# **H2H NEWSLETTER**

**JUNE 2021** 



GIVING LIFE, BRINGING HOPE TO ORPHANS IN HONDURAS

CLACKAMAS, OR | WWW.H2HCV.ORG | 503.427.0258

# 2021 SENIOR CLASS



**Deysi** is 17 years old and came to our H2H family when she was 10. Her favorite subjects are math and physics. She is planning to study mechatronics when she attends college in the fall. One of her favorite memories is spending time with her friends on the playground and telling jokes. After college graduation she hopes to help her family and others. She is thankful for all her H2H Family and for all the support she has received since she came, especially the love and care that all of you have given her.



**Ana** is 19 years old and came to our H2H family when she was 5. Her favorite subjects are Biology and English and the best memories were spending time with her friends. She plans to go to college in the fall to become a nurse. She is thankful for all the help and support all of you have given her over the years.



**Norma** is 19 years old and has been with our H2H family since she was 6. She particularly enjoys Spanish and Biology in school. One of her favorite memories is when her class took a fieldtrip together. She hopes to go to college to train for a career in tourism. She wants to use her gifts to help people in need, because it is what H2H ministries has taught her. She is thankful for all your support and prayers and the huge opportunities that have been given her in our family.

Our family is so proud of every one of them. Thank you to all of you who have contributed toward this amazing accomplishment for each of our graduates, USA graduates and H2H kids.



**Cesar** is 18 years old and came to our H2H family when he was 12. His favorite subject in school was PE. His best memories in school were on field trips and celebrations in class. His hope for the future is to be successful and to have God be with him. He plans to get a job and someday have his own restaurant business. He is thankful for everything.



Darwin is 16 years old and came to live with our H2H family when he was 3. His favorite subject is math. One of his favorite memories was when he fell down in class and made them all laugh. His hope and dreams for the future are to have a good job and work hard to help his family. He plans to go to college in the fall. He is thankful for all the people who supported him these last 10 years of his education.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

~ Elanor Roosevelt

# Bili

## What's Happening

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#### **Prayer Needs**

More loving adults to help at the village

Sponsors for our new kids

Funds to operate the Schools

Because we have so many children who attend for free or reduced rates, we need help As we head into June 2021, it has been 1 year and 3 months since our world became Covid crazy...and, by God's grace, we are still here overcoming the challenges!! Praise Him!! This month is all about GRADUATIONS!

## **USA Graduates**



In the US, **licy** received her associates degree from Centralia College in Early Childhood Education in Washington State.

**Francisco** received his associates degree in business accounting from SUNY-Orange college in New York. Here is the link to his college Associates virtual recognition.

https://sunyorange.stageclip.com/clip/francisco-antonio-villanueva-associateof-science-cf893



## **Bilingual School Kindergarten**



**Dunia**, presently our youngest family member, is 5 years old. She came to our H2H family when she was only one. She loves to sing and dance. Even at her young age, she is very responsible about doing her chores and her school lessons, which she is very serious about. She loves her daddy Oscar and spending time with him when he is at the Village.

## Online challenges teaching Finance Classes

Teaching budgeting and personal finance for the seniors in both of our schools gave me a real appreciation for what our teachers have had to deal with in this distance learning environment. Technical difficulties like variable internet performance and intermittent camera or microphone functionality, combined with the inability to see the student's facial expression sometimes, or what they are writing on their paper, created a real obstacle to the learning experience. I can laugh now, but the day that my laptop went to sleep in the middle of my presentation and disconnected me from the students caused a temporary panic for me. And I only had to do this for a couple of hours per day for a couple of weeks. Our dedicated teaching staff has had to deal with this all year!

### Dave Batchelor



Dave Batchelor, a retired teacher and counselor from Chehalis, has been volunteering at Heart to Heart in the school and village since 2017. He often stays for a month at a time, but this year because of COVID, only for two and a half weeks. This year he was able to help the younger children with their online classes, especially in English and math. He was impressed with the incredible dedicated staff at the school, who put

together creative lessons that kept the children engaged, and the staff at the village who kept things rolling smoothly.

Dave was also able to visit the Heart to Heart produce farm and participate in the food distribution to the families affected by the hurricanes in Honduras. Without generous donations from people like you, and the help of our children, those food gifts to the needy could not be made. Also delivered with the food was a message of hope in Jesus by Oscar. He said the farm was impressive with acres and acres of produce getting close to harvest time. Dave said the village is a great place to be, because of all the love the children have to give. And that keeps him coming back. He said he gets much more than he ever gives on these trips!

## **Senior Clothes Shopping**

Five of our kids are graduating from our bilingual school this year. Part of the process consists of giving presentations on assigned topics and doing an interview with members of the Government's School Board. There are very specific dress requirements for these events: Boys wear a white dress shirt, necktie and black slacks, and the girls wear a long-sleeved white blouse with black slacks. In the United States, it would be no big deal to



take the kids out for a couple of hours and buy everything needed for all five kids. In Honduras that is not the case this year. Stores that normally would have everything we needed either had none of the items, or they had a very limited selection of some of the items we needed. In the end, Eliny and I spent about twelve hours going to several different stores over two days with the kids to get the clothes they needed. One interesting twist on the Honduras shopping experience is that each place of business has either an armed guard or an employee who meets each patron at the door to apply hand sanitizer and to take your temperature. You also are asked to step on a shoe sanitizing mat before entering the store.

~ Rick Stephens

# **Mother's Day**

We celebrated Mother's Day while I was at the village. It was nice to be able to give each house mom a little gift. As two of the moms were out sick, I went to their houses where I was able to let them know how important they are to us and to pray with them. Please continue to pray for all our workers and their families. They are actually the front-line care givers for our children so they are super critical to our mission.



#### REFLECTIONS ON MY TRIP TO HONDURAS BY RICK STEPHENS

Finally! After a little over a year of Covid restrictions, hurricane related delays and getting through the vaccination process, I arrived at our children's home. The kids, house moms, and school employees all gave me a warm welcome and really made me feel at home.

## **Letter Writing**



When I arrived at the village, after asking me about the trip to the river, the kids all asked me if we were going to do letters. They really look forward to receiving the letters from their sponsors and they also enjoy writing back. Doing letters with the littles, one on ten was pure pandemonium, but the kids had a ton of fun and their letters got done. The older girls were able to do their letters with less help. The night we did letters with the boys the electricity went off and the batteries for the solar panels had an insufficient charge to sustain us, so we wound up doing the letters by candlelight. I owe a HUGE

"Thank You" to Dave Batchelor for his help with some of the younger boys who are learning to write.

As I was planning my trip, I observed that no letters had come in for almost half of the kids. I want to say "Thank You" to all who responded to my request to write to the kids. And, I would also ask everybody who has not written a letter to any of the kids in the recent past to please jot out a note to one of them now. All in all, the kids are doing as well as can be expected, and it was fun to be with them once again.

## A year's worth of birthdays celebrated

Right after I arrived, we took the kids to the river to celebrate the birthdays we had missed over the past year. We rented a stretch of beach from a family whose property borders the river so that we could maintain our compliance with the rules against gatherings of more than one family. There were barbequed hot dogs, chips, pop, and swimming. For most of the kids this was the first time they had been off of the property in a year, so the excitement was very high. Chris Himm put together a birthday card with some candy for every kid and we passed them out at the river, calling each kid by name to come up and get his/her card before serving birthday cake. The kids had a great day and it was fun to watch them enjoy themselves.



### **Body and Soul Food Ministry**



God has truly blessed this ministry through the generosity of so many people. We have been given the ability to help not only the kids under our care, but also many families who have been displaced by the flooding and mud slides that resulted from the hurricanes in November and December. I heard on the news that the devastation caused by these hurricanes is comparable to the damage caused by Hurricane Mitch back in 1998, which was the event that God used to bring H2H into being. We still have families living at the public school in Tegucigalpita, where our village is located, and the needs are great all over. We have been ministering each week to a number of families in several poor communi-

ties. When we go to the people, we sing some songs, preach the Gospel, pray with them and then hand out food bags. To participate in this process is both rewarding and somewhat heartwrenching. It's great to help, but it is hard to see so many people in such great need. One boy I prayed for is only six years old, but he has had part of his intestines removed and he is confined to a wheelchair and has to wear both diapers and a colostomy bag. One lady, a mother of three, was hit by a car and left for dead in the road. After spending a year in the hospital, she is now moving about with the aid of crutches, but her injuries won't heal without surgically installing some screws. In Honduras, the patient has to go find and purchase the screws on their own, and then give them to the doctor for use in the surgery. Oscar is looking for the place to buy these special screws so we can help this woman recover.

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS





Kathrine - Age 26

Elena - Age 21





Nelson - Age 20

Roselli - Age 17





Juliana - Age 15

Isaac - Age 17





Blanca - Age 15

Paola - Age 15





Jairo N - Age 13

Lorena - Age 14





Ahimar - Age 10

Victoria - Age 9





Anyeli - Age 8



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2 Corinthians 1:3-5 (NIV)

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ."

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL US AT OFFICE@H2HCV.ORG OR CALL AT 503.427.0258 TO LET US KNOW.

When it comes to orphans we're not liberals or conservatives. We are radicals!

# TO OUR HEART TO HEART COMMUNITY—THANK YOU!

# Unwanted visitors of the slithery kind

I was told that due to the heat, the snakes were out in greater number than usual. Nelson had to kill one he found while cleaning a storage closet. Lourdes found one when she opened the oven. Selena found one in the bundle of clothes she was moving from the washer to the dryer. One night, just after I got back to the village, I realized I had left my phone in the car, so I ran out to get it. When I turned around to go back into the house there was a snake between me and the door. I called a guard and he came with his machete to kill it for me. While we were driving to our farm, we watched a snake chase down and eat a frog by the side of the road. As Mary said, "It was a real Wild Kingdom experience."

~ Rick Stephens

# **Gift/Letter Dates**

To get gifts & letters to our kids on time we need to receive them at our office by the following dates:

3rd Quarter June 24, 2021

4th Quarter October 1, 2021

Christmas October 1, 2021

Thank you for supporting our kids.

Newsletter Feedback? Contact us—office@h2hcv.org