

March 2025

The best way to describe what it looked like was an “Afghanistan for Children.” A war zone.

I had met many of the children and parents while we have been at the Ronald McDonald House in Greenville. Passing through the house and dinning room with Tomas, I like to greet everyone and start a little small talk. The conversation with the parents always come around to the topic of our children. It has been eye opening.

Last week we had a long period of dreary, rainy weather. It was dinner time and many of the families had gathered waiting for everything to be ready. Just out from the dinning hall there is a play area for the children. It had not been used for several days because of the rainy weather. Before dinner, the clouds parted and the sun began shinning down brilliantly illuminating the whole area. In a few moments everyone came out to enjoy the warmth and beauty of the sunshine. I rolled Tomas out as well. It seemed like the whole house had come outside. It was the first time we had all been together like this. Standing there with my back pressed against the building, I looked out over the children playing, and thought, “I have never in my life seen so many deformed, limbless, broken children in one place and at the same time.” I thought of the lifetime each child and their parents will spend coping with their disabilities. It was sobering.

As difficult and profound as each child’s situation seemed to be, I was also witnessing something very beautiful. I had been observing it for weeks. As I looked out over the children, what I had been seeing culminated in my heart with the same intensity as the sun that was so brilliantly shining down upon us. I could see the magnitude and depth of the love, hope, patience, and mercy flowing from the hearts of those mothers as they interacted with their children. It was absolutely inspiring! It was a living color, real-life example of what God has designed a mother’s love to be. Absolutely beautiful! It gave me lots of hope for all those precious children.

It has been over two months since Tomas and I arrived in Greenville. Tomas (14) has been with us at Casa De Mi Padre for almost four years. Tomas was born with the congenital condition known as “Clubfoot.” This is a birth defect that causes the arms or feet to grow incorrectly. The limbs can be turned around, deformed, or missing resulting in low or non function. In Tomas’ case, it has left him with limited movement and function in his legs and feet.

After two years of paperwork, we were able to get Tomas accepted at Shriners Children’s Hospital in Greenville, South Carolina. Tomas had reconstructive foot surgery on January 30th. The surgery went well. Finally the cast was removed on March 17th. The doctors were very pleased with his healing. We are thankful to the Lord for this. Tomas is now in physical therapy doing exercises twice a day. He has graduated out of the wheelchair into a walker. He is doing much better. The doctors and our therapist are very encouraged with his progress and healing. They now have increased his exercises in amount and difficulty. It has been a struggle for him, but he’s taking it in stride. Please pray for him to push himself to achieve the maximum improvement possible. Because Tomas is progressing so well, we should be released to return to Guatemala several weeks early. That is a huge blessing. Thank you everyone for your prayers and love.

Things are going well at Casa De Mi Padre in Guatemala. School is moving along. Cole and Sarah are taking great care of the kids and keeping the ministry moving forward. I’m very thankful for their help and commitment to the mission.

Great Construction News! Two things! First, we have completed phase 2.1 of raising the walls half way up on the first floor of the Common House. Now we are beginning on phase 2.2. This step includes bringing the walls the rest of the way up and pouring the concrete columns throughout the building and bringing them to their full height. In the last two months the Lord has provided two generous gifts toward our construction efforts. Because of these great blessings, we have decided to divide these gifts between beginning the Children’s House # 3 and the Common House. At the time of writing this letter, we only need \$15,000 to complete Phase 2.2 of the Common House first floor walls and columns. Keep praying!

Second, Cole and Sarah now have the funds to begin construction for Children’s House #3 and will be able to complete the first and second steps for this project. Such great news! So much is happening at the new land, and it is all good!

There is no adequate way I can say “Thank You” for all the kindness you have shown. Your prayers, encouragement, and giving to touch the lives of the children the Lord has given us is nothing short of miraculous.

May the gracious mercies of God be with you,
Shane

To give by mail write to: Child Rescue 11201 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, KS 66109
Or go online at givetocasa.com