



# YWAM MEDELLIN

May 2008

Telephone/Fax - 574 216 1818 or E-mail - [jucmed@hotmail.com](mailto:jucmed@hotmail.com)

**Hello Friends,**



Warm greetings to all of you. We're writing to share with you all the things that God has been doing in our ministry in this first semester of 2008 and to thank you for your prayers and support. This year we're facing many large challenges: we need to find a new staff house to move into, we have three of the girls doing their

Discipleship Training School (DTS) in Cartagena, we're still working on plans to buy a ministry farm, and we continue to grow with the arrival of three new children in our homes - one girl and two boys. All this is to say that we are expecting to see God's hand at work.

*With love, Enith Diaz*

## Bethel Boys' Home

God is more than sufficient in his great love. We are celebrating a new stage in the lives of Over and Jeison who turned 18 recently. As they have grown up in our care, through the joy, sadness, and struggle, we have seen God's character formed within them. For example, even though Over didn't have a good father, God has given him the grace to become a very positive father figure to some of the younger boys.



Meanwhile, we have also received two new members in our household, Alex and Alfredo. Alfredo's story is indicative of many of our boys. He has come to us at 7 years old, shortly after his father was killed. He is the oldest of five siblings, and he has never spent a single day in school because he has had to work for food ever since he was little. Please pray that he would be able to forgive the person who killed his father. This is a new starting point for him as well as for Alex. We hope they will be able to



heal the wounds of the past in discovering the immense love and care of God the Father.

## Ebenezer Girls' Home

In these first several months of 2008, God has taken care of us in wonderful ways. We currently have 15 beautiful girls between the ages of 5 and 17: one is in pre-school, ten in grade-school, and four in high-school. In December we celebrated the graduation of two of our young ladies, Angie and Betty, and we are proud to announce that Betty graduated with honours. We are also proud that both decided to further their spiritual growth by doing a DTS (school of missions) in Cartagena, which began in January and ends in June.



We thank God for our new refrigerator and stove, among other donations, and we were also able to obtain health coverage for five more of our girls through the government social welfare program.

### *The Financial Times*

The Colombian economy is very strong these days, but for us it has VERY difficult. We have always had a lot of financial support from outside the country but, in the last 2 years; **the dollar has lost more than 40% off its value against the Colombian peso.**

This means that **we are trying to provide for our children with only 60% of our prior income** from outside the country.

Obviously we are praying, but also (like the birds of the air) we are searching for our provision. For this reason we have formed a Resource Team.

This group of volunteers is knocking on the doors of businesses and also looking for private sponsors both on the national and international level. Please pray for them.

**Also, if the Lord touches your heart, you can sponsor a boy or girl from the ministry. Write to us!**

## Humanitarian Commission



From the 21-25 of February we were in Las Parcelas, Cordoba. This is a poor, marginalized village of 350 people and we were doing an intensive health and community assistance outreach, sharing God's love through acts of service and evangelism. We had about 30 professionals and volunteers ministering through a dozen different teams such as medical attention, counselling, social work, agriculture, children's ministry, lice treatment, evangelism, etc. We ended each day with a church service beneath a beautiful rising moon.

We are already planning our next outreach which will be from June 19-25 in a shanty-town called Villa Clemen on the outskirts of Montelibano, Cordoba, Colombia. It is a community of about 3,000 displaced families living in dire poverty, often under plastic tarps, with no potable water and no sewage or sanitation services. Our goal is to lead

a team of 200 volunteers to undertake either a water or an outhouse project, besides meeting the other needs as mentioned in the paragraph above. Because of this we have a rather large budget, but we trust that God will supply in his abundance.

## Street Program

In the street team we continue working with the children and a few new families in the hotel, giving out bread and hot chocolate and showing them God's love. We've gotten to know a young woman with a drug habit who has a 16-month old child living there in deplorable conditions. Still, she is unwilling to let him live with his grandmother, nor to turn him over to a government institution. However, he very much needs a secure, protected place to live, and she has told us that she would perhaps be willing to let him come live with us. It's not an isolated incident. There are many children living and working on the street with no place of refuge. For this reason, we are planning to open a home in the second half of this year where children like this could have a home and find a helping hand towards a better future.



## Other Events

- On New Year's Eve we held a special dinner for 1,020 people left homeless after heavy flooding in Cordoba. We wish to extend a special thank you to the Volker Missions Center at the Colombian Bible Seminary for supplying two whole cows for the cook-out.
- We participated in a Christian Education workshop, especially for our staff, thanks to Professor Philip Allen.
- In February we were visited by 20 supporters from Sweden, who came to learn more about our ministry.
- This month, over four days, we offered a conference on "Discipling Nations" for 46 pastors in Montelibano, developing the theme of a holistic, biblical worldview, presented by Pastor Xiomara Suarez, from Venezuela. The pastors received it enthusiastically.

**Donations** - Please make your cheque out to "YWAM" and mail it to:

**In the USA** - YWAM – Accounting  
P.O. Box 3000  
Garden Valley, TX  
USA 75771-3000

**In Canada** – YWAM Project Funding  
P.O. Box 57100  
2480 E Hastings St  
Vancouver, BC  
Canada V5K 5G6

Due to government regulations **our name cannot appear anywhere on the cheque.** Just enclose a separate note specifying that the gift is for YWAM, Medellín. \*\*\* If you are sending support for a staff member or special project, you need to contact us directly with the designation, if possible by e-mail ([jucmed@hotmail.com](mailto:jucmed@hotmail.com)). \*\*\*

**In Sweden** – Organization Amigos - PlusGiro - PG 49 49 31 – 9. Mark the payment with "UMU Medellín."

**In Other Countries** – Please write to us and we will send the information on how to make an electronic transfer.

**Mail** - YWAM Medellín, A.A. 5156, Medellín, Colombia

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