

Shelter the Homeless International Projects



October 2008

One Giant Step

The construction site is prepared; the sturdy fence surrounds the property; the plans are ready. Now it is TIME TO BUILD the orphanage in El Salvador.



Proposed orphanage campus rendering by architect, William Aguilar, El Salvador.

The only thing standing between dreams and reality is raising \$150,000 for construction. The total cost of the project is \$250,000. Of this amount, SHIP contributors have already donated more than \$100,000.

Currently, 30 children and two adults eat, sleep, and do homework in a facility of less than 1,600 square feet, with a concrete driveway for a place to play. This new home will house more than 60 children and have a learning center where they can be tutored and taught. It will give them acres on which to play (including a soccer field!); provide

food from the banana, mango, and lime trees; and allow them to plant a garden and raise animals.

The children who currently live at the orphanage are fortunate; they have a roof over their heads, food to eat, and loving parents to give them hugs, encouragement, and gentle discipline when needed. But there are thousands still on the streets. The new location will allow the size of the orphanage to double, giving hope of a more secure life to more children.

Will you please pray and consider how you can help SHIP raise the \$150,000 needed to build a new home for the orphans in El Salvador? Your tax-deductible contributions can change the lives of children who, without your help, have little hope.

New Executive Director



Jaime Crouse

In August of this year, Jaime Crouse became a member of our team as the Executive Director of S.H.I.P. Jaime brings over seven years experience in the non-profit/educational field,

as well as experience in public relations and specialized Christian ministry areas. She received her education at North Greenville University in Greenville, South Carolina, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina. Please join us in welcoming Jaime as we look forward to the future of SHIP!

Would You Like to Learn More about SHIP?

Check out our new website: www.shipinternational.org! If you would like someone to present a program for your church or civic organization, contact SHIP's Executive Director, Jaime Crouse, at jaime@shipinternational.org, or give her a call at 979.260.7447.

SHIP is incorporated in the State of Texas as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to SHIP are deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Mission Team Builds Casita

On July 5, SHIP took a 17-member mission team to El Salvador to begin construction at the new orphanage site. The group was an interesting mix: high schoolers, college students, professor, business man, mechanic, computer genius, builder, nurse. What was God thinking when He put this group together? And how on earth would any construction actually get done?

But get it done, He did. "I was impressed how God used everyone's abilities and skills and brought them together to get the job done," said Ben Sanders, mechanic extraordinaire

and newest taxi driver in San Salvador. "I was VERY impressed how hard the kids worked and how well they worked together. I feel it was money well spent as a family trip as it made an impression that we will not likely forget."

The purpose of the trip was to construct a small house for the land caretaker. Jacinto and his wife Maria Lidia have lived for many, many years on the 12 acres now owned by SHIP. His current home was not very stable, and it was also right in the path of construction. Jacinto picked out a site, and SHIP proceeded to build him a new home.

Few of the team had construction experience, and no one had ever built in conditions such as these. No electricity. No water. All building materials – concrete blocks,

Said Sherry Strode of the orphans, "They don't have much, but they have Jesus. When all you have is Jesus, you realize that is all you need."

sand, concrete mix, lumber – had to be transported by hand either up or down an incredibly steep slope. It was the rainy season, and the showers made the trek treacherous. Some of the ingenious high school students installed steps to make the coming and going easier and safer.

It was a week of intense work, learning new skills, experiencing new aches and pains. A week of making new friends, learning to cook pupusas with Maria Lidia, and sharing the love of Jesus in an El Salvadoran jungle.



Ben Sanders – San Salvador's newest taxi driver.



Mission team members pray at the worksite in El Salvador (notice concrete block wall in foreground). The team came to help, but they knew where their real help came from.

College Bound

After the mission trip to El Salvador, Kay Sanders had a burden – some might even call it a passion – to see that the four students graduating high school had an opportunity to go to college. Less than \$100 a month covers tuition and transportation costs. “We in the U.S. spend that on Starbucks!” said Kay. It’s not

expensive, but it is out of reach for them. Kay presented the opportunity to her Sunday School class at Central Baptist Church, Bryan/College Station, Texas, and people have stepped forward to share in Kay’s vision. All four can attend college when the new school year begins in January 2009.

Thank You!

Thanks to Mac and Karla Devin, who donated a Suburban that went to the Acuña, Mexico, orphanage. The orphanage was in dire need of dependable transportation for transporting children and groceries and other necessities for the growing family in Acuña.

Congratulations to Genesis Corner House

Children in need are not just found in foreign countries. We find them right here at home. Cheryl and Isaac Butler saw that need and moved to fill the gap by purchasing a home near downtown Bryan, renovating

it, and passing stringent state standards. They now are ready to welcome children who have been abused and neglected. SHIP has partnered with Genesis Corner House and helped them make the new home ready by

providing labor and materials. In return, Genesis Corner House has contributed baby items, including baby beds, clothing, and formula to help the orphanages in Mexico and El Salvador.

Special Thanks

We want to sincerely thank Infinity Pro Sports (www.infinityprosports.com), who have given of their time, resources, and creative genius to make our new website a reality. The owners, Uri Geva and Kfir Jackson, have donated our entire website including development, management training, and maintenance. Kfir Jackson took time out of his busy schedule to work with Jaime Crouse developing our website name and working on details. Along with the website, Uri and Kfir also donated the development of our new SHIP logo. The team at Infinity Pro Sports has assisted us in every way possible throughout this process. Thanks to Sarah Gilreath in Development for getting the ball rolling for this project. Thank you also to Lori Luza in Customer Service, who has answered hundreds of questions and is working diligently with



us every step of the way. Anne Santos in Graphic Design created a beautiful, professional logo for us, and we are so appreciative.

Infinity Pro Sports is a division of UK Advertising and provides technologically advanced web-based software and services to the professional and collegiate sports industries. Uri Geva, Kfir Jackson, and their team have gone above and beyond in all they are doing for us. Shelter the Homeless International Projects will be better equipped to serve and minister to those in need because of the efforts of Infinity Pro Sports. Thank you!



Javier, Rosemary, and Laura love posing for the camera.



Alberto enjoys giving Saul a hand with his wheelchair.

Progress at SHIP

Exciting new developments are taking place at S.H.I.P this fall! We are currently working on a website for our organization and hope to launch the site in October. Our new web address will be www.shipinternational.org. You will be able to use the website for donations, information on mission trips, upcoming events, projects, and volunteers, as well as staying up to date on all that we are doing! We are also developing a new layout for our newsletter, a new logo, and continually broadening our public base. We are so thankful for your support as we continue to develop greater resources to assist the children in El Salvador and so many others in Mexico and the U.S.



Javier, age 4, lives at the orphanage in El Salvador.

SHIP Board Members

Maria Martinez, President
John Hamilton, Vice President
Jack Adams, Board Member

Executive Director

Jaime Crouse

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Robert Horton, Construction Chair
Ann Horton, Fund-raising Chair
Susan Lee, Editing & Design

Mission:

SHIP helps the homeless in the United States and other countries by providing housing, food, and humanitarian aid for orphans and indigent elderly individuals. SHIP also provides decent and affordable housing and care and services for low income and handicapped individuals and families in the State of Texas.

Shelter the Homeless International Projects
Physical Address: 4014 Stillmeadow Drive, Bryan, TX 77802
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3003, Bryan, TX 77805-3003
Phone: 979.260.7447; Cell: 979.450.0311
Fax: 979.260.7447
E-mail: contact@shipinternational.org
Website: www.shipinternational.org