

## **Centro Villa Candelaria**

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Sent: Wednesday, December 17, 2014 6:34 PM

Subject: Newsletter from Oeser, Bolivia

Dear friends of the Centro Villa Candelaria and Patsida:

Merry Christmas and a fulfilling 2015. We share with you some news from October and November.

Thank you for take time to pray for the children and the youth of Bolivia.

God bless you!

Your Centro Villa Candelaria Team

*“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.” Psalms 82:3*

The grandmother of Naty, who we shared about in the prior newsletter, is in charge of her two children as well as her two grandchildren, now that her daughter has gone and left them in her care. The daughter ran away due to her debts and the desperate situation she was faced with in not receiving income for 3 months of work at the company with which she was employed. Members of the OESER team not only prayed with Naty's grandmother, who was trying to collect the money that was owed to her daughter, but they also intervened for a long period of time before the company. Thanks be to God, the money was able to be collected which allowed the grandmother to pay off her rent and food debt. Even though she continues to be in a difficult situation, she now has hope and can smile again. We glad to inform that Naty's grandmother was so thankful for God's fidelity that she decided to be baptized during a family event, which took place in the school Nuevo Conocer.



We are pleased that in obedience to the integral mission of God given to His church, the fatherless and poor, could be procured right, for His glory.

*“Buy the truth and do not sell it—wisdom, instruction and insight as well.” Proverbs 23:23*

#### CONGRATULATIONS VEIMAR AND FERNANDO!

Veimar arrived with his brothers from Llallagua and lives with his grandmother in Villa Candelaria. His teacher Selvi, who works in the preschool in the Wiñay



Kusiy Daycare, was challenged to make up for the time that was lost and not used for his development. When he first arrived, he could only draw lines on paper, but after one year of hard work he is showing considerable progress recognizing the difference in quantities, he can draw, he knows vowels and the alphabet. Also, it is noticeable that the two preschool teachers have put an emphasis on stimulating the children to respect and work together, in such a manner that those who finish their activities first, instead of distracting others actually help them finish their work.

Thanks to the educational support, Cristian F., who is in 5th grade, is not only overcoming his learning difficulties; rather, he has found his own pace and is now excelling in his studies.



#### ENGLISH SPELLING BEE CONTEST

With much enthusiasm, students from 6th to 8th grade participated in the “SPELLING BEE”. Among the diverse goals of the school, one is to enable the students to receive a mandatory quality learning experience in a foreign language. The students studied their vocabulary and competed by grades. 15 students were selected for the final competition. The judge for this contest was Nandi, a volunteer from the ICS program who arrived from the United Kingdom. During the entire year, the volunteers have helped with language classes, contributing to the students' motivation to learn English as well as improving their pronunciation and conversation skills.

#### CHILDREN MOTIVATED TO TAKE CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Students from 4th to 8th grade raised awareness in the Environmental Fair, focusing on the care for our natural environment. The students explained in their own words to other children and the

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visitors about the protection of green areas in Bolivia, about the care for the environment, and recyclable materials such as plastic, cardboard, cans, etc... The students created the posters and models in order to show their talent and creativity. In partnership with an organization that supports initiatives to preserve the environment in the Andes, the students also received theoretical and practical training on contamination, deforestation, waste management, and how to plant. After that, students planted different plants that were donated to a green area in their community.

#### ALUMNI SOLIDARITY

Bernardino Colque is a 24-year-old alumnus. When he was little his sister enrolled him in school, taking responsibility over him since both their parents had abandoned them. Due to scholarship funds, he was able to study in our school and later in a high school in order to obtain his diploma. At present, he is majoring in Civil Engineering and works part of the night as a guard in order to provide for himself. He still receives economic support from OESER for his books, transportation, and materials. Four months ago until the end of the school term, he has dedicated his time helping the children of the project with their homework, especially mathematics.



#### THE EXTRA MILE

During the year, the government has discontinued enforcing students with low averages. Three committed teachers have decided to voluntarily work extra hours with students, working as well to teach them about attitude and poor studying habits. One of them was, Maria Luz, the new language teacher. She has enforced the discipline of the students and has led the students to have a desire to read. When she was asked why she spent so many extra hours helping the students

she stated that it was due to the necessity she saw in her students and went on to say that, "there are people who strive to send us resources, not thinking in paying wages; rather, that these children can be cared for and educated in the best way possible."



#### HIGH SCHOOL

The news of the land purchase for the secondary schools was received with joy and applause of the children and parents.



After months of searching for a suitable plot of land near the primary school this plot of 1140 m2 could be acquired. It is adjacent to a green area with a sports hall, which we want to use. During the course we have experienced God's guidance. He has met several times in an incredible way before and after the project.

#### PATSIDA

In November, 2723 people were made aware of HIV and AIDS through PATSIDA in the cities of Cochabamba, Potosi, Sucre, Tarija, La Paz, and Santa Cruz. Ana Picolomini, a school director, confirmed the impact of the workshops, by saying: "The students are greatly influenced by the existing eroticism. They bothered the girls by lifting up their skirts, but after the workshops given by PATSIDA, a radical change in attitude was evident." We are glad to report that during this workshop 56 students accepted Jesus as their Savior and Lord.



Thank you for your prayers and support!

The OESER Team

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