Queridos Amigos de Jesucristo (Dear Friends of Jesus Christ).

Thank God for holidays! Especially those that remind us of His goodness. Thanksgiving and Christmas…it’s the time of year when we are reminded to thank God for His merciful blessings. We at Children’s Ministries humbly praise God as He brings joy, hope, order, discipline, and love into the lives of children in miraculous ways. We are so thankful for our faithful staff and volunteers in Ecuador, and for the children and adults who have come to know God’s peace and joy through their efforts. We are grateful for all of you who have generously supported Children’s Ministries with your prayers and gifts this past year. As we look forward to another year and the challenges that it will bring, we are excited about the possibilities because we know that we serve a God who has been faithful in the past and who will lead and guide us in the coming year.

Centro Metro Ecuador, as our Children’s Ministries’ program is called in Ecuador, is a large outreach ministry to children and their families. Its weekly schedule centers on the Sidewalk Sunday School program which is currently reaching hundreds of children at many sites in Guayaquil, Ecuador and beyond. Children are impacted with a message of hope that encourages them to stay in school, to stay away from gangs and other destructive or criminal behaviors so common in inner city environments, and live a joyful life serving an amazing Lord. Lively presentations, skits, and participation activities make this a fun place to be and keep them coming back for more. But more importantly, each child receives a personal home visit each week where they feel the care and affection of the loving staff and volunteers. Sometimes those visits include food for needy families, but mostly they communicate the love of God by saying, “We care so much about you that we wanted to personally invite you to this week’s exciting program”. The year will end with a grand Christmas birthday party for Jesus! Games, gifts and candy for the children! What a party it is!

We humbly thank you, our faithful supporters, for making this possible.

For more information about this ministry please check our Web site: www.childrensministriesinc.com.

Your tax-deductible gifts may be sent to: Children’s Ministries, Inc.
612 Bay East Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686

Remember, we are able to e-mail our supporters in a timely fashion with exciting news when it happens if you give us your e-mail address. If you are interested, please notify us by sending an e-mail to Marilyn Oom at mioom@aol.com or childrens_min@sbcglobal.net. Please put “Children’s Ministries e-mails” in the subject line.

For those who have given support, we would again like to say Thank You! Whether that support is in the form of prayer, time, gifts or money, it is all appreciated. It is only through the efforts of many people letting themselves be God’s instruments that we have been able to accomplish so much. Thank You!

Serving a gracious Lord,

The Board of Children’s Ministries, Inc.

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www.ChildrensMinistriesInc.com

About Us

Your prayers and support are vital to this ministry. Children’s Ministries, Inc. is totally funded by private and organizational donations. The Board of Directors and USA volunteers pay all state-side expenses (postage, printing, travel expense, etc.). 100% of your donated money is used for direct ministry needs in Ecuador. For more information about this ministry please check our Web site: www.childrensministriesinc.com.

For those who are interested in how donations are used to enable the ministry in Ecuador, we include a summary of 2007 income and expenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income &amp; Expense Summary - Ecuador</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income from USA Donations (sent from CMI)</td>
<td>$90,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from Direct Donations</td>
<td>$5,875</td>
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<tr>
<td>Income from Fund Raisers</td>
<td>$1,125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offerings from Training</td>
<td>$105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Sponsorship Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Earned</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry Center Building &amp; Furnishings</td>
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<td>Office Rent (January to May only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Taxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry Van Maintenance &amp; Fuel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Materials &amp; Refreshments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions and Donations</td>
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<td>Utilities/Phone/Internet</td>
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<td>Office Supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td>$104,251</td>
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</table>

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612 Bay East Drive
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(231) 633-6902
E-mail: childrens_min@sbcglobal.net
www.ChildrensMinistriesInc.com

Bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to Children of the World

November, 2008
Trip Reports

Have you ever wondered what it’s like to visit another country? Has the Lord tugged at your heart to serve Him in a place where you would experience a new culture, a new language, different food, visit families who, although different in looks and speech, have the same hopes and dreams for their families that you do? Well, we would like to introduce you to a family that did just that this past September! The Parks family from Cleverd, Georgia went with Jerry Fielstra for a week in Ecuador. They discovered Children’s Ministries from our website and contacted us about a mission trip to Ecuador. They are active in their church in Georgia and serve the Lord there by ministering to youth. They have a real heart for the Lord, for children and teens. The family members who went to Ecuador were Mike (Dad), Isaly (15 year old daughter), Ceara (10 year old daughter) and a family friend Brandon Blackburn. Mike and his wife Amber were youth pastors in their church for about 8 years. Two and a half years ago they started a teen ministry in a store front in Cleveland Georgia. They have about 40 teens every Wednesday evening and again on Sunday for worship. They themselves have five children ages 2 ½ to 15 years old. Each one who went to Ecuador wrote a short testimony explaining what it was like for them on this trip.

Mike Parks writes. “I feel my experience in Guayaquil with this ministry was very moving. The staff made us feel like family! The program they presented to the children was executed with perfection and the love they have for the children of Guayaquil can be seen by their hard work and dedication. My children and I have gained a new level of respect and compassion for the people of Ecuador and a new appreciation for the blessings that we have in our own lives.”

Ceara Parks, age 10 writes, “I loved Ecuador! It helped me see how blessed I am. I will never forget how sweet everybody was, how great the poverty, and the children. I hope to one day move there to minister to the people.”

Isaly Parks, age 15 writes, “My experience in Ecuador was life changing. It made me realize how blessed I am. The people were amazing. I can’t wait to go back!”

Mike’s wife Amber, although not able to go to Ecuador, adds, “My family had such a terrific time in Ecuador and they haven’t stopped talking about their experiences. They absolutely fell in love with Priscila, the staff, Ecuador, and the people. Ceara indicated that she just felt like she belonged there! She did not want to leave. Isaly loved it also. It is hard to tell with teens sometimes, but it certainly made an impression on her life.”

Brandon Blackburn, family friend, writes, “I had an absolutely amazing time in Ecuador. I went there not really knowing what to expect because I had never actually been out of the country, let alone out of the country on a mission trip. Needless to say I was very excited and at the same time a little nervous! But when we got there the staff of CMI really opened their arms to us in every way possible. During my time there I got to spend time meeting some of the locals and really getting to find out how amazingly thankful these people are. Even though they may not have a lot, materially, and especially the over abundance that we Americans tend to get spoiled with, they were such great people. It was a life changing experience for me. There is an overwhelming need in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Despite the great character of some of the people, some families go without food and are in bad shape. I can’t tell you how many children came up to us asking for food and money. CMI is a great doorway of opportunity for the children and families of Guayaquil to experience the absolute love of Christ and I want to be a part of it!”

Mike and Amber are planning to join Betty and Jerry for a trip back to Ecuador from January 14-21, 2009. They are praying about the possibility of moving to Ecuador to work at CMI. God had been speaking to them prior to their trip to Ecuador about serving Him in another country, so now they are just waiting on the Lord for His guidance. They would go with full support of their church in Georgia.

Congratulations to Gina and Uriel!

It is with great joy that we announce the upcoming marriage of two of our staff members, Gina and Uriel! They will be married on January 16, 2009. Gina is Priscila’s sister and both she and Uriel work at CMI. They met three years ago when Gina went to Guatemala for a training conference on ministering to teenagers. May God bless their new life together in Him!

Jerry will return to Ecuador in January

God willing, Jerry Fielstra (co-founder of CMI) will return to Ecuador in January 2009. Besides doing whatever is necessary for the ministry, plus the usual counseling sessions, he and Betty will attend the wedding of Gina and Uriel. If you are interested in joining Jerry for this trip to Ecuador please contact him to get more information. For all of us who have gone before, we can attest to the fact that this will be a life changing time for you.

Jerry is still amazed when the staff always has people lined up for counseling sessions when he arrives. Although he feels inadequate, Jerry sees how God has given him the strength that comes from a strong, biblically-based upbringing. His counseling sessions always bring people back to the source of wisdom - God's Word. What does the Bible have to say about marriage, love, acceptance of others, forgiveness, mercy, and harmony? Plenty! After all those years of Christian training as a child and adult, God is calling Jerry to put it into use. It’s a humbling experience!

We hope you will make plans to visit Ecuador! Jerry’s contact information can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Oh, we should WARN you…Most visitors are used as props in a skit, like Jerry in this one!

Needs

We are acutely aware of the financial crisis that so many are experiencing as a result of the current economic situation, and we at CMI are feeling it also. We understand that Christians are being asked to give to numerous worthwhile ministries, and while they are all important to the kingdom of God, we at CMI also covet your prayers and support. Would you prayerfully consider continuing your support of CMI? Or, if you have never given before, would you pray about partnering with us in this important ministry? So many in Ecuador are counting on us to provide the means by which they can continue to reach children for God’s kingdom. Our prayer is that the Lord will bless you so that we can continue to bless those who are carrying out His work in Ecuador.

We would again ask for specific prayer for Priscila and the staff of CMI as they work so hard to bring Jesus’ love to children. The growth in this ministry has been so great that they are stretched beyond belief, so please pray that the Lord will provide the strength and perseverance that is needed to accomplish His work.

A message from Priscila:

“We thanks God first all for everything He has provide and also to each donator who faithfully is supporting our children to receive Christ every week every time we go. What a blessing to have people like you giving and loving others like the children of Ecuador.”