

# SNAP-SHOTS

E-mail: [vonandon@mail.com](mailto:vonandon@mail.com) Snail Mail: PO Box 19787, San Diego, CA 92159 Web: [www.vonandon.com](http://www.vonandon.com)

## “NOTHING HAPPENS UNTIL IT HAPPENS”

Well, it finally happened! After almost a year of uncertainty, the kids and staff at Manantial de la Esperanza orphanage were moved to their new location... at a moment's notice!

Fortunately, we were scheduled to visit the same day the move happened, so when Hortencia and the team arrived, they were just in time to follow the kids to their new place. A brand-new spacious building, 20 minutes south of Rosarito. Apparently more kids are to be joining them there sometime in the future. Until then it appears the 6 staff and 16 kids are on their own, and perhaps in more ways than one... Although managed by

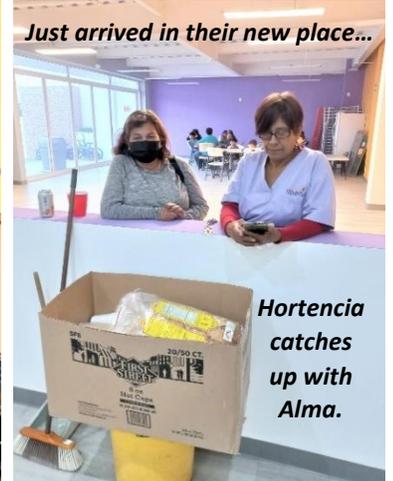
an independent organization contracted by the government, it seems that the onus is now on the director and staff of the orphanage to raise more funds to cover the running costs. Now being located out of town in a somewhat undeveloped area, water needs to be purchased by the tank and trucked in. The electricity supply is also a little 'unconventional' and the distance has made it unfeasible for locals who used to help with food and supplies on occasions to visit, as well as increasing travel costs for the staff who are only paid \$65 per week.

(V&O has subsidized this at \$50 each a month for the past 2 yrs. We have just increased it to \$60).

Despite the challenges, everyone is in good spirits and thankful to God they are all still together. V&O was able to help with their first tank of water and the staff and kids continue to be most grateful for the food, supplies and bible classes we bring every 2 weeks.



Alma and Cande greet Flor as she arrives at the new building to teach the kids.



Just arrived in their new place...

Hortencia catches up with Alma.



Enjoying a treat after a long moving-in day.



Flor teaching the kids.

## BACK TO SCHOOL!

Once again at a moment's notice, but after 2 long years, finally all schools in TJ were re-opened this month! It's been so good to see kids out and about on their way to and from schools and kindergartens again and gave us the chance to pass out all of the school shirts, shoes, backpacks and supplies we'd been holding in storage.



Excited for school!



THANK YOU!



GRACIAS!



New shoes!



Raul's home in barrio Laguna.

**RAUL**

Raúl is 8 years old, the youngest of 4 siblings. He was born with hydrocephalus, (extra fluid around the brain). Since then, he has had numerous surgeries to replace shunts which redirect the fluid to other parts of his body. Although he has some permanent disabilities, Raúl has done remarkably well, largely due to the love and commitment of his mom and siblings who take care of him. Despite having a few health issues of her own, his mom Sara ensures he gets to all his appointments for ongoing monitoring, treatment, and meds, carrying him up and down the steep stairs to their home, then walking and/or taking public transport to his appointments.

Sadly, dad walked out a few years ago, so as you can imagine things have been tough for the family since.

Discovering their situation recently, V&O begun helping Sara with the cost of meds, special food for Raúl, transport to appointments, diapers, school supplies, and of course a few extra treats for the kids!

This has been an answer to prayer for Sara who is extremely grateful. She gives thanks to God and to all of you who've made it possible!



Raúl with his family.



Raúl at 3 years old.

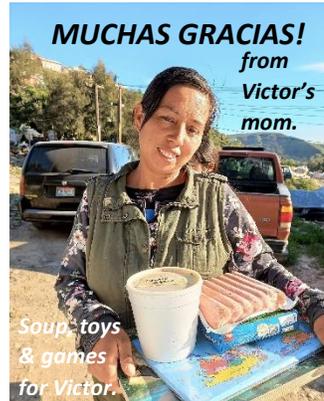
*"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."* James 1:27

**VICTOR**

Some of you may remember Victor from previous newsletters... Victor is 12 years old and has diabetes. (V&O has helped with the cost of his insulin in the past and since mid-last year, on a monthly basis). Last month Victor had a bad reaction to a vaccination and soon after was rushed to hospital as he went into a diabetic coma.



Victor in a coma.



**MUCHAS GRACIAS!**  
from Victor's mom.

Soup, toys & games for Victor.



Last month...

just home from hospital.



Last week...

Thank you for helping me.

Thankfully after receiving emergency treatment and a few days in hospital, he made a full recovery. Since then, however, he has also been diagnosed with a thyroid problem. This is causing discomfort and swelling in his face and body. He has been undergoing tests to determine the cause and treatment.

Please remember him in your prayers!

**PREPARING FOR EASTER, (April 17)**

Right: Geovanny making Easter activity booklets for the kids in our neighborhoods.



On behalf of us all at V&O, THANK YOU again for your important part in making our ministry to the poor possible. Please continue to pray that the seeds of God's word will bear fruit in the hearts of all those we serve in His name.

Happy Easter!

Joyce, Philip & Hortencia