

The City of Children Shinsky Orphanage - 2016 Highlights

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GREAT SUCCESS: We celebrated our 7th Anniversary this year. If you look at the middle picture above, you will see our first 9 children, with the 4 in the front and 1 in the middle of the second row who are brothers and sisters. If you look at the 1st picture to the left, you can see 2 of the 5 brothers and sisters graduated from high school this year, with additional children to graduate within the next 2 years. The middle picture has a young man at the left of the group named Gustavo. In 2009, when we opened, Gustavo was doing a year of service at the orphanage. Today, Gustavo is completing his last year of residency to become a doctor. Gustavo is in the picture to the far right. These successes are a result of the exceptional support of many people. What a blessing!



EXCEPTIONAL SUCCESS: The first picture highlights 5 of our children who graduates from high school this year. We now have a total of 9 high school graduates who are either doing a 2 years of service, or completed their years of service and are now attending college in Monterey Mexico, or in a technical school. The young lady in the middle picture is Leslie. She is from our orphanage and attended her last 2 years of high school in Cuernavaca Mexico at the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) High School. The Shinsky Orphanage is a partner with NPH. This year there were 75 high school graduates from the 3 NPH homes in Mexico. Our graduate Leslie was the valedictorian of the entire class. We are so proud of her! The picture on the right is of some of our current children in Matamoros who are progressing in education. Education is the key to the future and a high priority for all of our children.

Day of Holy Kings (Día de los Santos Reyes) is another special day for our children and staff. The 3 Kings, John Shinsky, John Duffey, and Chris Duffey deliver candy to our children the night before Christmas. Johnny Diaz in the picture to the far right supports our children in so many ways, along with his family that has arranged for the many Christmas gifts our children receive. This is truly a time of celebration and blessings.



Dia de los Muertos—the Day of the Dead: Every year we celebrate Dia de los Muertos and Halloween. Our staff work with our children to create their costumes. As you can see below, our children have wide range of outfits and really enjoy the celebration. Also, we had Godzilla join us this year. The children loved it.



FAMILY: The first picture f of our younger children who love to have scavenger hunts and discover new things around the orphanage. The second picture of John & Becky Duffey with their God Children. The Duffey's are a true blessing to us all in so many ways. The picture to the right is of Cindy and some of our children. **We are blessed to be a family!**



SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS: We have a number of celebrations throughout the year. We are very committed to developing our children in many different ways. Spirituality is a major focus as you can see below that our children receive and celebrate their first communion. We also celebrate the birthdays of our children, staff, and all members of our family. As you can see below, we celebrated Cindy's 40th birthday for the 10th time or more. ☺



VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE: I wanted to share the exceptional successes we have had at the orphanage before I share some sad news. Damon Nolan, a kind and loving man who oversaw the building of our Matamoros Home passed away on December 7th. His wife June Nolan recently passed away on October 30th. The contributions that Damon made are immeasurable. His dedication and determination to lead the efforts to voluntarily build a home for our children in Matamoros Mexico, over an 8 year period, 5 days a week, from ages 75 to 82, is a remarkable act of kindness and service that will live in our hearts forever. Also, the sacrifices that Mrs. Nolan made to not have her husband by her side while he was voluntarily working in Mexico for 8 years, is another exceptional example of the amazing commitment both of them had to serving others. I worked closely with Damon for 8 years and beyond. He is one of the most remarkable humble humanitarians I have ever met. Our children are truly blessed because of the kindness and support of Damon and Mrs. Nolan. Cindy and I, along with our children and staff are deeply grateful for all that Damon and Mrs. Nolan have done for our orphanage. Damon and Mrs. Nolan's legacy is truly a model for us all.



***PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING OUR CHILDREN.
YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL CHANGE LIVES FOREVER! THANK YOU***