

RANCHO EL REFUGIO

Happy November and all that goes with it! The expression of thankfulness this Thanksgiving and the experience of joy as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas and our Savior's birth.

Highlights from Escuela Puenta de Vida

We are happy to tell you that 50 students are now attending school for "live" teaching!
And more good news...some of the students' parents have asked to have a Bible study.
And we are excited to see parents getting more involved with the school!



What does school look like this year?

By Luis Bayaro, Principal, PDV

At Escuela Puenta de Vida, we are excited to tell you that the Federal Government has allowed students to be back in school with "live" teaching. This started on August 30.

According to the Baja CA State Pandemic Measuring System, our school's location is currently in the moderately-contagious level of COVID-19 risk assessment. This has allowed us to reopen the school on a part-time basis. What this means – two days a week of live-teaching at the school that will gradually increase to full-time at school as the COVID-19 risk level drops.

To best protect the health of our staff and students, we are following all the protocols recommended by the state health authorities. These include: Taking temperatures daily, using hand sanitizer, disinfecting shoes, and wearing masks at all times (students, teachers, parents and visitors). The school is cleaned and disinfected before each new group of students

enters the building. Other measures in place are allowing only five students in a classroom at a time. And having both morning and afternoon sessions.

At Puenta de Vida, we believe that if we all work together, we can make a big difference in the community and our society.



A life changed by Puente de Vida Escuela

By Tim Pauls, Board Member, PDV

In the fall of 2011, Dan and Ivy Simpson stood in front of the wooden bridge between the hill and the upper classroom of the barn and welcomed 30 children from Ojos Negros as they clambered down off their little white bus. Puente de Vida Escuela had become a reality.

One of the little girls that was on that bus was named Anayeli (seven years old, in grade 2). We knew little about her, only that she was the third youngest in a family of seven children. She stood quietly behind her big brother Moises. We didn't know her family's struggle of having to live mostly without their dad. Her mom and older sisters worked to provide for the family. We also didn't know how much responsibility was on her shoulders at home...doing laundry, cooking, cleaning, and caring for her younger sisters.

But we could see after just a few days with Anayeli, she was artistic. And over the next few years, we discovered other impressive qualities about her...she was intelligent, compassionate, and diligent. She leapt over the obstacles that being born into poverty had been set before her. First, by successfully finishing elementary school and Junior High (at Puente de Vida Escuela) and then High School (in Ojos Negros). In Anayeli's words, "My greatest accomplishment has been being able to exceed my greatest expectations. I've finished High School and now will be going to University! I know that if I give my best effort, I can do anything with God in my life."

Now Anayeli is preparing to attend University. She is confident in her aspirations of having a career and dreams of what she will do someday to help her family and friends in Ojos Negros. Anayeli has earned a scholarship through the Hope for the Nations Scholarship Program. We are going to provide support for her as she attends UABC Ensenada in January, where she will major in Business & Social Administration.

We are excited about helping young scholars like Anayeli to experience success from the early years of their education to young adulthood and beyond! There is great joy in helping them discover and live out their dreams. To become the men and women that the communities in which they live need most to flourish.



It's time to plan your Mission Trip for 2022!

We are excited for your return to the "Ranch". We have updated our facilities and grounds, there's a firepit area for sharing special nights of worship, and we can now house over 90 people in beds! All of these updates have been done to enhance your mission experience.

Donations: It your generous support that allows Puenta de Vida Escuela and the ministries at the "Ranch" to continue. If you feel led to give to this ministry, go to www.ranchoelrefugio.com/donate or mail donations to: Life Bridge Ministries Int'l, 1822 E. Route 66, #428, Glendora, CA 91740. Thank you!

Praying for you: The Ranch staff are praying for you and your ministry partners!