

May 2024



Dear Family and Friends,

“ Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

John 1:12

Broken and wounded. Receive and believe. All the children who come to Casa De Mi Padre are broken and wounded. They all have a story that needs to be told.

Rudy came to us on the 15th of November of 2023. He was quiet and very timid. When I would reach out to embrace him he would fall into my arms and put his head down and go limp. The sense I always felt was, “broken and empty with nothing to give.” He could only receive. That is where we had to start.

Rudy had lived with his mother and stepfather. Rudy has one smaller brother and one sister who both live in another children’s home. Rudy had another sister who is believed to have died from malnutrition. Rudy has experienced much physical and emotional abuse and also suffered from malnutrition. In time, it was discovered that his little sister was being sexually abused by the stepfather. Rudy’s abuse became known and they were all taken from the parents and placed in a children’s home. After a while, Rudy was sent back to his parents. He returned to suffering under the same abuse and neglect as before.

Rudy somehow believed that even though he had suffered physical and emotional abuse for so long and had been returned to the same situation, there had to be something better for him. At some point, Rudy spoke with the authorities and told them he wanted to be taken out of his parent’s home and placed back into the children’s home. The authorities agreed. He was removed from his parent’s home for the second time. For whatever reason, he was unable to return to the original children’s home where his little brother and sister were but instead, he was ordered to live at Casa De Mi Padre.

Broken and wounded, Rudy was in need of God’s love and healing grace. Because of the kindness and mercy of God, Rudy is now receiving the love and care he had desperately needed. One thing has been a continued concern for Rudy. Since all this began he has been separated from his younger sister and brother. He missed them, but especially his little sister.

During this time we had another serious situation unfolding. Our nine year old girl Ashley, who had been with us for two months had been in the hospital for over two weeks. It began with an urinary track infection and resulted in an emergency surgery. Ashley has several growths in her body that are obstructing her natural bodily functions. She has now returned to the hospital and is in danger of losing her kidney function which would leave her to be on dialysis. The doctors are trying to open up the blockage so her kidneys can function properly. She is preparing to have another emergency surgery as I write this letter. It is always tough to see a young child go through such a difficult medical situation. Please pray for Ashley. Pray for a miracle of healing for her. We need Dr. Jesus on this one. Also pray for the ladies of our Staff who have traveled to stay with her. Ashley is receiving care at a national hospital two and half hours from our city. We are blessed by the love and dedication of our staff who have traveled with her and are caring for her. Please pray for a miracle.

Monthly Provision Needs: Another crucial prayer need at this time is for the ongoing provision for the ministry. For whatever reasons our ministry giving has been at a low point over the past several months. I am not sure why. I know there are a big cultural and economic pressures back in the US that have affected many. But no matter what happens the food budget, medical bills, vehicle maintenance costs, utilities, etc. continue to come in. One of the most difficult areas of financial need is to raise funds for is our staff. Meeting this need is always a challenge, but more so now.

Cole, our Operations Director of the Casa has done a fabulous job selecting and training our staff who help us give excellent and consistent care for our children. Cole and I spend a lot of time focused on the mountain of administrative monster tasks we have to maintain to keep Casa De Mi Padre funded and functioning. It is a big job, much bigger than any one person can do. Our staff is invaluable in helping us provide the 24/7 care our children require. Please pray for the Lord to raise up his people to meet this crucial monthly need. We are a 100% “By Faith” ministry. It takes a miracle each and every month just to exist.



Shane Sanderson
Executive Director
Santa Cruz del Quiche Guatemala

Construction Update: We are very blessed and excited to be able to report that Phase One of the Common House building is 100% complete! The foundation is in! We are thankful for our supporters, construction supervisor, our construction teams, and our young adult children who have done the hard work to complete this phase. This has been a huge operation of labor and materials to see our vision for the future home for our children and ministry move closer to fruition. Our next step is to raise the walls to the height of the first floor. Some of the building is a one-level construction, while other areas have a second floor. The construction labor and materials for this next phase is \$90,000.00. Please pray with us and consider sharing this need with those who might be able to help.

Our Biggest Prayer Need: We are constantly aware and concerned for the spiritual needs of the children God has entrusted to us. This is a moment by moment burden on our hearts. We are constantly in prayer and working to meet the spiritual needs of our kids. With all our hearts we want to see each of our children come to a vibrant relationship with Christ. We believe and expect to see the Lord work his perfect will in each of our children's lives. We rejoice at every Christ-centered decision our children make. We are thankful for the little nudges towards Jesus we see along the way. Please pray with us that all of our children will come into relationship with Jesus according to his perfect and divine plan.

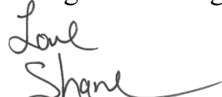
Reunited At Last! It takes me several sessions over the course of several days to write a newsletter. This one is no different. From the initial writing of this letter to these closing thoughts, God has worked another miracle. As I mentioned earlier, Rudy and his younger brother and sister were rescued from their parents abusive home and placed in a children's home. At some point after this, Rudy was returned to his parent's home. When the abuse continued, Rudy asked the government to place him back in the children's home with his brother and sister. For whatever reason the original home could not receive him and the judge ordered Rudy to Casa De Mi Padre. In spite of our efforts to have Rudy's brother and sister placed at Casa De Mi Padre, the judge would not move to send them to us.

A few days ago, Cole took Rudy to a routine hearing. Upon entering the building, both Rudy's little sister and brother were there. Cole called me for prayer. I was driving some dear friends of the ministry out from the capital city airport to Casa De Mi Padre. Cole was again going to ask the judge to reconsider placing Rudy's sister with us. Together we prayed, "Oh Lord you are the Sovereign King of the Universe. We humbly ask if it be your perfect will for these brothers and their sister to be reunited, change the heart of the judge so that he decides in our favor to place the children under our care and protection. Issue this edict from Heaven and command it so. We ask that not the will of any man be done, but your will alone be done."

As the proceedings progressed, the judge wanted to leave things as they were for Rudy and his little sister. But the court decided it was going to reinvestigate the parents to see if the little brother could return to their home from where the children had been removed. I know that sounds crazy, but that is the way the government operates. The judge asked for Cole's opinion on the situation. He was ready. Cole took the opportunity to again share our desire to see Rudy and little sister, Dulce (Sweet) reunited. Even though the judge had not responded to Cole's earlier request, and the child advocacy people didn't want to do this, the judge changed his mind and placed Rudy's sister in our care.

Within the hour Cole called me back rejoicing. He informed me the judge had reversed his decision and ordered little Dulce to be reunited with Rudy at Casa De Mi Padre! We couldn't believe it but God did it. It truly was a miracle to see Rudy and Dulce come through the gates at Casa De Mi Padre reunited at last. We are very humbled and happy that our Sovereign King of the Universe extended his royale scepter to hear our petition, issued this decree, delivered it by angelic messenger, and placed His decision in the heart of the judge. "Thank you Sovereign Lord for your unspeakable merciful grace and sovereign power in the lives of our children, to rescue the broken and wounded."

Trusting and Resting in His Sovereign grace,


Joseph S. Sanderson

When I have no where else to go.
When I have no where else to turn,
When I see no other hope.
My Sovereign Lord will always be
enough.