



Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries



Organization: P.O. Box 372, Carson, WA 98610, 509.427.8585
website: <http://wwh2h.org>; email: maryf@wwh2h.org

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

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2010

Another month has come and gone, bringing with it the Lord's grace and blessings. I just returned home to Honduras after two weeks in the States where I had the great privilege of doing something I dreamed about for many years.

English Immersion Program

I am sure you all know by now that six of our Village kids are visiting in the US! It was so incredible to be able to share this with them. I have always told the kids stories of snow, and mountains that are more than 10,000 feet high. I thought, what a thrill it would be if I could actually take some of them to see this great



Alicia and Jeremiah Hansen (above) with Oscar and Jose Luis enjoy a hike to Triple Falls with Jessie and Joel Elliot (below) with Ilcy, Adonis, and Nelson.



Village Report

by Amy Serrano

place we always talk about so much! I had to slap myself a few times at the airport. Every step of this great adventure was amazing!

Mountains Impressive for Visiting Kids

Our Oregon June team was returning with us, so they were able to share in this first-ever experience. As we flew towards the Columbia River Gorge, Mt. Hood was so close we could almost touch it. We could also see Mt. Adams, Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Rainier from one side of the plane, and Mt. Hood, Mt. Jefferson, and Three Sisters on the other. The kids were in awe! They asked, "Is that really snow on those mountains?" As the plane turned and headed down the Columbia River, I pointed out where Mary Frenter, our WWH2H President lives. Finally, near dusk, when Portland is so pretty from the sky, we touched down. This just might be the best thing I have done all year!

Karen Rybolt Visit

While I was away, several visitors came to Honduras. First, my soon-to-be "daughter-in-law," Karen, came and spent two weeks here. She helped with so many things, as always, mostly keeping my house in order while I was away. Our "son," Marvin, will be returning to the US in the fall and the wedding is planned for December 11th.

Colyer Family Visits

We were briefly joined by Jeremy, Cindy, and Isaiah Colyer. This family visited us last March and came back to spend some time with the kids. We are so thankful for the servant hearts of this family and ask you to keep them in your prayers, as they had to return home due to illness.

Kaelyn Handsel Visit

Kaelyn Handsel, a personal friend and dorm mate of one of our US board member's daughters, will be volunteering at the Children's Village through August. She is working very hard to help our Mommies, and is teaching English and driving the school bus. It is a blessing to have her here.

Report Cards

The children just received their second trimester report cards, and we are so proud of them. Some of the kids scored low in math, but they are all passing their classes. Once again, Alexi and Marisol have come out on the honor roll, with many other children, like Dilcia and Myra, just missing it by a few points. I praise the wonderful staff that we have for their patience and diligence with the kids.

Oscar's Miracle

I know I seem to be reporting miracles all the time, but these stories are true! Oscar was in an accident that should have been fatal. He was on his way to the Guatemalan border to pick up Marvin, who was returning from visiting his family in the mountains.

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Village Report

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Juan, one of our young men from our Boy's Home, was with him.

At some point, Oscar realized that he missed the turn and looked to find a place that he could turn around. He found what he thought was a road only to discover that it was a private blocked-off driveway. His only option was to back out.

Unfortunately, he was on a curve in the road. While he was doing his best to back out in the very narrow road, a car came around the corner doing over 70 mph and crashed into Oscar's car. The impact was on the driver's side just behind the front seat. The truck suffered serious damage, but Oscar and Juan walked away without a scratch!

There were four gentlemen in the other car; all had minor injuries, but none were serious. Their car was completely demolished! The four gentlemen, who are now lifelong friends of ours, still don't know the Lord, but they came out of their vehicle praising God! When the tow truck came, the driver told Oscar that he had never seen such a serious accident that did not involve death or serious injury! The man asked Oscar who he was and how was that possible?

Oscar told the man, "Well, I am a Christian and a pastor. I think God protected me."

The man almost screamed, "I knew it! I knew it! You had to be a @!#\$%* man of God, because nobody walks away from something like that." He asked Oscar where the church was and said that he was going to bring his family one day.

Also, the Lord has used this event to touch the hearts of the four men that were in the other car. Oscar has talked with the driver almost every day since, and says that God is doing a great work in his heart.

Power of Prayer

I wanted to tell you this so that you can all see the impact and power of your prayers, over us, the kids and the whole ministry. Each time that I present this ministry in churches or group meetings or just with people that I meet on planes or on the street, I am always looking for the prayer warriors, and this is an example of why. Everyday we face situations that are dangerous or that are beyond our skills or training to handle, but it is through the prayers of many faithful servants and friends that miracles are an everyday thing around here. Please keep the prayers coming. They are accomplishing wonderful things!

—Amy



March Medical/Dental Team (L-R): Adria Fuller, Kim Sharp, Judy Heald, Doris Nyholm, and Jodi Oster. The team ministered to several remote villages near Puerto Cortes. Here they are taking a much deserved break after several hours of seeing patients.

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!



Ilcy, Adonis, Nelson, Jose Luis and Oscar are guests of the Elliot and Hansen families

by Jessie Elliot

It's been almost a month since the kids landed in the United States and WOW, what a month it's been. We noticed that they were missing some essentials, so we took them on their first trip to Fred Meyer. If you've never heard a Honduran child say, "Fwed Meya," it's adorable!!! It was just the one of many "firsts" for the children and us.

Week one, the kids had the opportunity to settle in, going to the mountains to see the snow, swimming, baking, catching tadpoles, helping stack hay, and meeting some of our family. The second week, we began school. The kids have been learning basic subjects like Math and English, but also swimming, typing, gardening, and more. One of the favorite activities of the kids is swimming. They have been learning SO fast! These new skills came in handy last weekend while we were camping. They all had a blast going out on the boat and inner tube and can't wait to do it again. Adonis even tried to wakeboard, but we only had an adult-sized one, so his little feet kept slipping out!

They have adjusted to their new environment very quickly, doing amazingly well in a family unit. We are thankful and feel truly blessed to have this opportunity and can't wait to see what God has in store for these kids.

—Jessie

Report: Honduras Kids Enjoy Their Visit in the US

by Rachel King

Marlon is a guest of Rachel & Dean King

We have been privileged to host Marlon, one of our six children from Honduras spending the summer here in the U.S. We have

sponsored Marlon since he first came to the Children's Village seven years ago, and were happy to have the chance to get to know him better here in the U.S. Marlon has enjoyed several trips to the coast, one to Astoria to visit the Maritime

Museum, then over to Long Beach to see the Pacific Ocean for the first time. When a wave sneaked up on him from behind, he got his feet wet, shoes and all! We also went to Oysterville WA, a historic town on Willapa Bay.

One day was spent at Mt. St. Helens National Monument. He also took in a youth baseball game, and went to David's soccer practice, where he scrimmaged with David's team (Marlon had not seen David in four years, since he left the Village to come to the U.S.

for surgery). Marlon stayed with Scott and Lisa Closner while Dean and I were in Honduras with the Stevenson WWH2H VBS team. This month, Marlon will spend several days with Steve and Kim Sharp. Steve plans to show Marlon how construction is done here in the U.S. Later in August, he will be going to Disneyland with us. In September, a trip to southern Oregon is planned. Marlon finds time each day to study and practice his English. He is doing very well and learning more each day. —Rachel

These children at Children's Village...

NEED SPONSORS



Zacarias
age 5



Cristian
age 6



Exequiel
age 6



Nora
age 11



Luis
age 12



Felipe
age 19

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 at 503.728.3507, or email phyl@opusnet.com for dates and times.



VBS Team

It is 5 am on the day I depart with the Stevenson WWH2H VBS team for Honduras. I have been up for an hour, just couldn't sleep, I am so excited!! Going to Honduras never gets old to me. In fact, it just gets better and better! We get to share Jesus with possibly 500+ children!!

Our team is coming from Wisconsin, Colorado, Washington and Oregon, many for the first time. Karen Douglass is the team leader. She has planned and prepared the events of the next nine days down to the minute, knowing full well that most of it will change once we get there. There will be singing, dancing, stories, crafts, snacks, puppet shows, and games, all in some order that God is orchestrating. You will have a full report of His miracles and blessings in the next newsletter.

English Immersion Program

We were blessed to have Amy here for two weeks, when she accompanied the children from Honduras to the U.S. Along with five of our visiting children and their host families, we went on a three-mile hike to several

From the President's Desk

by Mary Frenter



WA, was Alan Hastings from Hawaii. In 2005, he was a volunteer to Honduras on a Mercy Ships team to help build the Children's Village and has supported this work ever since. Thank you, Jesus, for the faithful people You bring to accomplish Your work.

"The Angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them." Psalm 34:7

Car Accident

We are praising God for his watchful care over Oscar, Juan and the four men in the other car, who last week escaped serious injury and death. Thanks to all of you Saints who, on the spur of the moment, helped with the expenses for this accident.

We continue to covet your prayers over His "workers in the field," the Serranos, all our family who care for His Kids on a daily basis, and all of His worker bees here in the U.S. who provide support for this joyous ministry God allows us to share. With all my heart I thank you for your prayers, sponsorships and financial support for all God is doing with this work.
—Mary

beautiful water falls on the Oregon Scenic Highway in the Gorge. It was a beautiful day! We looked like a small army, as two large dogs, a baby in a backpack, a baby in a stroller, five kids and several adults hit the steep trail at Horsetail Falls (*see photos on front page*). We are so thankful for the Kings, Elliots, and Hansens who have opened their homes and finances to these children. We look forward to continuing this program next summer and for years to come.

Alan Hastings Visit

Another visitor to the Northwest WWH2H Headquarters in Carson,

English Immersion Program Visiting Children's Schedule:

- August 29 – *Presentation and Potluck Picnic at Faith Tabernacle Church* in Stevenson, WA
- September 11- *Celebration Potluck* at Riverside County Park, Kelso, exit 42 off of I-5. Please bring your own tableware and drinks and a dish to share.
- September 17-19 - *Visit to Seattle* for gathering of friend in that area on Mercer Island. Details are forthcoming.
- September 20 – *Depart for Honduras* near midnight from PDX.

Sponsor Correspondence and Gift Giving

by Lisa Closner

There are two more opportunities to send letters or birthday/Christmas gifts to your children this year. Deadlines are September 1 and October 15. Please send them c/o Lisa Closner, PO Box 2113, Estacada, Oregon 97023. If you would like to know the date of your child's birthday or have any other questions, please email me at LisaC@wwh2h.org. May God bless you abundantly for the care you give His children.
—Lisa



Christmas in August

Amy is traveling to Louisiana to raise funds for WWH2H this month. She will be buying clothing, shoes, and sandals for Christmas gifts for all the children 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, one pair of shoes and one pair of sandals. If you are able to help with this fund, please send



your donations to WWH2H, PO Box 372, Carson, WA 98610 and designate "For Christmas" in the Item line on your check. Thank you for the extra funds you have been sending. The Christmas account continues to grow. We are still far from our goal, but know that whatever God supplies through His Saints will stretch to cover the needs for the children. Please continue to help us raise these funds to provide for His Kids in December. If you would like to personally purchase a gift for your child, please send it to Lisa Closner by October 15 (see article on page 4) to assure it will be sent down with a team. Thank you so much!! Merry Christmas!

CHILDREN'S VILLAGE IMMEDIATE NEED:

**Sturdy black shoes
in smaller sizes for
boys and girls.**



Thank you to all of you who so generously responded to this need. We took your gifts to Honduras with the VBS team in July. It takes a lot of leather to shoe 78 children, so please keep those shoes coming.

If you are able to help with this, please send shoes to WWH2H, PO Box 372, Carson, WA 98610

A Fairy Tale Night

by Kaelyn Handsel,
volunteer from California



The church looked beautiful and fantastically pink—everyone was ready and dressed to the nines. True to Honduran culture, the Quinceañera started an hour and a half late, but, like weddings with brides, you can't start a Quinceañera without the Birthday girls. It was well worth the wait, however, as all five Birthday girls and their six younger sisters looked truly regal in their pink ball gowns.

Each of their little sisters walked the aisle while letters they wrote were read to the Birthday girls. Each little sister expressed their love and excitement and their hopes for full and bright futures for their sisters. Then the Birthday girls walked the aisle while their own aspirations for the future were read aloud.

Once they had all been presented and had taken their places at the

front of the congregation, Amy sang a beautiful song in their honor while a slideshow played pictures of the girls. Their dreams for the future and their pasts were touched upon, to represent the night as the beginning of a new chapter in each of the girls lives—all to the tune of a prayer. By the end of the song, Amy and the girls were all teary eyed.

Oscar then addressed the girls about how God had specially selected them to be a part of the WWH2H family and that He would continue to guide them and use them in special ways. Oscar told them that he loved them all like daughters. He challenged them to be wise and stay close to God in their adult lives. Their sisters then came and traded out their white flats for sparkly high heels to signify their embarking into adulthood. WWH2H board members placed tiaras on the heads and cross necklaces around their necks of these Quinceañera Princesses. The girls also received beautiful white Bibles.

After the ceremony, everyone swarmed the girls with hugs and congratulations. I asked the girls how they felt, and the unanimous response was a glowing smile and "very good." The room was simply teeming with the joy of the Lord for these girls. It was such a blessing to see them all so beautiful and so happy, and to have all of the people who care so much for them gathered there on a night held in their honor. —Kaelyn





Upcoming Teams:

—2010—

- 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: **Bible Camp Team.** Contact Lisa Closner at 503.753.2993.

—2011—

- February 2-12: **Medical/Dental Team** from Wisconsin, Illinois, and Northwest. Contact Mary Frenter at maryf@wwh2h.org or 509.427.8585.
- March 15-26: **Women's Ministry Retreat Team.** Contact Lisa Page, Church on the Mountain, Brightwood, OR, at 503.622.6406.

*Contact Gary and Sylvia Thacker at 903.939.7682 for 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!

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL PHYLIS HAAS AT PHYL@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



P.O. Box 372
Carson, WA 98610
USA 509.427.8585
Mary Frenter
President

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WA
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