



HAPPY NEW YEAR

from our HOME to YOURS!



This past year, the Lord has given us not one, but six children who were received into our home. Estefani, Francis, Randy, Junior, Moisés and Ramona. It was in December 2010 that we suddenly received a visit from the director of the government home who announced that they would give us the children that we had worked so hard to procure. Just like that, we received six very special people whom we have grown to love and in turn loved us, all this much more than we had anticipated.

Our director, Dr. Marisol, and our aunts and uncles, Ariel, Elizabeth, Carmen, Ingrid, Dania, Jackie and Julieta, continue to be wonderful Christian parents to our children. At Easter time, the six children were baptized and the entire church stood in solidarity and to be witnesses that they are their godparents. The children are weekly and daily in the prayers of many. As a result, the changes in the lives of the children have been dramatic.

Francis studies during the week at a school for the deaf and is learning to sign along with the aunts and uncles. Every week, Francis sits between the pastors and loves to observe all that transpires from this bird's eye view. He continues to delight all with his magnificent boyish smile and his impish attitude. **Estefani and Junior** are also in school at Concordia Lutheran. Estefani and Junior are socialites and have made many friends, not only at the school, but also in their neighborhood where they live. **Moisés** greets everyone who comes to the home with a warm hug. He has just started to go to school at Concordia this month and we cannot wait to see how he will continue to grow and develop. **Randy** loves to go to church and Sunday school. This is the highlight of his week. He sits in church with his Bible open and often can be heard repeating what the pastors are speaking. **Ramona** is a wonderful help around the house and loves to help others. Her favorite activities are listening to music and dancing. She has an infectious laugh that will brighten anyone's day.

The aunts and the uncles along with Dr. Marisol Martinez continue to do daily therapy with each of the children. The therapy varies according to child and their need. We have been blessed to have different therapists visit us from out of country this year and we look forward to the visits of more. The children also have weekly outings to the store, baseball field and occasional outings to the beach and other fun such activities.

Three significant steps in caring for the children took place in recent months. In June, 22 acres were donated to *Hogares Luteranos el Buen Pastor* and we are establishing how to raise cash crops or food for our children and our school breakfast program. We started a child sponsor program so that people can give directly to the group home to support the children in a tangible manner. An internet café is also slated to open within the next few weeks and the proceeds will go towards the continued care of our children.

We would like to thank each and every one of you who have participated in making a difference in the lives of these dear children and wish to you and yours a very blessed New Year and thank you in Jesus Name for your care for the "least of these" who are in fact today each and everyone loved and thriving because of your generosity.



Sponsor a child at the Group Home!

Why not consider sponsoring Moises, Estefani, Junior, Randy, Ramona, or Francis? Sponsoring a child will help to provide food, education, therapy, clothing, medical needs, Christian care, and the expansion of future group homes.

For \$35 a month or \$420 per year, you can help support a child in the group home and become part of their family. For more information and to sponsor a child please contact Special Children Inc., or you may fill out the portion below and mail to:

Special Children Inc.
15285 Watertown Plank Road, #3
Elm Grove, WI 53122

www.specialchildreninc.com
email: spchild@sbcglobal.net
Tel: 262.821.2125

Please note: HLBP has been blessed to have the assistance of "Special Children, Inc." in the development management of the sponsor program. Special Children, Inc. is an adoption agency and is a global advocate of orphans. We are very thankful that Special Children, Inc. is receiving monthly sponsors for our orphans and general donations.

Hogares Luteranos el Buen Pastor Child Sponsorship Program

For \$35 a month or \$420 per year, you can help support a child in the group home and become part of their family.

- I would like to sponsor a child.
- I would like more information regarding child sponsorship.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

All sponsorships are tax deductible and sent in full to *Hogares Luteranos el Buen Pastor*.

The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow. Psalm 146:9

Please pray for:

- The health, safety, and development of children in the home – Moises, Francis, Junior, Randy, Ramona, and Estefani – our aunts and uncles, and Dr. Marisol, who care for them.
- The integration of our children into the local school systems, and also especially for everyone as we work on learning sign language.
- Planning for our organization so that we can continue to learn and grow to share God's love with people with developmental disabilities and seek to improve care and opportunities available to them in the Dominican Republic.

General donations can be sent to:

Bethesda Lutheran Communities, 600 Hoffmann Dr., Watertown, WI 53094
 Designate checks to: *HLBP Dominican Republic*