

Promise UPDATE



Children of Promise International · P O Box 200 · 102 West Third · Alma, MO 64001 · 888-6 ORPHAN · www.promise.org

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India -- SAVED from DEATH

Throughout India, despite laws banning the practice, in many areas, female infanticide is both socially acceptable and common. This practice continues because of religious and superstitious beliefs, preferring boys to girls, and the huge demands for a dowry at the time a girl marries—just a few reasons.

In these areas, when a baby is being born, a midwife is present to assist. Upon the birth she comes out of the room and announces the news to the family. If the child is a boy, the midwife is well rewarded. If the baby is a girl, she announces, “it is waste.” In this case she is given a sum of money by the family and told to “take care” of the child. The baby is wrapped in cloth, taken to the outskirts of the village near the village cremation site and killed by feeding her poisonous sap of cactus while singing a lullaby, placing rice grains in the baby’s nostrils—which cuts the windpipe as the baby responds by coughing, feeding her pesticides, or other means that ends in death.

Our partners who operate David’s House of Refuge —India have reached into five nearby villages and rescued 16 newborn baby girls—some pictured above. Fourteen remain in the home. The plan of our ministry partners is to reach into 127 surrounding villages as funding allows for the building of homes, rescuing the babies and providing for their care.

Children of Promise International staff got involved in the rescue by sponsoring a local Baby Contest during a 4th of July event. How appropriate—during a time we celebrate our freedom. All proceeds from the contest were given to David’s House of Refuge to fund the rescue of two more babies. The precious babies who have been rescued are alive and full of purpose—free to become all that God called them to be.



Barb Decker, COPI missionary, one of the contest judges, peeking around the corner of the judges table at one of the contestants.

Problematic Inventories can become life savers...

Many companies have problematic inventories of equipment, returned merchandise, off specification product, damaged goods, excess stock, manufacturing overruns, or for some other reason, assets of reduced value. These items are normally land filled, liquidated or simply warehoused. We are now in a position whereby we can receive donations of such inventories or assets in exchange for a “Gift in Kind” donation receipt. The value of this donation receipt may be greater than the normally achieved liquidation value, however it will also create value that directly multiplies the work to which we are committed—caring for orphans and widows around the world. Help us locate the unwanted inventories. For more information, call 660.674.2262 or 888 6 ORPHAN and ask for Judy.

MEXICO ...



Five-year old Nohemy was wounded emotionally, suffering from sexual abuse and brutality from her step father. Through the love of Jesus shown by caregivers at LaVid children’s home in Juarez, Mexico, she is filled with peace and love. She has also been joined in the home by her three little brothers who were abandoned by her mother. Here she is graduating from kindergarten. There are many children in LaVid needing sponsorship.

PURPLE PALACE ...update

The day to move El Pozo and El Pozito into the Purple Palace in Tijuana, Mexico is fast approaching. Many volunteers are working hard to get everything ready for the big move. Tyler Youngkin shared by telephone today that they had hoped to move in this month but it looks like October 1 will be the day. God has really blessed the work with many wonderful donations. One compassionate donor has sought donations from those she knows, in addition to giving herself, to purchase all of the bedding—blankets, pillows, sheets etc. Many have given financially toward the renovations, and the work crews are numerous.

What happens when God’s people join hands? He works a miracle!

Supporting Hands for our children

As a local initiative to help children in the community in which Children of Promise is located, a support group was established called *Supporting Hands* which offers support for foster and adoptive families in a two-county area.

This initiative, directed by Kathie Fagel of the Children of Promise staff and foster/adoptive parent, is an avenue through which the parents can encourage and support one another as well as meet clothing and school needs which are not covered under the state's foster care system.

Three programs have evolved out of this initiative:

- Clothing Basement—receiving and giving out used clothing and other useful items for foster and adoptive children.
- Shoe Program—donors taking a child to buy a new pair of shoes.
- Winter Coat Giving—donors taking a child to purchase a winter coat.



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CHILDREN OF PROMISE INTERNATIONAL
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 Call 888 6 ORPHAN or visit

Many in the local community have responded. One lady living in a rest home read an article in the newspaper about the needs of the children and the *Supporting Hands* efforts. As a young girl growing up she had done without and was touched with compassion to give money so a child could have a pair of shoes. Another lady asked her friends to give her money for her birthday instead of gifts. She used the money to purchase new clothes and school supplies for the clothing room so that foster and adoptive children could begin school with nice clothes and all of their school supplies. In addition, she spent a Saturday with support group families helping to organize the clothing area. When it came time for lunch she bought pizza for all.



Sarah, Community Service worker, sorting and hanging clothing in the clothing room.



Barb Decker, Agriculture Missionary (left), with boys of the Urenya home.

DECKER RECOVERING FROM SURGERY

Barb Decker, Agriculture Missionary to Venezuela, returned to the states and underwent surgery on her knee in August. Complications set in after the surgery which were a threat to her life. She is out of the hospital now and recuperating at the *Fountain of Life* cottage (two blocks from Children of Promise headquarters) owned and operated by former COPI board member, Norma Ramey. Please pray for Barb's complete recovery as she works toward regaining mobility.

VBS Kids Giving "Change for Change" in Haiti

Collecting change for Haiti at Faith Reformed Church VBS.



When children are introduced to the needs of orphaned and destitute children in other countries, they are ready to respond with help. That is what happened at the Vacation Bible Schools of Faith Reformed Church, Midland Park, New Jersey and Evangelical Free Church, Chico, California—from one side of the United States to the other, yet the same compassionate hearts.

The two Vacation Bible Schools each took on a mission project of helping raise funds to build a home in which 34 orphaned and/or destitute Haitian girls will be cared for and nurtured in the Word of God.

With the mission gifts collected by these two VBS programs, a total of \$3,199.30 was sent for the building project. The Faith Reformed Church used sand buckets in their tropical theme to collect "change for change in Haiti" from the children for the mission project. The winning class of children collected \$8 per child. Churches interested in a mission project for VBS or Sunday Schools, contact Kathie Fagel at kathie.fagel@promise.org or call 888 – 6 ORPHAN.