

# Tijuana Christian Mission — City of Refuge —

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## Tuesdays ...with Love

July 2011

All of our staff are back at school. Gladly we report that there is much happening at our Rosarito campus. In the past, our home has always concentrated on our “external” needs—the buildings, grounds, etc.—and now it is time to re-train ourselves on the “internal” needs—our staff and kids. Since November of last year, the staff, as well as our director, has been taking classes in a human resources development workshop with a Pastor/Clinical Psychologist. With the help of Pastors Horacio and Jill Ortega, we have been studying different the many strategies available to us through child growth and development studies and the needs of children through different ages and life circumstances.

It has been an amazing time each Tuesday as the staff gathers together for these classes and each one shares their most rewarding and most challenging moments of the week. We share our experiences and how it feels to have the lives of so many children in our hands. We lift each other up in prayer as we learn new ways to do

an excellent job here at City of Refuge. There have been hard moments. We have had disagreements, of course, but love always prevails and the vision keeps going forward.

Unity and perseverance will make the difference in our home and among our staff. We have to work in unison, carefully shaping the lives of hundreds of children who will one day be our governors, our teachers, our bankers, our pastors and evangelists. May God bless us all, and give us wisdom each day as we continue in this great challenge that He has given us!



## Finishing Strong!

We have just come to the end of yet another successful school year and would like to celebrate our graduates with you. This year, we have a total of 12 graduates—1 from kindergarten, 5 from elementary school, 3 from junior high, 2 from high school, and 1 college graduate. Please join us in congratulating the following students who have finished string this year!

From Kindergarten, we celebrate *Evelyn Villa Sandoval*.



*Yolanda, Sasha, and Sammy—Congratulations!*

From Elementary, we celebrate graduates *Ernesto “Jimmy” Martínez San Martín, María Elisa Villa Sandoval, J. Ariana Flores González, Oscar “Kalín” Campos García, and Fernando Martínez Díaz.*

Graduating from Junior High this year are *Carina Nuñez Arce, Oscar Saucedo Lechuga, and Damaris González Ruelas.*

From high school, we congratulate *Yolanda Saucedo Lechuga* and *Sasha Pettus*, and finishing college this year, *Samuel Barron Gomez* (pictured on left).

We are also happy to report that this fall, we will now have six students enrolled in the University, all in various stages of progress toward their future careers.

***Thank you again for helping us succeed in providing a good education for our children. Tomorrow’s future is at hand now.***

## Help is on the Way!

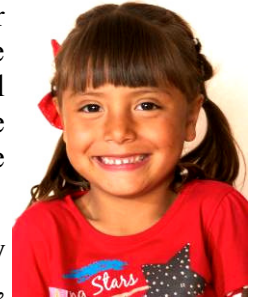
We have two kids who need surgery this year, Evelyn and Elisa. Both girls were born with a dislocated hip, which left undiagnosed and therefore untreated, caused their hip sockets not to form correctly. As a result, their leg bones slid up and out of joint, leaving them both with one leg significantly shorter than the other. All their lives, they have limped, and without help, they will limp for the rest of their lives.

They first arrived at our women's shelter with their mother, but when she became a staff member at City of Refuge, their prospects for the future changed. Staff at City of Refuge have pushed through months of paperwork, appointments, and bureaucratic red



tape and taken the necessary steps for them to receive a free operation in Los Angeles through the Shriners. Elisa is already too old for the reconstructive hip surgery, and will have her longer leg shortened by 4 inches instead to even things out, and reduce her risk of complications later in life.

Thank God she is a tall girl for age 13! And with the cut off age being 7, Evelyn, at age 6 ½, still qualifies for the reconstructive surgery, but just barely, and time is slipping away.



The costs of all the preliminary doctors appointments and tests, followed by passports and visas, then transportation, lodging, and other expenses related to their trip to L.A., have left us in a difficult financial position. While private donations from the girls' sponsors have helped us with some of these costs, our children's home has incurred nearly \$1,800.00 in extra expenses, and we need your help. We need about \$1,500.00 to insure that the operating budget for this children's home is not drained, but we don't want to delay this any longer. If you are able to help us with these costs, please make a donation and specify "Shriners" on the memo line. May God bless you, and please keep these special girls in your prayers.

## A Place to Sit

We really need chairs! Our chairs are one sorry mess. After years of constant use, the screws are beginning to poke through the cushions... not a very pleasant experience! The cushions are opening, losing their stuffing, and just plain falling off. The chair frames are crooked, and falling apart. These chairs have served us well through the years, but they are arriving at the end of their useful lives.

As we seek to improve our home, these chairs are not only painful for us and our children, but are also an eye-sore for visitors! We have looked around and can get them for about \$15 a chair. Unless you know of a church or organization that is remodeling and would be willing to donating their used chairs, we will need to fundraise \$1050 to purchase 70 new chairs for our dining room in Rosarito. We ask you to call a local church, then call us! We still believe in miracles. ☺



## Wonder Woman

She never even told us she had cancer. She just kept working. Through the pain, through the surgeries, through her chemotherapy treatments... Meet Veva. She has worked with us for nearly 40 years! She is our laundry lady, but to those who know and love her, she is so much more than that. When you walk in, she is one who greets you. If she sees something out of place, she puts it back. She loves this ministry, and this ministry loves her. She takes it personally if a stain does not come out of the clothing of our children. She takes it personally when a child cries, and she personally goes to comfort them. Her name is Veva, but as the oldest, bravest, and most beloved member of our staff, we call her Wonder Woman!!!



Please join us in prayer as we ask God to help her through her fight with cancer so that we and all of our children can continue to enjoy her faithfulness to this ministry.

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