



Hi Everyone,

Here's the latest news...



Norm getting air shipment of hundreds of canvas tote bags for kids.

new COTA video

CFC Video Speaker's Bureau

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Welcome! Each charity featured on this site has been approved by the US Office of Personnel Management to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) - the annual workplace charity fund drive for military personnel, Federal government employees, and postal service employees.

To begin, first search either by category or keyword.

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is a United Way-style workplace donation campaign for federal workers and the military. It is our largest single source of cash donations each year, so we are grateful for the privilege of

participating as an approved agency of the Hispanic United Fund of the CFC. This year, the Video Speaker's Bureau was launched that allows participating agencies like ours to upload short videos that highlight our work. Federal workers and military personnel who are considering donating to approved charities can view these videos from various categories of service or by keyword to help decide where to pledge their dollars.

It's a great opportunity to get in front of more people in a more engaging way. Thanks to Mike Morgan who created this short, two-minute video for us to upload.

[Click here or the image above](#)

to watch the new video. Once at the site, type Children of The Americas into the keyword search box to navigate to our video page.

backpack update

We're still fighting with Mexican border officials (metaphorically speaking) to get permits that will allow us to take the remainder of backpacks to the kids. We still have over 300 backpacks full of supplies we're trying to get across. Last update I mentioned that we sent a sample backpack down to our staffer, Olivia, who took it to border authorities in order for them to determine which type of permit we needed in order to proceed. That was three weeks ago, and there still is no word. We're not giving up...more soon.

van update

We now have a new/old van in service that was kindly donated by Mark Burton of Los Angeles, CA. Ironically, it's a 1988 Chevy commercial van--the same year and make of the "tenki u" van that we lost at the border. We've still got some repairs to do to make it completely roadworthy, but we're very grateful to Mark for the donation and to Rich Gorman, our longtime supporter who let Mark know about our need and facilitated the donation from start to finish. We're almost back in business...! We'll get pics to you soon.

tote bags for kids

I got an email from Jennifer Harari at FAB/Starpoint, a New York company that manufactures clothing accessories, telling me that a mistake had been made on one of their tote bags that had been manufactured. It was a Tinker Bell tote bag that instead of saying, "Believe," it read, "Beliebe." She offered to donate some of the misspelled tote bags to us if we wanted them. Considering that most of our kids speak only Spanish, not a problem.

Our Dave Rust and Norm headed up to hot and smoky Corona, CA to pick up 1,140 tote bags from our new friends at Pacific Apparel Express, who were holding the bags for FAB. Dave said, "The kids will love 'em even though there's a slight spelling error on them. Hey, that's why we got 'em!" But take a look at the last picture below of one of the bags. With the old English lettering, I had to look for awhile to realize that the word really was misspelled. I guess the eyes see what they want to see. Thanks so much to Jennifer, FAB/Starpoint, and Pacific Apparel for the great gift for our kids.



A Pacific Apparel dock worker helping us load the shipping cartons of bags.



Norm and Dave bursting the cartons to get the bags into our vehicles.



Here's one of our new bags--can you find the misspelling? Kind of like where's Waldo...

Thanks, everyone! You make all this possible.

More soon,

Dave

--
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