



GIVING LIFE, BRINGING HOPE TO ORPHANS IN HONDURAS

CLACKAMAS, OR | WWW.H2HCV.ORG | 503.427.0258

Christmas in Honduras is so full of traditions and honor to Jesus! Weeks before the 25th, plans are put in place for each child to have lovely gifts organized by our Lisa Closner from our H2H sponsors, and also from our H2H church. Christmas cookie production begins in November with our annual cutout cookie bake when Rick's Christmas Prep team arrives. This year, the older girls at the village met and elected Roselli the spokesperson to remind Gramma Mary of our H2H Family Christmas traditions to be sure they happened this year. Amy always captained the events, so Roselli was passing the baton.

Here was her schedule:



Church Christmas Program- Sat. Dec. 21
– wear new Christmas clothes given out by Gramma, Sarah and Rachel.



Village Christmas - Tuesday Dec. 24 - Dinner, Gifts, Christmas Movie, Hot Chocolate with candy canes and Gramma-made cake, Gifts handed out by Sarah and Rachel.

Christmas morning at the Village –
Wed. Dec. 25 – Tamales for breakfast.

Christmas morning at Serrano's –
Wed. Dec. 25 – Tamales for breakfast and Secret Santa gift exchange and a box of See's Chocolates from Santa under the tree.



Tamale making –
Monday, Dec. 23 - at the Serrano House led by Suzanna, **300** of them.



Village New Year's Eve - Dec. 31 -
Dinner, S'mores, Sparklers, and a video of all of our kids from this past year with pop and popcorn.

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Prayer Needs

More loving adults to help at the village

Sponsors for our new kids

Funds to operate the Schools

Because we have so many children who attend for free or reduced rates, we need help

GOODBYE 2019, HELLO 2020

Happy New Year!! Once again, a fresh new year is spread out before us with God in the lead to guide us every step of the way. Looking back at the previous year, I am humbled and amazed at all God accomplished for His kingdom here in Honduras. In Matthew, Jesus said we will know those who belong to Him by their fruits. And while this has been a year of great sorrow, with the loss of our beloved founder and director, Amy Serrano, it has also been a year of great harvest.

FEBRUARY

We got our Honduran License to be coffee exporters, The English Academy was born in February and graduated its first adult class in October, H2H Worship Team became a reality

MARCH

We added **44** kids to our family with the birth of the Amy's Dream Club; Our Jubilee Coffee Drive-Thru was built and opened; Father's Day celebrated at school found Oscar's name being drawn from a group of over **60** as "Father of the Year" - a well deserved title for this man who is called daddy by scores of the children

APRIL

Solar power became a reality at part of the village

JUNE

Graduations included Sarah and Rachel from Clark Community College, two High School graduations and one prepa graduation here in Honduras

AUGUST

The second floor of the Bilingual School was built, adding **12** new classrooms open for business

SEPTEMBER

Our new music program was begun with our first Marching Band participating in the Honduras Independence Day Parade; a large, safe new home was purchased in San Pedro Sula for our growing number of adult women, **9** and counting, who attend University there

NOVEMBER

300 new computers arrived through a grant we received; Oscar, Sarah and Rachel spent the fall on a coast-to-coast fundraising tour, culminating with our Annual Banquet in Oregon

DECEMBER

Led by Daniel, of our "fruits", several of our young men built a house for a poor family of **7** over Christmas vacation in a community near the local garbage dump and did repairs on some others

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

God healed, brought to salvation, filled us with His Holy Spirit's joy, peace and power, answered prayer, and comforted us all through the ever-present grief with the loss of our beloved Amy.

Teams and individuals came from New York to Washington State and points in between, to help us with School Support, Crusades, Bible classes, a Wonder Program based on the book of that name, Maintenance, Summer Camp, Medical team, Christmas Prep, Birthdays and Letter writing, treating our kids to the water park and movies at the theater, and providing food to several communities in need.

God's blessings flowed both ways between all our amazing H2H family of supporters here and in the US. And it is with a heart full of gratitude, and on behalf of all of our kids and family, of which each of you is a member, that I thank you for your part in making this thing called Heart to Heart a reality this past year.



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2020

Our hope is always to help more children, and that will continue this year as we develop our Amy's Dream Club program. Four of our daughters will celebrate their Quinceanera in February. We have multiple teams planning to visit to help us again. We hope to develop the US side of our H2H Coffee business, the profits from which send our kids to college in Honduras. We will continue to add to our solar power project to eventually become electrically self-sufficient. We will develop an experimental garden project at our coffee plantation to hopefully be able to provide all the vegetables needed for our growing family and more. At school a new athletic program is planned to involve interscholastic tournaments with other schools in our area. Most importantly, however, will be our efforts to bring more of Jesus into the lives of our kids. Please pray with us for God's will to be done in Honduras, as it is in Heaven.

THANK YOU FROM LISA CLOSNER

Imagine the sound of **over 100** children opening Christmas gifts. At first the sound may seem overwhelmingly chaotic and deafening but the true essence of the mayhem is gratitude and joy. Just as all children do, our kids wait all year with anticipation to celebrate Christmas and receive gifts from those who love them.

The process that results in this mass of giving takes months and the partnership of many people. Because we want each of our children to feel special and known, we begin by having each of them fill out a Christmas wish list. Some kids ask for practical things such as a Bible or a hairbrush while others want peanut butter or a bag of cookies. From this list we prepare our shopping list. And oh, what a shopping list it is! It looks something like this: 15 Legos sets, 10 baby dolls with bottles and a blanket, 100 bottles of nail polish, 15 men's cologne, 30 Christian fiction books and so on. Next the shopping begins! Each gift is chosen with a specific child in mind. We want to give our children quality items that will provide many months of use so we tend to shop at stores where we can find good quality at the lowest price. Once the gifts are purchased, we sort and bag them in our office. The bags are packed in large duffel bags and taken to Honduras by team members. In Honduras, the duffel bags remain packed until the Christmas Prep Team arrives. This group puts each of the children's gifts into a Christmas gift bag and drops in a handful of candy. On Christmas Eve, the gifts are transported to the Children's Village where more than 100 children sit in anticipation and excitement!

We want to thank each one of you who participated in giving our children such a wonderful Christmas! Whether you purchased gifts for specific children, donated toys or gave cash, your thoughtfulness is not only appreciated but much needed.

If you would like to partner with us in giving gifts to our kids, we would be so grateful! We are just starting to shop for birthdays for our kids born in the first quarter. Below you will find a list of ways to get involved.

- *donate cash to the gifts fund
- *purchase a gift for one or more children (Contact Chris at the Heart to Heart office.)
- *purchase bulk gifts such as Lego sets, Hot Wheels, art kits, nail polish, soccer balls, purses, etc
- *join a team that will be celebrating birthdays or preparing for Christmas (Contact Chris at the Heart to Heart office.)

SPOTLIGHT ON ALEXIS



This year we will spotlight one of our children each month, so you get to know them better. We begin with Alexis, age 20, who is in his second year of college at Bellevue Community College. Alexis came to live in our H2H family with his older sister, Sarahi, when he was 6 years old. He was born in Yoro, the capital city in the Yoro Department of Honduras. He was 8 when he asked Jesus into his heart. A favorite memory I have of Alexis was when he was about 8 or 9. I was walking across the field at the Village. He ran up behind me and grabbed my hand and said, "I want to be a pastor when I grow up, just like Tio Oscar!" Another time I was at the school during recess. Instead of playing with the kids, there was Alexis sitting on the sidewalk, Bible opened, intently memorizing whole chapters at a time. His love for and ability with math led us to have him teaching and tutoring for us at the bilingual school as needed. Now, his interests are leading toward a future in aviation and computer science. He loves the Lord and has such a big heart for others. This past Christmas, he worked, paid his own way, and came home to Honduras from college to help his H2H brothers build a home for a poor family who live by the local garbage dump. Thank you to all of you who have invested in this young man throughout his childhood with your prayers, financial support and love.





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2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV)

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.”

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL US AT OFFICE@H2HCV.ORG OR CALL AT 503.427.0258 TO LET US KNOW.

When it comes to orphans we're not liberals or conservatives. We are radicals!

TO OUR HEART TO HEART COMMUNITY—THANK YOU!

VOLUNTEER

Below is a list of upcoming teams who will be going to our Village to love our children and support the ministry. If you are interested in going, please contact us at office@h2hcv.org. Join us!

2020

- February 10-18 Village Support, Gary Thacker**
- February 20-28 Crusade Team, Bruce Van Natta**
- June 17-25 Village Support, Gary Thacker**
- July 6-16 Maintenance, Bethel Church**

Gift/Letter Dates

To get gifts & letters to our kids on time we need to receive them at our office by the following dates:

- 1st Quarter January 16, 2020**
- 2nd Quarter May 15, 2020**
- 3rd Quarter July 15, 2020**
- 4th Quarter October 1, 2020**
- Christmas October 1, 2020**

Thank you for supporting our kids.

Newsletter Feedback? Contact us—office@h2hcv.org

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