

Child of the month



Nombre/Name: Jose
Edad/Age: 9
Fecha de nacimiento/Birthday:
noviembre/November 8
Likes Nintendo, playing foosball,
reading, watching cartoons

José has been with us for one year on May 5th. His mother abused him severely, nearly killing him. It was at this point that the government took him away and placed him with us. He is a very active child. He loves to play games such as Frisbee and soccer in the center court of the orphanage. He recently told me that when he grows up he is going to stay at the orphanage because he never wants to leave. He has a quick smile and responds to the slightest show of affection. He also gets angry easily because he still has a lot of hurt from what his mother did to him. Please pray that God heals the hurt done by his mother, and that he will

know that he is safe with his new family.



Prayer needs:

- That God will heal the harm done to these children before they came to the orphanage
- For the children to continue to do well in school
- Funding for the Solar project
- Safety while traveling in the US this summer.

The back of the newsletter is an account by dear friends of their experience doing medical missions in Nicaragua. I hope you enjoy reading about it as much as I enjoyed having them come.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS SUMMER 2008



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Hola Amigos,

Power On!!!!

For those praying for the solar project, I have good news. Someone has generously offered a matching donation of \$15,000 when we raise the same amount. This is an answer to prayers. Instead of having to raise \$20,000 we only have to raise \$15,000. That means we can start with a larger system for \$5000 less than we originally planned.

The installation of this system is important for many reasons. I want to instill in the children a sense of responsibility for their country and the desire to care for their country. The streets of Nicaragua are littered with trash because the people of Nicaragua throw out their trash wherever it's convenient without any care for the damage they are doing to their country. They treat their country as if there is no hope for its future. I want the children to learn to care for their country and work towards the good future that God has for it. Systems such as this will show them how this is possible.

Another reason this system is important is safety. Nicaragua uses more energy than is available. This results in systematic power outages. These usually occur at night in Jinotega. You can only imagine how difficult it is to keep up with 20 children in the pitch black. Having our own source of electricity will eliminate this problem.

Also, producing our own electricity will save us a great deal of money. The money we save from the power bill will enable us to increase our food budget and provide more prevocational training for the children. Please continue to pray that God will bring in the funding for this project.

We're On The Move Now.

Praise the Lord!!!! I have a car. I purchased an Isuzu Trooper. It is a 1989 model, but it has a completely rebuilt engine, new transmission, new clutch, and new brakes. It is not much to look at, but it runs well. One advantage to its lack of exterior beauty is that the police do not pull me over. The police in Nicaragua are notorious for pulling over Americans for imagined traffic violations and "fining" them. My car looks so old they don't even pay attention to it as I drive by. It is exactly the size I needed. It has been such a blessing to have it for grocery shopping these last few weeks and has cut two hours off of the time it takes me to do the weekly shopping. It has also saved me money since I no longer have to pay a taxi to help me with the shopping or take me anywhere else I need to go during the week. Thank you to all who gave to make this possible. Your prayers and support are a continuous blessing to me.

I will be in the US this summer from July 1 to August 21. I hope to see many of you while I am here. I cannot say enough about how much your prayers and support mean to me. Thank you for continuing to stand with me in this work.

In Christ,

Joy Pulsifer

Joy Pulsifer

In March we spent a week in Nicaragua conducting a medical mission trip. We were blessed to have Joy and Lianne taking care of us during our mission trip and coordinating our visit with the Ministry of Health in Nicaragua. Our group enjoyed staying at both the Jinotega and Los Cedros orphanages. Often time's people wonder what we do on this type of trip. We have tried to condense some of what we do to a few paragraphs.

Our trip began on Friday March 7th when we arrived at the Managua airport. Much coordination had already taken place by staff in Nicaragua. The Ministry of Health representative met us at the baggage collection point and we were able to move all of our 32 suitcases through customs without much hassle. Some groups have not been as lucky as us though, and suitcases of medications have been confiscated.

The next day the orphanages big yellow school bus picked us up from the Best Western and we began our journey to Jinotega, where we were in the very capable hands of Joy. We loved seeing so many familiar faces. This was Brian's fourth medical mission trip, and Celeste's second. We have seen many of the children grow up in that time and mature a great deal. On Saturday and Sunday we spent a lot of our group time packing medications. We were instructed to bring all of our medications in their original packaging, so that meant we spent a lot of time re-packing the medications once we were in Nicaragua and putting them in 30 day supply bags with labels. It was good team bonding time! Some of us also played with the children, and we took an outing on Sunday with the kids and went to church. We were excited to be there at a time when several of the older girls were baptized. It was a memorable experience for all of us. We closed our Sunday with our own devotional time, and prepared for our first "clinic" day – which was Monday.

During the clinic days we traveled in our trusty yellow school bus to a site determined by the Ministry of Health. Joy traveled with us, and helped to arrange our visit. She coordinated the handing out of tickets several days before our arrival, so that the day would run smoothly. She also helped out with everything during the day, from steering patients in the right direction to helping explain how medications work. Our clinics were run out of schools, so upon our arrival at a village school would adjourn for the day. The patients were already lined up and waiting for us. It took us a short amount of time to set up our clinic, carefully selecting which room the providers would work out of, and where we would put our medications dispensary area and our lab area as well as our craft table. Sometimes we had four rooms to work with, and sometimes only two plus an overhanging on the porch. On the last day I recall we moved the lab from a front porch to under a tree as the sun moved and we lost our shade! Our patients did not mind in the least, and were so appreciative for the care they received.

In total, we provided care to 675 patients. The clinics based out of the Jinotega orphanages were all in rural areas. Our patients walked to the clinics, or rode horses. None of them had cars. We were told some of the people walked over two hours to come to a clinic. We were grateful to be able to help those in need, and feel blessed to have been able to serve. The verse to whom much is given much is expected came to mind several times during our stay. As Americans, we are born into a society where we take for granted simple things like running water, food and clothes. To spend a week providing care in an environment where people are starving, poverty is everywhere, and everyday survival is a challenge - changes you. We made a difference to those people we were able to help, and gave them a bright spark of hope in an often bleak life. We are thankful to the infrastructure and staff of the Children of Destiny orphanages, and look forward to returning next year. They make it possible for us to carry out our work, and we are forever grateful.

Celeste and Brian Newcomb, M.D.