



# YWAM MEDELLIN

**Celebrating 15 Years of Challenges, Blessing & Success  
In Missionary Service – Nov 2008**

Dear Friends,

Fifteen years of Missionary Training, Medical Outreaches, Raising Abandoned Children and dozens of other activities; now it is time to celebrate! For this reason, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November, we are going to take a short break and celebrate the faithfulness of God in our lives.



In a “Red Carpet” celebration, we are going to worship our Lord, share testimonies of His mercy, talk about the future and provide the opportunity to our friends and alumni to share in His glory with a succulent supper.

To our friends who are closeby, **We Have the Privilege to Invite You!** Write to us for more information.

**To our friends who are far away, we invite you to pray and give thanks to God for His goodness, more so because we are approaching Christmas.**

**Our success is in Him, but it has been provided through your raised voices and extended hands.**

With much love and our wish for a Merry Christmas,

*Enith Diaz & Staff*

**Bathtime in the Hotel**



## In the Hotel – A Visitor’s View

I can’t say that I am new to the street, having worked in Bogota for many years, but visiting with Rosita and her work in Medellin left an impact almost beyond words.

The night is an event of contrasting images. We started out at 6 pm, preparing gallons of hot chocolate and sandwiches, but here I started to notice the challenges of ministering to so many children. The

sandwiches this week were bread and butter, no meat, no cheese, no lettuce; not from choice, but from necessity.

We then started the twenty minute walk to the “Hotel.” The name might bring many pictures to mind, but it is in no way luxurious. Picture a long ago painted hallway with 40 doors, full of half dressed children running around and various unidentified and some all too obvious, odours floating through the air. Now stack that hallway various levels high and you have the “Hotel.”



Our arrival brings a fresh spurt of activity as the children realize that the team has arrived. More than the food, they are interested in the games and the hugs we bring.

The 8 by 5 metre room quickly fills with over 100 kids and their parents. And what parents! Imagine every kind of street person that you have ever seen: prostitutes, recyclers, thieves, beggars and then throw in some indigenous people from the Andes and other regions.

What follows is more than two hours of games and activities, with the occasional fight breaking out, followed by the “evening meal.” The latter is also the cause of much contention with the kids fighting for position in a long line of empty stomachs. For some this is their only meal of the day.

It is difficult to understand the very violent way that these children relate to each other without understanding the environment where they live. When a child sees all of his role models relating to each other savagely, then he also learns to be savage.



If was hard to leave the “Hotel” and continue on into the street, knowing that the light we brought to their lives would soon diminish, but having sown the seeds of love



One room in the hotel, kitchen & bedroom in one.

into their lives we can only pray for the harvest. There are many children here that are ready to leave the streets and begin a new life, but there is no where to place them. **We pray for that home, the one that we wish to establish and the loving people to care for His children.**

Darren McCrea  
YWAM Bogota

## Beth Boy's Home

**Over Maturana** is one of the boys in our home that we have spoken about before. At 18 years, he's the oldest of four siblings, all of whom are under our care. When he was 14, he and his younger sister and brothers were witness to the brutal stabbing death of their mother at the hands of their father, who then took his own life as well, leaving them orphaned and deeply scarred.

They came to live in our homes four years ago, shortly after the terrible episode, in a state of profound trauma and grief. Over would spend hours sitting on his bed with his sheets and his sorrow draped over him like a shroud, his countenance was dark and troubled, and he rarely found reason to smile.

But the change that has slowly come over him since that time has been nothing short of a miracle; it has been a redemptive act of God's healing presence. Time does not heal all wounds, but God in his grace and in his loving fatherhood has entered into the broken places and has not only helped Over to feel his love and restoration, but has also brought him into a remarkably healthy manhood.

**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

**Web** - [www.geocities.com/ywammedellincolombia](http://www.geocities.com/ywammedellincolombia)

Some of the youngest boys have even adopted him as a father-figure and come to sit in his lap at TV time or during house meetings.

On the final evening of our most recent outreach to a displaced community, during a time of communal confession and forgiveness, Over had a tremendous spiritual breakthrough. He approached the stage to take the microphone, and with a broken voice, publicly forgave his father for all the pain and desolation he caused in their lives. Of course not everything is healed at once, but when you witness his generous smile now, it's a thing so charming and beautiful that you want to remain there for a while, in the presence of that hope and promise, remembering that God is still in the business of making things right and whole.

Not only is Over ministering in these outreaches, but he is also part of the street team. Here you see him with two of his many "children." God has truly given him a father's heart.



## Water for Refugees

We are developing a Well Project for more than 3000 displaced families without potable water in Montelibano, Colombia. These people live in extreme poverty without adequate housing, water or education.

**In the month of July we started a three stage project to build (drill) a 165 metre deep well.** Thank God we are now in the second phase of the Project, preparing the well for the last phase, the installation of the elevated water tank and the distribution (plumbing) system. We hope to have sufficient provision to be able to finish this project by Christmas.