

Replacing painful memories with happy ones

A family and a future for wounded children

We have had nine new children brought to us recently. Six of these little ones are in the nursery. It is bustling with activity. We are blessed that they are here, but each of their stories are heart-wrenching. Most of these children are deeply wounded—neglected, abandoned and abused. To protect the children, we are going to limit the details of their stories. (None of the new niños are pictured here.)



Our pueblo, known for vineyards, had a parade and festival in late March. Our kids got to dress up to be part of it, like Esthela.

Tales of unspeakable pain

- Three of our newest children are siblings up in the nursery. Their father tried to asphyxiate the littlest, an infant, with a pillow. The mother went for help to the police; they found evidence of neglect and drug abuse by both parents.
- One child was abandoned by his mother, a drug addict. The mother herself had grown up as a ward of the state, and has had several children taken away. The mom left her new one with a neighbor and never returned. The little one came to us sick, having difficulty breathing.
- Another of the children, a newborn, was brought to the orphanage because the baby's mother gave birth to the newborn while she was in jail. Since no family members showed up to claim the child, the infant was brought to us.
- Another two young siblings were taken away from their mother by the police for neglect. She also is a drug addict. They have a grandmother who lives in another state who would like to come and get them, when her finances allow it.
- For two elementary siblings, their parents had a

violent split. Their father struck the mother in the head with a hammer, locked her in their home, and left her for dead. The neighbors heard it and called the police. When the police arrived, they found the mom unconscious. She was hospitalized in critical condition, and hasn't recovered yet.

Giving hope in dark circumstances

Our deepest desire is to lead each child to Christ. Psalm 30:5 says "Crying may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning." Every child that comes to us has lost family and been hurt deeply. We cry with them, pray with them and love them. We strive to give them a normal life, with joyful childhood memories, such as participating in parades like this.

This is what we do; this is the ministry God has given us. Thank you for joining us as we continue **God's work of helping wounded children**. It's our mission of eternal importance.



Here are Osiris as a bunch of grapes, and Ivan as a bottle. Many of the local kids participated in the community event.

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Three-year-old Justin is up in the nursery with his almost two-year-old brother, Angel. Both boys came to us about a year ago. Justin loves to play! It is our unique privilege and great responsibility to care for Justin.

Anti-abuse training to better serve our children

Our pastor's son, Sergio Salas, is a Christian psychologist who practices out of Tijuana. He has recently created a special program to train our staff to better serve and protect the children. As mentioned on the front page, all of our children come with emotional wounds. This education will vitally help our ministry.

Through seven different workshops, Sergio Salas will be teaching our workers important topics such as understanding the cycles of abuse, incidence and prevention. We are grateful to Sergio Salas for the training.

We are also thankful to Mountain Creek Christian Fellowship, of Issaquah, Washington. They have supplied the necessary funds to make this education possible.

"By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established." - Proverbs 24:20

Savor a yummy fundraiser

You can buy some great food items and support the El Sauzal Orphanage at the same time. **Tastefully Simple** provides many spices, sauces, bread mixes, and cheese mixes, as well as great gift ideas. They are all easy to make and delicious to enjoy.

Long-time supporters of the orphanage, Clay and Naomi Warren and Danielle Bergman are sponsoring an online **Tastefully Simple** party from May 15 – May 31 with all of the profits going to the orphanage. Here is how you can participate:

1. Online go to: Tastefully Simple, at www.tastefullysimple.com.
2. Click on **Shop Our Products** from the menu bar, near the top of the screen.
3. Look for the magnifying glass half way down the page and click on "**Host/Event search**".
4. In the "**First name:**" enter *El*, then "**Last name:**" enter *Sauzal*. Click on the **Search** button.
5. Scroll down the page to find the "*El Sauzal Orphanage*" party listed. Click the **Select** button.
6. Shop and enjoy! Your items will be shipped to you.

The profits will automatically be designated for the orphanage. We will also have a link to the website on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/elsauzalorphanage. We hope to raise \$2,000 in profit to help the orphanage care for these precious children. Visit Facebook often for updates on how the fundraiser is going.



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