



Haven of Hope Bolivia

May – August 2022

Cultivating Connections

Most of us are familiar with the story of Mary and Martha. When Jesus and his disciples were welcomed into their home, Martha was busy with the preparations while Mary focused on spending time with Jesus. When Martha asked Jesus to scold Mary for not working, Jesus reminded Martha of the importance of connection. (See Luke 10:38-42)

Orphan care requires plenty of preparation. When we welcome children into our home, they need to be clothed and fed. They need a safe place to sleep and play. They need support to overcome past trauma. They need an education, life skills and training for a better future.

Yet without the connection that comes through healthy relationships, the other vital provisions would remain incomplete. Jesus directed Martha to adjust her priorities not because her desire to give her best to her guests was wrong but because she did so at the expense of developing healthy relationships with them. Cultivating connection is the heart of healing – and our Creator designed us that way.

How grateful we are for sponsors who understand the value of bridging not only the tangible but also the intangible deficits our children face! What a blessing to have had several visits over the last few months! The smiles on the faces of children and sponsors alike best depicts the positive impact these connections make.



Nancy, Maria and Tom pause for a photo.



The boys were thrilled to receive new soccer balls and volleyballs in addition to the kindness of their sponsors.
Left to right: Juan David, Dave Russ, Roy David, Samuel David, Duniar, Nancy and Oscar



Sponsors took the children shopping for gala clothes to prepare for the "Princes and Princesses of God Event" – a sponsor-funded, formal dinner designed to be a palpable reminder of our royal identity as children of the King.



Our generous sponsors also provided the girls with a full salon experience – hair and nails – to prepare for the "Princes and Princesses of God Event". For most of our girls, this was their first salon experience ever.



Sponsors and children enjoyed spending time together over a special dinner.



Left to right: Rosa, Lizeth, Kimberly, Kimberly, Daniela



Left to right: Reynilda, Fabiana, Sarai, Marco, Claudia, Eli



Left to right: Joann Wallace, Roy David, Marco, Damaris, Graciela, Joann, Gladys, Alice, John, Tony, Reynilda, Dave

Not all was fun and games during the May mission trip: The team worked hard to refurbish bedframes for a dorm remodel and purchased a container for much-needed storage space.



Jose Herlan, Diane, Alice, Tom, Nancy, Samuel David and Dave sand and paint the girls' bedframes.

The storage container is delivered.

Cultivating connections with local ministries and people who have access to resources that can enrich the lives of our children is an important aspect of vision trips. Vision trips also provide spaces to conduct international orphan-care business in person.



Marco, AJ, Alice and John pose with Pavel Farfan, Administration Director of the Alfarero Ministry, which works with local university students. John, Alice and AJ also met with Freddy Jimenez Ribera, a local assemblyman who is working to find solutions to the crisis among youth who are aging out of orphan care and other types of institutions.



Left: Negotiations for the land purchase for the boys' campus continued. Right: Marco signed the land purchase agreement as POA for HOHI in Bolivia in the presence of HOHI board members and staff.

The vision trip group also traveled to Pucallpa, Peru to strengthen connections and witness the advances on the construction – which has been moving along beautifully. Lord willing, Refuge of Life will soon welcome children into their home.



Pastor Lilly (front and center) with her family, Alice and John on Mother's Day in Pucallpa, Perú.
John, Alice, Brett and Brad pose with Refuge of Life church members.



John, Alice, Brad and Brett dream of expansion over breakfast with Pastor Roberto Suarez and his wife, Carmen Santa Cruz. They are the current National Overseers of the Church of God of Peru.



Left: Unstoppable – an injured knee didn't stop pastor Lilly and her sister, Toti, from advancing with the work at Refuge of Life. Center: Alice and the vision team observe the advances on the perimeter wall and the surrounding neighborhood. Right: John and Alice pose with the leader of a children's ministry during a long layover in Lima, Peru.

As part of the Church of God in Bolivia, Haven of Hope Bolivia has also maintained contact with Church of God missionaries that have visited Bolivia throughout the years. Pastor Larry Odam, the World Missions Director for the Heartland Region of the Church of God, visited in May for his reports on the advances being made on the boys' campus.



Pastor Larry Odam, Heartland Region World Missions Director, visits the site of the boys' campus and spends time with HOHB directors and children during a recent visit to Bolivia.

Riverside Church has also been creating long-term connections with Haven of Hope. In June, Riverside's Student Ministry travelled to Bolivia. Because the group arrived while the children were still in school, the group welcomed the children home from school, waiting for the children with posters that included the name of EVERY child. What an insightful experience this "tables turned" moment was for our children, who tasted what our sponsors feel when they arrive to see the excitement and feel the anticipation through signs and bouncing bodies! Thank you for creating so many memorable experiences while "HERE VISITING FAMILY".



Left to right: One of many hugs between Jhoan and trip coordinator, Tony LaMantia. Paolo with Juan David. Stacey and Gracie hold up two of the "welcome home" signs. Joey also greets Juan David.

Construction of the Emma's Echo Internship Building finished ahead of schedule and just in time for a very important mission. After a temporary stay at the local Church of God seminary campus while their dorms were being refurbished as part of the larger construction project, the group of young women ages 12-17 returned home. The leadership and youth of Riverside's Student

Ministry worked together with Haven of Hope leadership to plan a spectacular surprise: beautifully decorated dorms with brand new bedding and curtains, freshly painted bedframes and closets, and a new nightstand for each girl. The presence of the leaders and youth of Riverside's Student Ministry at the welcome home ceremony made an enormous impact as our young women readjusted to and reidentified with belonging on campus after several months of absence.



Gladys celebrates as the construction workers remove the safety barrier to reveal the changes to the building.



The entire team pitched in to help load the truck to move the girls back to HOHB campus after a temporary stay at the Jada Biblical Seminary.



Back on campus, Riverside's Student Ministry helped unload the truck and carry furniture and other belongings back to where they belong. Left: The youth are almost done emptying the moving truck. Center: The team continues strong after a morning of moving. Right: Raeghan poses after helping move furniture.



The team also assembled bed frames and closets, dressed beds and decorated the dorm rooms to create a gorgeous space for our girls. Left: Izzy, Tony and Joey work together. Center: Coert poses with Gladys while attempting to remove paint from his body. Right: JL, Heidi and Zane make beds.



The dorm rooms look amazing and are ready for the grand "welcome home" ceremony!



Gladys and Marco cut the ribbon to the remodeled dorms to unveil the results of all the hard work



Upper left: Aracely Nicol and Heidi
Lower left: Misael, Izzy and Eva



Center: Amanda and Adriana



Upper right: Zane and Reynilda
Lower right: Clint and Anachely



The girls were delighted with the results of remodeled bathrooms, new floor tiles, fresh paint, new curtains, elegantly dressed beds and matching decorations in their rooms.



When they weren't busy with work projects, the Riverside team spent plenty of time with the children: helping with homework and chores, building puzzles, making friendship bracelets, playing new games, singing, dancing and chatting with the help of electronic translators.



Anachely and Maria play ladder golf while Stacey, Charlie and Paolo build Legos with Jhoan and Jesus.



Left: JL builds puzzles with Yoselina, Estefania, Claudia, Kimberly and Lizeth. Center: Izzy and Jessie pose with Jhoan, Reynilda, Dylan and Caleb. Right: Zane and Coert build puzzles with Rosa, Adriana and Daniela.



Left: Erika, Raeghan, Raquel, Graciela and Stacey make friendship bracelets while Brittany watches and Gracie plays guitar. Center: Kimberly and Jessie pose for a picture while making friendship bracelets. Right: Lizeth, JL, Heidi and Angela also make bracelets while Melany and Eva watch.

The Riverside team helped prepare for a double birthday party for Duniar and Reynilda who reached the milestone age of fifteen years old.



Left: Tio Placido and JL finish up Duniar's decorations. Center: Reynilda poses with the cake and decorations in her lovely quinceañera dress. Right: Duniar smiles for a photo during his 15th birthday party.



Left: The group dances with the children in the traditional farewell celebration. Center: This spectacular team created positive connections with both children and staff. Right: Adriana and Carien Marie shared a hug at the farewell party.



Izzy decided to make her baptism experience even more memorable by immersing in Bolivian waters. Heidi officiated the ceremony while the rest of the team participated as witnesses of this sacred moment.

Just days after an exciting and memorable trip with Riverside, two new friends of Haven of Hope arrived: Trent and Chad. These young men worked in the garden with Tio Placido, helped with maintenance around the orphanage and spent time with the children and staff.



Left: Garden work. Center: Posing with commitment cards and Hope Hearts. Right: Garden photo.



Children and staff enjoyed spending time with Trent and Brad.

Haven of Hope International continues to seek strategies to expand connections with sons and daughters who no longer live on campus but would benefit from extra family support. In July, another element of this vision was set in motion when Neida's partner, Jose Luis, enrolled in renowned local institute. AJ White, who made his first trip to Bolivia with the May vision trip, has been sharing his experience piloting a self-sustaining business/ministry model with HOHI and, during his visit, with local contacts who provided constructive input regarding the local market. Please pray with us for this young family, for profitable connections and for God's grace and favor as we continue to empower our youth.



Left: Jose Luis, Neida and their daughter, Alice, pose for a photo while visiting HOHB campus. Center: Jose Luis shows off his new student ID. Right: During the May vision trip, AJ and the HOHI team met with a successful, local businesswoman named Gaby to discuss possibilities for the transition program.

During winter vacation from school, the staff schedules recreational and educational activities for the children. These activities reinforce the connections among the children and between the children and staff.



Left: Yuliana, a young woman who lives off-campus, receives a gift from her sponsor. Center: Javier, Erika and Reynilda write letters to their sponsors and to the children in Africa during English activities. Right: Psychologist, Damaris, supervises an English activity during winter vacation.



The children explore the local zoo on a special outing organized by our social worker, Nelly. Left: Eva, Nicol, Jhoan and Norma pose with taxidermy mounts of animals that live at the Santa Cruz Zoo. Right: A group picture to remember the 2022 visit to the zoo.



Left: During winter break, HOHB sold surplus lettuce to local churches and the community. Center: Nelly provides Neida with her birth certificate. Right: Sarita visits her siblings, Lizeth and Marco.

The Church of God National Pastoral Seminar provided the perfect opportunity to spread awareness and solicit local support for the Nation of Orphans.



Bolivian pastors pose with the Hope Heart at the National Pastor's Seminar.



Left: Gladys and Marco test run their video before their session with the pastors. Center: Our ever-dynamic Gladys laughs with the crowd during her presentation. Right: Marco poses with pastor Alcides from Santa Cruz.



Left: Gladys shares the call to care for orphans with pastors from the Bolivian highlands. Center: Ivan, an accountant who has helped with accounting at Haven of Hope in the past, and Gladys pose with the Hope Heart beside HOHB's table at the seminar. Right: Gladys and Cathy pose with Angelica, a pastor from El Alto who dreams of opening an orphanage for the children in need in her city.

International connections were created and fortified at the Church of God Latin American Pre-Assembly and International General Assembly in San Antonio, Texas.



Left: Alice and John work out the final touches to a video presentation in Spanish.



Right: Gladys and Marco pose with the Nation of Orphans and Bolivian flags.



Left: Haven of Hope's stand at the Latin American Pre-Assembly. Right: Alice, Pastor Freddy, Marco, Gladys, Cathy, John and Dr. Angel Marcial, Field Director for Latin America, at the presentation of the Nation of Orphans Flag during the Latin American Pre-Assembly.



Cathy, Alice, John, Marco and Gladys at one of the evening services during the Latin American Pre-Assembly.



Left: Cathy, Sonia (wife of the Superintendent of South America South), Maggi (wife of the National Overseer of Bolivia) and Gladys. Center: Xiomara Collins (wife of the Administrative Bishop Southeast Hispanic Region) with Gladys and Marco. Right: Marco, Gladys, John and Alice hold the Nation of Orphans flag with Pastor Hector from Chile.



Left: Bishop Orlando and his family hold the Nation of Orphans Flag. His daughter dreams of opening an orphanage for the children in need in the region of Brazil that her father is supervising. Right: Reny and Cathy; Marco and Gladys; Overseer of Bolivia Freddy Jimenez and his wife, Maggi; Superintendents of South America Southern Cone, Dr. Nicolas Marulla and his wife, Sonia; Third Assistant General Overseer of the Church of God, Dr. David Ramirez and his wife, Maria Fernanda; Dr. John and Alice Sweet.



Haven of Hope's International team created many new connections during General Assembly. Russie Oaks and her pastor (center photo) from the Mary Esther Church of God in Florida recently raised over \$4000 for Haven of Hope through a Kids Crusade at their local church.

One of the highlights of General Assembly is the Parade of Nations. Alice obtained approval to represent the Nation of Orphans during this special ceremony during the missions service.



Left: Alice (Nation of Orphans) poses with missionary Michael Mills (Ecuador). Cathy and Reny (center) and Marco and Gladys (right) represent Bolivia and the Nation of Orphans.

After the General Assembly, the HOHI team from Bolivia spent a few days in Fort Myers to visit City Gate Church and for a lovely luncheon with some of Haven of Hope's most faithful supporters. It was a lovely moment to share vision and appreciation with HOHI family. We love and value you!



Donor luncheon



Gladys (far left), Alice (left center), Alexis (right center) and Judy (far right) share the vision of HOHI.



Left: John and Alice pray over the HOHI Bolivia team. Center: Gladys chooses donor thank you gifts. Right: The Basiks, who always make our Bolivian team feel at home in theirs, pose with Marco and Gladys after family dinner.

August brought some very special blessings that will help Haven of Hope increase connection for many years to come. First, Alexis Basik came to equip our internship building, Emma's Echo, for the upcoming inauguration in October and the subsequent arrival of our first interns on campus.



Alexis Basik (center) poses with Angela (left) and Lizeth (right)



A sneak peak of the shared living spaces in Emma's Echo Internship Building.
More details following the official inauguration in October!

Then, Angela Bryan arrived to conclude HOHI's Trauma Informed Care Certification training. The final presentations were beyond expectations – from volunteers to the maintenance man to the educators to the professional team, everyone did an outstanding job explaining the heart of trauma care from their own unique perspective.

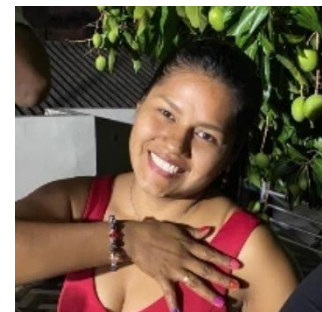


Left: Nelly presents her knowledge of trauma care. Center: Cyntia has been training the educators in computer skills: typing, Word, PowerPoint and Excel. They worked together to create amazing presentations that clearly demonstrated their understanding of the course content. Right: Coworkers pay attention to each other's expositions.



Left: Taking advantage of the newly furnished intern building, students were able to enjoy the presentations in the comfort of this lovely living space. Center: Marco shares the video he created. Both videos prepared by the students and recordings of the live presentations will be stored in the Trauma Informed Care Virtual Library for future reference as these graduates become mentors for other students. Left: Angela and Mary carefully observe the presentations.

After two days of witnessing the academic results of months of exceptional work, the students were rewarded with a fun-filled celebration with a delicious meal and birthday cake!



Left: Veronica celebrates. Center: Placido, Graciela V. and Veronica pose. Right: Graciela V. shows off her new bracelet.



Left: Lily poses. Center: Angela surprised Graciela H. with a birthday cake. Right: Damaris and her new bracelet.



Left: Cynthia shows her bracelet and a heart. Center: A selfie of Cathy, Mary and Angela. Right: Placido enjoys the party.

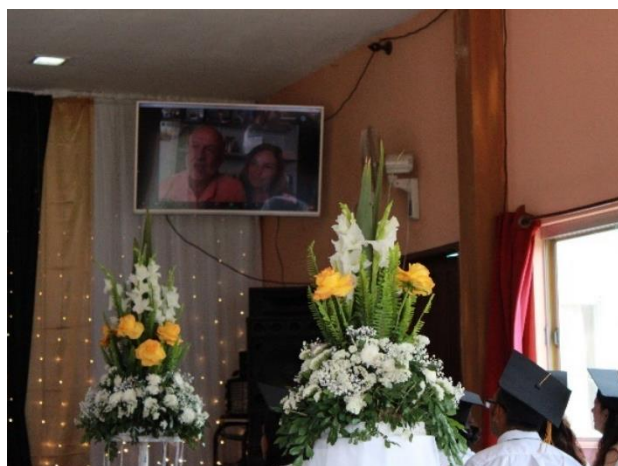


A group photo and juna foto local!

August 27th was Graduation Day for the 16 people who completed the course – up 2 from the 14 that originally started. They were the first cohort of students to complete Haven of Hope International's Trauma Informed Care Certification Program and the first group of students in Bolivia to complete Texas Christian University's TBRI (Trust-Based Relational Intervention) Course.



Left: Gladys and Lily take a selfie before the ceremony. Center: Magdalena poses with her family and her instructor, Angela, after graduation. Right: Directors Gladys and Marco pose with their certificates.



Left: John and Alice join the celebration virtually along with other special guests. Right: Angela and National Overseer, Freddy Jimenez, deliver certificates to Marco Arauz, HOHB's bus driver and maintenance man.



Left: Gladys celebrates during the graduation recessional. Right: Lily, Cynthia, Magda and Angela have a fun photo session with the children after the ceremony.



Left: Marco delivers a recognition to Trauma Informed Care Educator, Angela Bryan. The original plan was to present the award DURING the graduation ceremony, but due to circumstances beyond our control, that was impossible. The plaque says: "Thank you ANGELA BRYAN for your eternal influence" and includes a quote from Henry Adams that says: "A teacher affects eternity; she can never tell where her influence stops." Right: Angela puts proactive Trauma Informed Care teaching techniques into practice with our children.



The graduating class poses with special in-person guests and instructor, Angela Bryan.

Connections with local Bolivian churches continue to expand. Pastor Pamela Canido invited Gladys to speak at the "First Ambassadors of the King Summit" along with Haven of Hope's friend, Vindra Aduara. Gladys's powerful testimony of what God is doing at Haven of Hope Bolivia challenged the participants to answer God's call. Haven of Hope set up a booth during this event.



Left: Brochure for the "First Ambassadors of the King Summit" announces speakers Vindra Aduara, President of the Hallmark International Youth Club, and Pastor Gladys Jimenez de Aldana, Director of Haven of Hope Orphanage. Top right: Gladys prays for women to answer God's call. Bottom right: Vindra, an International Studies graduate who has worked for United Nations, explains who an ambassador is in the natural world and the spiritual implications for us as Ambassadors for Christ. Cathy interprets.



The Deborah's group (ages 12-17) visited the Good News Church of God to sell lettuce and churros. The pose here with Pastor Manuel Vallejo and his mother, Pastor Norma Fuentevilla.

Local support for Haven of Hope also continues. This year, a winter clothing campaign helped keep our children warm. In Bolivia, donations in kind such as clothing and food are much more common than cash donations. However, the number of people signing up for local child sponsorship continues to grow.



Left to center: The "Solidarity Winter Clothes Campaign" and some results. Right: Marco receives a food donation.



Local visitors are encouraged to become child sponsors.

International and local child sponsorships are vital as our Family of Hope keeps on growing. Our newest additions, Paola (10), Junior (8) and Sofia (6), arrived mid-August but already feel at home.



Left: Junior gets ready for school. Center: Paola receives a gift on her birthday and gets a photo with Damaris, Cyntia and her younger sister, Sofia. Right: Sofia during an exposition fair at school.



The new children participate in their Sunday School classes. Left to right: Jhoan, Sofia, Norma, Jesus, Luz Marina, Lucas, Oscar, Junior, Paola and Erika.

On campus, our staff continues to create a trauma informed culture, applying the principles of connection both in the care they provide for the children and their interactions as coworkers in the vision of raising the standard of orphan care.



Left: Gladys, Nelly and Marco pose during a “birthday break” on Nelly’s birthday.
Right: The staff celebrating Nancy’s birthday. Nancy has been volunteering at Haven of Hope since 2019.



Some of the children received visits from family members on their birthdays.



All children’s birthdays are celebrated on campus. Recently we returned to once-a-month birthday celebrations in lieu of individual ones due to budgeting. Every child gets a special treat on their actual birthday in addition to the monthly celebration.

Invitation to Connection

The deficits that orphans face go beyond visible and immediate demands. That is why Haven of Hope strives to rescue the *whole* child for their physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. We are grateful for your monthly support that ensures ongoing care for our children as well for the funding you share for special projects that allow us to expand our programs. We are also so thankful for the “Mary Moments” you create when you go the extra mile to write letters, send

birthday gifts, hop onto video calls and visit our children on campus. You truly are making difference in the lives of our children.



Thank you for breaking bread and sitting around a bonfire with us. Those connections make the difference!