

CONCERN FOR CHILDREN



Please be our Valentine

February 2022

Dear Friend of *Concern for Children*,

Thanks for all of your support for adoptive children here in the U.S. and for children in Latin America!

Due to the pandemic, Concern for Children members are unable to safely travel to El Salvador this year. Colombia and El Salvador, and most Latin American countries, have been hard-hit by COVID and climate change – with food shortages, closed schools, unsafe water, destructive storms, and children receiving minimal care. The children in El Salvador orphanages and those assisted by Los Pisingos Foundation in Colombia need us now more than ever.

Our mission over the past year has included:

- ♥ *Mi Pueblo Camp celebrated its 29th annual culture camp in 2021. Many of the youngest campers are now children of adoptees---a 2nd generation learning about their birth heritage. Mi Pueblo has weathered COVID and now faces rising costs as we plan the 30th anniversary Camp in 2022.*
- ♥ *CFC provided funds for Los Pisingos Foundation in Bogota, and for several of the orphanages in El Salvador in need of major repairs.*
- ♥ *CFC provided several scholarships to adoptees here in the U.S. to help them seek higher education, and a \$1,500 scholarship for our new birth country travel program.*
- ♥ *We continue to support our Opening Doors program which allows young ladies to stay at the orphanage in El Salvador after they reach the age when normally they have to leave and go out into the world on their own. They stay safe and obtain vocational training to enable them to support themselves when they finally do go out into the world on their own. We have added cosmetology to the vocational training programs.*
- ♥ *CFC has established an ongoing program to provide medical supplies, wheelchairs and other items for handicapped children in an orphanage in Santa Tecla, El Salvador.*

For over 40 years, CFC helped place over 550 children from Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras and other Latin American countries with families in the United States. Today, we provide clothing, medical supplies and gifts for the children living in these orphanages, and assistance to adoptive families in the US.

Conditions in Latin America for orphaned, handicapped, abandoned, neglected and abused children are always difficult, and they receive little support from their own governments, which are struggling to deal with Covid-19, oppressive poverty, gangs, crime and other problems. You can make a difference in the lives of these children by supporting *Concern for Children*.

As an all-volunteer group, CFC has no overhead, so all donations go directly to our programs and services. **Now more than ever, as a small non-profit group, we depend on the generosity of our friends and families for help.** So please consider being a special Valentine and open your heart to the children! Your contribution will benefit in more ways than you could ever imagine.

Gracias por su apoyo.

Thank you for your generous support.



PLEASE, Open your Heart!

Bill Gruber, Chairperson

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