

SNAP-SHOTS

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"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." Matthew 9:35-38

Back in March we shared about a visit we made to encourage a young man in a rehab center. During that visit opportunities arose to encourage some of the other young men there also. We were invited back and on the second visit it was clear there were more needs than we could respond to on our own. So, we asked for your prayers. What happened soon after that was what we believe to be the answer to those prayers!

Last month, as our team was preparing to make a third visit to the rehab, Hortencia received a phone call from a local pastor. A troubled and tired mom had approached him for help in dealing with her drug addicted son. Knowing Hortencia has experience in helping families with this kind of situation, Pastor Pedro reached out to her. After the phone call that afternoon, Pastor Pedro, his wife and the concerned mom, met our team and joined them in visiting the rehab. The following pictures show some of what took place after that, and has continued since.



Arrival at the rehab.



Paty begins to plate meals for 200.

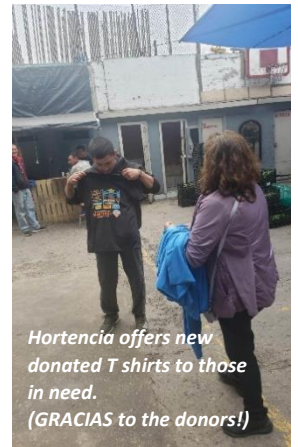
Pastor Pedro's wife Viki, assists.



V&O Helper Edgar (17) adds tortillas and helps with serving.



Outside Pastor Pedro talks with a troubled resident, only 16.



Hortencia offers new donated T shirts to those in need. (GRACIAS to the donors!)



Josúe serves drinks.



Gracias! (and a thumbs up!)

Gratefully enjoying the luxury of a good meal!



Pastor Pedro plays guitar, leads singing,

and shares a message from God's Word.



Afterwards... a number of young men come forward for prayer and dedicate their lives to Jesús.



Residents Mario & Eduardo received new Bibles from V&O.

As it turned out, Pastor Pedro had also been praying for such an opportunity as this! Having many years ago been in a similar situation as these young men, he has an understanding for the struggles. Hearts were moved as he spoke with compassion, authority and experience. He and his wife Viki, (as well as Hortencia's nephew Jesús and his wife, mentioned in March SS), have committed to ministering regularly at the rehab going forward. The tired mom's son has since been admitted into the rehab, her concerns about doing so, allayed after her visit.

The two young men pictured left, began a daily Bible study after our first visit, which grew to 7, with more joining since. *Please keep all of them in your prayers.*

We're amazed, (although we shouldn't be!) at God's work in this situation and how He has used each one of us to help make a difference for eternity in the lives these young men.

Again we **THANK YOU** for your very important part, working together with us in this ministry!

DIA DEL MADRE (May 10)...

A fun day showing appreciation to the many hard working moms in our communities!



GRACIAS!



THANK YOU!
from Cande, Laura, Lucila and Alma
at Manantial de la Esperanza
Orphanage.



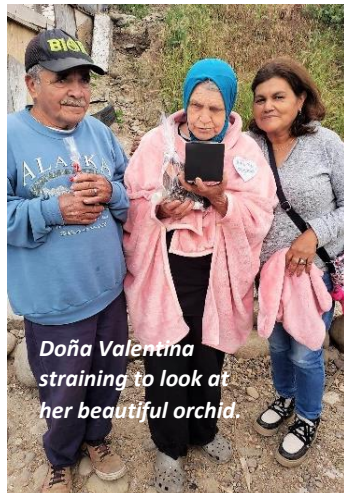
Hortencia (right) with Doña Lucina.



At the rest home.

Above: A difficult day for Doña Lucina. She and her husband have lost 3 children over the years. A daughter to illness at 4 yrs old, a son 17, (hit and run accident), and in Jan last year their son Pepé 29, in a senseless extortion murder. They have one remaining son. Hard to imagine their pain.

Right: Doña Valentina and her husband Pablo are both almost completely blind. We saved a special gift of a soft plush blanket, (which also converts to a bed coat and pillow), especially for Doña Valentina. She was so happy... "How did you know I needed it?!" she exclaimed.



Doña Valentina straining to look at her beautiful orchid.

Each mom received a gift bag containing personal care items with a note of encouragement, while the kids spent time writing and decorating their own special notes of appreciation. We received thanks from so many moms who were surprised and touched by the generosity shown to them.

For some of course, Dia del Madre brought sadness too. Hortencia was especially mindful of those who have lost children. Having experienced a painful and tragic loss of a son herself, she can relate and minister in a way many of us can't.

A visit was also made to Agnes Lester Rest Home in La Gloria to honor moms/grandmoms there. They were delighted to receive an orchid corsage and scripture verse of encouragement each, and were looking forward to a special lunch which was being prepared by the staff.

"Love and Kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver."
Barbara de Angelis

As another month draws to a close, we give thanks to God, the Greatest Giver of All, and we give thanks to you, for partnering with us in this life changing work. May He continue to bless you richly, as you continue to bless others. Until next month,

Joyce, Philip, Hortencia & the Team.