White Stone Ministries

Casa Hogar El Corazon de Rey A.C.
Children's Home

Newsletter - Winter 2017

Merry Christmas!



Dr. Ron & Anna Sherman

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. This has been another great year in caring for hurting children here in Acuña. We have seen the Lord Jesus do some tremendous things in the lives of some of the kids who have found refuge in our Home…a Home that our ministry friends and partners have helped provide. I wish that everyone could experience life here in the Home first-hand…seeing children coming in that are starving, hurting, sexually and physically abused and then to witness the spiritual, physical & mental healing that the children experience as the Holy Spirit does what only HE can do. We want to wish all our Ministry Partners & Friends a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed 2018 . The Bible says that ***"He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack…"*** (Prov 28: 27). God says in the Word that when you share from your finances to care for children like ours, He promises that you will lack nothing… and we serve a God who can not lie. So we are trusting God to meet all your needs ***"according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus!"*** (Phil 4:19).





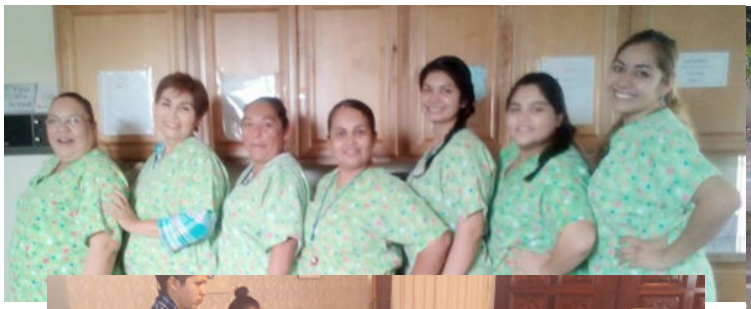
Congratulations Paula & Osiel!



We have had to say a bittersweet "Goodbye" to two special kids. Paula & Osiel's adoption has been finalized and they have now been blessed with an amazing "forever family". After an emotional farewell party, the kids left our home a week prior to Thanksgiving and they were able to have their own thanksgiving celebration in their own brand new home in Ohio. Paula, who is 17 and Osiel, who is 16, have been in one orphanage or another for almost their entire lives. Oriel was the first to come to us about 7 years ago from another orphanage and then Paula was brought to us for a different orphanage about 3 years ago. They had been separated for several years by the Child Protective Services and were only reunited in our home 3 years ago. It is truly a miracle that they were adopted because it is extremely rare for children of this age to be adopted since most couples who want to adopt, want to adopt children who are just babies or toddlers. However a tremendous couple from Ohio desired to adopt older kids and Paula and Osiel were the very first children introduced to the couple. There was an immediate connection. It was an expensive and arduous process for the couple but in the end, they persevered and after well over a year, they were able to take the children. We love them and are so very happy for them, but at the same time we miss them very much. We know God has a great plan for their lives and they have now stepped into their future destiny that is so full of hope, connected to such a loving family.

We Love you Paula & Osiel!

Life in the Home



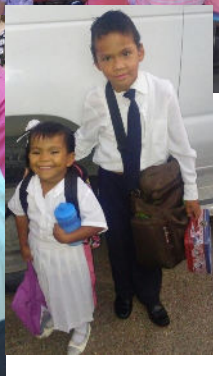












From Anna's Heart

There are always so many testimonies to write about but some just ministered to me and encourage me to keep on keeping on. When I surrendered my life to Jesus almost 30 years ago, and then started Bible college I made this oh so religious promise to God. I told Him that I would do anything for him EXCEPT work with children. You would think that I learned that lesson long ago. Do NOT tell God what to do!

Cutting a very long story short, I did eventually obey the call of God on my life to minister to children but still there was a part of me that still wasn't completely obedient. This time it wasn't because I didn't think I was capable but it was fear. The fear of not being able to care properly for children with special needs.

We have had several children that came into our lives and some that are still with us that have mental challenges. I seemed to breeze through that and even managed to teach some to read and write. Then God sent us children with Downs Syndrome and high functioning Autism despite the fact that I have no experience or education working with special kids.

I am once again reminded that it is the anointing and calling of God that gifts us with what we need to help those precious children that simply think differently from us. Considering we are still on a learning curve with regards to special needs, it often overwhelms me how a child that has been horribly abused actually processes the abuse.



Once again I have fallen deeply in love with another precious child that we are told is Autistic. When she arrived with her 2 siblings, my first concern was to get her as calm and feeling secure as possible. I immediately reached out to my friends on Facebook and the response was almost instant and extremely helpful. I was advised to have a special quiet space for her and once again God provided everything we needed. A tent and a black chair was donated to the Thrift Store and we recovered old cushions. Bean bags were suggested and sure enough someone donated a nice cushion that is similar to a bean bag. The only thing we bought was a soft comfortable blanket for her to enjoy when she sleeps. The most rewarding part was hearing the Director of the School for Developmentally Challenged tell us that they saw an instant change for the best. So just in a few hours in an environment filled with God's presence calmed a terribly neglected special needs child. She has now stopped punching herself when she feels stressed and has learned to take a deep breath and go to her quiet spot. All praise, honor and glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

> And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Matthew 25:40

Repurposed For A Purpose
Thrift Store

Our Grand Opening was a great success! The Del Rio of Chamber of Commerce hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for us and there was a great turnout from the community. As of the writing of this newsletter, we have been open for 4 weeks and the daily average number of customers is continuing to grow. Based upon all the wonderful compliments and encouraging words, and given the flow of customers that is growing little by little, we know that the store will be a big help in supporting the Children's Home in Acuña.

However, i do think I need to address a concern that i have. It has been suggested that maybe some supporters will stop giving because they may think the the Thrift Store will be able to fully fund the operating budget of the home. In case that may be a reality, I think that this is a good time to share a bit more of the vision of our work here in Acuña as well as current needs that must to be addressed.

Many of the fixtures in the store were donated and others we were able to find at very good prices, however, there were still quite a few expenses in getting the store up and running, with several months rental expense, utilities, painting, insurance, etc. We depleted our operating budget to get the store opened but we can see that the profits will replenish the operating fund in just a few months. Once that is a reality, the proceeds from the store will be a stabilizing factor in our income. If you have ever been involved in the administration of a non-profit, you know that there is a ebb and flow to the donations. Sometimes they are up and sometimes are down and the income from the store will fill in those places when donations are low.

In addition to our operating budgetary needs, we are looking toward the replacement of a couple of our vehicles. All three of our vehicles are topping the 250,000 mile mark. As you can imagine, a vehicle breaking down on a Mexican street is not a very safe proposition, especially since my wife and several of the other ladies transport children so we are wanting to replace a couple of the vehicles and to purchase a smaller vehicle since many times the staff uses the big van to transport only 1 or 2 children. Thus, a smaller car would be a wise purchase.

Also, we need to look for another piece of property to move the Children's Home to. The landlord changed our original deal with regard to our option to purchase once we had the down payment. I discussed this situation in a previous newsletter so i won't rehash all the details, but suffice is to say, that we need to look for another suitable location and we feel strongly that we should purchase whatever property we settle on so that we are not at the mercy of another property owner, plus it is simply being a good steward of God's money to purchase rather than to pay rent.

Regarding items that folks may be considering to donate for sale:

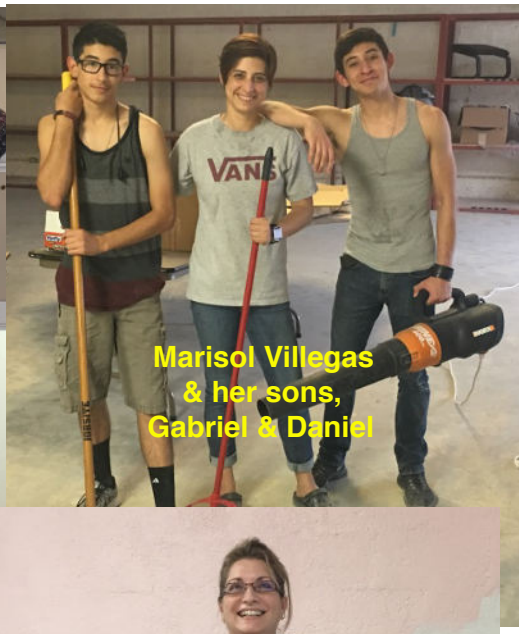
Just about any type of household item,
Clothing and shoes, **(please only clothes that are wearable - i.e.: no holes, stains, etc.)**
Smart phones
Small working appliances (we don't have space to offer large appliances yet),
Electronics in working condition,
Computers and peripherals **(please no computers over 5 years old),**
TV's **(please none of the old style TV's)**
Toys in good shape,
Jewelry
Sports equipment
Musical instruments
Furniture
DVD's & CD's
Antiques

If you live in the San Antonio or surrounding area, we are considering making periodic trips into SA with our truck and trailer to pickup donations, but if someone has a large amount things to donate, we can make a special trip into town for pickup. So if you have any of these items that you would like to donate, please contact me and we will arrange for you to drop off the items at our store location or arrange a time if we need to come pickup your items.

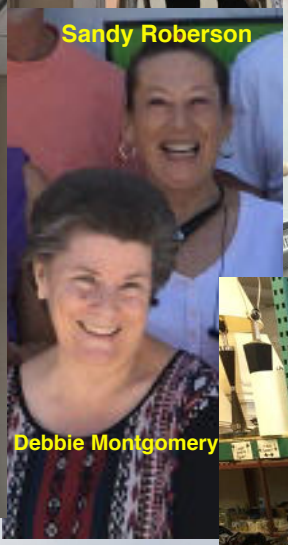
Getting The Store Ready


Trey Hamilton


Anna


Marisol Villegas
& her sons,
Gabriel & Daniel


Paul Depugh


Sandy Roberson

Debbie Montgomery


Allison Jones


Adams family






Nancy Smith

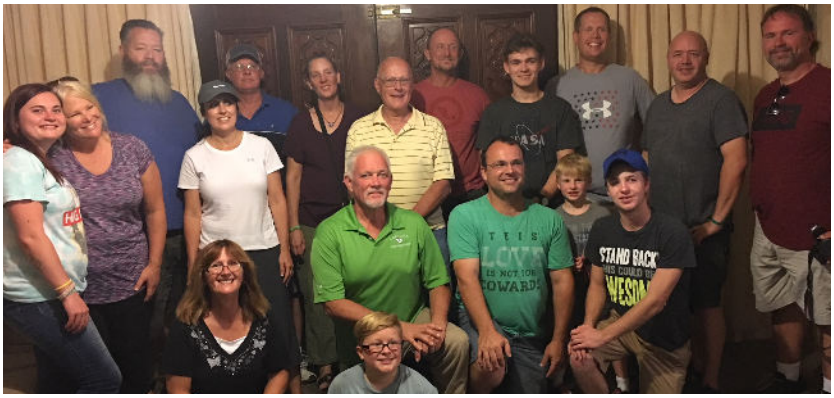
Amazing Friends



Laura & Steve Evans, our friends from **House Of Praise Church** in **Barksdale**, brought a team of young ladies to help us get our thrift store opened. The group brought 2 trailer loads of things to sell and it has been a huge blessing. House of Praise has been a supporter for over 2 years and we are grateful for their generosity.



Dawna & Rusty Garvin of **Community Bible Chapel** in **Pleasanton** brought a group and a large trailer filled with fixtures and donations for us to sell. It was extremely hot but these amazing folks worked hard all day and we took a huge leap forward in our store preparations the day they helped us. Also pictured are some of our amazing friends from Del Rio whose help has been invaluable in getting the store ready to open. **Sandy Roberson, Debbie Montgomery**, & **Paul Depugh**…and of course, my lovely bride,



Darin Dutcher, Steve Garrison & Pastor Don Fankhauser bought a great group of folks for a fun visit. They are from **Capital West Christian Church** of **Jefferson City, MO**. We get to see them a couple of times every year and they always bring a great group of folks who build casitas (little houses) in cooperation with **Casas Por Cristo.** We are always blessed when they are able to break away from their building schedule to come visit us.



We are always blessed when **Paul & Wilma Garcia** and their group, **"BLESSED TO BLESS"** from **San Angelo** come. They are regular visitors and they never fail to bring an abundance of supplies for our home and an abundance of love. Everyone here always looks forward to their visits. We are not the only ones to receive blessings from Paul & his team. They regularly minister to a number of churches and individuals in Acuna by not only bringing food supplies, but they organize work projects to help rebuild houses for the poor that are needy in Acuna.



This family of 11, the **Adams Family**, drove all the way from **Kansas** just to meet us and our kids. They are a humble, servant hearted & loving family. One of the girls woke up at 5:30am just to make cookies for our children and another little girl saved her money & bought lollipops for the kids. These kids are a great testimony to some amazing parents!

Nancy Smith, David Iacona, Sue Gruver & Sue Thompson from **1st Baptist Church** in **San Marcos** spent the day with us helping us organize a lot of the merchandise in the store. They were a HUGE help. We are always blessed to see our San Marcos family!





This is **Karen & Darey Jolley**. Their ministry, **Ambassadors To The Nations** based out of **Freedom Christian Center** in **Charlotte, NC**, brings a big group twice a year. They have a full week of ministry to the people of Acuña each time they come but they manage to take a few hours out of their busy schedule of ministry projects to spend time with us. It's always a fun time as they have puppets, skits & music. We always look forward to seeing them.

We want to express how deeply grateful Anna and I are for our family of supporters. Many folks believe that since the Mexican authorities bring us so many kids, that we must be receiving some compensation from the Mexican government. However, in the 8 years we have been taking care of Mexico's children we have NEVER received even 1 Peso from the government. Without the financial support from caring individuals and churches, we would not be able to save these children. Our supporters are true "destiny changers". Your consistent giving allows us to do what we do, which creates the environment for God to do what He does, and it is truly miraculous how He has changed so many of these children. If you are not a regular monthly supporter, I ask you to prayerfully consider joining with us to keep this ministry growing. So please take some quality time and talk with the Lord about connecting with us and becoming a monthly partner.

The rewards are eternal…

Blessings,

Dr. Ron & Anna Sherman

Remember…

Taking care of orphans is not God's suggestion…

…it's His Command!

Casa Hogar El Corazon de Rey
Children's Home is operated by

White Stone Ministries, Inc.

White Stone Ministries is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization

U.S. Mailing Address:

White Stone Ministries
807 B Veterans Blvd.
#151
Del Rio, TX 78840

Contact Us

U.S. Cell - 830.488.3928

Email

drron@whitestone.ws

www.whitestone.ws

Daily Needs

Kleenex Tissues	Liquid detergent	Toilet paper
Feminine Products	Powdered detergent	Paper towels
Vitamins - Children & Teens	Pinesol	Large trash bags
Aluminum foil	Clorox	Tall Kitchen trash bags
Ziplock bags - various sizes	Shampoo	Hand lotion
Dish washing liquid	Hair conditioner	Ragu spaghetti sauce
Antibacterial hand soap	Deodorant	Cereal
Hand sanitizer	Talcum powder	Canned MIXED vegetables
Dryer sheets	Bar Keepers Friend powder	Canned corn
Vinegar	Macaroni & cheese	Canned fruit
Ammonia	Toothpaste	Animal crackers