



# Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries



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

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2009

## Many Blessings at Village

Letter by Rick Stephens, Volunteer

*I had the privilege of spending October 8-15 at the Village as part of a small team. Given the political situation, being able to go was a big blessing for me. I had been praying that God would provide teammates to help do the work that needed to be done. His answer to my prayers came in the form of three energetic women who love kids and are not afraid to do anything: Micah Sedillos, Amber Oslund, and Emily Lemons. We were all thankful for the opportunity to see the kids and do whatever Oscar and Amy needed us to do.*

*Our first priority was to love on the kids. After that, we helped the children write letters to their sponsors and friends. We had a blast doing that. The kids get really excited about receiving and writing letters and there was quite a bit of jockeying for position as they all tried to get to the front of the line at the same time.*

*It was a treat to get up early each day and spend some time with the boys before breakfast. On some mornings, they finished their chores early, and we were able to read and discuss a few chapters from the book of Matthew*

*together. Other mornings, we worked on their English vocabulary during breakfast. Every morning I felt blessed to be with them.*

*We were over at the Baby House holding the babies when the container arrived at the Village. A number of folks from the church came out to help, and we managed to unload the container in about 3 hours.*

*The next day (our last in the Village), we got most of the container's contents sorted and organized with more help from the WWH2H Church members. We also were blessed with being able to help the kids pick out some new shoes. Amber, Emily, and Micah were all customers for the beautician class that Cesia teaches in the afternoons. They were all pleased with their manicures.*

*The house mothers are great. I really appreciate the way they care for the children. In spite of the fact that they are very busy people, they always have a smile and they always made sure that we had a meal, too.*

*One of the main highlights of this trip for me is that I got to see Joy (name changed to protect her privacy), take several steps without her crutches. Just three months ago, she couldn't support her own weight, so seeing her walk even a little bit was a huge blessing for me. I felt so happy for her!*

*It was a great blessing to work with Amy and to get her insights into missions, the political situation in Honduras, and the World Cup qualifying matches. We are all very thankful and appreciative that Amy gave her time to us so freely.*

*Playing with the kids is one of the greatest pleasures. The boys are passionate about playing soccer, the babies love to be held, and the girls like to have their pictures taken. The whole team feels very blessed to have spent a week with the kids and I am looking forward to my return to Honduras in late November!*



—Rick Stephens



## Village Report

by Amy Serrano, Honduras National Co-Director

Praise the Lord for another day in Honduras. We are so thankful for the prayers that are lifted daily for this ministry. God is moving in mighty ways!

### School Update

Due to the current political situation, the school year ended early. Schools have been hit or miss for the last several months with at least two to three days a week canceled. The kids have not learned a lot this year due to class closures, political shutdowns, and H1N1 scares. We work with our kids throughout their break to make sure that they are ready for the next year, but many Honduran children are losing their right to an education.

### October Oregon Team

We were just visited by a wonderful group of people from Oregon. In light of the political situation, the group grew smaller by the time they arrived here. They came to unload the container but were able to accomplish much more. They helped organize our storage buildings and helped each child write letters to their sponsors. Members from our WWH2H Church joined the group to unload the container.

### Container Arrives

We worked to organize all the container contents. I am in awe at how God has blessed these children. The first winter storm system came through on Saturday night. On Sunday morning, each child showed up at



**Volunteers from the WWH2H Church and a visiting team unload the newly arrived container.**

Sunday school in new clothes, including new jackets and sweaters for each kid. Oscar has been working with the boys to put all of the bunk beds together, and they look great! The girls enjoy their new salon equipment. We can't thank you

enough to all of you that gave to this project.

### Construction Update

The headquarters building in Puerto Cortes is moving forward. There were some small issues with the roof, but the boys are working on it and should be finished soon. Tiling, windows and doors, electrical, plumbing, and painting are left. We are praying for the funds to continue the building.

### Christmas-in-July Presents

When I found the fabulous boxes labeled "Christmas presents," I fell into tears as I peeked in each bag to see the beautiful clothes purchased for each child. Over the summer, we gave a list of kids and sizes to many volunteers who purchased clothes for them. These clothes were then labeled and sent on the container. The kids will be so blessed this year, thank you so much!

### November Team

Christmas preparation begins very soon. A small group from Washington and Oregon will be coming to help wrap presents and decorate

the Village. They will celebrate an American Thanksgiving with the kids. They will also be taking new pictures of all the children.

### Honduras World Cup Soccer

Amidst the deteriorating political situation, there is joy in the streets of Honduras. Something happened that is crucially important to all Hondurans. The Honduras National Soccer Team qualified to go to the World Cup in South Africa in 2010—something that hasn't happened since 1984. The sounds of music and celebration filled the streets. Interim President Micheletti declared a national holiday. The kids had the day off from school.

Due to the political situation, morale here has been dangerously low. Hondurans have risen up against Hondurans over the last months. But on that night, each Honduran, be it camp Micheletti or camp Zelaya, were all together celebrating as family. Honduras so desperately needed some good and positive news. Praise God for this small, but so significant blessing!

We know that you are praying, because we feel it each day. Please continue to do so as we go through these financially dry seasons. We can't say thank you enough for holding us up each day before the Lord. He knows our needs and will "throw open the doors of His storehouse" to care for us. God bless you! —Amy





## From the President's Desk

by Mary Frenter

### Political Upheaval Leads to Some Canceled Teams

Much has happened since our last letter, as you can read in Amy's report and the letter from Rick Stephens who recently returned from visiting the Children's Village. Due to the political upheaval, some of Rick's team did not get to go, and the November VBS team and two Mercy Ships teams were canceled. We are all praying for a resolution to this situation, so we can resume all our planned teams. The ones you see on the UPCOMING TEAMS list (see page 4) are still on,

unless our U.S. State Department tells us we cannot go.

### Women's Retreat Team 2011

I was privileged to speak at the Mid Columbia Women's Retreat in early October in central Oregon. Many of the participants and the Women's Worship Team at the retreat, from The Church on the Mountain near Brightwood, Oregon, are praying about organizing a Women's Retreat Team to Honduras in February 2011. This is such a blessing as it is something Amy and I have been praying about for a couple of years.

### WWH2H Medical/Dental Team

I recently met with the participants of the WWH2H Medical/Dental team who will go to minister Jesus in Honduras March 10-20, 2010. Over 25 folks from Montana, California, Tennessee, Washington, and Oregon will make up the team. Please keep us in your prayers for all the preparations that must be done ahead of time.

As we head into the Christmas Season, please remember WWH2H in your prayers and your giving. We are experiencing the reality of the current economic challenges in the U.S. along with everyone else. I pray God will provide all your needs according to His riches in glory. Amen.

—Mary

## Participate in Orphan Sunday and Honor WWH2H

Letter from Lisa Closner

Emily, Micah, and Amber enjoy manicures in the beauty salon.



Dear friends of WWH2H: Sunday, November 8, is nationally known as **Orphan Sunday**. This is an event that was started years ago and is growing throughout the U.S. It is a day to bring awareness and help to orphans around the world.

WWH2H will be recognizing this day as a way to spread the Word, sponsor children, build teams, and raise funds. Though we are short on time, there are many simple ways to be a part of this important event.

Ideas, notes, and many more resources are available on the website. Here are just some of the wonderful ideas:

- Ask your pastor to make an announcement about *Orphan Sunday* and take a collection for WWH2H.
- Set up a table in the foyer of your church for the purpose of bringing awareness, finding new sponsors (financial, prayer, or correspondence) for our children, and signing people up for a trip to meet the kids.
- Teach about the subject of orphans during a sermon, Bible study,

*"On Orphan Sunday, Christians stand for the orphan. We are a people called to defend the fatherless...to care for the child that has no family...to visit orphans in their distress. Orphan Sunday is your opportunity to rouse church, community, and friends to God's call to care for the orphan." website*

and/or Sunday school class.

- Sponsor a Youth Group event.
- Put an insert in the church bulletin on November 8th to bring awareness to *Orphan Sunday* and WWH2H.

Thank you so much for considering being a part of this movement. Everything we do to help impacts the life of a child. Much love and blessing!  
—Lisa

**Visit the Orphan Sunday website to see how you, your family, your school, your church, and your community can be a part of this great opportunity to help care for our precious children:**

<http://www.orphansunday.org/>



## Upcoming Team List:

- November 21-28, 2009: **"Get the Village Ready for Christmas" team.** Contact Mary Frenter for more details. 509.427.8585.
- December 13, 2009-January 2, 2010: **Christmas team.** Contact Mary Frenter at 509.427.8585.
- January 31-February 9, 2010: **Mercy Ships work team** at Village.\*
- February 5-13: **Maintenance and Letter Writing team.** Contact Lisa Closner at 503.753.2993.
- March 10-20, 2010: **March medical/dental/optical team.** Orientation meeting October 20 at 6:30 in Longview. Contact Mary Frenter at 509.427.8585.
- March 2010 (TBD): **Immanuel construction team.** Contact Alyn and Joanie Swedberg at 360.736.6548.
- April 24-May 4, 2010: **Mercy Ships work team.\***
- October 30-November 9, 2010: **Mercy Ships work team.\***
- February 2011: **Touch of Hope team.** Contact Tracy Beard at 360.414.5934.
- February 2011: **WWH2H Women's Retreat team.** Contact Mary Frenter at 509.427.8585.

\*Contact Gary and Sylvia Thacker at 903.939.7682 for more information on Mercy Ships mission teams.

## 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!

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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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