

iQue Pasa!

Back to School 2014

"My heart feels I should give a gift"

Our children are going back to school, and we are working hard to gather their supplies and uniforms. Here's a story about a young boy who sacrificed to give new shoes to our kids.



Dylan from Texas gave his Christmas gifts to help our kids.

Dylan's sacrificial gift from the States

Last December ten-year-old Dylan from Fairfield, Texas, wrote to us. His words struck our hearts:

*Dear Roy Ketring,
My name is Dylan and this Christmas my heart feels like instead of receiving a gift I should give a gift. I am going to receive 20 pairs of shoes for my Christmas gift and I am going to give them to your Orphanage, El Sauzal Orphanage. Please send me sizes of 20 orphans feet and I will send the shoes down to Mexico.*

Sincerely, Dylan

He asked for a list of the children with their ages, sizes and favorite colors. Then he wrote back:

I have not figured out who I shall give the shoes to, but I am thinking very hard about who to pick. I am also looking at the kids' favorite colors I will give 20 kids their favorite color shoes. Thank you for your support.

Dylan raised over \$500 and personally selected the shoes. His dad shared with us:

"My wife and I had no idea initially; he found your site online. I asked him what he wanted for Christmas and he told us.... He told all of our family that instead of gifts he wanted money for shoes.

I want my son to continue to want to help others and experience the joy from it. I

hope to raise him as a man that gets joy from giving to others."

A profound blessing

We are so grateful to Dylan for his personal sacrifice last Christmas. It has been a profound blessing for our children. Muchas gracias, Dylan!

Would you consider helping us, like Dylan, with school uniform items? Look at page 6 to see the uniform items we need. Muchas gracias for your help!



Arturo showing off his cool shoes from Dylan.

Part of Dylan's list of hand-picked shoes.



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Torn apart for years

New children at our home

Earlier this year, two children were brought to our home by the police— Patty, eleven, and Cristián, five. The police were called when the children were left home alone for a long period of time while their mother was working. We originally thought they were only going to be at our home for a few days before DIF, Mexico's child protective services, moved them to another facility. However, DIF chose to keep them with us.

As we got to know the children, Patty told us that she and Cristián had another brother, eight-year-old Jose. It had been a long time since they had seen Jose, and Patty didn't know where he had been taken.

We asked DIF if they knew where Jose was, and if it was possible for the siblings to be reunited. For several months, we heard nothing. Then one day, DIF brought Jose to join his brother and sister.

A bittersweet reunion

When Jose arrived, our director Josue spoke with him as we coordinated their reunion. Josue prepared Jose to meet his siblings. When Patty approached, Jose looked at her



Young Cristián didn't recognize his brother at first.



Patty, Jose and Cristián have been reunited.

and said, "Oh, she is very big." Patty and Jose embraced for a long time, both crying.

After Patty and Jose's reunion, Cristián was brought to meet Jose. The siblings are not sure how long they have been separated, but it is long enough that Cristián didn't remember his big brother. However, Jose remembered him.

Not only is our home a family for hurt children, but it is also a place where siblings can grow together, like Patty, Jose and Cristián. Please pray for their emotional healing. Thank you for helping us create a family and a future for special children like these.

If you are interested in sponsoring Patty, Jose or Cristián, please visit elsauzal.org/ Sponsor.

You can read about three other siblings that came to us recently on the next page.

Sponsor a child: Jose Leonardo

Young Jose Leonardo is nicknamed Choche. (There are currently three children named Jose at the orphanage. See another Jose on the previous page.) Choche will be turning three in November.

Choche was brought to us with his two older brothers. Their mother had left them with a neighbor. When the mom did not return for two weeks, the neighbor gave them to child protective services.

Choche enjoys playing with toy cars, push toys, musical toys and stuffed animals.

If you would like to sponsor sweet Choche or any of our other children, visit our website, at www.elsauzal.org/sponsor.

Muchas gracias!



Jose Leonardo, also called Choche.

Giving parents a helping hand



Sisters Fatima, Aracely and Jazmin came to us when their parents chose to enter drug rehabilitation.

Three sisters, Fatima, Aracely and Jazmin recently became part of our home. They are "volunteer" children. (Their parents voluntarily asked for our help to care for the girls while the parents get back on their feet.)

The girls' parents have been battling drug issues, and wanted to enter a drug rehab center. They were afraid of losing their daughters in the meantime.

We are happy to care for Aracely (seven), Fatima (six), and Jazmin (four), while their parents do the extremely hard work of battling drug addiction. Please pray with us for their parents to have a speedy and complete recovery.

Flying for our kids

When there is no money, we do what it takes to survive. Last month we had no extra funds; we were getting by on food donations, mainly flour, beans and rice. We also had no toilet paper; we were using napkins instead. Sometimes a small thing, like toilet paper, becomes a big need.

In late August, a white truck pulled into our grounds with three people inside. As they got out of the truck, our children ran up to greet their friends, Oscar, Edie and Evie. The kids lined up at the back of the truck. Directed by Oscar, they began unloading cartons of chicken, hot dogs and beef. There were also cases of toilet paper.

We asked Oscar and Edie, “How did you know that we needed toilet paper?” Edie’s reply delighted us. “God told me,” she said.

One of our nannies, Maria, shared, “He [Oscar] always comes when we need food.” We wanted to know more of their story.



Christopher, one of our kids, unloading boxes of chicken. Oscar and Edie visit regularly with much-needed supplies.



Oscar, his fiancée Edie, and her daughter Evie.

A dream to be a mission pilot

Even as a young man, Oscar knew that God was working in his life. He grew up in Mazatlan, Mexico and identifies with the children at our orphanage. At nineteen, he crossed into the United States. He later became a U.S. resident, bought a house, and started his own business.

He has been involved in several different ministries as God has directed his life. A few years ago, God touched his heart and gave him a dream to be a pilot. Three days later, while driving near an airport he saw a sign for private piloting lessons. The next day, he began his first lesson. Two weeks later, he purchased a small plane.

Oscar started the Flying for Kids Ministry. “God put me in this ministry; He opened all the doors,” he says. Now he comes to our orphanage regularly, either flying in or driving. He always brings food, often basic necessities like meat. Sometimes he brings cake and piñatas to celebrate birthdays. We are blessed at how God has used Oscar and Edie to help us. You can visit Oscar’s website at Flying4kids.org.

Order your “El Sauzal Children” 2015 calendar

Why buy a calendar?

- Beautiful full-color photos of our kids.
- High-quality, standard-sized 13-month wall calendar.
- A special gift to share with others.
- A practical tool to help you remember our kids.
- Prayer requests to keep you emotionally and spiritually connected to our ministry.

Suggested donation: \$12 each

(Includes shipping & handling)

Two ways to order:

1. **Order online** through PayPal. Go to elsauzal.org/ordercalendar.

2. **Order by mail.** Fill out the order form on the insert and mail it in with your donation. You can pay by check, cash, or money order.

Got questions? Email Danielle Bergman at dani.bergman@elsauzal.org.

Calendars will be mailed in late November/early December.



Dos quinceañeras

This summer we celebrated two very special quinceañeras. In Mexican culture, the fifteenth birthday is a milestone, a special time marking when a girl becomes a woman.

Julie and Adanesne are both daughters of our staff. It is important to us that our staff's children are treated with the same love as our other children.



Julie (above) celebrated in July, Adanesne (left) in August. Their dresses were made by our director's wife, Lilia.

¡Que Pasa!

Back to School 2014

"Schooling" our kids

Will you help purchase our kids' mandatory school uniforms by choosing an item below and sending in a donation? ¡Gracias for your help!

