



# Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries



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

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2010

¡Bendiciones! Blessings from Honduras! We are so excited about all the things that the Lord is doing here. He has certainly been more than faithful to us. I have a wonderful story to tell this month about a young man that has been transformed heart and soul, and now he has also been healed in his body, as well.

## Marlon's Miracle

Most of you who have followed our newsletters for many years, may remember the story that we did about a little boy named Marlon. He was one of the first five children who came to live at the Children's Village back in September 2003. We found this 9-year-old child living out of a garbage dumpster behind Pizza Hut. Marlon suffered tremendously at the hands of his mother and went back and forth from state orphanages to the streets many times. He is now in the 8th grade and wants to study to be an electrician. Under the supervision of Fredy Castro, a WWH2H Honduras board member and licensed electrician, Marlon did all of the wiring of our house.

Marlon, now 17, has always had a medical condition of severe gastritis. He has been so limited in what he could eat and when he could eat. That was until about three weeks ago.

At a Saturday night church service, we asked those in the congregation who were sick to come forward for prayer. Following the instructions of the Word of God, the elders of the church anointed them with oil and prayed for them. Marlon, sitting in the church, thought, "What

## Village Report

by Amy Serrano

do I have to lose?" So, he went up and was prayed for. A few days later, he realized that he no longer suffers with pain in his stomach. He admitted in front of the church that he went out and ate something greasy, just to see if it was real. Sure enough, he digested it with no problem, and to this day, he is now free to eat whatever he chooses, for the first time in his life.



**Marlon did all the wiring at the Serranos' new house**

We give thanks to God for this miracle. But honestly, I know that an even greater miracle has happened here. A former street kid/gang member has been reborn with a passion to serve God, and I can't wait to see what God has in mind.

## Mother's Day in Honduras

Mother's Day was a wonderful time this year. As I arrived at church, the children greeted me with an enormous heart-shaped box that they made, filled with letters and drawings. Oscar and I read each one. None of them were quickly made! Each had a beautiful drawing and "the-most-fancy-as-they-could" letters. Many of them were more than a page long.

Mother's Day morning, we called all of the house mothers up front and the whole church prayed for each woman. The board in the U.S. sent down a beautiful present for each lady as well. One of the secrets to the success of this ministry is the wonderful women that God has put here to be our kids' mothers. I can see it when the kids come home from school: The mothers grab them up in their arms to greet them, as we would our own children. We never forget each day to pray for the kids and for the women that are taking care of them 24/7. We pray that God would put His love in their hearts for these children, because that is what really makes all the difference.

## Quinceañera

I am really excited for the upcoming Quinceañera that we'll be celebrating in July. Quinceañera means 15th birthday. Similar to a "sweet 16" or "coming out party" for an 18-year-old, quinceañeras are practiced all over the Latin world. The tradition goes back to the time when young girls in Spain were considered

*(continued on next page)*



## Village Report

*continued from page 1*

eligible for marriage at 15. Today it is simply a tradition that celebrates the life of a very special girl. Girls in Latin American countries look forward to their quinceañeras.

Sometime back, God moved on my heart that "His girls" needed one. It has nothing to do with the fancy dress or party and everything to do with letting some young women who have known only rejection, know that they are princesses, loved and wanted. So, we will be celebrating their lives on that day. It is amazing how one day of saying "I love you" and honoring them can heal years of scars. I believe that God wants to use this celebration to do just that! If you would like to make a small donation to this special event, please let us know.

## Boys's Mini Vacation

The older boys (Felipe, Marlon and Norman) have just returned from the mini trip with Oscar. These three young men, as well as Marvin, Oscar and Fredy, built our house. They have worked for over a year on this construction, and as a small thank you, Oscar took them for four days to see other parts of Honduras that they had never seen, such as the Lake Yojoa, the Cerro Azul National Park, and the Bay Islands. It has been a dream of Oscar's for quite a while, to take some of the kids from time to time to get to know other parts of Honduras. They had a wonderful, restful time and all came back horribly sun burned!

One of the founders of WWH2H and National Director in Honduras with his wife, Amy, Oscar Serrano is beloved "Papa" to more than 75 kids at the Children's Village. He is also blessed with having two of his own daughters, Sarah and Rachel.



## Serranos' House

And I guess that I mentioned that we are now living in OUR house! After seven years of not knowing if the Lord was going to keep us in Honduras or move back to the states or elsewhere, I think we have finally dug in our roots. We want to thank each person that has helped us in this. We are thankful that sponsor funds are no longer being used to pay rent. We pray that this house will be a place of rest and healing, not only to us, but to many that will come through it.

## Medical/Dental Clinic/Sunday School Roof

Finally, I want to report another great miracle that the Lord has done for us this month. Puerto Cortes has donated the funds for the roof on the Medical/Dental Clinic/Sunday School building located at the church. Each afternoon, many of the church members gather to help put it up. The goal is to have it done by the time you receive the newsletter. Thank you to the port for this very kind and generous donation. Please pray with us that God would provide the remaining resources to finish the building, including doors and windows, bathrooms, tile and electrical, so that the classrooms and clinics can be in full operation soon.

## Blessings to all

Once again we thank each of you for your prayers and support. I pray that God would bless each of you a hundred times over for your love and support. —Amy

## WWH2H IS GROWING!!

WWH2H has entered the world of social media. Now there are a number of ways to stay connected with us, support and get regular updates and alerts on what is happening at the Children's Village. Here is how you can connect:



### FACEBOOK

Become one of our growing fans on Facebook. Go to your Facebook account (or get one if you don't already have one), search Worldwide Heart to Heart Children's Village and click "Become a Fan." We will post new photos of the children, updates, and opportunities to give.



### TWITTER

Follow us! You can find us under our username OurBigFamily. We will be posting tidbits from day to day life at the Children's Village and the latest news from WWH2H.



### MobileCause

Text OURKIDS to 27138 to receive monthly updates and alerts directly to your cell phone.

## BLOG & WEBSITE

The Children's Village Blog will post stories, videos, and photos about our children such as where they came from and how they are doing today or details from a recent birthday or Quinceañera celebration. There will soon be an all new WWH2H website!

*If you have any questions, please email Lisa Closner at lclosner@hotmail.com. Get connected!*



by Lisa  
Closner

## Sponsor Letters



**Lisa Closner  
WWH2H  
P.O. Box 2113  
Estacada, OR 97023**

Would you like to correspond with one or more children at the Village? If so, please send all correspondence to the address below. It will be hand delivered by the next team visiting the Children's Village. You are welcome to send any small item that fits into a business-size envelope, such as small candies, gum, bookmarks, stickers, or stationery. Don't forget to include a picture of you and your family. If you choose to send a larger gift, the children will receive it for his/her birthdays. Please send all correspondence and packages in care of Lisa Closner (address at left).

There is one opportunity left this year to send letters to your children. The date is October 15. Birthday and Christmas gifts must be received by August 1 or October 15 to assure they will arrive in time with one of our teams. May God bless you abundantly for the care you give His children.



## Christmas in August

Amy will be traveling to Louisiana to raise funds for WWH2H in August. She hopes to purchase the clothing, shoes, and sandals for Christmas gifts for all the children at that time, because the quality of these items is much better in the U.S. than in Honduras.



The cost for each child for Christmas will be \$50-75 to buy two outfits, a pair of shoes, and a pair of sandals. If you are able to help with this project, please send your donations to WWH2H, PO Box 372, Carson, WA 98610, and designate "For Christmas" in the memo line on your check.

If you would like to personally purchase a gift for your child, please send it to Lisa Closner by August 1 or October 15 (see above article) to assure it will be sent down with a team. Thank you so much!! Merry Christmas!

## New Child at Village

We have a new little son!! Authorities brought 5-year-old ZaCarias to us in May. His birthday is in December. We will share his picture with you as soon as we get one.

He needs sponsors. If you are able to help us with this, please contact Mary Frenter at [maryf@wwh2h.org](mailto:maryf@wwh2h.org).

Please add ZaCarias to your prayers for our children. Thanks!

These children at Children's Village...

# Need Sponsors



Cristian, 6



Exequiel, 6



Felipe, 19



Luis Gustavo, 12



Nora, 11



*"What lies behind us, and what lies before us, are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."  
—Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## From the President's Desk

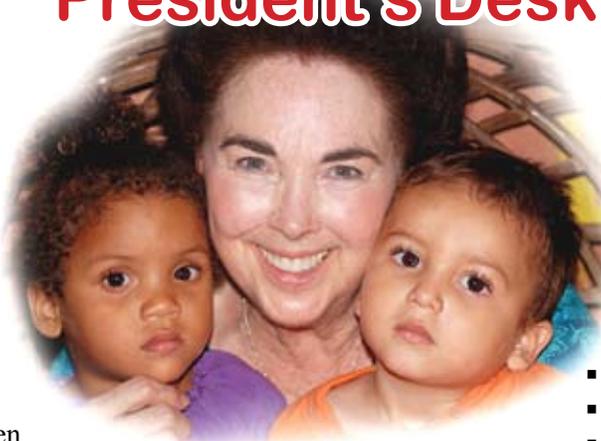
by Mary Frenter

children at the Village, in addition to his beautiful daughters, Sarah and Rachel. I think of the men of our board of directors, both here and in Honduras, and to the men of our WWH2H Church who serve as examples to the kids of what it means to be a man after God's own heart. We thank you...

...which, of course, is the Holy Spirit, and has He ever been busy this month! We have been privileged to share His Kids with folks at four presentations during May. We always hand out *Prayer Pictures* of our kids at each event so, the good news is there are a ton more folks praying for our children, joining teams for this year and next year, and being touched by God to go deeper with Him.

### Responding to Needs

Thank you so much for responding to our Immediate Needs list in the May newsletter. Many of you are collecting equipment to send for our Beauty School at the Village to replace what was stolen. There are many buying school shoes for our children to send with the June and July teams. Amazing Grace!



### Much to be Thankful For

AND, as you read in Amy's Village Report, God has been a busy Guy in Honduras, as well: Marlon's healing; Serranos moving into their new digs; the gift of a roof for the Medical/Dental/Sunday School building from the port of Puerto Cortes; a wonderful Mother's Day celebration; Quinceañera preparations; and so much more.

### Need an Optometrist

I have been getting emails left and right letting me know the senders are going with us next February for the Medical/Dental team. Many have already purchased their tickets!! One great need we have for this team is an optometrist. In March, at each clinic, the people all asked for glasses and sun glasses. So, this time I am praying God will provide an optometrist to go with us. It is one of the great needs in Honduras.

### Father's Day

With Father's Day approaching, we want to especially honor all the Dads who work with this ministry. I think of Oscar, "Papa" to all the

- For staying close to God
- For being an example of God's love in your home and your communities
- For serving God in Honduras
- For praying for all of us
- For sending funds to help us care for the kids
- For going on and helping with every team we take, using the gifts God has given you
- For being obedient to the part God has given you to play in this amazing work He is doing for His Kids in Honduras
- For the love you give to our kids
- For praying for our children by name, lifting them up continually for God's healing care

You, Dads, are amazing men of God, and we love you and lift you up to Him for His wisdom and guidance now and always, Amen. —Mary

**One of our honored fathers, Wil Meckle, is surrounded by children during his visit to Haiti in March.**



### Ramos-Rybolt Wedding Shower

We had a wonderful time of fellowship with Marvin and Karen at their May

22nd Wedding Shower in Centralia. Karen's sister, Leah, even made the journey from California for the event! Forty Saints gathered to bless them. Marvin was raised at our Children's Village from the age of 14. Thank you all for loving on our son, Marvin Ramos, and his beautiful bride-to-be, Karen Rybolt.



## Upcoming Teams: —2010—

- June 21-28: *Mercy Ships Construction and Witness Team.\**
- July 6-15: *Immanuel Lutheran Construction Team.* Contact Joanie Swedberg at 360.388.1063 or swedberg@wwestsky.net.
- July 23-31: *VBS Team from Stevenson to Honduras.* Contact Karen Douglass at 509.427.5697.
- August 20-29: *Antioch Bible Church MRI Dental team.* Contact Claudia Blazer at 425.284.2630 or cblazer@abchurch.org.
- September 4-14: *Mercy Ships Work Team.\**
- October 30-November 9: *Mercy Ships Work Team.\**
- November 8-16: *Christmas Prep/Maintenance/Project Team.* Contact Lisa Closner at 503.753.2993.

## —2011—

- February 2-12: *Medical/Dental Team to Honduras* from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Northwest. Contact Mary Frenter at maryf@wwwh2h.org or 509.427.8585.
- February 18-27: *A Touch of Hope for school supplies and uniforms.* Contact Tracy Beard at 360.414.5934.
- March 15-26: *Women's Ministry Retreat Team.* Contact Lisa Page, Church on the Mountain, Brightwood, OR, at 503.622.6406.
- March 25-April 2: Possible *Faith Tabernacle VBS Team.*

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

## ***IMMEDIATE NEEDS:***

If you are able to help with any of these needs, please send them to: WWH2H, PO Box 372, Carson, WA 98610.

## ***Replacement Items for the Children's Village Beauty School:***

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ▪ Straightening irons   | ▪ Cleansers, exfoliators, lotions   |
| ▪ Blow dryers   | ▪ Manicure and pedicure kits (nail clippers, files, buffers, pumice stones) |
| ▪ Brushes and combs (they use a lot of round brushes for blow drying) | ▪ Nail polishes (plain and decorative)                                      |
| ▪ Haircutting shears  | ▪ Decals, stamps, etc.  |
| ▪ Hair coloring equipment (mixing bowls, paint-on brushes)            | ▪ Soaks, scrubs, creams, and lotions for manicures and pedicures            |
| ▪ Hair clips for separating   | ▪ Acrylic nail kits   |
| ▪ Chemicals (hair colors, peroxides, treatments, etc.)                | ▪ Waxing set  |
| ▪ Facial steamer  |   |

## ***Other:***

- Sturdy black shoes for boys and girls



## 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!

## Editor's Correction:

Karen Rybolt's parents received the newsletter with the wedding shower invitation and were really excited about it. Unfortunately, the house number on the street address was wrong—it is: Karen Rybolt, 1722 Colonial Way Circle, Hixson, TN 37343

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL PHYLIS HAAS AT PHL@OPUSNET.COM OR CALL HER AT 503.728.3507 TO LET US KNOW.

*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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USA 509.427.8585  
Mary Fenter  
President

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