



# Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries



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Orphanage: Children's Village, Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
Oscar & Amy Serrano, Honduras National Directors

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2007

## Children's Village: What It's Like to Live There

by Amy Serrano

In this newsletter, we usually talk about the children and tell a little bit about the stories that brought them to us. As Oscar, Amy and the girls get settled back in Honduras, we thought we'd give you an update on what it's like living at the Children's Village.

### Property

The Children's Village complex is located on eight acres of beautiful farmland just outside the village of Tegucigalpa. At the site are four houses, a medical clinic, and a technical school.

### Children's Homes

Connected by breezeways, the main structure has four homes and a two-story kitchen building. Each house has three bedrooms, three bathrooms and a sitting room. Two bedrooms are for the children with two triple bunk beds in each room, making a total of 12 children in each house. The third bedroom has a private bathroom and is for the two house moms.

### South view of the building complex



### Triple bunk beds accommodate six children in each bedroom



Meals for the children, staff, and guests are prepared in the central kitchen. Above the kitchen are three bedrooms, a full bathroom and a sitting room. The sitting room is a girls' playroom with doll houses and toys for girls. One bedroom is kept as a guest room and the others are used for an office and storage.

### Central kitchen for preparing meals



There are four triangle-roofed breezeways between each of the houses. One is already enclosed and is used as a communal dining hall, school room and activity center. We hope to enclose two of the other three breezeways to use as study rooms and a library.

### Medical Clinic

The medical clinic has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a full kitchen and a sitting room. The clinic is being used to house the older boys. This fall, it will be fully air conditioned and used as guest housing for mission teams. We hope to soon be able to take in babies, and this will become the nursery, if God leads us that way.

### Edgar Memorial Medical Clinic



### Technical School

The tech school has a classroom, a workshop and space for storage. The children learn welding, mechanics, constructions, plumbing and wiring skills. Our older boys actually designed and welded the security grates covering the clinic windows. The classroom is air conditioned and contains four computers. A teacher comes out and gives classes in computer technology. Two of our house moms are also bilingual teachers and teach ESL classes.

### Technical School



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### Outbuildings

In addition to the main building complex, we have a tortilla making shed, a water purification house, two storage buildings, and our own well structure and water storage tanks.

### Recreational Areas

We have a gym-sized cement slab for tennis, badminton, soccer and basketball, as well as a diamond for baseball and kickball. There is a volleyball court on the grass and a playground with swings and slides.

### Farm & Pond

On the back of the property, we have a huge fish pond, a chicken farm, a milking shed, two cow fields with nine cows, an orchard with fruit trees and a garden.

### The Children

Currently, we have 50 loved and cuddled sons and daughters, about half boys and half girls and ranging from age two to 19. Our children are loved like our own. We plan to raise them to know Jesus, disciple them to be all they can be for Him, and



encourage them to become educated and trained to do a good job. We will train them in technical skills and provide further education as we are able. INFA, the equivalent of Child Protective Services in the U.S., brings us children when we have room. They investigated Children's Village and told us that if five-star ratings were given for orphanages, that we'd rate five stars! We now have court-granted guardianship of all our children.

The children may stay with us forever if they wish. This is HOME, not an orphanage! We will love, support, and counsel them for the rest of their lives. When they leave to start their own families, they will always be welcome to come HOME for holidays and be included as family. Only God knows how this is going to happen, but these are His children first!

### Girls' Houses

Our children are growing up. It has become necessary to separate the teenaged boys and girls. We have rented a house near the Serranos in Puerto Cortes for the older girls. In the fall, mission teams will begin building the first of several Girls' Houses.

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*Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries* is a nonprofit interdenominational Christian organization dedicated to serving poor children and senior citizens. Board members, officers and coordinators serve as volunteers without salary or remuneration. Charitable gifts are used to support Children's Village orphanage and ministry in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Administrative expenses are covered by donations made specifically for that purpose. Our mission is to bring the love of Jesus to hurting people of this world. We emphasize caring for orphans, volunteering for mission projects, organizing medical teams to treat the poor, and providing food, clothing and education.

WWH2H is managed internationally by our USA Board of Directors. In addition, we are incorporated in Honduras as Asociación Mundial Corazón a Corazón (ASOCORA).

### WWH2H (USA) BOARD:

- Honduras National Directors - Oscar & Amy Serrano
- President - Mary Frenter
- Vice President - Joel Olsen
- Treasurers - Brian & Sondi Ross
- Secretary - Jeri Obias
- Child Support Coordinators - Dean & Rachel King
- Lyle Frenter
- Karl Germunson
- Joanie Swedberg
- Annette Olsen

### WWH2H (USA) VOLUNTEER STAFF:

- VBS Team & Benefit Dinner Coordinator - Tina Campbell
- Medical Team Coordinator - Karen Joiner
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner - Kim Sharp
- Website & Newsletters - Paula Barr
- Bulk Mailing Coordinator - Phyllis Haas
- Spanish Translation Editor - Carrie Aadland

### ASOCORA (HONDURAS) BOARD:

- President - Douglas Urrutia
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- Rafael Valle, Sr.
- Fredy Castro
- Andrex Caliz
- Oscar Valaquez
- Mariana Madrid
- Oscar Serrano



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## WWH2H Church

Begun as a weekly Bible Study, the WWH2H Church in Puerto Cortes is growing so fast, there is hardly enough room in our rented Rotary building. Members of the congregation are mostly young adults with a lot of teens. The church is led by Pastor Oscar Serrano, an ordained Baptist minister, and his wife Amy. We have plans to build a receiving center to house the church and offices.

## God's Will

Only God knows the potential capacity of our program. He is the One in control of all of this. It is no coincidence that you and your friends have been touched by the Holy Spirit to help us. He does it all the time. Just like the animals in Noah's Ark, God is bringing us the people He needs to do this profound work of ministering God's love to the children of Honduras. May God bless you richly for all you do for the children!

*- Information provided by  
Amy Serrano & Mary Frenter*

## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- PRAY for our children and our leaders
- Become a Monthly Sponsor and encourage your friends and family to become Monthly Sponsors
- Provide funds to help with expenses for construction, furnishings and equipment
- Sign up for our monthly newsletter
- Volunteer for a mission team
- Organize and hold a fund raiser for WWH2H

Thank you for your continued financial and prayer support for this important work. You are the "heart" in Heart to Heart. Without you there would be no ministry. God bless you, and thank you!!!

## School Days at the Village

While we here in the U.S. are getting ready to send our children back to school, children in Honduras are in the middle of their school year. They attend school from February through October and have vacation November through and January.

### Public School for Younger Children

Dressed in uniforms, children nine and younger go to public school from 7:30 am to 12:00 noon. Then they come home, change clothes, have lunch and do homework. After that, they do chores and play until dinner.

Chores consist of cleaning their rooms and bathrooms, changing their beds, washing windows, picking up litter, taking out the garbage, feeding the dogs, and weeding the garden.

### Home School for Older Children

Children age 10 and older are home schooled. They, too, wear uniforms and report to the dining hall / school room in the morning to be tutored by our house moms. After lunch, they do homework and chores.

Chores for the older kids include mowing and weeding, cooking and washing dishes, cleaning the main complex and bathrooms, sewing, carpentry, maintenance, and welding. Older children also help take care of the little ones like an older brother or sister.

### Daily Lessons for All

All the children learn computer skills and English every day. Many of the children are eager to learn English so they can talk to



Americans who come to visit. Their regular school subjects include math, science, reading, spelling, social studies, Spanish, art, and PE.

### Classes at Technical School

In the Tech School, children learn about plumbing, electrical, woodworking, construction and welding.

Some of the children who arrive at the Village have NEVER been to school, so it's a completely new concept for them. Classes, chores, and routines help the children develop good study and living habits. They learn marketable skills for their future.

Our thanks to Grace Collins of Castle Rock Christian Church who sews some of the clothes and school uniforms for the children!

*- Information by  
Amy Serrano &  
Mary Frenter*





## From the President's Desk

by Mary Frenter

Hello and blessings to all of you. As you can see, God continues to bless His work in Honduras!

### Financial Update

We currently average \$7500-8000 income per month. The Village takes \$5000 and has been increasing each month since March as we take in new children. The balance pays wages and benefits for the Serranos and the costs to publish newsletters.

All construction funding is donated, so we build as income allows. Vehicles are all donated, and the costs to maintain them comes out of the Village expenses. All the board members, U.S. staff and mission teams are volunteers and do not receive any wages.

### Support Needs

We need more monthly support for our kids at any amount. We estimate it takes \$200 per child per month to run all aspects of this ministry. We try to get several sponsors for each child.

*There are many more needs than we can fit in the newsletter. Please visit the SUPPORT page*

*on the website for the comprehensive Needs List.*

### Furlough Management

Our deepest thanks to Gary and Sylvia Thacker for supervising the Children's Village during the Serranos' furlough this summer! Our prayers and blessings follow you to Africa!

### Tortilla Shed

Thanks to Hong Zhao, John Zhao, Carol Strode, Rick Riker, and Judy Riker from Mercy Ships who built the tortilla shed!



**Gary & Sylvia Thacker (front row left) with the team from Mercy Ships and the tortilla shed**

### Dental Clinic

Thanks to Micheal and Kambria Robertson who brought portable equipment for a dental clinic on August 14th. Two local dentists, Dr. Ofelia Castellanos and Dr. Olga Serrano (no relation to Oscar and Amy), also volunteered their time.

### Monthly Prayer & Fasting

Pastor Oscar and Amy have announced that the WWH2H Church in Honduras will be having three days of fasting and prayer at the beginning of every month. The first is August 31-September 2. Please join us throughout September in praying for upcoming mission teams, construction of the Girls' Houses, and the prayer request list on the website.

Thank you and may our Father richly bless all of you for your obedience to Him in your service to others. - MF

*Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle. Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.*

*2 Corinthians 1:3-5 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.*

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