



# CASA SHALOM, GUATEMALA

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CASA SHALOM THROUGH SERVING ORPHANS WORLDWIDE!

**Y**our gift continues to improve lives everyday. We wanted to send you an update of how your dollars are impacting the children served at Casa Shalom!

Thanks to you, this holiday season, over 100 children get to call Casa Shalom their home. Casa Shalom rescues and cares for high risk children who have been orphaned, abandoned, abused or neglected by their families.

Every child who calls Casa Shalom their home has a different story, but thanks to you, all are welcomed with a hot meal, a warm bed, new clothes, shoes, and much more. Most importantly, they are shown the unconditional love of Jesus Christ.



## SHEEP ADDED TO ON SITE ANIMAL FARM



Casa Shalom has a goal to invest in projects that help them move closer to self sufficiency. As part of that goal, the children and staff have been busy raising pigs, rabbits and chickens on their animal farm! In fact, all the meat consumed by children, staff and missions teams is raised on the property. Recently, Casa Shalom was blessed with a donation of three adult sheep and two lambs.

The staff will use them as a free, sustainable way to keep the lawns at the orphanage trimmed.

## BABY FRANCISCO HAS FOUND HIS FOREVER FAMILY

We believe that adoption is the best case scenario for all children living at our partner homes.

In August, Casa Shalom's youngest child, Francisco, found his forever family. Francisco came to Casa Shalom when he was only a day old, after being abandoned on a doorstep. Shortly after his first birthday, Guatemala's social service branch of the government matched him with adoptive parents. They were both so thrilled as they held their son for the first time.

We're so thankful that he'll be raised in a home with a mom and dad, as God intended it. Because of your support, Francisco was able to receive everything he needed to thrive during his first year at Casa Shalom, giving him a wonderful start to his new life.



## PRAYER REQUESTS



Casa Shalom is still in search of a person or couple to serve as volunteer Campus Pastors at the orphanage. They are looking for a full-time, bilingual missionary or couple to pastor the children and guide them in their walk with Christ, hold weekly on-site kids church services and youth group, and serve as a pastor for the staff.

Please join us in prayer that the Lord will bring that person or couple to Casa Shalom soon!

## TEEN GIRLS AT CASA SHALOM GIVE BACK

This summer, Casa Shalom's teenage girls started volunteering several weekends each month at Casa Jackson, a local emergency center for malnourished babies and toddlers.

The girls help feed the babies, change their diapers, and rock them. The staff have reported that it has been amazing to see the girls bond with the children at the re-nutrition center, and watch them use their time and energy to be a blessing to other kids in need.

On one of the visits, one of Casa Shalom's older girls was swinging "her" toddler around and up towards the sky when she asked the toddler if she knew about God. She then pulled the toddler in to hug her and told her how much God loves her and that He is her father who will take care of her forever."

Thanks to your generosity, the children at Casa Shalom are able to live in an environment where they can grow in their walk with Christ. What a blessing it is to see this love overflow into the lives of others!



**"We praise God for our caring, committed professionals who spend years not only caring for the orphaned, abused and abandoned children of Guatemala, but also working to put children in families, where God intends them to be! We thank God for supporters like you, because without you, Casa Shalom could not offer the amazing quality of care that these children receive. "**

**JESSICA HANSON, DIRECTOR, CASA SHALOM ORPHANAGE**

# OVERCOMING TRAUMA THROUGH PLAY THERAPY

At Casa Shalom, the children have access to much needed therapy to help them work through their trauma. Casa Shalom's therapists work hard to connect with kids in order to provide effective therapy. This includes paying attention to details like the color of therapy dolls' skin!

"Our little girls can see themselves in these dolls, and they're open to using the dolls to connect with their therapists, to explore their own trauma, and to take "baby doll steps" toward healing."- Jessica Hanson



## LIFE SKILLS TRAINING THROUGH COOKING CLASSES

Casa Shalom's goal is to prepare their children for adulthood. One way they are doing this is by teaching them important life skills, like cooking nutritious meals.

During their on site cooking classes, these young girls enjoy the hands on experience of preparing healthy, delicious recipes in a family environment, using fresh produce and meat from their own farm!



Casa Shalom and other homes around the world could not operate with the high level quality of care without generous supporters like you.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

Thanks