

# STANSBERRY CHILDREN'S DAYCARE GUARDARIA MOISES

NEWSLETTER #49

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003

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The Daycare is quite busy again buzzing with children and construction project crew. In June, we had a parent's meeting where Lucy had someone invited to speak on **self-esteem**. It went really well and the many single mothers present participated in the interactive activities. In July,

the parents meeting focused on **child abuse** and covered emotional, sexual and physical abuse. This is a very important subject owing to the fact that many of the parents that bring children to the daycare and their children are victims of child abuse.

**Michele Martin** (USA) was a volunteer at the daycare for almost a year and left in July. **Kimberly Lowen** (USA) has been here through the MCC Salt program. She left this August for her home. We will miss you both and your dedicated service and work with the little ones. Thank you and may the Lord bless you and keep you, and please...do come back again.



## WORK PROJECTS

We have already begun work on the kitchen project and it is gone up really fast. We hope to have it ready for use within the next

few weeks. We are very thankful to **Latin Link Ministry** who sent us a **Step team** (six guys & six girls) who are mostly students in the UK. Their team leader, **Matt**, was here last year on a different STEP team and his leadership skills and experience will be a great resource for this team. They are a great team and are helping us in the completion of the kitchen project and other construction projects at the daycare. Last year, the Step team helped to

build the girl's volunteer residence or "Casa Paet-kau". They bring with them a wealth of experience in Latin countries, which we hope to tap into during their stay with us till end of August.

The Kitchen and laundry room were more than half way done by early August. Our other pending projects are the dining room and class rooms. We have already started building the class rooms because they seem to be the more urgent need. The cost for two class rooms (including internal bathrooms) is about \$14,000. We already have \$4000 of this thanks to the Latin Link Step team's generous donation. We still need to raise the remaining \$10,000 to finish this project. We eventually hope to put up **six** class rooms in total, two at a time, which will also mark the final phase of the pending construction projects for the day care.

We take this time to thank-you all for your generous support for the construction work in the past few years. We believe you will help us finish up the good work that was started and hope to see the construction soon come to an end.

## CHILDREN

At present, there are 45 children that are enrolled for the daycare program. The daily attendance depends on weather among other factors. The goal is to increase this number to 100 when we finally get all the class rooms ready. We will increase this number gradually as we build the class rooms. The children at the daycare are all under six years. On a daily average, we usually get 10 babies (up to one year), 25 two to four year olds and 10 over four to six year olds. During vacation and when it is too cold or wet, these numbers drop. Their classes are divided according to ability rather than age. The children usually come in between 7 and 8 a.m. They get a good breakfast, mid morning snack, a square lunch and an afternoon snack before leaving between 5 to 6 pm.



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*Now the body is not made up of one part but of many... If the whole body was an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part where would the body be? As it is there are many parts but one body. 1 Corinthians 12:14....*

### **CHILDREN PRAYING FOR CHILDREN**

In the month of June, we took some of the older children with us to participate in the "world-wide day of prayer for children at risk" organized by the Red Viva Network. We felt that as we pray and get involved in such events it is good to also include the children. We believe children make great pray-ers. They only need a little nudging and creative encouragement and their prayers are as powerful and effective as those of any grown up. We together prayed for the children in war torn countries, in prison, the starving, the sexually exploited and abused, and the disabled children.

**SCHOOL AND VACATION** The children had a 3 week winter break. This always means more work for us here at the home. There has been a lot of improvement in the children's academic work this term and we hope they will keep it up. We still have a few who need to work harder. This time we gave all of them a treat as a reward for their good performance. All the girls and the younger boys visited a near by amusement park and then we enjoyed chicken at a restaurant. During vacation, the older group of boys left with Quito and Albert for the "campo" one weekend where they went night bird-hunting, camping, fishing and swimming in the river. They also had a few activities here at home. In the mornings, a couple of trainers came to help coach them in soccer. In the afternoons, they had vacation bible school at the church next to the home. Sometimes the boys went out to hunt for birds at a nearby park. The pre-school group went to the Zoo and they had a lot of fun stories to tell after their experience.



### **PROFILE**

**Bruno Cuellar** was brought to the home when he was only a few months old, as very mal-nourished baby. For many years, he has not had much contact with his family apart from an occasional visit by his older brother. Just re-

cently, a lady showed up at the office and it turned out to be Bruno's sister. She had come to inform us that their father had past away and she was on her way to the burial. The sad thing was to realize that they did not know each other and it was hard for us to explain to Bruno that she was his sister. Bruno did not know his father either because he only saw him when he was a little child. Anyway, he went to the funeral and got to meet some of his family whom he never met or known. One of the aunts showed interest in him and later said that she never knew about Bruno and that is why she never came to see him, but promised to be visiting him. The happy ending of this is that Bruno's aunt and cousins now come to visit frequently. He too has been visiting their home. We hope these connections will give Bruno a sense of belonging and help him identify with his extended family especially when he grows up and leaves the Home.

Bruno is a keen student and very smart. He likes to invent and discover things. Bruno is growing up as a young responsible man. He is one of the boys that are very easy to work with. He does his chores well and does not complain much. He also seems to be very mature for his age. His innovative mind recently led him to build a real gun that could shoot wooden bullets though thick plastic...and it worked! He substituted firecracker powder for gunpowder. We soon realized that at this rate he was going to invent and build a real bomb...and may be blow himself up or ....

...injure other children near his "test sites". We then had to stop him and encourage him to explore other areas of interest like building model jets and planes. Start talking about planes and jets and Bruno goes wild with excitement. He wants to become a pilot when he grows up. We keep encouraging him and hopefully some day Bruno will become a commercial airline pilot from Stansberry. We can't wait!



### **ADOPTIONS**

As we write this, the adoption for **Tania** and her brother **Daniel** just went through. We had a sad farewell for them a few days ago. They are 4 and 5 years old respectively. They have been at the home for the past one year and seeing them getting adopted is always a time

of mixed feelings – both joy and sadness. We pray that they will quickly adapt into their new family and home and grow up to be God fearing people. They will be living in the USA.

### **WORK SHOPS**

The shops have kept busy as usual with a lot of activities. Mario, Bruno, Juan Carlos and Oscar helped to make metal gates for the pig pen built earlier this year. They have also added metal pipes into the nursery pig pens to protect the piglets. They helped to make and install new screens for the office. We can now open the windows comfortably without fear of mosquitoes feasting on us. We are getting skilled help here as the boys use their skills doing repairs and maintenance around the Home and we are saving a few bucks.

The girls are also keeping busy doing different kinds of things in their shop. Debora, Vicky, Yolanda, Lourdes, Mariluz and Sandra have each made their own skirt and blouse. They also help in the mending and repair of the younger children's clothes and bedding. We have woven bracelets for sale, which the girls are making. They have already made a little money from this small project.

**VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED**  
**CONTACT THE STEINERS IN THE US OR**  
**THE PAETKAUS IN CANADA!**

### **VOLUNTEERS**

**Cecilia** (Canada) has mainly been working with the pre-school age children. Cecy came with lots of experience working with and teaching children. She just left us a few days ago. **Chuck Miller** (USA) was here for part of the summer. He is a keen sportsman and enjoys playing basketball and soccer with the children. He left this August to go back to EMU. **Kendra Denlinger** (USA) is visiting us shortly and helping us with pre-kinder children as an interim volunteer. We hope you have all enjoyed your time at Stansberry's and will consider coming back for long term. Thank you for being here for us when we needed you most.

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you for your continued support to the home and daycare programs. When you give, you plant seeds in the lives of these children which are already bearing fruit to eat now and seed to store for the future. Most of the children need a lot of encouragement and motivation to help them forget the past and look in to the bright future with hope and expectation. Pray that we at the home will work as a team to help and encourage them as well as giving them guidance as they grow up.

*"And let us not become weary in doing well, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Ephesians 6:9*

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## Sometimes life just isn't child's play!

We have experienced computer difficulty in the U.S. office which has caused untold headaches and delays. We believe we have solved most of the problems, but may have some of the addresses for this mailing incorrect.

Please let us know if we need to be aware of any changes in your name or address. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your continued support to the Stansberry Children's Home and Day Care.

Sincerely, Rhoda D. Steiner

