



It is possible to create a world in which fewer innocent children suffer. Camus

30 years of loving children.

3rd and 4th Quarters 2014/Annual Report 2013

School Backpacks!

Assembling and Delivering School Backpacks for 2014-2015 School Year

There are three major programs that Children of The Americas maintains every year: the Food for Kids program that provides hot breakfasts to over 500 students a day; the Christmas Caravan that brings toys and smiles to children at the holidays; and the Rainbow Backpacks program that provides the year's school supplies in a sturdy backpacks to hundreds of students every September at the beginning of the school year.



Grendel Hanks, Frank Billman, Al Mooney, and Robb Forby on the assembly line filling backpacks for kids.

them all in storage for three weeks until September 8, when our Mexico coordinator, **Olivia Morentin**, had secured permits to take the supplies across.

Delivery day was picture perfect from the weather to the 10 volunteers who came to facilitate and bring their smiles along, to the smooth inspection at Mexican customs. We delivered packs to students at three public schools: Pedro de Gante, Genaro Vasquez, and Antonio Maria Melendrez, and stored the balance at our storage room at our dining room in Colonia Panamericano.

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Two ninos from Pedro de Gante school with new packs and coloring books.

In 2014, about 30 COTA volunteers gathered at **theeffect faith community** in San Juan Capistrano on August 15 to assemble hundreds of backpacks, filling them with school supplies, and bundling them for transport to the border. We held



This little beauty with her new backpack is ready for her year now at Genaro Vasquez school.

Food for Kids from St. Mike's

Corona del Mar, CA Church Raises and Delivers Metric Ton of Food

One of our staunchest supporters, St Michael and All Angels Episcopal church in Corona del Mar, CA came through again this year with a metric ton of food gathered by their congregation. Headed up by **Frances Haynes**, a small group of volunteers headed to the border and delivered the food to our nutrition center at Ejio Cardenas and then unloaded the rest at our storage facility to be distributed to our other 5 centers.

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Some of the food from St. Mike's in our storage room at Colonia Panamericano.



Frances Haynes with a little one at the school in Ejio Cardenas.

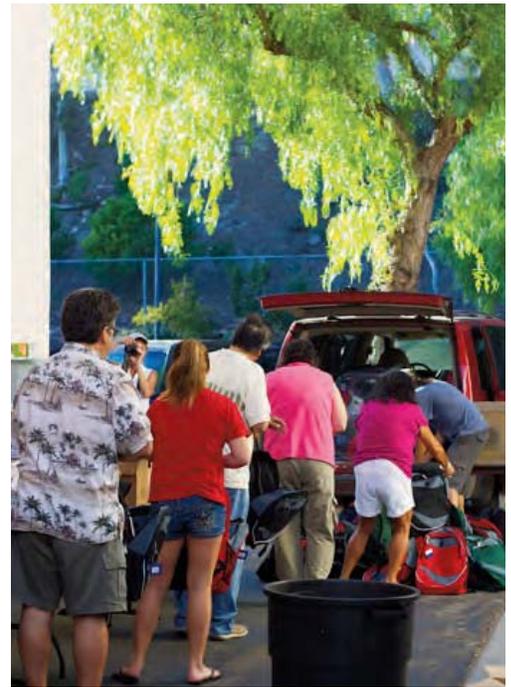
School Supplies for Kids

(Continued from Page 1)

At our last stop, our Panamericano dining room, our dining room manager **Chuy**, along with **Olivia** and several of the ladies who serve the children every day, prepared an amazing lunch and served us right where the kids eat. It seems you just can't outgive these dedicated women. No matter how hard we try, they always give more to us than we give them or their children. ■



Dave Brisbin and crew on the assembly line filling packs with a year's worth of school supplies.



The packs are assembled on the line, then counted into big bags and right onto the waiting vans.



Robb Forby on the all important pizza detail for the pack assemblers.



On delivery day, two happy ninos with their packs at Genaro Vasquez school heading back to class.



A grateful student at Pedro de Gante school with his new backpack.



Norm Kremiller unloading the truck for kids at Pedro de Gante.



Another happy student with pack and coloring book.



Olga Rios heads up the backpack delivery while the crew keeps the packs coming for kids in line.



A class at Genaro Vasquez waiting patiently for their "mochillas," backpacks.

Help Finish the Center!

COTA Nears Completion of New Day Care Center and Dining Room--Help Us Complete it Now...

Children of the Americas has been working on a new combination dining room and day care center on donated land right next to the Melendrez public school in Ejido Cardenas for over a year now. There have been delays due to funding and land grading, the need to build a retaining wall that have kept us from opening at the beginning of this year.

This is the first day care center we have built, and we know it will help transform the lives of families who live without utilities in the hills surrounding the school. Mothers, having both school and day care for all their children, can take shifts at local factories and make a big difference in their family's standard of living. It's been frustrating not being able to open as planned, but we're really close now.

We just need a few thousand dollars more to complete the interior and have our grand opening, so please consider a donation that will get us over the top and open the doors.

Big thanks to our **Norm Kremiller** for drawing the plans and tending to the construction. And just as big thanks to **Dale and Pearlne Butler of Palm Springs, CA** for their generous support in funding most of the construction costs.

Please join Dale and Pearlne in making the center a reality by year's end. ■



The new center stands right next to the Melendrez public school.



Olga Rios, above and other volunteers below, touring the new center, standing in the main dining room area outside the kitchen passthrough.



Detail of the kitchen passthrough window that will be feeding over 100 students a day before school breakfast and toddlers throughout their day care day.



View from opposite side of main floor with infant room window on left, hall door to restrooms center and kitchen passthrough on right. The center also has a walled playground area to the left accessible by sliding doors.



Detail of the infant changing and sleeping room with bassinets, changing tables, glass window,



Detail of kitchen with commercial cooktop, storage, refrigeration, running water.

St. Mike's food

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Here's are a few more pics of the good folks from St. Mike's and the kids and the ladies who serve them every day. If your church or other org can join St. Mike's in gathering and delivering a metric ton of food one month of the year, contact us! ■



The volunteers from St. Michael's who drove across to deliver their ton of food.



Here's Leti on the left next to Olivia and all the ladies who serve our kids every day and us too. Chuy is on the right.



Christmas Caravan is Coming...

The 2014 Christmas Caravan that bring thousands of toys to kids is right around the corner. **We need all the help you can give** to make sure we can take as many toys as possible to our kids. Send a donation today and help us put a smile on a child's face at Christmas. ■



Car Donation Program

You can click on this icon on our website or call the toll-free number, and a tow-truck will be there before you can say Food for Kids!



No credit card fees are deducted for Visa and MasterCard gifts.

Credit Card Gift Authorization

Card Type Visa MasterCard Amex

Card Number _____

Gift Amount \$ _____ Expiration _____ ID Code _____

Name (Please Print) _____

Signed: _____

For greater security, we now need the 3-digit ID code from the back of your card. Thanks!

2013 Financial Statement

Income and Expenses

Income	
Cash	\$122,305
In-Kind Gifts	\$798,037
Total Income	\$920,342
Expenses	
Direct Aid Cash	\$50,619
Direct Aid In-Kind	\$798,037
Payroll/Benefits	\$43,826
Payroll Taxes	\$3,631
Professional Fees	\$10,630
Day Care Center	\$11,500
Taxes and Fees	\$1,225
Office and Occupancy	\$2,493
Travel	\$2,264
Total Expenses	\$924,225

Change in Net Assets	\$(13,883)
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$14,041
Net Assets End of Year	\$10,158

Balance Sheet

Assets	
Cash	\$10,158
Equipment	\$61,043
Vehicles	\$15,369
Less Accum. Depreciation	(\$76,412)
Net Property & Equipment	\$0
Total Assets	\$10,158
Liabilities	
Total Liabilities	\$0
Net Assets	
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$10,158

2013 fundraising/administrative expenses = 2.6%.

Figures are from our 2013 audit by Sterling Ellsworth, CPA, Santa Barbara, CA. Copies of our IRS audit and 990 forms are available on our website, at charitynavigator.com, or upon request.

Please join us at 7AM every morning for two minutes of prayer for all children.

Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach him to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime. With your help, we've been teaching children to fish for 30 years. That's a lot of fish!



One Child is the quarterly newsletter of Children of The Americas.

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Board of Trustees
Our work began in Santa Teresita Orphanage in Tijuana, Mexico on March 31, 1974. Paul Weiss and his friends founded an interfaith organization, Los Ninos, to help the gifts of Santa Teresita. The work and the dream grew and by January, 1984, a new structure was needed. Children of The Americas was created to match the work with the expanding dream to reach children throughout our hemisphere, but especially kids in the US and Mexico. Help us continue to create hope, one child at a time.

Administration
Rev. Dave Brnsbin (Pres); Marian Brnsbin (Secy); Eugene Spann (Treas); Dona Shono, Frances Haynes, Bill Frey, Tony Salas, Paul Weiss (emeritus chair)

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