



HAVEN OF HOPE BOLIVIA



April 2025 – June 2025

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Matthew 19:14 (NIV)

“Children are not a distraction from more important work, they are the most important work,” is a quote that reminds parents to gauge their priorities as they juggle parenting with careers, ministry, social and personal life. But what happens when a child’s life has been derailed by no fault of their own and there are no committed family members who can help get them back on track? Haven of Hope International (HOHI) exists to be a Family of Hope to the fatherless who are slipping through the cracks. Our mission is to raise the standard in orphan care around the world. Haven of Hope Bolivia, the model home for HOHI, has been fulfilling that mission for over 20 years with the children in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

Children’s Day – April 12th

In 1954, the United Nations recommended that countries should declare a “Children’s Day” to raise awareness of children’s rights and the challenges children face around the world. A presidential decree issued in 1955 established that April 12th would be Children’s Day in Bolivia. On this date, schools, churches, families and other institutions celebrate with festive activities, games, gifts and other treats. Local businesses and other organizations often look for ways to bless children on their special day. This year, our children celebrated at school, with a free movie at a local movie theater and special guests on campus.



Far left: Children's Day at our children's "Life and Light" School. Center Left: The children line up to see a free movie. Center right: The children in their seats at the theater with popcorn in hand. Far right, a local church came to visit the children, bringing fun activities, a Bible message and special snacks.

Trip to USA

In April, HOHB directors, Marco Aldana and Gladys Jimenez, accompanied by their daughter, Sarai Aldana, and HOHI's Program and Partner Coordinator, Cathy Trentini, spent two amazing weeks in Florida. The team spent the first weekend in Miami before driving over to Fort Myers to participate in Riverside Church's Mission Week from April 8th - April 13th. The following week, Haven of Hope International hosted a series of meetings and activities to strengthen the work that is being done at the flagship orphanage and to create spaces for connection with sponsors and donors. What an incredible experience!



Left: The Aldana Jimenez family shares a meal with friends and hosts, Carlos and Adriana Cardeso, in Miami. Center: Marco preaches at the Revival Church of God in Miami. Right: Sarai and Gladys man the HOHB table at the Revival Church of God.



Left: New child sponsors from a Riverside Life Group. Center: One of several Riverside Life Groups that welcomed our team. Right: More new child sponsors!



Far left: Heidi Basik welcomes Gladys, Sarai and Marco into her home. The Basiks hosted the team of 4 for the entire two weeks of their stay. Center left: Heidi and Cathy. Center right: The team is ready for a day of connection. Far right: The Children's Ministry at Riverside invited the Haven of Hope Bolivia team to a delicious and fun-filled sushi lunch.



Left: John and Alice Sweet stand by a Nation of Orphans banner outside of Riverside Church on the final day of Missions Week. Center: Krista Carey, Cathy, Gladys and Sarai pose for a picture inside of Riverside's main lobby during Missions Week. Right: The Haven of Hope International team celebrates after a week that was blessed with 15 new child sponsors!



Left: New child sponsors from Riverside. Center: Liz, Susan and Beth man the Haven of Hope International Table on Missions Sunday at Riverside Church. Right: More new child sponsors at Riverside.



Far left: Gladys and Sarai pose with Riverside leadership. Center left: Alice and Marco pose with a new child sponsor. Center right: Cathy, Anita Basik, Gladys, Sarai and Marco pose for a photo. Far right: Sarai, Gladys, Cathy, Alice and Marco pause for a photo after a lovely meet and greet with local sponsors and donors from Fort Myers.

International Labor Day – May 1st

Bolivia's Labor Day, or "Del del Trabajador," is a National Holiday that is held on May 1st. Commemorating the worker's historic struggle towards worker's rights, such as an 8 hour work day, paid time off and social benefits, the day is often celebrated with a special meal or activity. Haven of Hope Bolivia's incredible staff is a team of people who are called and dedicated to this ministry.

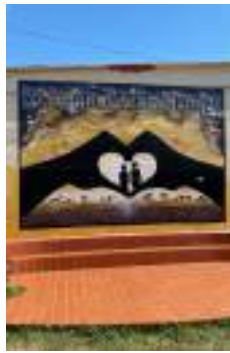


Far left: Our accountant, Graciela, poses with a cake after a delicious meal for our staff. Center left: HOHB's dedicated staff. Center right: Our passionate social worker, Nelly Chambi, accompanied Jose Alfredo and Jhoan to the eye doctor. Far right: Our Education Coordinator, Cyntia Aldana, in a regular meeting with educators/caregivers: Tia Magdalena, Tio Samuel and Tia Esther.

Haven of Hope Bolivia's 22nd Anniversary – May 9th

Haven of Hope Bolivia celebrated its 22-year anniversary on May 9th. God has done amazing things through obedient children who have responded to His call to "defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed" as found in Psalm 82:3. To all who have donated, sponsored, fundraised and labored to provide, and to all who have devoted their lives to directing, caregiving, and serving on professional teams,

THANK YOU for saying YES to this vision of raising the standard in orphan care over the last 22 years. What a blessing to work together for the Lord in benefit of His children!



Left: Touchups to the pain help maintain a home that feels safe and healthy. Center: This special spot on campus not only shows off the Haven of Hope Bolivia logo; it also is a gathering place for conversations, games and group photos. Right: Samuel teaches at a special service to celebrate HOHB's anniversary.

Pastor Larry Visits

Pastor Larry Odam once again visits Haven of Hope during his time in Bolivia. In his numerous visits to help build churches around Bolivia, he and his teams have also worked on projects at Haven of Hope in its early years. How pleasing to take good news back from Haven of Hope to the churches he visits as a World Missions Representative!



Left: Pastor Larry poses with the boys and Gladys outside of the Rhonda Jarvis Dream Center. Center: Pastor Larry poses with the Deborah group in their dorm space. Right: Javier picks some ripe grapefruits to give to Pastor Larry during his visit.

Mother's Day

As of November 8, 1927, Bolivia celebrates Mother's Day on May 27th to commemorate the courage of the "Heroines of the Coronilla," a group of women who were massacred while defending their homes because their husbands were fighting a revolution against Spain. The law requires that all educational establishments pay homage to mothers on this date. Mother's Day is one of the most important holidays in Bolivia, demonstrating the very special place that mothers hold in Bolivian society.



Far left: Haven of Hope Bolivia prepares a special event for its mothers. Center left: Tia Esther poses with the Esther group. Center right: Tia Veronica sets up a birthday celebration. Far right: Tia Magdalena helps Bladimir with his assignments. We are very thankful for all of the mother figures at our home.

Three New Children at Haven of Hope

Three new children were received at Haven of Hope this quarter: Yerko, Shirley, and Jhoan. Yerko and Shirley are siblings to Karla, who has been at Haven of Hope almost a year now. Jhoan was transferred from a home that is in the process of closing. All three have quickly adapted to their new home.



Left: Haven of Hope welcomes Shirley and Yerko. Right: Siblings Karla, Yerko and Shirley reunite while sharing a meal in Nelly's office.



Far left: Jonathan, Bladimir and Jhoan make empanadas together in the boys' dorm kitchen. Center left: Jhoan works on his assignments. Center right: Jhoan has his first experience getting to know sponsors like

Mary Luz and Melany Return to Family

Bolivian Law 548 Child and Adolescent Code establishes a child's right to a family. So, when a competent, safe family member completes all the requirements of the law to gain custody of a child, the court orders for the child to return to his or her family. This bittersweet moment when we say goodbye reminds us that everything that we invest in the lives of the children while they are with us will be carried with them to their families. We know that we can trust our Heavenly Father to continue to unfold His perfect plan in their lives. Our prayer is that they will be Ambassadors of Hope whom God uses to bless generations to come.



Left: Mary Luz's final hearing took place on Haven of Hope's campus, allowing the professional team to participate in the moment. The judge and the representatives from the government offices expressed gratitude for the time spent at our home. Center: Mary Luz's aunt and uncle affectionately committed to taking her into their care. Right: Haven of Hope Bolivia's team poses with the family after the ruling for Mary Luz to enter the custody of her aunt and uncle.



Far left: Melany's grandmother attends one of many meetings in the process of gaining custody. Center right: Nelly accompanies Melany's grandmother to Life and Light school to make sure that Melany has everything she needs to enroll her in her new school. Center right: Melany packs her things to say farewell to her time at Haven of Hope. Before she left, her group and staff members had the opportunity to speak words of blessing and affection towards her. Far right: Nelly accompanies Melany to her new home with her grandmother.

Riverside Missions Trip

What could be more exciting than a visit from beloved family and friends? Haven of Hope bustles with enthusiasm while awaiting our favorite guests – our sponsors and donors who visit from the United States!

This June, Riverside Church brought two teams who stirred love, joy, laughter and learning on campus. Extra special moments included a birthday party for trip organizer, Tony LaMantia;; a WannaDo City day that included carpentry, cosmetology, science, bike repair, physical activity, product design and culinary arts workshops; and an afternoon full of games, pizza and our favorite cookies made by Heidi! Thank you, Riverside, for impacting the hearts of children and staff, and especially for always coming back.



Left: Gladys and girls welcome the team from Riverside. Center: Maria Rosa holds up one of several welcome signs. Right: Haven of Hope surprised Tony LaMantia with a belated birthday party!



Far left: Brittany and Coralie: Best Buddies! Center left: Our psychologist, Damaris, shares our programs with the group during the tour. Center: Jhoan was nervous about using his new glasses until he saw that he shares the same style as his dear Uncle Tony. Center right: Our Education Coordinator, Cyntia, explains how her department helps manage the various educational activities of the children. Far right: Sila hugs Bella.



Left: Ileah does puzzles with the teens. Center: Heidi, Missy, JL and Maggy work on a puzzle with Rosa and Anachely. Right: Jonathan and Nate pose for a photo.



Far left: Heidi and Chrissy pause for photo. Center left: Pastor Rob holds "Sadness", a visual aid for his Sunday School lesson. Center right: Brody and Cedar enjoy playing together. Far right: Eric builds Legos with the boys.



Left: Dave and Oscar help build a bench at the Carpentry Workshop of WannaDo City. Center: HOHB's carpentry instructor, Jorge, poses with Javier, Oscar, Rob and Dave after building benches together. Right: Javier fastens the boards to the base with a drill.



Left: Stephanie applies Brittany's foundation during the Cosmetology Workshop of WannaDo City. Center: Teens from the Deborah group participate in the skin care and cosmetology workshop. Right: Rosa and Erika enjoying the workshop with the Riverside team.



Left: Luis Miguel and Jesus are entranced by a science experiment. Center: Nadya is ready for her group that will explore Science at WannaDo City. Right: The group of children who participated in the science workshop, making lava lamps and experimenting with colors.



Left: Eric shows Jonathan how to fix a tire as part of the Bike Repair Workshop of WannaDo City. What practical knowledge to have on campus! Center: Chris works with Maria, Jhoan and Caleb. Right: Nelly gets involved with bike repair.



Left: PE Teacher Chrissy and Maggy lead the children in the Physical Activity Workshop at WannaDo City, getting in a good stretch to reduce stress and prepare the body for activity. Center: Chrissy radiates positivity and energy in her interactions. Right: Jose Alfredo, Aracely, Chrissy and Sila play tug-of-war as fun physical activity.



Left: Amanda leads the Product Design Workshop of WannaDo City. Center: The Product Design group poses for a photo. They made beauty products like chapstick and body scrub. Right: Andrea explains a process to the group.



Left: Heidi leads the Culinary Arts Workshop of WannaDo City. Center: The culinary arts team prepared a delicious Italian pasta for dinner. Right: Clint and Misael prepare the pasta sauce.



Far left: Drake and Matt help remove the damaged swing set in a spontaneous project to repair the playground area. Center left: Dave and Melanie test out the repaired see-saw. Center right: The repaired climbing net. Far right: Dave and Christ work on replacing broken and rotted boards.



Far left: Jonathan rides the bikes he helped repair. Center left: Jake makes some adjustments to his bike. Center right: Maria Rosa loves riding bikes. Far right: Yerko goes for a test ride.



Left: Lacey builds a puzzle with Kimberly. Center: Rossy and Skyler play Legos. Right: Missy creates cards with Isabel and Anabel.



Left: Maggy and Heidi connect with the children over a card game. Center: Brittany, Melanie, Coralie and Maria Rosa play inside on a rainy afternoon. Right: Adriana and Jhoan play cards with the Riverside team.



Far left: Jhoan, Daniel and Xenon share what they learned in Sunday School. Teachers, Chrissy and Sarai, oversee them in the background. Center left: Sila volunteered to take up the offering during Sunday School. Center right: Matt and Samuel communicate with translation tools. Far right: A Sunday School class shares their Bible verse with the group.



Far left: Graciela, Kimberly, Nadya and Maria are ready for a fun-filled afternoon! Center left: Peter watches Oscar participate in the bag race. Center: Maggy, Brody, Misael and others carry the new benches to the soccer field. Center right: Xenon enjoys the bag races. Far right: Jose Alfredo, Misael and Brody pause for a photo during the games.



Left: Lacey leads the red team in tug-of-war. Center: Chrissy leads the afternoon field games. Right: Rob lead the blue team in tug-of-war.



Left: The blue team Center: Team captains, Rob (blue) and Drake (red), shake to start the soccer match as Referee Matt supervises. Right: The red team



Left: Chris and Clint help serve pizza. Center: The Esther group dances at the talent show. Right: The Sharp family performs at the talent show.



Left: Jhoan and Luis Miguel hold their crochet chickens, which were part of a fundraising project Nadya created. Center: The children hold up their crochet hens. Right: Anachely shows off her crochet hen.



Left: Heidi, Gladys, Marco, Placido, Tony, JL and Eric pose for a photo. Center: Gladys and JL form a heart that represents the loving connection between Haven of Hope and Riverside. Right: A group photo at the end of an amazing day.



Thank you, Riverside, for a wonderful week together!

Quarter 2 Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays recognizes a person's worth. Haven of Hope optimizes this opportunity to express how special each individual is. The children celebrate with their siblings and their

group, while the staff members celebrate as a team. This strengthens our bonds as a local Family of Hope.



Left: Javier, Marco, Erika, Eva and Sarai pose on Erika's birthday. Center: Magdalena, Nelly, Juan Miguel, Damaris, Cyntia and Jorge celebrate Nelly's birthday. Right: The boys throw a birthday party for Jose Alfredo.



Left: Mamma Gladys blesses Daniela on her birthday. Center: Angela poses with the Deborah group on her special day. Right: Rossy receives her birthday present from Haven of Hope.



Far left: Sila celebrated her birthday this quarter. Center left: Cyntia, Fernanda, Roy, Damaris and Adriana celebrate Martha's birthday at the transition house. Center right: The staff and guest pastors surprised Cathy with a party. Right: Jonathan poses after receiving a special birthday message from a sponsor.

Ongoing Care

Receiving visitors, participating in special activities and celebrating birthdays are all part of the healing process for our children, but the work at Haven of Hope goes far beyond more that. From spiritual discipleship, to investing in education and caring for the children's health, Haven of Hope strives to provide a family environment where children don't just survive but thrive. Your support allows the local staff to focus on what they do best: caring for the children that God has entrusted to us. Thank you for all you do to keep this Haven of Hope a reality.



Left: Aracely, Sila and Anabel receive Bibles. Center: The boys have devotions as a group. Right: Jose and Jose Alfredo receive their first Bible at Haven of Hope.



Far left: Eva, who is in her second year of studies in Education Sciences at the State University and currently lives at our transition home, applies the knowledge she acquires to teaching the younger children at Haven of Hope. Center left: Jesus focuses intently on his homework. Center right: Noemi completes an evaluation sheet. Right: The Deborah group participates in on-campus vocational training in carpentry.



Far left: Julia, HOHI's Social Media Coordinator, meets with Adriana and Estefania to discuss upcoming posts and publications so the young women can not only help but also learn important skills they can add to their resumes. Center left: Jose Alfredo visits the eye doctor. Center right: Jesus works on a poster for an exposition. Far right: Cathy, Damaris and Graciela pose with Mary Luz. Haven of Hope is thankful for the "village" of support each staff member of the Family of Hope provides.



Far left: Pastora Carmen is an important member of our "village". She is a powerful prayer warrior and loves to bake special treats for the children. Center left: Rosa, Kimberly, Maria, Melany and Anachely are our juniors who participate in GPS classes as a step to self-discovery in the process of finding God's purpose in their lives. Center: Jesus used the sewing workshop to fix his cleats that came unglued. Center right: Some of the children have family who cannot take care of them full time but do stay involved in their lives by visiting. Nelly and Damaris are especially involved in planning for, supervising and following up after these family visits. Far right: We have such generous sponsors! One of Angela's sponsors purchased this guitar for her as a birthday present.