



Haven of Hope Bolivia April – June 2021

It is Well with my Soul

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll –
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

The lyrics to this classic hymn were penned after a series of tragic events in the life of Horacio Spafford bereaved him of his five children and devastated his business endeavors. Yet as he drifted past the spot where shipwreck swept away his four beloved daughters, he carved out these profound lyrics. He embraced the attitude of Job, who also worshipped in his lament: “The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised” (Job 1:21)

The past year has been palpably marked by life’s dichotomies of sorrow and rejoicing, loss and provision, sickness and healing. Yet He somehow blends all of these experiences into a beautiful fusion of faith that inspires us to press forward and qualifies us to overflow with His comfort (2 Corinthians 1:4).



We are deeply grateful for the unwavering, unsparing support that Haven of Hope International and its sponsors extend to Haven of Hope Bolivia as part of the vision to rescue the Nation of Orphans who are so close to His heart. We pray that “the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7 NIV) in difficult times and that “you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers” (3 John 1:2 NKJV). We hope you enjoy the following highlights of some amazing things that have happened at Haven of Hope Bolivia during the second quarter of 2021.

Children's Day Celebration

Children's Day is observed on April 12 in Bolivia. Haven of Hope lavishly celebrated the children the Lord has placed in our care with games, prizes and an extraordinarily elegant dinner feast.

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." Mark 9:37 NIV





Trauma Informed Care and Internship Program – Alexis's return to HOHB

In March 2020, Alexis Basik returned to the United States after a year of pioneer work for Haven of Hope's Internship Program while she modeled Trauma Informed Care Practice on campus and contributed to more in-depth Trauma Informed Care training with HOHB's staff.

Just days after Alexis returned to the USA, Bolivia entered strict Covid-19 quarantine laws that closed the borders of the country for months. Travel restrictions and health risks prevented HOHB from receiving visitors for over a year. Alexis's return to campus helped reinitiate certain Trauma Informed Care activities that were on hold during the pandemic and provided confirmation that significant advances that are being made in the program.



18th Anniversary Celebration

Haven of Hope Bolivia celebrated its 18th anniversary on May 10th. Bolivia's National Overseer, Bishop Freddy Jimenez, preached and several local pastors joined us for the special service.



HOHI Vision Trip May 2020

Haven of Hope eagerly welcomed the first post-pandemic vision team in May. As Gladys often puts it, visitors from HOHI provide an “injection of life” that imparts encouragement, renews motivation and propels the work forward.



Children and staff welcome the group with banners and the Bolivian flag.



During the talent show, this group of children showcased the typical songs, dress and flags of the 9 departments, or states, of Bolivia.



Maria and Alice share a welcome hug and Pastor Dennis receives his welcome banner.



Tom poses with Oscar and Alice poses with Neida's baby who is named after her.



Larry works on the girls' closets and Dave makes sure everyone smiles on bus rides.



The team spends quality time playing with the children.



The children receive the laptops that the team brought to ensure that every grade level has a quality device for virtual classes.



Larry visits Juan Daniel at his current orphanage (left) and loads boards for closets with Jose Herlan onto HOHB's newly repaired bus (right).



Pastor Dennis (left) shares his photography knowledge with Adriana (center): Tom poses with Claudia (right).



Special treats! Lily distributes donuts (right) and Fiorella savors her ice cream dessert at Roky's (left).



Yuliana stops by to send love to her sponsor; our newest girls, Norma and Fiorella, enjoy a bus ride together (center); Ericka watches as Aida poses for a photo during a shopping trip (left).



Tom, Jose Herlan, Larry and Cristiano working hard to get the closets ready before the end of the week.



The children prepare for the bonfire extravaganza with pizza, dancing, smores and tons of fun (right); Alice bravely accepts a last-minute invitation to participate in a traditional Bolivian dance (left).



HOHB celebrates Alice on her birthday with her favorite Bolivian treat: cuñapé. We love you, Alice!



The staff enjoyed a relaxing evening with the Haven of Hope International team – a much deserved break!



Dave poses with HOHB staff and volunteers in front of the newly-landscaped office building.



The team visits the Santa Cruz Departmental Government's Social Policies Offices (left) and a day center for street children called "Casa Mitai" (right).



Alice delivers gifts from sponsors to children, including Martha and Lizeth.



Roy continues to practice on the keyboard his sponsor gifted him (left) and how beautiful the results of a spontaneous landscaping project thanks to a delay in Dave's return flight (right).

Ground Breaking Celebration for Rhonda Jarvis Dorms

On Wednesday, May 26th, Haven of Hope held a ground-breaking ceremony to bless the Rhonda Jarvis Dorm project. The Heartland Region of the Church of God has committed to donating \$100,000 for the project in memory of their Administrative Bishop's beloved daughter who was a teacher, minister, prayer-warrior and cheerful friend who dearly loved children. Bolivia's National Overseer, Freddy Jimenez, led the service, which included the placement of a symbolic foundation stone, prayers and proclamations of blessing over the Rhonda Jarvis family, the project and the children who will grow up there.



Mother's Day at Pony Farm

Mother's Day occurs on May 27th in Bolivia to commemorate a group of brave women who defended their town during Bolivia's Independence. This year, the entire Haven of Hope family celebrated Mother's Day with an unforgettable treat – a trip to a local pony farm!

For many of our children, this was their first real-life encounter with horses. Our two newest girls, Norma and Claudia, were terrified of the idea of riding on a pony, but Dave encouraged them to warm up to the animals and both girls happily and confidently ended up deciding to give it a go.



San Joaquin Pony Farm was a delightful experience and a first encounter with equines for some children, like sisters Norma and Claudia (right).



After steady encouragement, Claudia enjoys her first pony ride.

Feeding and bathing the ponies was part of the memorable pony farm experience.



Miguel gently feeds a pony.



(Left to right) Lucas, Estefania, Fabiana and Fiorella carefully bathe and brush a pony.

Pastor Larry Odam Visits HOHB

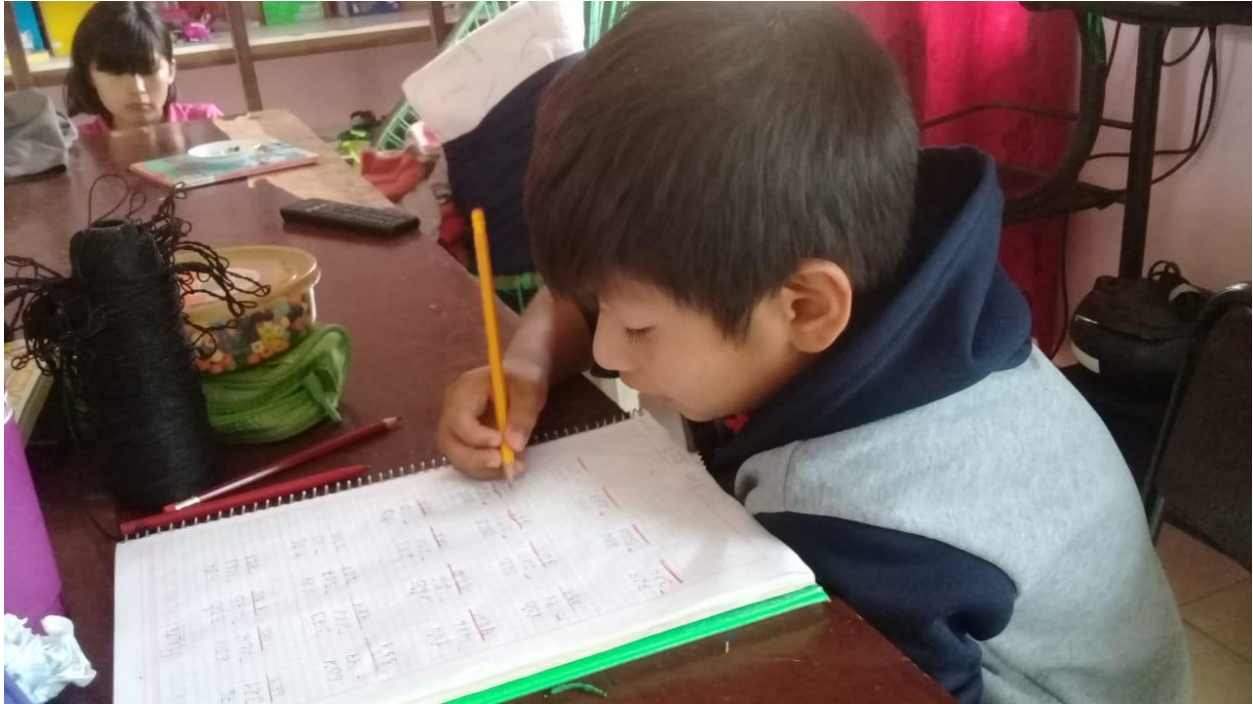
Pastor Larry Odam is the Missions Representative of the Heartland Region of the Church of God. He has been coming to Bolivia for about 20 years, helping numerous churches in different parts of Bolivia with building projects as well as accompanying teams who have contributed to different construction projects at Haven of Hope.

This trip, he came for first-hand information on the advances for the Rhonda Jarvis Dorm. He was impressed with the programs and projects he saw while visiting Haven of Hope and pleased with the long-term, holistic planning that is evident in the plans. He envisions returning during the construction process with people who are looking forward to helping with labor.



Winter Vacation

Typically the first two weeks of July, winter vacation was announced last-minute for the first two weeks of June this year and then was extended for two extra weeks! So, the children have enjoyed a full month of winter vacation! Of course, the staff made sure there were plenty of meaningful and fun activities in addition to reviewing important scholastic skills and keeping up with chores.



Miguel practices Math during reinforcement times.



Norma and Fiorella practice fine motor skills during (left) and Miguel plays with toys (right).



The children enjoy caring for the chickens. (Left: Jose, center: Aracely Nicol, right: Norma)



They help with projects around campus, but also take time to watch the Cup of the Americas soccer championships...

...and even have a soccer tournament of their own. Pappa Marco's team won the championship!



Daniela and Esther (right) and Cristiano, Nicol and Pastor Ever (left) pose for pictures at HOHB Winter Vacation's Final Soccer Match.



Kimberly listens to music at the playground (top left); Marco prepares for the finals (center); Fiorella explores the grounds around the soccer field (top right); Jose poses on the bleachers (bottom left) and Ruddy prepares to take the win in the final match (bottom right).



Health

Haven of Hope strives to provide the best medical and dental care possible for our children.



Duniar receives the flu shot (left), Erika gets braces thanks to extra donations from her sponsor (center) and Miguel takes an anti-parasite medication (right).

Documentation

Haven of Hope's Social Work Department works hard to ensure that every child has proper, government-issued ID. The first step in most cases is obtaining a birth certificate. At times, our social workers even travel to other cities to gather the information necessary to process the certificate. Our social workers also help former HOHB children with paperwork processes when the need arises.



Five children receiving their ID cards (left); Nelly traveled with Norma and Claudia to complete documentation needed for their birth certificates (center); Nelly also helped Benilda, who now lives in another city, gather and correct her previous report cards so she could register to for classes to finish her high school diploma (right).

Family Visits

Haven of Hope's Social Work Department coordinates visits for children who have families, who for one reason or another, are unable to care for them. Some family members are former HOHB children who have aged out of orphan care or children who have transferred to other homes.



Sarita (seated) visits Lizbeth and Marco (left); Melany receives a visit from her brother, Alexis (right)



Rosa and Duniar visit with their father and sister, Carmen (left) and the Chore sibling group meet with their mother (right).

Birthdays

Birthdays are an important opportunity both to express love and care to the children and to teach them to express their affection for others. The educators organize parties among their groups on the child's actual birthday to make it extra special!



Examples of Local Support

Local community involvement is important to Haven of Hope. We appreciate those who are willing to invest time, energy, knowledge and goods for the children.



The CBA (Bolivian American Center) held a reading workshop for HOHB (left) and a local electric company donated and installed a cement light post to replace a decaying wooden one on campus (right).

Boys Programs – Call to Military Service

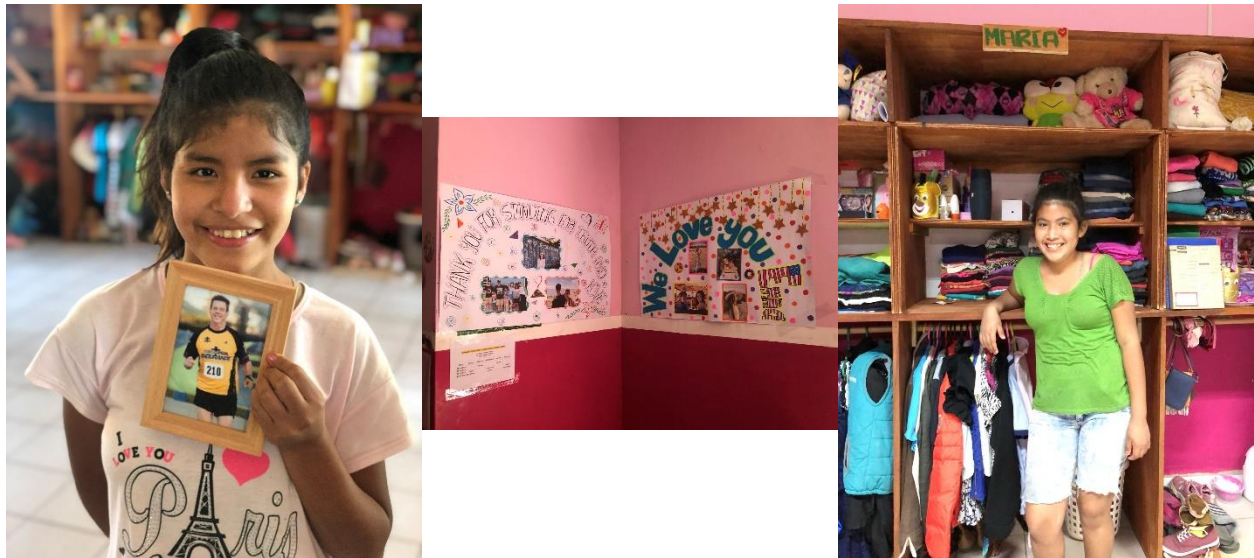
Bolivian law calls for its male citizens to complete a year of military service. Eligible young men can complete that requirement during high school on weekends and during vacations. Ruddy has received the invitation to participate and will be our first young man to enroll in the program while at HOHB.



Ruddy poses with the principal of Light and Life School, holding his invitation to enroll in the youth military service.

We Love Our Sponsors!!!

Thank you for all that you do make it possible for Haven of Hope to rescue, love, restore and equip our children. We love and appreciate you!



Anachely shows off a picture of her sponsor that she keeps in her closet space (left) and Maria proudly poses in front of her newly built closet space, complete with her handmade name board (right).