



RANCHO EL REFUGIO: LBMI

As many parts of Mexico begin to open up, we wanted to let you know what is happening at the Ranch. And to tell you that our ongoing partnership with you continues to further the Gospel message in Baja California. In this newsletter, you will get a quick update on some of the exciting things happening at the Ranch and hear an inspirational story about two of our staff members.

COVID-19 update: Most of the businesses in Ensenada are opening up, but many businesses and state facilities are still requiring the use of masks. While vaccinations are not mandatory, there is a big push throughout Baja to get vaccinated. This is the same trend that many around the globe are experiencing as each country works towards the new normal.

Happenings at the Ranch...

Pastors' breakfast: We had a breakfast for the alliance of pastors from the Ensenada area. It was a great time of local pastors sharing stories, prayer together and breaking bread.



The Ranch is beginning to bustle with excitement! Rocky Peak Church, from Southern California, brought an energetic team of 58 youth to the Ranch in early June. Their goal was to build a house in Ojos Negros for Pastor Oscar, his new wife and their children. And this goal was met! They were able to give this family a new house to live in. Not only was there construction going on, but also fellowship, worship and prayer. In the near future, this team plans on returning to add bedrooms to the house for the children.



Another Rocky Peak Church team of youth

along with local youth were at the Ranch during the last weekend of June to work on the facilities there. For three days, this group of youth planted trees, cleaned the ruins, painted buildings, played competitive games, were taught about faith and just had fun. At the end of their time together, there was a Sunday gathering of the churches that provided this youth team, along with Rocky Peaks Church. Food, worship and fellowship was in full swing...all to the glory of God!

Crossing the Border: You have heard the stories of the “border” being closed. **IT’S NOT!** For US citizens who have their passport, you can cross back and forth with no problem. Mexicans who have a residency visa or are US citizens, they too can travel across the border.

Come, grow, go! If you have come to Ensenada to do ministry work previously, the question to ask is: “What can I do now? In Matt. 28, God says that we are to go and make disciples of all the nations....So what are you waiting for? First contact your ministry partner in Ensenada or contact us at the Ranch. We will help with ideas for you to bring a mission’s team to serve. If you are hesitant about going out into the community, no problem! We are able to provide work projects, an energetic worship team and speakers to lift your spirit right here at the Ranch.

Meet Ricardo II, Mary and Ricardo III



If you have been to the Ranch within the last few years, you may have met two of our staff members, Ricardo & Mary. Both of their stories are inspiring examples of the life change that can happen when you give yourself to Christ. Ricardo and Mary were both heroin addicts living on the streets ever since they were teenagers. They met about seven years ago and both were in and out of prison several times. Mary was tired of her life of drugs and living on the streets and wanted a different life. After her last release from prison, Mary went to a half-way house run by a local ministry. She started working a job and attending church. She was determined to change her life for the better. When Ricardo was released

from prison, he noticed how happy and different Mary was and wondered what had happened to her. So he started going to church which led him putting his faith and trust in Jesus. Four years ago, Ricardo & Mary were married in a civil ceremony. Then two years ago, they were married “in the church” at the Ranch along with two other couples. It was such a wonderful ceremony performed by Pastor Ricardo Green, our Ranch Director.

God led Ricardo & Mary to the Ranch as we needed another couple to work here and stay on-site. Over the last few years, they have both become a vital part of the Ranch staff. Ricardo is the Grounds & Building Manager. His job is to build what needs built and fix what needs fixing. Mary is the lead on our cleaning crew and also works in the office. She makes sure that paperwork and reports stay up- to-date. This past May, a new blessing has come to their family, Ricardo III (Trace), an adorable baby boy.

Urgent Financial Request: Our Inverters (these convert the power generated from the generator to battery storage) at the “Ranch” are wearing out and need replaced. Without the inverters, we do not have power! To purchase and install new ones, we need to raise \$10,000. Currently we have raised over \$6,500! If you would prayerfully consider a donation specifically to the purchase of the inverters, or would like more info on this, contact Brian McPike at 402-770-3861.

Donations: For Puerta de Vida school and the ministries at the “Ranch” to continue, this only happens through your donations. If you feel led to give to the ministry, go to www.ranchoelrefugio.com/donate or mail donations to: Life Bridge Ministries Int’l, 1822 E. Route 66, #428, Glendora, CA 91740

Praying for you! The Ranch staff are excited for your return and praying for you and your ministry partners.

Psalm 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.