

# IMPACT REPORT

## APRIL 2024



We are committed to the children in our care and their families; working to provide the spiritual support and education necessary to empower families and communities and transform generations. Our focus is on raising sons and daughters of God within stable, healthy, and productive families.

Our hope is that someday, these same children will grow into adults who will bless their communities, impact their nation, and above all, glorify God.

Your monthly giving sustains this ministry, enabling us to continue doing the work God has called us to do!

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### Clinic

Over the course of 2023, our Medical Clinic attended over 450 patients, including both our internal families and students, as well as members of the community.

But amidst our everyday work, we witnessed an extraordinary miracle in one of our children that has left us utterly in awe of God. [To hear the whole story, see the Digging Deeper handout!](#)





## Children's Homes

This spring, the boys have really been into basketball and board games, especially Settlers of Catan. Meanwhile, the girls' homes are busy with vocational class projects, that also happen to be very tasty, and welcoming new girls into their homes.

At the beginning of this year, we re-launched our monthly Sponsorship email. At the end of every month, this goes out, sharing an update on each of our houses, birthdays, and specific prayer requests. Our sponsors have loved being able to connect with the children and families they love and support in this way. *To find out how you can be added to this list, contact [yourfriends@foce.org](mailto:yourfriends@foce.org).*

## Families United



**46 CHILDREN IN  
FAMILIES UNITED PROGRAM**

**7 NEW CHILDREN**  
\*Since Nov

Since September, when many of you generously contributed, we were on the hunt for a new truck for our Families United program. We had a difficult time, due to the trucks being beyond our budget or in less-than-ideal condition. However, we are praising the Lord for the fact that we have acquired a new truck, and the way in which we did is just another testament to His faithfulness.



During a church activity on campus, a family—a mom and her son—rolled up in their beautiful truck. Fabian jokingly asked if they were interested in selling the truck, and to our surprise...they were! A couple days later we had the truck inspected and it was in perfect condition. But what was truly of the Lord is that the mom felt led to sell the truck for a specific amount...which was the exact amount that we had raised.

We are so thankful to all of you for your contributions that allowed us to purchase a new truck, and praising the Lord for providing us with one.



## **Casa Bernabé Christian School**

Casa Bernabé Christian School's enrollment is growing like never before; seeing our total student number increase by 15% since our last school year ended this past November. There are several children and families from our surrounding community who are desperate for quality education. They are currently on our wait-list as we seek solutions that support our current growth and potential expansion.

At the beginning of the school year, we had shared with you all that we were looking for an English teacher. In His grace, He has provided us with an individual who is doing a wonderful job teaching part-time, but we are still prayerfully seeking a full-time certified English teacher. If you know of someone who might be interested in this position, please have them reach out to [info@foce.org](mailto:info@foce.org).

**Are you interested in supporting the education of these children directly? Scan the QR code to find out more!**



## Project Independence

### Transition Program

We have been so thrilled to witness the success of our nine kids who are currently enrolled in our transition program, where they are learning to work and acquire life skills in preparation for integration into Guatemalan society. All nine of them have jobs and are finding success in their roles. Four of these young adults are employed at the San Gregorio Hotel, which has been a longstanding supporter and partner of Casa Bernabé.



*One of our young adults hard at work!*

### Vocational Program

We are so excited to share that the renovation of Salon de Belleza is complete! The new salon has doubled in size, providing much more space to accommodate more cosmetology students. Additionally, all new lighting was installed, as well as increased counter space and vanity storage, and new shampoo chairs. This project has been a work in progress over the past few months, and we are so grateful for all the teams who helped complete it including Cornerstone Church, Connection Point, and Heritage Christian Academy. Thank you!



## **Our Story, Your Story, The Story**

### *Celebrating 40 Years at Casa Bernabé*

We are delighted to be celebrating Casa Bernabé's 40th anniversary this July. As we have been preparing to commemorate this significant milestone both in Guatemala and in the States, we have been reflecting on God's enduring faithfulness throughout the life of Casa Bernabé, marked by periods of hills and valleys.

2 Peter 1:3 says, "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness," and here at Casa Bernabé, we firmly believe this to be true. God has equipped us for every step of our journey, from its inception 40 years ago, to today. It is with this truth as our foundation that we have purpose in our work.

Through all the various celebratory events coming up, we are embracing a central theme: "Our Story, Your Story, The Story." This theme encapsulates our collective narrative, highlighting Casa Bernabé's journey, the invaluable role you have played in that, and the purpose behind it all – sharing THE story of the gospel of Jesus Christ with vulnerable children and families in Guatemala.

We would love to have you join us in celebrating this milestone, as we give thanks to God for His faithfulness and provision. Together, we want to honor the past, embrace the present, and eagerly anticipate the future, knowing that all of our stories are guided by the steadfast love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

You'll find a calendar of events on the next page, as well as a few specific ways for you to take part in them.



## Upcoming Events



### April-June 15th | Pack Your Bags Raffle

We are excited to be bringing this back, and to be offering 7 different trips for you to “Choose Your Own Adventure” from. You can find out more about each trip and purchase your tickets at [foce.org/pybr](https://foce.org/pybr)

*Want a challenge? Aim to sell 10 tickets by May 31st. When you sell a ticket, ask the buyer to mention your name in the note box during their purchase so we can know they found out about the raffle through you!*

### June 15th | Roots Down Gala in Sandusky, Ohio



If you are interested in attending the Roots Down Gala, or plan on attending and would like to sponsor a table, please reach out to [yourfriends@foce.org](mailto:yourfriends@foce.org).

*Share Your Story: Do you have a story or testimonial about Casa Bernabé that you'd like to share? We'd love to gather as many as we can to share with our Casa Bernabé community. You can record it in any format you prefer (written, video, audio recording) and send it to us at [yourfriends@foce.org](mailto:yourfriends@foce.org).*



### October 27th | Anniversary Celebration at Casa Bernabé

As you know, Dias de Gracias is Casa Bernabé's biggest event, where they take time to thank God for His blessings and provision. This year, they're making it extra special by celebrating 40 years of God's faithfulness. Stay tuned for more details!

**FOLLOW US!**



@casabernabe



Casa Bernabe

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**OR RESOURCES:**

[info@foce.org](mailto:info@foce.org)

<https://www.foce.org>



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# DIGGING DEEPER

## CASA BERNABÉ MEDICAL CLINIC

E has been at Casa Bernabé since infancy, his infectious smile illuminating every room he enters. Early in his life, he was diagnosed with Glycogen Storage Disease Type IV, liver cirrhosis, and mild erosive gastritis. Despite medical interventions such as endoscopies and nutritional guidance, his condition deteriorated to the point of requiring a liver transplant. Although E's condition was stable, it was overshadowed by the stage of his disease. The complications of this disease can cause serious problems, such as portal hypertension, heart failure, bleeding, and/or ruptured esophageal varices. Any of these complications would prevent E from being able to qualify for a liver transplant and could even be fatal. With this urgency, we began pursuing a transplant, and from the moment we started, we were met with numerous obstacles that seemingly made it impossible...E's lack of biological family, and therefore the challenge to find a compatible donor...the inability to perform the transplant in Guatemala...finding a hospital in the United States that specialized in liver transplants...finding a host family to house E near the hospital in the United States.



Moreover, the staggering cost of surgery alone being \$800,000 heightened the overwhelming nature of the situation.

Our hearts were burdened, heavy with the weight of E's condition. The intricacies of his situation were incredibly overwhelming, both logistically and financially. It wasn't just a matter of doors not opening; it felt as though there wasn't even a door to knock on. *So we prayed.*

Like Jehoshaphat before battle, we set our faces to seek the Lord, trusting in His faithfulness and provision.

In early February, E had his yearly check-up with a specialist, who was a colleague of the doctor who diagnosed E and was very familiar with E's case. As he was performing E's check-up, he was confused. E had no sign of liver failure. He had no signs of anything, in fact. He looked so healthy, that the doctor didn't even believe he was the same patient. Not being a follower of Christ, he assumed there must've been a problem with his initial diagnosis and that he wasn't sick to begin with.

But we know there was no mistake in E's initial diagnosis. We saw how sick and close to death he was so many times over the short span of his life. We know that we serve a God who is the Great Physician. We know that He has the power to heal.

After this appointment, E had more testing done to confirm that the diagnosis did in fact change. *It is with great joy that we can share that we received those results and E is completely healed!* This truly is a miracle from the Lord, a testament to His power and mercy. Over the course of the past 40 years, we have witnessed numerous of these miracles. Yet, oh, how quickly we forget! But, once again, we find ourselves in awe of His wondrous works, each miracle serving to deepen our faith in Him. As Psalm 92:5-8 proclaims, "How great are Your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep. The stupid man cannot know; the fool cannot understand this: that though the wicked sprout like grass and all evildoers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever; but You, O Lord, are on high forever." Truly, God's goodness endures through every season, and it is with the deepest reverence and gratitude that we offer Him all the glory and praise for who He is.

*For the privacy and safety of our children, we kindly request that the information contained in this impact report not be shared, forwarded, or posted on social media or any public blog space. Thank you for caring for them in this way!*