



Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries



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

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2009

Village Reports

by Amy Serrano, Honduras National Co-Director
and Sylvia Thacker, Director of Teams, Mercy Ships

From Amy:

Southern California

Greetings from north of the border! I am writing to you from a hotel in Southern California. We have spent the last week with my family traveling through Washington, Oregon, and California sharing about Heart to Heart and getting to know some wonderful folks from Pastor Ed Miller's church in Modesto, California. Pastor Ed has been a friend of WWH2H since its beginning, so

it was a blessing to finally meet the members of his church. I also had a chance to visit with my stepmom whom I had not seen since my dad passed away in September. Now, we will spend the next few days vacationing with our family and making the long drive back to Washington.

Political Situation in Honduras

We have had a great time in the U.S., but we are also looking forward to returning home. Many of you may

have heard about the political situation in Honduras on the news. Much of the unrest has been centered in the capital, Tegucigalpa. This is many miles away from where our Children's Village is located. We ask that each of you pray about this situation, that it would be resolved quickly and peacefully.

Recovering from Illnesses

The last month has been a real health challenge at the Children's Village. Many of the children are getting over a bout with the chicken pox and impetigo, as well as other illnesses. We discovered that some of these issues may stem from a problem in the water system that occurred in the May earthquake. It is fixed and things are better now.

Antioch Dental Team

Our plans are to return to Honduras on August 11th, and we will be very ready to go. We are already preparing for Antioch Bible Church MRI Dental team that will arrive on the 14th of August. This is an amazing group of people who make sure that all of our kids have healthy teeth. This will be their third time in Honduras working with WWH2H. Thanks to them, our children all have beautiful teeth.

A Big Family for WWH2H

Our time in the U.S. has shown us just how many people love our kids and WWH2H ministries. We have had the chance to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. We have



Members of the WWH2H Board of Directors pose for a photo after a board meeting in Carson, Washington, in July 2009.

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Village Reports

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just been awestruck by the outpouring of support that is growing for our children. It was hard for us to be away from Honduras, but it has also been a tremendous blessing to know what a big family this ministry has in the U.S. who pray for what God is doing for His kids in Honduras.

Support Grows Kids

We see miracles each day. We see children being restored; we see buildings being built, and children moving in to what they now call "home." It brings so much joy to my heart! Each day we face difficult circumstances that only a miracle from God could change. And God answers! I know now just how many people are out there lifting us up in prayer each day. Knowing this is what gives us the strength to be refreshed and return to the wonderful ministry to which the Lord has called us.

Please Continue to Pray

We thank each of you that have stood beside us each day through your prayers and support. We ask that you continue to help us see these children grow into strong young adults with a bright hopeful future. —Amy

From Sylvia:

Sylvia and her husband, Gary, are Directors of Teams for Mercy Ships and graciously volunteer to take over management of our Children's Village when the Serranos come to the U.S. for furlough every two years.

Two Little Girls

It seems like only yesterday that we had a medical team way up in the beautiful mountains of Santa Barbara. All day long we saw the patients, listened to their stories, prayed with them and provided the needed medicines to treat their infections and diseases. I would love to share with you about two little girls who have so affected our lives.

Nellie and Rose

I will call them these two little sisters Nellie and Rose. Their mother was with them during the clinic days and shared with Oscar that she was not able to take care of them. Oscar did the necessary paperwork and before we knew what was going on, the little ones were on their way down the hill to meet with Amy and join the family out at the WWH2H Children's Village in Tegucigalpa.

Three months had gone by since we had been in Honduras. We were anxious to see them and how they were doing in their new home. From the first moment that we walked in, they ran to us with their beautiful smiles. Nellie is in school, and little Rose is a happy three year old.

Singing Her Heart Out

This past week, we have been taking all the children, a group at a time, into Puerto Cortes for check-ups. Both the girls were with us on the way home in the car. Before we knew it, the little group in the car started to sing praise songs. Nellie was sitting next to me and for the next 30 minutes she just sang her heart out.

Testimony for All

I just sat there listening to her little voice and was so blessed by her words to Our Lord. They are both doing so well. They have a home, food, and people who love and care for them. They are being taught about the love of an Almighty God who so cares for them. Their lives are a testimony to all that the Lord can do if we just put our all in His hands. —Sylvia

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 3:8



WWH2H / ASOCORA Church in Puerto Cortes holds weekly services for more than 400 people.



Sunday School classes are held in the shade of trees outside the church building.



From the President's Desk

by Mary Frenter, President

God Loves Honduras

As most of you are aware, there is a great deal of political upheaval going on in Honduras right now. Many have written or called me with their words of concern. I know God is in control and that He loves Honduras. Whatever the outcome, He will be glorified by the works that are going forward in Honduras in His name. And one of those works is WWH2H. What He has asked in the past and still asks now is that we keep our eyes on Him only. So, that is what we are doing.

Sick Children and Damaged Water Pipes

We are so blessed to have Gary and Sylvia Thacker, our Mercy Ships friends, taking care of our children while the Serranos are here (see the *Village Reports* for more information).

Hospitals in Honduras

Arlin was in the hospital for seven days with a serious eye infection and boils, but Sylvia reports he is now home and doing well. Whenever a child of ours goes to the hospital, a mommy or caregiver must be with them at all times, 24/7. So that means that either Sylvia or one of our other volunteers or mommies have to "leave the 99" to look after the one.

Hospitals in the U.S. are totally different institutions than in Honduras. They do the best they can, but imagine 100° heat, 95% humidity, and NO AIR CONDITIONING!!! Now imagine less than sterile conditions everywhere and very little help. Family members or friends do all the nursing care for each patient. It is very challenging to be a patient or the caregiver in a hospital there. It is a VERY hot, dark,

depressing place to be. Thank you so much Gary and Sylvia. We could not do this without you!!

New Building or Catching Up?

One morning in early July, I was chatting with the Lord about all the blessings of the last several months. I asked Him if we could take a break from having a building project in 2010 to catch up on what we already had.

About two hours later, I got a call from Washington State Senator Pam Roach, a friend we met in Copán in 2006 at a Conference on Honduras for Humanitarian Aid. She was asking for our help for her friend, Edna, a doctor who had been in Cuba taking some medical training. She needed to get back to Honduras during the beginning of the political upheaval there. We helped get her back, she stayed for a while at the Serranos' house, and has decided to work for us.

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President's Desk

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Surgery Equipment Donated

A doctor friend of Pam's in Washington State, who had a small surgery in his clinic, donated all of his equipment to her, as he was retiring. She has given it to WWH2H to use at our clinic. It is all ready to go on the container we are preparing to send.

Dental Clinic and Team

Just as I was trying to explain to God that this was all well and good, but did He realize we HAVE NO CLINIC BUILDING for Edna or the donated equipment, I met new friends of WWH2H, Rick and Kim Stephens. Rick works for a large dental supply company. They came to help us load the container. He suggested I apply to his company for a donation of some dental equipment to set up a dental office. I also heard from our folks at Medical Relief International, who have sent dental teams to care for our kids and others. This will be their third year. They are interested in helping us establish a dental clinic as well, so when they come they would not have to bring all their equipment with them as they do now.

More Building in 2010

I am guessing this IS God's answer to my request about not having a 2010 building project!! "Nope!" If it "walks like a duck and talks like a duck..." So, please pray with us for this new Medical/Dental Clinic to happen.

We have a partially completed building on our WWH2H Church Campus in Puerto Cortes. At the moment, it appears this may be the best place for our clinic, however, Oscar estimates we will need upwards of \$25,000 to complete it, and then there will be start-up costs. In addition, we need nearly \$100,000 to complete and furnish their residence/

headquarters house which is under construction right now. Funds have never been a problem for God in the past, so I know if He wants this done, He will provide through His people who are able to help.

Container Packing

Huge thank yous to all the volunteers who have come to the Frontier Mission's warehouse in Troutdale each Wednesday in July to help us sort and load the donated items for the container. John Atherton, our wonderful Container Chairperson, has been hard at work organizing the sending of the container.

Funds for Shipping Container

Before the political upheaval in Honduras, we had applied to send it for free with the U.S. government's Funded Transportation for Humanitarian Aid Program. However, it appears that will not happen. So, we are waiting on God for the funds, about \$6000, to send it ourselves. We hope the container will go in August or early September, so the things for the October construction team, will be there for them.

More Than One Container

Our wonderful benefactors, Rick and Charlotte McPherson from Frontier Missions, are letting us use their warehouse in Troutdale, Oregon, to pack and load the container. It appears we may have too many things for one container. So, we will be very selective on the cargo. The Serranos have been searching garage sales and the Goodwill for deals on furnishings for their new house and headquarters. If you have furnishings in good condition that need a new home, please let me know.

Christmas in July

Some of the things that will go in the container are the Christmas gifts for our children for December. Thank you to all of our "Christmas in July" shoppers from Centralia, Castle Rock, Estacada, Damascus, Stevenson, and Carson and all points in between, who have purchased things for our children.

Presentation Updates

The presentations have been going well. We missed the one near Spokane at Fairfield as our car broke down

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Girls at the Children's Home in Tegucigalpa have decorated their house with happy images.



President's Desk

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by Ritzville. Hopefully, we can reschedule another time. But we did get to meet with good friends Mel and Phyllis Hotchkiss, who go to a church in Spokane. They are hoping to arrange for us to come at a later date to share WWH2H with their church as well as several others in the area. Thanks you and blessings to Jim and Tammy Culverwell who live near Chewelah and were our hosts. They and their three sons live on top of a mountain surrounded by 173 acres of their beautiful land. After a delicious barbecue, we did the presentation Summit Valley Community Church.

Team Updates

Then it was off to Estacada Community Fellowship. Super times. A couple there, who were on the June Maintenance Team to Honduras, has donated the funds to have 25 new mattresses made for our kids. In addition they are sponsoring two of our girls, AND they have joined the November VBS team to Honduras!! Two young couples from Closners' church, who have been twice now to Honduras, are planning to go in



Girls attend school in the girls' classroom at the Children's Home.

December to celebrate Christmas with the kids. Another newlywed couple from this church wants to go in August and see if it will work out for them to stay for a year. God is truly raising up His "Kids" here to help His Kids in Honduras!!

Family Visits from Boston

Oscar's sister Diana and her 2 year old son Carlito are visiting us from Boston. Thank you to Doug and Mary Ann Spencer from Estacada Community Fellowship, who donated their trailer for an extra bedroom at our home.

Returning to Honduras

By the time you read this, Serrano's will be packing to head back to Honduras. We are so thankful to Paul and Joyce Chiles for sharing their summer retreat in Carson with Serrano's while they have been here. We are praising God for all the blessings and mercies He has bestowed on us while the Serranos have been here. Thank you all for your continued prayers and support for this profound work God is doing in Honduras.

—Mary

WWH2H Medical Team

We are beginning to plan the WWH2H March 2010 medical team to Honduras. Everyone wanted early to mid March. From past experience, three days of clinics with one day off seems to work, so we do not burn out. We could:

- Leave Wednesday, March 10, at 12:35 a.m. and arrive at noon
- Clinics: Thursday—Saturday
- Off: Sunday
- Clinics: Monday—Wednesday
- R&R: Thursday—Friday
- Return Saturday, March 20

That puts us well ahead of Easter celebrations (April 4th). Our orientation meeting will be October 20th at 6:30 in Longview (location to be announced). We will need chairfolks for toys, meds, etc., to volunteer at that time, or if you would like to volunteer ahead of time, let me know! Please call Mary Frenter, 509.427.8585.



Volunteers Needed:

If you live in the Longview or Castle Rock area, help fold the WWH2H newsletter once a month at the Christian Church in Castle Rock. Please contact Phyllis Haas 503-728-3507 or email phyl@clatskanie.com for dates and times.



Upcoming Team List:

- August 14-21: **Antioch Bible Church MRI Dental team** led by Dr. Bill Mays and Claudia Blazer. Pastor Ken Hutcherson from Antioch Bible Church is fighting prostate cancer. Please keep him, his family and the church family in your prayers. Thank you.
- Late September (date TBD): **Estacada team** (if the political situation does not escalate in the next few weeks). Contact Lisa Closner, team leader, for more information. 503.753.2993.
- October 2-10: **Construction team** to work on the Serranos' residence and our headquarters will be led by Joel Olsen. Contact Mary Frenter for more details, 509.427.8585.
- October 17-27: **Mercy Ships construction team** to Children's Village
- November 1-8: **Mercy Ships medical team** to Baracoa
- November 21-28: **Vacation Bible School team** led by Karen Douglass and Carol Rutledge. Contact Mary Frenter for more details. 509.427.8585.
- December 13- January 2: **Christmas team**. Contact Mary Frenter for more details. 509.427.8585.
- March 10-20, 2010. **March medical team**. Contact Mary Frenter for more details. 509.427.8585.

Our Financial Promise

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.

Privacy Policy: Any information you provide WWH2H is held in strictest confidence. At no time will we share your personal information with any person or organization outside of WWH2H. Thanks!

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 our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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