

THE GOOD NEWS



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New family members



This fall, Casa de la Esperanza joyfully welcomed five precious new girls into our family: **Lupita** (4), **Esmeralda** (5), **Rosita** (5), **Rocio** (6), and **Stephanie** (7). They arrived with bright smiles and tender hearts, ready to learn, grow, and be loved.

Yet behind those smiles are stories that remind us why Casa exists—to bring hope, stability, and opportunity where circumstances have taken them away. Each of these girls came to Casa because their parents were unable to provide the education, safety, and daily guidance they needed. For one of them, life had become especially difficult as her mother's struggle with addiction placed her in an unsafe environment. Though her grandmother loved her deeply, she lacked the resources to give her the stability and schooling she needed. In faith and love, she turned to Casa for help.

We thank God for entrusting these little ones to our care. Every new child reaffirms our calling to be instruments of **His** grace—creating not only a safe and loving home, but the hope of a future shaped by His truth and His love.

*Whoever welcomes one such child in my name
welcomes me.*

Matthew 18:5

Casa Christian Academy:



This fall marks the start of a new school year with **56** students enrolled in Casa Christian Academy. Our children are represented at every level: **2** in university, **12** in high school, **18** in middle school, and **24** in elementary. Each academic year is an opportunity not only to nurture knowledge, but also to strengthen faith and shape hearts that serve Christ with excellence and integrity.

A meaningful addition this year is the formal integration of the **Life of Christ** course into the core curriculum. Adapted by grade level and taught with the same academic rigor as other subjects, the course follows the accredited program of the International Bible Institute of Texas (IBIT) and explores three foundational dimensions of Jesus' ministry: His birth and preparation; His message and public ministry; and His life, death, and resurrection.

Beyond the classroom, the 2025–2026 school year offers a rich slate of extracurricular opportunities. Casa students will participate in regional and inter school events across Cuauhtémoc, Bachíniva, and Casas Grandes—including academic competitions and writing contests; track and field, basketball, and soccer; and chess tournaments that sharpen strategy and focus.

More than medals, these experiences invite students to live their values, represent Casa with integrity, and be a light of faith wherever they go.

*Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*

Proverbs 22:6



Transitional Housing: Supporting Our Youth on Their Path to Independence

As many of our older youth move on to high school, university, or vocational training, we recognize our responsibility to walk alongside them during this pivotal stage of life. With this in mind, we are developing a **Transitional Living Program** designed to equip our teenagers and young adults with the skills, support, and guidance they need as they move toward independence.

This program provides practical life-skills training; instruction in daily responsibilities; emotional and spiritual guidance; while under close supervision as they continue their studies and begin their working life

To support this transition, we are preparing the duplex next to the church building to serve as **transitional housing**. This will create a supervised, supportive environment where our youth can live while they study and work in the community. The evangelist currently residing in the building will oversee discipline, maintain community guidelines, and offer daily spiritual mentorship.

Our purpose is for every young person to take this important step with confidence, knowing they are not walking alone. **Casa de la Esperanza** will remain their home, their community, and their family as they build responsible, well-prepared adult lives rooted firmly in their faith.



*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.*

Psalm 32:8

Leadership and Vision Casa Foundation Board Meeting



In October, the nine members of the Casa de la Esperanza Foundation Board gathered in prayer and collaboration to plan the next phase of Casa's growth. These devoted disciples of Christ bring professional wisdom, spiritual commitment, and a deep love for the children God has entrusted to us.

We celebrate the appointment of Gilbert Sánchez, formerly Director of Casa, as President of the Casa de la Esperanza Foundation, and Pepe Villicaña, formerly Deputy Director, as the new Director of Casa de la Esperanza Anáhuac. We are also pleased to welcome Lauren Venable as the newest member of the Board and are confident that her perspective and dedication will enrich the Foundation's work.

The Casa de la Esperanza Foundation Board of Directors is composed of devoted men and women who serve with integrity, spiritual conviction, and a deep commitment to the mission God has entrusted to us. Each board member brings unique professional strengths and heartfelt dedication, helping guide Casa's long-term vision, stewardship, and growth. United in prayer and purpose, they work faithfully to ensure that the children and youth in our care continue to receive hope, stability, and opportunities shaped by the love of Christ.

Across two days of focused discussion, the newly appointed Board President outlined a renewed vision centered on transparency, faith, and sustainability. Seven permanent committees were established to oversee key areas—from administration and education to infrastructure, health, and spiritual formation. Each committee is tasked with ensuring that Casa operates with excellence and that every decision reflects a Kingdom minded perspective.

This leadership gathering reflects our shared desire to strengthen Casa's spiritual and operational foundation, ensuring that the children entrusted to us grow surrounded by faith, stability, and hope. As we look ahead, our prayer is simple yet powerful: that every effort, every project, and every child's story may bring glory to God, who continues to guide this mission of love.

Foundation Board of Directors

Gilbert Sánchez – President

Pepe Villicaña – Vice President and Executive Director of Casa Anáhuac

Gary Richards – Treasurer

Jeff Bonney – Secretary

Dr. Keith Caughfield

Kent Baggett

Kurt Augustin

John McCuistion

Lauren Venable

*Two are better than one, because
they have a good return for their labor.*

Ecclesiastes 4:9

Ensuring Excellence: DIF 2025 Evaluation



Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

1 Corinthians 4:2

In **November 2025**, Casa de la Esperanza successfully completed its biannual evaluation by **DIF**, the governmental agency that oversees children's homes in Mexico. Similar to previous comprehensive reviews, this review was very extensive examining Casa's operations, including administrative management, staff training and performance, facility safety, child welfare, food preparation and quality, cleanliness and inventory control, operational expenses and overall quality of life for residents and staff.

The evaluation team included two psychologists, an attorney, two nurses, a social worker, and a nutritionist. Private psychological assessments were conducted for every child, along with evaluations for all staff—from caregivers and teachers to office personnel and our soccer coach.

As part of the certification process, Casa is also completing the Civil Protection Certificate, issued by the state's Department of Safety and Risk Protection in Cuauhtémoc. This process includes detailed inspections conducted by licensed electrical engineers, certified architectural inspectors, and a thermal systems technician. Together, they verify full compliance in electrical, gas, and structural systems, as well as ensure that staff are properly trained in emergency procedures.

The review rendered excellent results. Inspectors commended the living conditions, organization, and Christ centered environment at Casa de la Esperanza, noting that our standards far exceed those typically observed in other children's homes across Mexico. We give thanks to God for this outcome and for every member of our Casa team whose dedication, faith, and professionalism make Casa a place of safety, love, and growth.



Since mid-year, Casa has been facing ongoing challenges with its supply of potable water. After many years of continuous use, our current well no longer produces enough water to meet the daily needs of our children. We thank God that we have been able to bridge the gap through deliveries of potable water and the small amount still available from the existing well.

In response to this urgent situation, we made a significant financial effort a few months ago to drill a new well. Unfortunately, despite completing the drilling process, the well proved unproductive, leaving us still without a reliable and permanent source of water.

This challenge remains pressing today. A backup well is essential for Casa's daily operations, and the initial investment needed to begin this project is **\$18,000 USD**, which covers the basic costs of drilling and preparation. We are actively seeking donations to help meet this critical need.

*You care for the land and water it;
you enrich it abundantly."*

Psalm 65:9

OUR harvest

Blessings That Sustain Our Home

Over the years, Casa de la Esperanza has been blessed with a strong and meaningful relationship with our Mennonite neighbors, whose expertise and excellence in agriculture are a cornerstone of our region.

As part of this partnership, Casa permits the fields behind the children's home to be used for seasonal planting. Through a standing contractual agreement, our Mennonite partners generously share one-third of the annual harvest with Casa—an extraordinary blessing to our ministry.

This year, we received **220 bales of hay**, which will sustain our goats throughout the winter, and **3,000 pounds of pinto beans**, providing a full year's supply for our children.

Through this harvest, we once again witness God's faithfulness and the beauty of a community that comes together—with work, love, and generosity—to care for our children.

The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.

Psalm 67:7



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CURRENT Needs and Opportunities to Support

As we look toward the months ahead, we want to share several pressing needs where your support can make a meaningful and immediate impact:

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, all donations to Casa de la Esperanza are fully tax-deductible. We warmly welcome and appreciate any level of support, in any form, to help further the growth of God's children.



\$18,000 USD | Water Well Project

To secure a stable and permanent supply of potable water for our children. Any level of support toward this essential project is greatly appreciated.

\$500 USD | Christmas and New Year's Dinners

To provide festive holiday meals for all our children and staff.

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