

### CASA mission report

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## Sunset at Copper Canyon (Barranca del Cobre).

#### SPRING [PRIMAVERA] 2023

# a new educational ....

Over the last few years, we have witnessed a moral drift in Mexico's public education system. The Mexican Department of Education textbooks issued this year to kinder and elementary grade levels contain disturbing and disconcerting sexually explicit material. Furthermore, the government now states that it holds the authority to determine gender and not religious organizations who advocate a creation view of male/female only.

After discovering this textbook material and learning the state's position regarding gender, we immediately withdrew our children from the public school system and redirected our approach to educating our children. This decision aims to strengthen our education program and to address the disturbing reality of a changing landscape of ideas contrary to Christian values that are being instilled in children.

Our response to this new revelation called for our immediate action to avoid exposing our children to the sexually explicit textbook material and the values now being advanced by the Mexican Department of Education. Subsequently, however, we find ourselves facing an unanticipated budget shortfall. While we fully embrace the necessity of taking steps to avoid the obvious threat the government's new position on education represents, we are also seeking ways to cope with the significant increase this expansion in our education program is having on our monthly expenses. Due to the withdrawing our children from the public school system we had to hire a teacher and teacher assistant. Therefore, respectfully and hoping for your supportive help, we are asking for your assistance in covering the additional operating cost of \$1000 per month to cover teacher, tutor, and supplies expenses.

Through an individualized instructional program for each child based on a battery of diagnostics test, Casa provides an educational approach that adapts to each student's unique learning style. This individually guided education program enables them to reach and exceed, in most cases, the standard academic level of performance established for their age more quickly. Upon graduation from our school, our education program is backed by an official certification system valid for an y school in Mexico thus opening doors to a more promising educational path for each child. When entering Casa, roughly half of our children have never attended a school.

Despite this situation and when first entering Casa, our children step into an environment where educational development is highly stressed and only preceded in importance by the love, care and spiritual attention given to their relationship to Jesus Christ. The fruit of this endeavor is evidenced by the children's extraordinary achievement as we have witnessed their impressive level of growth and development. nce

Our students not only excel in the regular academic curriculum but also engage in advanced classes including laser technology, robotics, CNC programming, music, and arts, ensuring a well-rounded and enriched learning experience. We are honored to play a part of this educational journey, guiding our children through a fundamental development process that will last throughout their lives. We thank you in advance for your consideration and support in this cause. If you would like more information on how to contribute or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## **HONORING** Special Celebration and Christmas Bonus



The service provided by the staff at Casa has long been **exceptional and deserving of the praise and recognition they receive**. This last holiday season, we honored our staff with a special dinner, in addition to a modest year-end bonus to help cope with Christmas expenses and to enjoy their family festivities with greater peace of mind. Christmas season around Casa can be a difficult and sad time for our children for many reasons including due to the absence of their family. In our effort to minimize the feelings of sadness from setting in, we fill their holiday break with activities lending to laughter, joy, and unforgettable

memories of love and peace for each of them.

Christmas Eve morning began with a bike ride where everyone joined in, and the children's laughter echoed in the air as they enjoyed the fresh air and the company of their Casa family. The afternoon continued with movies and snacks, creating a cozy atmosphere where everyone shared moments of fun and celebration.

Christmas Eve dinner was a special moment bringing our Casa family to the table to share food and gratitude. Following a delicious dinner, the children presented us with a delightful Christmas play and a talent show that had us laughing until we couldn't laugh anymore.

The gift opening was the most anticipated moment generating a roar of excitement, laughter, sharing, and surprises lighting up the faces of our children. Games, music, and fun continued well into the evening.

Christmas morning broke from our usual routine of waking up at 6:30 as the children enjoyed a well-deserved rest until 9 a.m. We had hotcakes in pajamas sharing a relaxed and peaceful moment. We had punch and enjoyed a movie snuggled up in blankets relaxing in a warm family atmosphere. The afternoon was a play period breaking into a sharing fest with their new toys. We closed the day with board games, fun contests, and finally a devotional period further grounding the bonds of our children and our creator.

Christmas at Casa was more than an event; it was a celebration of love, friendship, and moments that will live on in their hearts. We thank everyone who made this magical experience possible. It was a happy and blessed holiday season at Casa!





Following the example of the first century church, our vision for the Church in Anahuac is to cultivate a vibrant sense of community among the churches in neighboring towns, villages, and Chihuahua City. We are ever striving to build a body of mature Christians who are committed to fulfilling the goal entrusted to us by our Lord Jesus Christ.

This approach has yielded significant fruit, as we are witnessing the coming together of brethren in Bible campaigns, medical missions, and joint worship services. Building authentic relationships and sharing the transformative truth of the Gospel have been the foundation on which we have built this growing community.

#### Cultivating Community:

A Gospel-Cenetered Vision Throughout the year, our outreach activities in our village of Anáhuac along with our ever-expanding church family continues to grow as the Lord opens doors of opportunity to deepen our relationships grounded in Christ's love. Adding to our daily routine of Bible studies, devotional and periodic Bible campaigns, we are undertaking a series of studies and focus group discussions directed at strengthening marriages in our community. This outreach is aimed at cultivating Christ centered marriages and family relationships in an environment where committed lifetime relationships are quickly becoming the exception rather then the rule.





Whoever has two tunics should share with him who has none, and whoever has food should do the same.

Luke 3:11

In our continual effort to deepen our relationship and level of service to our community, we regularly organize clothing drives through donations from family and friends. Because of the cold and blistering weather conditions this year, our gesture of love in the distribution of 1200 garments in Anahuac and Cuauhtémoc this December was especially welcomed. This gesture messaged God's love and care to our neighbors by the Church.

During the Christmas season our baptized youth undertook an activity to further share the Christmas spirit. They distributed toys to children around the vicinity of the church building inviting them to visit us with their families and join our midweek activities. This activity put smiles on the faces of the many children receiving gifts and allowed our Casa youth to experience the blessings of giving and also to reflect on the blessings that abound in their lives as well. **Glory to God for His infinite goodness.** 

## SUMMER 2024 IS UPON US







We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the churches visiting us in the past. At Casa, each of you has left an indelible mark on this ministry and we want to remind you that you will always be welcome in our home.

We are excited to announce that from May through August, most of the weeks have been booked by visiting groups, but there are still a few spaces available for those still wishing to join us. It will be an honor to see you again and share precious moments together this summer.







We are pleased to announce the redesign of our website. Our goal is to keep you informed about all the wonderful ways God is working at Casa. We want to share inspiring stories and testimonies that reflect His work in our lives and community, as well as communicate more effectively the available involvement opportunities. In this online media, we want to cultivate a stronger connection, remain transparent in our actions, and make sure that everyone has a clear vision of what it means to be part of Casa.

HOME 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. The Casa de la Esperanza Foundation Board of Directors has long been an endeavor of love and commitment to become fully operational as a working board of directors where each member has engaged their talents toward maintaining the highest standard of care for our children and as a means of carrying out the great to our community.

We are pleased to have finalized the composition of the Foundation Board of Directors membership and Articles of incorporation that are in full compliance with US 501(c)3 non-for-profit requirements. Especially difficult was to finalize Mexican Association Regulations and Requirements. There have been countless bureaucratic obstacles to overcome over the years with the Mexican Government as we are among the first ever to have a Board membership consisting of both Mexican and American citizenships.

We are anxious to move forward with our long-held goal of establishing a working board of directors and are looking forward to convening a meeting in the very near future. This meeting will be a valuable opportunity to reflect on our journey and to chart the future for Casa and our children.

We want God to always be the divine guide that directs our steps enabling us to honor Him with our actions and longing to be a beacon of light for our children and community. We thank you in advance for your prayers and continued support. May this meeting be a living testimony of the unity in Christ that characterizes Casa.

Matthew 28:19-20



## AN UPDATE on a few of our Children

**Carolina and Hector**, two of our young residents at Casa, are embarking on the exciting journey towards the local university. Both have demonstrated admirable planning by carefully choosing their careers: Carolina has decided on a bachelor's degree in education, while Hector has chosen a career in Graphic Design.

Having reached the age of majority according to Mexican regulations and recently obtained their official identification, Carolina and Hector have made the decision to continue being part of the Casa family. This home has been their environment for development and training for many years, and we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to be a part of their lives.





In our daily lives, it is easy to overlook the blessings that surround us. However, it is striking to observe how our children at Casa take nothing for granted. When they express their gratitude, they do so with a keen awareness of all the ways in which God has blessed them.

In this new year, **Raúl** has unexpectedly shared his appreciation for Casa de la Esperanza through a letter we like to share:

This virtuous circle of all those involved in Casa reflects the spirit of God working through the hands and compassionate hearts that make this mission of love and hope possible.

#### To: La Granja Hogar

Thank you for taking care of us and giving us all this things, and for this home, and thank you for protecting us, thank you for this school and for breakfast and for lunch and for dinner, for taking us to the hospital when we are sick and for giving us medicine."



At the age of 9, **Elisa** had never attended school, but her determination and effort led her to Casa. Despite the initial educational gap, Elisa demonstrated an astonishing ability to learn and adapt. Her rapid assimilation into our educational program has propelled her forward to reach the educational level appropriate for her age in a few short months.

Elisa's story highlights the resilience and potential that lies within every child, regardless of their initial circumstances. Her journey reflects the importance of educational opportunities and support for the integral development of children.





**Damián** arrived at Casa recently, driven by two very clear goals at his young age: to live in the same place as his siblings and to attend a classroom for the first time.

In nearly 4 months since his arrival, his progress has been more than remarkable, achieving impressive advances by learning to write, read, and math. Damián is an example of how, with the right conditions, all children can blossom and reach their full potential. At Casa, we are committed to providing children like Damián with the opportunity they need to build a better future.

His story is just beginning.



#### **Contact Information**

#### Needs List

As work progresses on the Anáhuac Church of Christ and Community Center and the three duplex units, furnishing the housing units still remains a priority. Thank you for generous donations that have been made by our supporters. If you are able to donate any larger items, please contact us as soon as possible so pick up or delivery can be arranged, as moving certain items through the border crossing process can be quite time consuming.

#### **Mailing Address:**

For mail, packages, boxes

5844 Angel Street El Paso Texas, 79932 (719) 252-9423

Attention: Gil Sanchez, Casa de la Esperanza

#### **Telephone and Email Information:**

Gil Sanchez, Director

USA Cell Phone: (719) 252-9423

Mexico Telephone: 011-52-625-585-0068

Email: ahouseofhope@gmail.com casakids01@yahoo.com

Web Site: www.ahouseofhope.com

## CURRENT NEEDS:

As always, I am overwhelmed by God's provision and your faithful support of the mission at Casa de la Esperanza.

- #10 Size Cans of: Green Beans, Corn, Fruit.
- Tennis shoes for Boy: #6 to #8
- Tennis shoes for Girls:# 7 and #8
- Top Underwear for girls: 12+

## Wanting to Visit Us?



If you plan to visit Casa, this is a friendly reminder that we operate on a first come first serve basis. If you are not certain of your exact arrival and departure date, we will schedule you on a tentative basis reserving your spot. As in previous years, we will provide assistance with border crossing and travel from El Paso to Casa and back again if necessary. Unless you plan on traveling to Casa on a chartered bus, we are using the Santa Teressa border crossing located on the far west end of El Paso avoiding travel through Juarez all together.

Hope to see you this spring or summer.

Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf.

Psalm 66:5