

Summer 2014

In Loving Memory



In loving memory of John Huebsch, a former Director on Casa Mea's Board, who passed away on July 21, 2014 at the age of 53. He had a wonderful, loving spirit and will be greatly missed!

Thank You



Krissy, Annika, Aimee, Elke, & Helga

Casa Mea is so grateful to all of you who so generously responded to Casa Mea's appeal for help. We cannot emphasize enough how essential your support is to Casa Mea and the children we support. Also, a huge thank you to the women who sponsored a book and bake sale for Casa Mea. The sale was a big success with more planned in the future due to the volume of the books people generously donated.

However, as in any family, times are still tight. If you or anyone you know would like to head up our Fund Raising & Marketing program, please let us know.

Hello, my name is Jessica. I am from the Netherlands. Since my arrival in Guatemala in 2008 to study Spanish I fell in love with the country, especially Antigua.

I subsequently lived here for one year and spent all my holidays here. Last year I had decided to move to Antigua when suddenly I discovered that Mi Casita needed an administrator. Within two months I sold all my possessions and moved here in December of 2013. The government

papers were supposed to be all ready for the children to move into Mi Casita's home. However, due to many circumstances, I had to start all over with almost everything, including the paperwork and moving into a new home for the children. I have found a beautiful house, which is very spacious with 5 bedrooms and baths. It is bright with a nice big patio and play area for the children and a rooftop terrace where you can enjoy the vista of all the volcanoes surrounding San Pedro.



Jessica in front of the Mi Casita home in Guatemala

Unfortunately, everything here moves slowly. Therefore it is very difficult to know when the paperwork will finally be done and we will be approved to open our home for the babies. This is very frustrating, because there are already many, many children with cleft lips and palates waiting in the hospital for a loving home.

There are still so many things we need for the house: cribs, diaper changing tables, bed sheets, high chairs, a bottle sterilizer, baby stimulation toys, wardrobes, curtains, towels, kitchen cabinets, a microwave and other kitchen appliances, laundry/dryer combination, 3-in1 printer, and stair gates. If you can help with anything, we would greatly appreciate it!

Mi Cosito. Guatemala.



The home's rooftop terrace overlooks a volcano



A baby awaits a home in Guatemala



Robert's Month

Due to the generosity of our Educator, Felicia and her friends, Robert has been able to take dancing lessons this past year at no cost to Casa Mea. He loves to dance and dances with all his heart and soul. He has had several recitals where he can show his "stuff." We are so grateful to Felicia and her dance school friends and for the fact that Robert has found his passion in life!



Robert and friends at his dance recital

July 17th was Robert's birthday. We were happy that Casa Mea could give Robert a fun filled day, with a birthday party and all. We are also grateful for the cards and gifts he received from our friends in the USA and England.

Robert celebrates his 7th birthday

Summer Fun



Livia, Stelian, Robert, Cristina, and Ana Maria

Like children everywhere, summer time fun means swimming. Casa Mea's donated plastic pool sprung a leak last year. The children decided they wanted a pool so badly they pitched in all their birthday and holiday money which donors have given them in the past and bought a pool. We are so proud of the children and hope this teaches them responsibility and the value of saving!

Summer Work

Summer isn't all swimming pools and play time. The children also help in the garden. They shell the peas, weed, and pick the lettuce and spinach. Our beautiful garden provides all of us with plentiful and healthy vegetables for most of the winter months.



The garden is in full bloom this summer



Cristina and Ana help shell peas



Livia, Stelian, and Cristina help prepare vegetables

New English Teacher

Erin, our beloved English teacher returned to the states this summer. We all miss her terribly but she is planning on returning this fall for a couple of weeks, hopefully longer! Corinna will be taking her place mid-August. She has volunteered in Romania before and has a degree in International Studies. We are all looking forward to our new volunteer continuing our English classes for Casa Mea's children and the residents of Prejmer.



To send your financial gift to Casa Mea...

- By Check: Payable to Casa Mea at 6705 Shadow Crest Drive, Plano, TX 75093
- By Credit Card: Donate online by clicking <u>HERE</u> or visit <u>www.casamea.org</u> and click on "Make a Donation"
- Other Donations: Contact Jan at 612-227-3239 or email jan@casamea.org to arrange for a monthly automatic bank withdrawal, donation of appreciated stock, or other type of financial donation.
 All contributions to Casa Mea are tax-deductible. Thank you!