

Give Hope 2 Kids



Off to a Great Start!

As I, Jason, write this newsletter, I've just returned from a three month trip to Honduras, where I began the overseas part of our work for Give Hope 2 Kids.

For the time that I was in Honduras, I worked as a natural science teacher at Instituto el Rey, a private, Christian school which serves several very poor communities located in the Congrejal river valley of northern Honduras. I also served as the school's chaplain and spoke for the weekly chapel services.

Experiencing Honduras

Living in rural Honduras presented a different way of life, some of which I hadn't expected as I planned my trip. It only took a few days for me to identify a few of the challenges this would entail...

The first was that the home we'll be living in needed some major structural work, as termites had done significant damage. There were also lots of other pests that I wasn't used to. I had several close encounters with scorpions, and although we don't have

My trip was such a meaningful time of transition for the ministry. We moved from planning and dreaming to a place where we are directly making a difference in the lives of children in Honduras...thanks to your help!

In addition to this exciting change, we also just received our official recognition as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization by the US government. We are now able to fully pursue our mission of helping vulnerable children.

an extremely dangerous variety, they still scare me a little. Also, there were the friendly neighborhood pigs that got into the yard and ate all of the fruit trees that I had planted for Sarah (sorry babe...we'll plant more).

Then, all of the minor inconveniences of life in the third world paled in comparison to an experience I had, which changed my perspective. It helped me focus on the purpose and importance of our ministry. The following story depicts what every day life is like for one of our students...

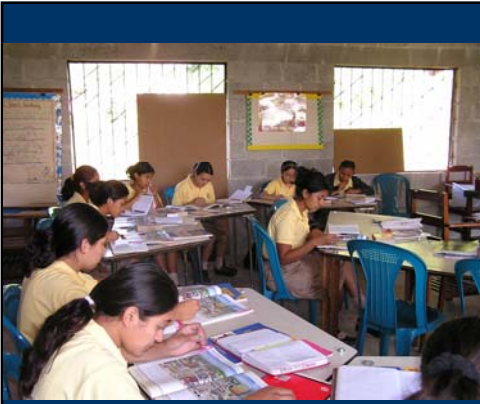
Give Hope 2 Kids

is a nonprofit organization that exists to provide shelter, education, and a stable home life for vulnerable children, such as those who have lived on the streets, have been orphaned, or who have experienced abusive family environments, so that they may develop into healthy adults who will have a positive impact in their culture.

What's Happening

- *We've successfully begun our ministry!*
- *Take a glimpse into the life of one of our students*
- *Our plans for the future*





Students at Instituto el Rey

Glimpse into a Student's Life

This eye-opening experience took place during an hour when I was preparing lesson plans and chapel services at Instituto el Rey. I was typing out the lesson plan when one of the student's mothers came to meet with the school's principal. Her daughter had fainted during gym class the previous day and the principal wanted to make sure that the girl had visited the doctor and was taking medicine if she wasn't feeling well.

As they exchanged pleasantries, the principal told the student's mother that she was concerned about her daughter. She felt that the girl may need to take a break from gym classes for a while. The mother expressed her thanks for the concern shown by the school and explained that the most likely reason her daughter had been weak and fainted was due to

hunger. The mother said that she had been out of work for more than six months and wasn't able to provide food for her children. Her children had only been eating one meal a day for several months and the mother at a loss for what to do.

After she left, the school's director elaborated on the life of this girl, our student. Not only did she lack the food to nourish her body, but she had also previously experienced awful abuse by one of her mother's ex-husbands. She suffered serious emotional problems as a result of that abuse.

As our director shared this with me, I was struck at the importance of our work. These kids are desperate for the hope and the future that this education and spiritual direction offers them.

Plans for the Future

The next few months will be busy for us and full of changes. Sarah graduates from Bethel University at the end of May, with a bachelor degree in Sociocultural Studies. We will be getting married on June 8th and then, after our honeymoon, we will be back in Minnesota for about two more weeks. After that we'll leave for Honduras **together!**

Once we are in Honduras we will be busy working on the house we'll be living in, teaching, and transitioning into life in another culture.

In August we have a team coming from Virginia to visit us. They will work at an orphanage and a few different rural schools, help with projects at Instituto el Rey, and just experience life as a volunteer worker in Honduras.

For our long-term plans, we anticipate volunteering at Instituto el Rey through this school year and the next. During this time we will use our resources to assist established orphanages that are already helping the children of this region, and we will sponsor students from the school where we're teaching.

Throughout this time as teachers, we will also conduct research for starting an orphanage. We will seek out a good location in an area of need, with plans to launch in a few years.



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Donations made to Give Hope 2 Kids are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

**Give Hope...
Make a
Difference!**

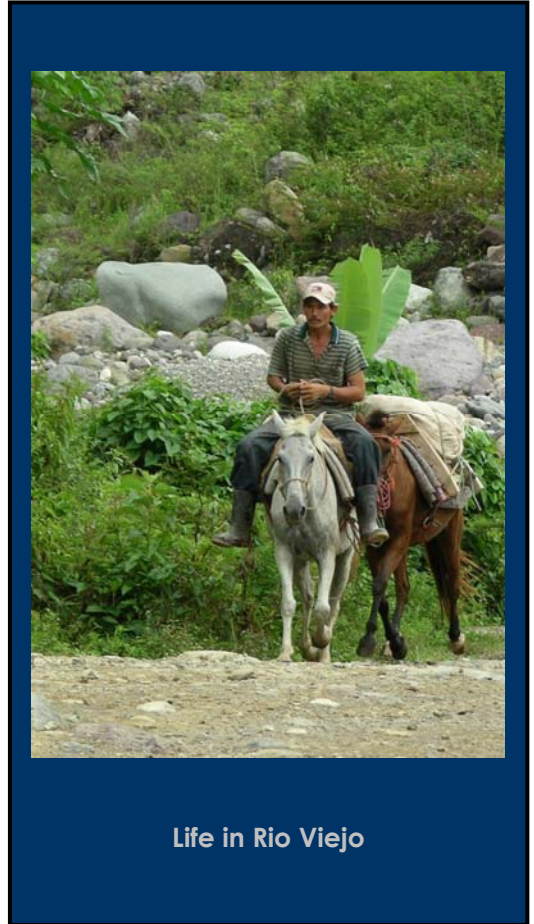
Our Thanks...

Many thanks to all of you that have helped Give Hope 2 Kids, as we seek to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children. Because of you, Give Hope 2 Kids was able to meet its spring fundraising goals. Another nonprofit offered us a matching grant of up to \$10,000 through the month of February for a start-up fund. Due to your generosity, we achieved and exceeded this goal, giving us a good financial base to begin our ministry.

Currently, we are looking for monthly supporters for the organization. No amount is too small to make a difference. Your donations will sponsor the education of several students at Instituto el Rey, help support orphanages in the region, and provide for our needs as volunteer teachers. Also, if anyone is interested in other ways to be involved, please contact us.

We thank you for your financial contributions, your encouragement, and your prayers.

Special thanks to Travis Long, Josh Cummings, and Brian Briggs who helped us with home repair during the month of March. Also, thanks to John Crabtree, our attorney, whose expertise has greatly helped us in the process of attaining official recognition as a nonprofit.



Life in Rio Viejo

An October Opportunity:

As we assist vulnerable children, we feel it is important to look to their future and their opportunities for success. Much of this depends upon the economic condition of the area. Honduras lacks the plentiful business education and training that we often take for granted. To counteract this, Give Hope 2 Kids is sponsoring a business symposium to teach business leaders and university students in the city of La Ceiba, which is an hour from where we live in Rio Viejo. The information will also be presented to the students of Instituto el Rey.

We are looking for individuals who are interested in using their gifts to encourage business development in Honduras. We are hoping to cover topics like goal setting, motivation, team building, integrity, as well as other training which is profession-specific. The symposium will run from October 10-14, 2006. Please contact us for more information if you are interested in participating. businesssymposium@givehope2kids.org

As Jason discovered, communication from Honduras is not very easy. We will be an hour's drive from phone and internet. To stay in touch, please log-on to our website, www.givehope2kids.org, where you can read our newsletters, see our video, look at pictures, and get other information. Please feel free to e-mail us at info@givehope2kids.org. Also, you can leave us messages or faxes with the numbers listed above, and they will be forwarded to our e-mail. Please let us know if you have any questions.

We value your support and thank you so much for the encouragement you have given to us as we establish Give Hope 2 Kids. We appreciate you!

Thanks,

Jason and Sarah