

2011



The church damas made clothes for the needy in the church and community

January 2011

Through the years, FYTA, Colorado has also sought to assist the ladies of the local church (known as the church damas) with a volunteer project that would benefit the needy in their church and the community. This was done by providing them with sewing machines, sewing notions and materials to make clothes. They meet every Wednesday afternoon in the school/church compound when the weather is nice.

January 28, 2011

The school year in Ecuador is a little different from the US in that their “summer” (Jan 15—Apr 15) falls in the middle of rainy season (vs dry season). As with all schools, children wildly anticipate the day they can celebrate—graduation.



Pictured above are the founders of the newly formed school organization—Pastor Gruezo (Principle), wife Jacqueline (teacher), Mercedes (Superintendent), Pastor Alex (teacher)



January 2011

In order to keep the school from closing, a decision was made to have the school teachers form their own legal entity in order to be in conformance with Ecuadorian law. That law requires any organization/business that has a payroll pay social security—which means work contracts. Contracts need to be written for the administrators and teachers. FYTA, Colorado decided to provide legal and financial assistance to this Christian School for as long as possible.

This is done thru FYTA's School Sponsorship Program—a program that is administered and financed separately from FYTA's primary emphasis—medicine. The school name—John Pierre Del Hierro School was named after the original owners (Rosa and Pedro Del Hierro) deceased son—Rosa and Pedro were also the original Ecuadorian pastors of the church and its compound that the school sits on.

March 2011

Much was accomplished in March concerning the clinic. After purchasing the clinic last summer, the new property lines obtained needed to be distinct or clearly marked. This was done by building and thus moving the southwest wall (referred to as our back wall) to the new property line—this was done last October. This month we moved our southeast wall to its new property line (shown in photo). Along with construction, the doctors' offices were freshly painted.



April 25-29, 2011



Current finances don't allow us to cover the entire community, but the decision was made to continue our annual free dental hygiene program for the local Christian school, teachers and spouses thru the use of our newly hired dentist—Dra. Natalia and her student aide, soon to be Dr. Alex.

Dr. Alex with an elementary child and his mother. He didn't like getting his teeth cleaned!



Dr. Natalia assisting in the background



Dr. Natalia trying to coax an unwilling patient!

Occupied while waiting their turn!



May 2011

We needed to have a way to distribute the sales of our water production as having our day guard Manuel Meza deliver two bottles at a time could not continue. Thus, it was decided that it was necessary to purchase the means to do so. Thanks to a special donation we were able to purchase the motorcycle cart shown.



Buen Samaritano water cart

Jhonny (water production) and Meza (day guard).

Jhonny delivers in the morning and Meza delivers in the afternoon.

Also, in May an idea from Elizabeth's parent's church was taken to Ecuador. The idea was to convert used and new pillow cases into simple dresses. The pattern was initially lost but Elizabeth explained the basic idea to one of the mothers at church (our clinic custodian's wife) and allowed her to pick out what pillowcase she would use. She used a bit of ingenuity herself when she designed these dresses for her girls.



July 2011

When the clinic changed hands last year, we had to get our own license to bottle and sell water. The previous Ecuadorian owners labeled their bottles “My Water” (which we bottled and sold). So, in the spirit of labeling some English along with the Spanish Richard named it “Buen Samaritano Water”. The photo below shows our local artist (who also designed the label) putting the final touches on the clinic street wall sign.



Local artist and designer of the bottled water logo



August 2011

When attending the local church next to our clinic we often run into our miracle girl (below)—our little Juliana—who was born with only two heart chambers and the two major vessels transposed that some of you may remember came to us about 10 years ago.

Juliana with her mother, Francesca, her older sister and baby—Elizabeth has her hands-on Juliana.

September 30—October 9, 2011

This year's Medical Mission had a smaller team than our experience of previous years but God blessed us with a great team consisting of 2 MD's, 1 dentist, 1 Ophthalmology doctor, 1 family NP, 3 RN's, board member and spouse, 2 interpreters and 3 "construction" workers. God orchestrated His Son's compassion for the impoverished and the unifying power of the Holy Spirit among this incredible team.

2011 medical mission team



This year we gave the students and teachers of the Christian school next to our clinic an eye exam. (date was set wrong on camera).



The big event this year was our first visit to Portoviejo’s dump where over 200 people live. They have never had the privilege of seeing any doctors there or in the area. The mayor of Portoviejo personally came as well as did the local TV station to thank us for our efforts to help the impoverished living there. An experience the mission team will long remember.



This year we had two “construction” volunteers, Pat Penzien and Patricio Villacreses, do a big tile job—the “semi-apartment” on the second floor of our water building. The job was bigger than thought so extra help was called in. What remains is a new paint job, bathroom repairs and kitchen necessities installed.



Elizabeth presenting a mother with a baby blanket.

Our clinic nurse, Angeltia, packaging the baby blankets made and donated by Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church

One of the on-going projects that always seems to go well with the medical mission team and the clinic throughout the year is the distribution of baby blankets made and donated by the quilters from Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church in Englewood, CO. Pictured here is our clinic nurse, Angeltia, after storing the blankets in the plastic bags also brought from the states—the bags are the long and narrow (just the right size) ones used by the USA newspaper carriers. At a later date Elizabeth presents a blanket to a mother and child.

Supplies for the Christian school next to our clinic were also brought down by our Christian School Sponsorship director (Joan Penzien). We previously ran a child sponsorship program but due to conflicts with an international child sponsorship program our program had to be shut down and in its place the school sponsorship program was initiated. The school costs are enormous for the small community of El Floron and is struggling to stay open so our foundation is attempting to help them however we can.



Christian School Sponsorship Director, Joan Penzien, passes out school supplies



Due to two generous donors, we have a new expanded patient waiting room

December 11, 2011

After 3 years of desiring and then planning and due to two generous donors we finally have a new expanded patient waiting room. No more standing out in the hot sun or rain due to overcrowding! The original patient waiting area served us well for a long time, but it was time! The outside still needed to be sealed and painted as well as the inside along with other finishing work but that will be completed in the next few months.