the dump in Puerto Cortes.

Oscar and Amy have overseen the development and management of the *Children's Village* near Tegucigalpa that is now home to 70 children, ages 4 months to 19 years, with room for 120 when all construction is complete. Through the Serranos' efforts, WWH2H was recently given another 10 acres of land in Concepción del Sur

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5th Anniversary: *continued from page 1*

in the mountains of Santa Barbara, Honduras, to build *another Children's Village*, which will eventually be home to 200 orphans.

The Serranos have coordinated *volunteer construction, medical, dental, Vacation Bible School, crusade and youth teams* from other countries who have come to help WWH2H in Honduras. About 4,000 patients annually benefit from WWH2H medical/dental/vision teams providing free care for an estimated

16,000 to 20,000 people, most of whom have never seen a health care provider. Since 2003, *uniforms and school supplies* have been provided each year so that 250 local children can go to school.

What began as a small Bible study is now the *ASOCORA Church* with a congregation of about 300, pastored by the Serranos and dedicated to helping the nearly 150 teens and children that make up half of the congregation. In May 2008, the Serranos orchestrated the purchase of land for the *WWH2H Honduras headquarters, which will also have space for a church facility,*

a home for mentally handicapped children, and a youth center.

This young couple, now in their 30s, are an amazing example of selflessness in this age of self-centeredness. Both U.S. citizens, they have sacrificed their comforts and security here to help so many in Honduras have a chance at a better life. In addition, they have provided a way for so many wonderful volunteers to reach out directly to others who need their help. - MF

Please visit the HISTORY and MISSIONS pages on our website for more detailed information.



Combined youth team from Montana & Oregon, March 2008

I received this letter from Pastor Ed Miller who will be doing the Crusade in Honduras on September 5th and 6th. Please get this message out to those you know who will encourage their friends and congregations to pray for this Crusade. Thanks, Mary.

Pastor Requests Prayers for September Crusade

Good evening. I have to share something burning on my heart. I have begun to alert the churches and individuals about the crusade and have asked them to begin to pray.

Mary, I feel like we need to give this everything we have. I believe God is moving and the impact in Honduras will be great if God moves. You have more contacts with other churches than I do. I think that God would have

them begin to pray. Would you make contact will all your people to begin a vigil of prayer? I have a burning feeling this needs to be done. If this is as important as I think it is, God will reveal to them the same urgency and they will take up the call to pray.

I have never felt this impact in my soul for any of the other crusades that I have held, as much as this one. We want a fire burning when we get there, a fire of the Holy Spirit that will move greatly and speak to the hearts of many people.

Thank you, Ed.



Dilcia Report

by Amy Serrano
Honduras National Co-Director

This month I want to share with you amazing events that have happened recently in the life of one of our WWH2H Church members. Her name is Dilcia Urrutia. She is the wife of Douglas, President of the Honduras Board of Directors and our ministry's lawyer in Honduras. It is an amazing testimony and I hope that it will stir your faith in our healing and loving God, as it has stirred mine. I have translated this story from its original Spanish, and will let Dilcia tell you in her own words.

"My earliest memories of going to church were with an older woman who used to take me as a small child. After that, I remember going to the Catholic Church with my aunt and my mother. My aunt would always look at me in church and laugh at me. I then was taken to a Pentecostal church with another aunt. She also was not very loving with me. This made me not want to go to church. Finally, as a teenager, I ended up going to Emmanuel Baptist Church here in Puerto Cortes.

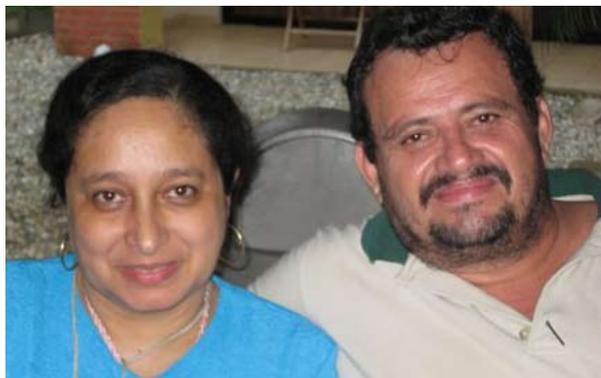
"As you can see, I didn't have very much spiritual excitement happen in my life. But that all changed last fall in 2007. In that year, my family's health was really attacked. My husband had a heart attack. He is doing well now, and is taking his meds regularly. My daughter Verinia, had cysts on her ovaries. She also was operated on and is doing well. My son Douglas also had some problems with a sciatic nerve.

"And that was when I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. The doctors told me that I would need to have a hysterectomy, but I had some problems with the hemoglobin in my blood. The doctors were waiting to see

if the counts in my blood would go up, so they could do the surgery. This roller coaster ride went on for months.

"Finally, they told me they just had to do the surgery and hope for the best. My husband and I had to sign all kinds of waivers that we would not sue the hospital should I not make it through the surgery, and the doctors told me again and again how dangerous it would be.

"On the day of the surgery in December of 2007, the doctor told me that all he had on hand was one pint of blood and was hoping that would be all I would need. When I awoke from the anesthetic, the doctor told me that the pint of blood was not needed. I asked if I only bled a little and his



Dilcia and Douglas Urrutia

response was, 'You did not bleed at all!' This was a miracle, and I knew that it was from my Heavenly Father.

"In April 2008, a mass was found on my left breast. The doctors did a biopsy and sent it to a lab in Europe. When the results returned, I was shocked. 'It came back positive, Dilcia. They found cancer cells.' I could not even react; I just went to see my husband.

"When I told my daughter, she said everything would be fine. Those words gave me comfort, but I was so worried. What would happen to my family if I didn't make it through this? Would my husband be able to care for them alone?

"I began to think about my life and how in the last months I had not lived as a should. I could only pray. 'God why?' I began to confess that I had not been the daughter that God wanted me to be. I also began to thank God for the good life that I have had and all of His blessings.

"Yet, I felt terrible. I didn't want my family to see how much I was suffering and lose their faith. On Mother's Day, I had to break the news to my mother. We cried together and she suffered just as I had. We began to pray together and she cried out, 'God why?'

"I told her, 'No, don't say that. Let's just thank God for the good and the bad.'

"That Sunday, we told the church about my situation. My human side said cry, cry, cry, but my daughter-of-God side said, believe, believe, believe. One of my sisters in the church said from the pulpit, 'Sister I don't understand what you have, I only look forward to hearing your testimony of how God healed you.'"

Let me (Amy) break in at this point. When Oscar and I got the news that Dilcia had been diagnosed with cancer, we began to pray. We were in the States with Mary and Lyle and they prayed with us. Oscar said that he had a very deep feeling in his heart, that she did not have cancer, that she had been healed.

(Back to Dilcia) "On that Friday, the pastor of a friend of mine came over and prayed for me. He anointed me with oil and I felt like the Lord touched me.

"On Sunday night, the Lord woke me with the answer to the question why. He told me, 'It is so that you can testify about what I have done for you.' He also gave me these verses:

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Dilcia's Report:

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2 Corinthians 12:9

But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Philippians 1:6

"Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to its completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

"From that moment on I was filled with peace.

"On the following Tuesday, we went back to the doctor to receive the latest exam results. I went with my husband, who has been my strength in this whole ordeal and all of my life. I praise God for this wonderful husband that the Lord has given me.

"When the doctor read the results, everything was negative and everything was benign! There was absolutely nothing wrong with me. They reviewed my blood cells and all was normal. "Everything is fine," they said. Words that the Lord spoke to my heart a few nights before ran threw my mind again and again. "Oh, God, what wonderful things you do!"

"After sharing all of this, I began to look with my doctor at the prior results that showed positive for cancer. It appeared that after reviewing my previous results, I not only had a cist in the left breast but also one in the right. The doctor also reviewed the findings of the previous blood work showing that malignant cancer cells had been found. The doctor had also told us that once a mass is found in the breast, there is no way to dissolve it with medication. It can only be dissolved through surgery. But, when the ultrasound was taken again, neither mass showed up, they were completely gone!

"It appears that they have dissolved," the doctor said. They did

the ultrasound again and looked and looked, but could find nothing—the masses were simply gone. They said what was clearly visible in my previous ultrasound was now gone. With great surprise, they told me that it could only be a miracle from the hand of God.

"I started to cry tears of relief and joy. I knew that I had been chosen to testify. I was a beloved daughter of God, created to see, feel, and experience His power. 'Oh my God, God of glory and power, you have done wonders in me. It was YOUR goodness and YOUR glory and power, and you have done wonders in me. It was YOUR mercy and power at work in me!' The doctors compared my ultrasound from April and simply could not believe it!

"I went in on Tuesday, but I know that since the Friday before, many people were praying for me. Perhaps people that I don't even know. If you were one of them, I thank you for your prayers and your faith in the King of Kings!

"Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit 'built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In Him, the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord!"

(Back to Amy) What an amazing story, and it doesn't end there. Just days after Dilcia wrote this article, she and her whole family were on their way back home from church. It was night and they hit a horse in the road doing 60 mph. The horse survived the hit, but their car was completely totaled! When the wreckers saw the vehicle, they told Dilcia and her family, "It is a miracle that you all walked away from this, completely without injury!" That seems to be happening a lot to Dilcia these days!

Dilcia is now testifying to everyone the miracle that the Lord has done in her life. I hope that this story has strengthened your faith. This is the God that we serve. He has His purpose in everything, and I truly believe that one day we will see, in this life or in the next, how He was glorified in all that He did through us. I am very blessed to live in a place were I am able to witness these miracles each day, not only in the children at our Village, but also in the lives of our church members, the community and in those who have come from other nations to volunteer their time. We have a miracle-working God.

Lord, I lift up to you anyone reading this article. May this testimony help them to see that nothing is impossible for You, oh, God! I pray that whatever challenge they face today, you will give them the faith to see that You are at work in them for Your Glory. I pray that if You choose to heal them, or to say, "My grace is sufficient for you," that they would, all the same, know Your great love and care for each of them. In Jesus name, Amen!

-AS



Are you moved to be God's hands and feet in Honduras? With two new campuses, we need volunteer construction teams! Contact Mary Frenter at maryf@wwh2h.org today!



From the President by Mary Frenter

We are back from the south land and praising God for His blessings and mercies as we traveled the last three weeks from Miami, Florida, to Plaquemine, Louisiana, to Dallas, Irving, Garden Valley and Galveston, Texas, fund raising as we went.

Amy and Oscar met Lyle and me in Miami. We were able to share what Jesus is doing in Honduras through WWH2H with several churches and the friends of those who hosted us. Many are interested in sponsoring children, coming on teams to help, praying for our kids, and helping financially with the new projects God has put in our paths. One unexpected treat was meeting with the leadership of Mercy Ships in Texas.

Village Update in Brief

The Village was a revolving door as new children continued to arrive. Pastor Ed Miller had major surgery and recovered. He has his ticket to come to Honduras with the September 3-13 team. He will do two days of Crusades September 5-6.

Campus Concepts

I was chatting with Paula Barr, our talented and esteemed webmaster and newsletter editor, sharing about what God is doing. She dubbed the WWH2H projects as "campuses." So, in Paula's words, "We now have three campuses: our Children's Village Campus in Tegucigalpa, our Concepción del Sur Campus in the

Santa Barbara Mountains, and our WWH2H Headquarters Campus in Puerto Cortes.

"Te-pita Campus," as Mercy Ships Mission Teams Coordinator, Sylvia Thacker, lovingly calls Tegucigalpa, is of course, our first endeavor where we are raising, at last count, 66 children. Concepción del Sur is our new 10-acre mountain campus near beautiful Santa Barbara, Honduras that was given to us in January. In the coming years, we plan to develop another Children's Village there to rescue more children. And finally, the WWH2H headquarters campus that was purchased while we were on this trip, will be the site of our home for mentally handicapped children, a youth center, a church facility, and possibly a home for the Serranos.

By the Grace of God, He has found sponsors for many of our children listed without sponsors in the April newsletter. With the addition of our two newest children (no photos yet), Mariela (age 11) and Elder (age 8), we now have 14 children who still need sponsors:

These Children Need Sponsors



Jose Cruz
11 years old



Karen
10 years old



Juan Carlos
10 years old



Karla
9 years old



Nhuan
8 years old



Dilcia
10 years old



Mayra
7 years old



Darwin
5 years old



Cristian
4 years old



Kevin
3 years old



Daniel
1 year old



William (Edgar)
5 months old

Grateful for Hospitality

The hospitality of so many can never be repaid, but I know God will bless all those who so graciously opened their hearts, homes, churches, and organizations to us. We learned so much from all of you about how to do what we are doing better! Thank you!!

Six to 66 in Four Years!

As I reflect on the past four years, I am in awe of what God has wrought because of His Grace and Mercy for His kids in Honduras. None of this would have been possible if not for your obedience to His Spirit's gentle nudging to help this ministry help His kids.

It is important for us to remind ourselves that four years ago right now, we had six children and were just beginning to finish the first of the buildings at the "Te-pita" Campus. By His hand and your obedience, there are now 66 children and 11 buildings at that Campus, with the promise of two more campuses in different towns, all dedicated to caring for the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual

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From the President:

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welfare of those we serve. Each program has at its base the purpose of drawing all involved closer to Jesus. That means an invitation to salvation for the unsaved, and a deepening of their walk for those who have already made that decision.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are some wonderful opportunities on the horizon that may allow WWH2H to expand our outreach to the poor, as we partner with other ministries with the resources to provide clean water, monthly food packets, onsite health care, education, and spiritual training for destitute children. Lyle and I are praying about this deeply. Our heart is to help children. This partnership may be a way to provide intentional organized and monitored help to children right in their local villages. We can help so many

more children that way. We would still do our Children Village plan, as God leads, for those with no parents or who are in dangerous situations. But, just think of how many more children we could help by partnering with other ministries and organizations? Please pray with us about this, that God will have His way.

Pray for Upcoming Missions

In the meantime, Kendall Bible Baptist Church from Florida is shipping a container for us to Honduras in the next few days. Please pray for safe passage and no hang-ups once it reaches Puerto Cortes. Their mission team will arrive in Honduras June 9th. Also, please pray for the Mercy Ships teams arriving June 7-17 and June 21-July 1, that God would help them do the projects they came to do in His name.

Pray for the Children

As always, we covet your prayers for all the children who are the reason for the existence of this ministry. The task sometimes appears daunting, but in the words of Mother Teresa, "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin..."

- MF

Our Financial Promise to You

We view contributions as a sacred trust, accountable to God and to you for their use.

We use all contributions as designated by our donors, and return or transfer monies to a related fund if a project is over-funded.

We use contributions to support the Children's Village home and mission outreach activities in Honduras.

A very small percentage of money is used for printing and postage costs.

Staff in Honduras receive salary and benefits. All U.S. board members and staff are volunteers.

We send year-end tax statements to donors for all monetary gifts given to WWH2H.

Please visit our website for more information about the children we serve, our history, and our mission. Thanks!

Marlon, Norman, Mary, and Marvin in March 2008



2 Corinthians 1:3-5 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.

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