



HAVEN OF HOPE BOLIVIA



September 2025 – October 2025

A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.

Psalms 68:5 NIV

When the Word of God Transforms the Narrative

A pastor's wife and minister whose husband died during the pandemic recently shared how the Word of God transformed her narrative. She struggled long and hard with accepting the label "widow". But then the Lord started unveiling the intimate benefits available to her as promised in his Word, transforming a difficult marital status into a state of particular favor and blessing. Psalms 68:5, along with many other passages of scripture, teach us that God indeed pays special attention to widows, orphans and other vulnerable groups.

The children who come to Haven of Hope Bolivia, or to any of the homes that Haven of Hope International supports, have faced difficulties that most of us can barely imagine. The labels society has placed on them are heavy and burdensome. Yet God invites us to flip the narrative. He assigns us the sacred task of being His voice and hands to offer His intimate, personalized care and protection as He reveals His tender heart towards them. Your support allows us to carry out that divine mission on a daily basis.

Celebrating Birthdays: Solidifying Family Identity

Birthdays hold a unique significance in the tapestry of family life. They are not merely a celebration of age but a symbolic affirmation of an individual's place within the family unit. This annual tradition serves as a cornerstone in strengthening family identity, unity and the worth of the individual within the family.

For children who come from difficult situations, the tradition of celebrating birthdays can contribute to providing a sense of security and consistency in an ever-changing world. Knowing that their birthday will be celebrated annually helps children understand their value within the family and the community, which is why celebrating birthdays is such an important aspect of providing a family atmosphere at Haven of Hope Bolivia.



Far left: Gladys hugs Caleb, who holds a soccer ball he received on his birthday as he poses with his sister, Noemi. Center left: Bladimir admires the flame on the birthday cake while sitting between his sisters, Yandi and Katherine, enjoying his birthday celebration with his group. Center right: Luz Marina and Cynthia celebrated their birthday with a special activity prepared by youth in the off-campus transition programs. Far right: Jesus poses with his Tio Samuel and his birthday cake.



Far left: The staff celebrated Tio Placido's birthday with a delicious birthday pie because caring for the caregiver is also necessary in this Family of Hope. Center left: Javier celebrated his birthday by going out to eat fish with his sisters, Eva and Erika. Center: Fernanda and Tia Magdalena share the same birthday! They enjoyed a delicious cake and other snacks with the staff to celebrate. Center right: Maria celebrated her birthday with the Deborah group. Right: Our social worker, Nelly, made sure that Carmen Belen's birthday was special by arranging a meeting with her siblings, Duniar and Rosa, to feast on birthday cake.

Ongoing Medical and Dental Care

Often, children who come to Haven of Hope Bolivia are from backgrounds where healthcare was inaccessible or inconsistent. This neglect can lead to untreated medical conditions, dental decay, and other health issues that can impede their physical and cognitive development. By providing thorough medical and dental care, we can begin to reverse the effects of this neglect, ensuring these children have the opportunity to thrive.

Quality medical and dental care lays the groundwork for a healthy life. Regular check-ups, vaccinations, and treatments for chronic conditions help prevent future health issues and promote overall well-being. Dental care is equally crucial, as it prevents painful conditions and supports good nutrition and self-esteem. By prioritizing health, we empower children to focus on their education and personal growth.



Far left: Tia Esther takes Karlita to a medical check-up. Center left: Karlita receives a shot at the doctor's office. Center: Nelly poses with Dr. Marlene, an orthodontist who works with HOHB, and Maria, who proudly shows off her smile with braces. Center right: Jose Alfredo gets an eye exam. Far right: Jose Alfredo and Jhoan pose with Nelly at the eye doctor's office.



Far left: Anabel poses on the dentist's chair. Center left: Nelly and Dr. Duberty pose with Noemi, Anabel, Aracely and Jose Alfredo at a dentist office. Center right: Nelly receives, organizes and distributes medicines to the educators, who administer the meds to the children and document their progress. Right: When children are feeling ill, the educators or the social worker take them to visit a doctor.

Holistic Education Opens the Doors of Opportunity

Education serves as the cornerstone for a brighter future, particularly for children who have faced significant challenges and instability in their early years. Through education, they gain the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue a wide array of opportunities, breaking the cycle of poverty and disadvantage. At Haven of Hope Bolivia, a well-rounded education includes not only a traditional academic education at a private, Christian school but also daily spiritual preparation through devotions, Bible reading, church services and discipleship. Education also means learning to live in a family, sharing knowledge and other life skills.



Far left: Aracely and Anabel receive backpacks with wheels for school. Center left: Sila (in center with a green dress with white ribbon) poses with classmates and teachers at a school fair that celebrated Santa Cruz Day. Center right: One of the children created this adorable robot out of recycled materials for the school fair. Far right: The Esther group works on homework in their study room.



Left: Anabel and Karlita prepare for Life and Light School's 35th anniversary service. Center: Students, staff and guests at Life and Light School. Right: Overseer Reny Guevara poses with students and the director of Light and Life School at the anniversary event.



Far left: Shirley reads her Bible. Center left: Jonathan works on his assignments. Center: The boys complete school work in their study room. Center right: Katherine reads her Bible. Far right: Sila works on fine motor skills with her homework assignment.



Far left: The Esther group works on school assignments. Center: The Esther group practices a choreography to a praise and worship song. These dances help build coordination and teamwork skills. Right: The Esther group participates in a devotional in their module.

Christian education helps our children and youth develop a healthy relationship with God. We believe the seed of God's Word planted in the hearts of the children will become a powerful root system that keeps their lives grounded long after they leave our care.



Far left: Mamma Gladys is also Pastora Gladys. Here, Pastora Gladys prays during a communion service at the Casa de Dios church. Center left: Tio Samuel and Pastora Carmen bless the sacraments before distribution to the group. Center: Estefania, Kimberly and Erika receive the elements of communion during the communion service. Center right: Tia Esther takes part in the communion service. Far right: Both staff and youth participate in directing the church services at Haven of Hope Bolivia. Here Luz Marina takes the lead.



Left: Maria, Rosa and Brittany are taking classes through an extension program of the Jada Biblical Seminary at Haven of Hope Bolivia. Right: Pastor Armando Cortez is teaching the current module. Angela and Estefania

are also taking these classes.



Left: All of the older children at Haven of Hope Bolivia are learning about evangelism through a formal course being offered at Haven of Hope Bolivia. Center: Gladys presents the course and its instructor to the group. The group has been meeting in one of the modules while the chapel roof is under maintenance. Right: William Callejas, who works with Compassion International, is teaching the evangelism class. The vision is for our children and youth to share the transforming power of the gospel with others.

Our education coordinator, Cyntia Aldana, is teaching our young people to share their skills by tutoring younger children as part of a reading and writing program. Not only do the young women learn leadership and early education teaching skills, they also form close connections with the younger generation of children at Haven of Hope who look up to them as role models.



Far left: Maria displays the pedagogical tool she created to tutor Rossy in reading and writing. Center left: Kimberly works with Sila on her writing skills. Center: Cynthia prepares the older girls, who are seen working on their teaching materials, to tutor the younger children in reading and writing. Center right: Jhoan works on his writing assignment under the watchful eyes of Rosa. Far right: Maria works with Rossy.

Life skills are a crucial piece of preparing our children for independence. Teaching essential daily tasks such as budgeting, cooking, personal hygiene, and time management ensures that our children will be able to manage their lives effectively when it's time for them to transition into adulthood.



Far left: Pastora Carmen makes bread with Tia Magdalena and Angela. Each group of children at Haven of Hope prepares their own bread for their group under the supervision of their educators. This means that all of our children know how to make bread from scratch, an important life and even vocational skill in a culture that loves bread. Center left: Katherine prepares salad for lunch. On holidays and Sundays, the groups take turns preparing meals, so all of our children learn basic cooking skills. Center: Pastora Carmen prepares dough with Rosa. Center right: Shirley seasons the children for a Sunday meal. Far right: Pastor Carmen teaches Yandi how to crochet.



Far left: Nelly accompanies Maria, who recently turned 18, to open her own bank account. Center left: Tio Placido treats the Deborah group to a meal on Bolivia's Women's Day. Center right: The youth in the transition program prepared a special birthday celebration for Cynthia. Far right: The boys and Tio Samuel enjoy a meal together. Teaching our children and youth to celebrate one another and share meals is a crucial life skill that helps foment healthy relationships.

Training: Building Practical Competence

Beyond traditional academics, practical training equips our children with the competence needed for real-world situations. Vocational training in fields such as carpentry, sewing, or culinary arts provides them with a tangible skill set that can lead to immediate employment or entrepreneurship.

For example, at Haven of Hope Bolivia, sustainability programs such as carpentry and sewing not only teach valuable skills but also instill a sense of self-reliance and confidence. These programs are instrumental in helping children discover their talents and passions, guiding them toward fulfilling careers.



Far left: Tio Placido and Tia Graciela's son, Dylan, learns to use the drill press. Center left: Estafania shows off her woodworking. Center right: Jonathan learns new skills. Far right: The Deborah group learns about carpentry from instructor Jorge.



Left: Kimberly threads the sewing machine. Center: Instructor Enilda teaches the girls how to create patterns and cut cloth. Right: Katherine prepares for sewing class.

The vocational workshops that are part of our sustainability program teach more than just the vocation itself. Our children and youth see the products that are being created on campus being purchased by sponsors and other honored guests. This process doesn't only teach them about sales and entrepreneurship, it also shows them the value others see in their work.

September brought special guests to HOHB who were very interested in investing in our Products of Hope. Dr. Nicolas Marulla, his wife Sonia and four pastors from Virginia visited Haven of Hope during their trip to Bolivia to participate in the passing of the torch of national overseer from Bishop Freddy Jimenez to Bishop Reny Guevara.



Far left: Pastor Dillon Lewis from Montclair Tabernacle Church of God in Dumfries, Virginia poses with his Products of Hope. Center Left: Graciela shares more information on Products of Hope with Dr. Nicolas and Sonia Marulla, Superintendents of the Church of God Southern Cone of South America. Center right: Visitors gather at the Products of Hope table to learn about HOHB's sustainability program. Far right: Pastor Thurman Collier from the City Point Restoration Church of God in Hopewell, Virginia pauses for a photo with his purchase.

On September 1st, a service to honor longstanding overseers, Bishop Freddy Jimenez and Maggy Ribera, was held. They had served as National Overseers of Bolivia for the maximum term of 12 years. On September 2nd, a ceremony was held to officially pass the torch of National Overseer to Bishop Reny Guevara, husband to HOHB's Program & Partner Coordinator, Cathy Trentini. Both Reny and Cathy have witnessed the birth and tremendous growth of Haven of Hope Bolivia and are grateful for the tremendous blessing and that the partnership with Haven of Hope International has produced in Bolivia.



Left: Longstanding overseers, Bishop Freddy Jimenez and Maggy Ribera, present gifts to incoming overseers, Bishop Reny Guevara and Cathy Trentini. Center: Haven of Hope Bolivia was present at both ceremonies, showing support to both bishops as part of the Church of God in Bolivia. Right: An official photo of the family of the new National Overseer of Bolivia: Eleazar, Mikaela, Raquel, Hannah and Reny Guevara Trentini with parents Cathy Trentini and Bishop Reny Guevara.

In October, Haven of Hope Bolivia received special guests from Cape Christian in Cape Coral, Florida: Missions Pastor Jorge Leiva and Outreach Pastor Marco Villalobos. What a blessing that both children and staff had the pleasure of spending time with them and plan for future ministry opportunities! Interactions with visitors from other countries plays an important role in widening our children's perspectives and social interaction skills.



Left: Pastor Jorge shares photos with the Esther group. Center: Pastor Jorge poses with Kimberly, Katerine, Maria Rosa, our psychologist Damaris, and Pastor Marco. Right: Pastor Marco helps our students practice English with their tutor, who speaks English as well.



Left: Cathy, Gladys, Marco, Jorge and Marco pose after a meeting in the admin building. Right: The Deborah group poses with Pastor Marco and Pastor Jorge after sharing warm memories of Dennis Gingerich's, Cape Christian's Founding Pastor, trip to Bolivia.

Holistic Development: A Comprehensive Approach

Combining education, vocational training, life skills and community involvement forms a holistic approach to child and youth development. This comprehensive method ensures that our children are not only academically prepared but also possess the practical and emotional tools needed to thrive.

By investing in these areas, Haven of Hope Bolivia becomes an agent of transformation in the lives of children, providing them with the resources and support needed to overcome their past and build a promising future. Through education, training, and life skills, these children can emerge as empowered individuals ready to contribute positively to their communities.

And the care that HOHB gives extends beyond the walls of its campuses. Our social worker, Nelly Chambi, plays a vital role in this piece of our comprehensive care. She arranges visits between children on our campus and their siblings in other homes, visits young people who have aged out but still need extra support, and arranges meetings with family members of the children, both those who are interested in regaining custody and those who are unable to take on custody but want to be part of the children's lives.



Left: Nelly took Shirley, Yerko and Karla to visit their brother who lives in a different orphanage. Center: Nelly poses with Juan David at an activity for orphanages in Santa Cruz. Right: Jhoan and Jesus's father has been coming to visit them.



Left: Jhoan and Jesus were recipients of a Child Development Center before coming to Haven of Hope. That ministry still checks in on them today and brings donations to support them. Center: Aracely, Jose Alfredo and Anabel pose with Damaris, an aunt, Nelly and a grandmother of this sibling group who brought donations to the home. Right: Nelly visits Duniar at his military barracks, taking him a special meal and other useful supplies.



Left: Pappa Marco visits Carmen Belen and her sons. Center: Nelly shares donations with Carmen and her sons. Right: Nelly and Mamma Gladys have follow-up meetings with Anachely and the staff at her new home.



Left: Cyntia and Damaris help Roy move into the Men's Off Campus Transition Home. Center: Roy poses with items for the off campus apartment. Right: Cynthia supplies discipleship materials to Jose Herlan.

Maintaining Healthy Spaces and Providing Equipment to Create a Haven of Hope Where Children Can Thrive

The generous donors of our Family of Hope make sure that our installations are in prime condition to create a safe and welcoming environment where our children can thrive. This season, the kitchen/cafeteria and chapel/study rooms have been under renovation to repair roofs and ceiling, improve lighting and further brighten the spaces with fresh paint. Additionally, donations permitted the purchase of desktop computers as tools for the children's education and new A/Cs in the boys' dorm and Nelly's office. We are deeply grateful for these contributions that allow us to create a Haven of Hope where children can learn, develop and thrive!



A before and after shot of the fresh paint on the exterior of the cafeteria.



Before, during and after shots of the interior of the cafeteria.



Left: Tia Graciela cooks in the brick building by the pod while the kitchen is under repair. Center: Fernanda helps Tia Graciela cut beets for salad in the provisional kitchen. Right: Graciela is back in the new and improved kitchen.



During and after shots of the maintenance and upgrades one on the chapel.



Far left: A photo taken during the repair of the roof and ceiling in the chapel. Center left: Finishing touches being made in the chapel area. Center right: Roof and ceiling repairs are nearly complete in the Debora's study room. Far right: Roof and ceiling repairs are nearly complete in the Esther's study room.



Left: Yandi poses with some of the new computers purchased thanks to the generosity of our donors. Center: Sila and Anabel enjoying playtime on the swingset. Right: Rossy poses with more computers that were recently donated. While the girls' study rooms and cafeteria were under repair, all the girls have been sharing the space in what used to be on campus transition module. Soon, everyone will be moving back into their own fresh and improved spaces.

**Thank you, Family of Hope, for joining in God's work
of fathering the fatherless. You are making an
eternal difference!**