

SNAP-SHOTS

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SPECIAL OUTINGS FOR SPECIAL KIDS

All kids are special! However, some kids have special needs and need extra support. Challenges for their parents/caregivers can sometimes be overwhelming. For those living in poorer communities, access to help and resources is *more* challenging due to lack of finances, education, transportation etc. V&O supports families such as these in different ways depending on each situation. One of the ways we've been able to help lately, (thanks to extra funds generously given for this), is to take some of these kids on special outings. Along with those who have special needs, other candidates for these trips also include kids going through a tough time at home, (for one reason or another), and kids working hard at school to earn good grades. The outings provide a fun, as well as quality time with Pastor Erik and others in our team who are there to encourage and mentor them, making these excursions a special experience we hope they'll remember for a long time to come.



At the Aquatic Center.



New experiences.



A tasty and plentiful lunch!



Erik, (left) with kids & teens at the Carnival.



Learning to play shuffleboard.



A treasured prize!



GRACIAS!!

The trips can range in scale from just a simple meal at a fast food restaurant, (often a first time experience for the kids we work with), to full day trips at places like the Botanical Gardens/Aquatic Center, the Tijuana Carnival, football stadium games, movies, swimming pools etc. Most of these kids typically don't get to venture far out of their own neighborhoods, so these outings are a real treat. So far (over the last few months), we've been able to take about 50 kids out on them.

Please pray for continued safety, wisdom, and opportunities for our team to share God's Word, love, care, and blessings with the kids through this special ministry. Gracias!

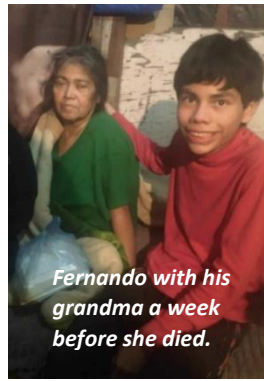
we will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders. Psalm 78:2-4

SPECIAL KIDS TO PRAY FOR...

Kevin (10) has learning difficulties and suffers from seizures. He hasn't been able to attend school this past year and is currently waiting to see a specialist. Hortencia has also been helping his mom to enroll him in a special school. V&O will cover transportation costs, (which are often a barrier for families). Kevin is the oldest of 4 kids in the family. Mom and the kids have been through a rough and lean time since dad left last year. The family have been attending services led by Pastor Erik at the small church down the street from our bodega since. Please pray for Kevin's appointment and that God would continue to provide for all of the family's needs.



Kevin with a model plane he made at our bodega.



Fernando with his grandma a week before she died.



Erik talking with kids on an outing to KFC. Fernando in foreground.

Fernando (13) is mildly autistic. He and his siblings (15 & 12), have been raised by their grandparents. Sadly, due to complications with diabetes, grandma died a few weeks ago. The kids are now in the care of grandpa who needs to work. The loss of his grandma has been especially difficult for Fernando who was very close to her. Please pray for his adjustment to the situation and that God would provide for all of his, and his family's needs also. **Thank you!**

VALENTINES DAY! (Feb 14)



Paty and helpers baked cupcakes and put together Valentine's Day gifts/treats to surprise unsuspecting moms, grandmoms and kids. Each also received a bible verse and/or tract reminding them of God's great love for all of us!



Paty sharing with a passer-by on the street.

GRACIAS!

But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Ps. 86:15

REHAB MINISTRY



Paty serving meals.



Erik sharing from God's Word with young residents.

Just over a year ago, Hortencia and the team paid a visit to a young man who had admitted himself into Aprovechando la Oportunidad, (Seizing the Opportunity), Rehab Center. This visit turned out to be a catalyst for a new ministry which has been growing ever since. Our team and a few other pastors/mentors who now help as well, continue to visit the rehab monthly, offering a meal, spiritual encouragement, bibles, and friendship to the over 200 residents there. The results have been very encouraging, with many receiving Christ as their Lord and Savior and some who have since left the rehab, attending churches now. The Director has commented on several occasions about the positive difference this has made in the overall running and atmosphere of the rehab. We thank God for leading us into this opportunity and we thank you for the important part you've played in making this possible through generous support and prayers! God bless you all, and **GRACIAS!** once again, from all of us here at V&O, and on behalf of all those we serve! *Joyce, Philip, Hortencia & Erik*