



P. O BOX 234, FISHERS ISLAND, NY, 06390

Little Pebbles Ministries

“Doing small things with great love”

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CHILDREN OF THE DUMP

Little Pebbles in Action

You have seen them on television programs and heard the news ...children are out there, living a life that is completely foreign to ours...and yet, they have a resiliency and toughness of character that many of us have never being exposed to...they are the Children of the Dump.



In the mountains of Coban, in Guatemala, lies the municipal dump and the poor neighborhood that surrounds it. Children of all ages and their families go every day to sort the garbage and collect articles that they can wear or sell for a small profit. It is a way of living, marked by extreme poverty.

When we heard about these children and the efforts of Pastor Luis Alberto Barrientos to help this community, we immediately sent a box of clothing and toys to them which was received on June 15, 2015.

With the help of his church, Iglesia Trigo de Cristo, Pastor Barrientos delivered the clothing to the children and their families. In each package was a New Testament as reminder that all good things come from God. We will continue to send our donations to these children and will keep them in our prayers.

A BIRTHDAY WISH AND FIFTY PAIRS OF SHOES



Apart from Christmas, birthdays are perhaps the second most favorite celebration in a child's life. Not only are they older and wiser in their own eyes, but they get to choose a special present.

Grace Brooks decided to do something quite different this year. Instead of presents, she asked her friends and family to give her shoes for orphan children in Guatemala. And shoes she got! Fifty pairs were given to her on that special day. Thank you Gracie for your sacrifice and love towards others.

From Our Director

By Verena Rivera Brooks



It is such a privilege for me to share with you all the experiences and accomplishments that God has allowed us to attain at Little Pebbles Ministries.

Thanks to the amazing help and support from the Fishers Island community and friends, we have made a difference in many places of Latin America, and continue to do so to the full glory of God and the benefit of many children.

This year 2015 promises to be even greater than last year! We have established excellent relations with three orphanages, a group of 200 widows and their children, and a church that ministers to children who eat, dress and live off garbage in the dumps outside Guatemala City.

Our relationship with Maria De Guadalupe Orphanage is truly special. It is situated in an indigenous community under the direction of Catholic nuns. It was not easy at first to have them open their doors to Little Pebbles. There have been many people that have passed by their orphanage offering all kind of help, but they never hear from them again. Because of this, they have become weary in their dealings with outsiders.

Little Pebbles has become in actions what we promised in words: we delivered three boxes of clothing, shoes, and even toys to the children of this orphanage. That's more than six hundred pieces of children's clothing! We were also able to provide them, in our last visit in June 2015, with much needed supplies of rice, beans, sugar, pasta, oil, and incaparaina: a high protein breakfast cereal. We were able to deliver the same amount of food to two other orphanages as well. Our wish is to be able to do this once a month.

Mana de Vida Orphanage touched my heart deeply. It was the first time we visited there. Seeing the empty barrels of food really impacted me in more than one way...images and faces I will not forget easily. This orphanage does not only supply food for orphans alone, but also feeds poor children of the neighborhood as well thus expressing true Christian character. We will continue to help them in the months to come.

Our relationship with Casa Del Angel Orphanage and its director Saraly Gonzales is very strong. It is a relationship built out of love and commitment. This catholic orphanage is directed by Korean priests who devote themselves to the care and protection of the children.

The children in this orphanage have been physically and sexually abused and yet, in spite of their struggles, they express radiant joy. They feel loved and secure in this place where their wellbeing is the main priority of its directive. When we arrived there they gathered in a great room and sang songs for us. I noticed some of the girls wearing dresses that Little Pebbles had sent the previous year. This place is truly an amazing testimony of how God heals wounded hearts.

Today, these three orphanages have opened their doors and their hearts to us as an expression of their gratitude. This gratitude goes to you all as well for we are doing this work together.

In all that we do at Little Pebbles, we do it with love. We have set very high standards for our ministry. These standards are manifested in the way we communicate our goals and visions to our community, the example we set ourselves by giving our volunteered time to help others in need, and the transparency of our financial records. One hundred percent of your donations goes to further our ministry. It is with this open-book policy that Little Pebbles moves forward in the work that God has called us to do. In a world full of fakes and counterfeit, it makes us happy to provide you with an honest and trust-worthy ministry. Thanks for making Little Pebbles a reality for hundreds of children.

Honduras

Crossing geographical barriers.

The year 2014 was very productive in many ways. One of them was the opportunity we had to meet with Pastor Pilar Rivera from New Jersey, a Honduras-born woman who opened our eyes to the needs of poor children in that country.

We began working back then in establishing connections with a ministry or church in Honduras and finding a trustworthy company that would ship our boxes safely.

Today, we are happy to inform you that all connections have been established. Honduras has finally become part of our ministry.

Pastor Pilar Rivera will be traveling to the rural town of Villa Nueva to personally receive our first box and meet with our future coordinator in that country. We will keep you posted as the box leaves New York City at the end of July.



**"I RESCUED THE POOR WHO
CRIED FOR HELP, AND THE
FATHERLESS WHO HAD NONE
TO ASSIST HIM."**

JOB 29:12



WE ARE BEING WATCHED!

Upon receiving Little Pebbles donation in Casa del Angel Orphanage in Guatemala, our coordinator in that country, Thelma de Paiz, was ushered by Saraly Gonzales, Director of the orphanage, into a room with a glass window from which she could see the children peeking in.

Every time an article of clothing was pulled out of the box the children would claim it for their own. "That one is mine!" one said. "That dress is for me," a little girl said. It was a very lively exchange of opinions and ideas and she was happy to hear them talking so joyfully.

After a few minutes she noticed that the girls were doing all the talking while the boys were very quiet. She turned around to look at them and saw expressions of concern in their faces. It was then that she heard them saying: "there is a lot of girls clothing in there, but we don't see that many for boys." She started to laugh as they became excited when the boy's clothing did finally come out of the box.

Now, every time we package a box we make sure that it is well balanced throughout because you never know, the kids might be watching!

CARING FOR POOR WIDOWS

It has been over a year since we became involved in the lives of children in Guatemala. What we have seen with our own eyes have caused us to expand our ministry in order to reach poor widows and their children living in extreme poverty.

The husbands of these women have been murdered: victims of the violence against the workers of public transportation. They receive spiritual help from Vida Real Church in Guatemala as well as food relief, clot



Little Pebbles has joined Vida Real Church in its efforts to meet the needs for clothing and food for the children of these women. We have also provided funds to help keep the establishment where they receive such help open and functioning.

By supporting our ministry you are helping hundreds of widows in need. Thank you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

:<http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/attacks-on-bus-drivers-in-guatemala-persist>

HOW FAR CAN MONEY GO!

\$200

in Guatemala provides around 15 days' worth of food for 60 orphans at Maria de Guadalupe Orphanage.

Here is what it can buy!

- 100 Lbs. of beans
- 100 Lbs. of rice
- 50 Lbs. of sugar
- 50 Lbs. of Incaparina (protein cereal)
- 50 Lbs. of pasta
- 2 Gals of oil



“For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, ‘You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.’”

Deuteronomy 15:11

The idea to go to Guatemala and personally receive the two boxes Little Pebbles had sent in the month of June came at the last minute. Robert Brooks felt an urgency to travel there and meet again with the children they had visited in their previous trip. Little did he know that this urgency was more serious than he could imagine.

July Trip 2015

Upon arriving at Mana de Vida Orphanage with a truck load of supplies they saw the **pantry bare** and the barrels that store the food empty.



Workers help to fill up empty barrels of food at Mana de Vida Orphanage.

Questions arose during this trip as to how the orphanages were going to feed the children once the supplies we delivered ran out, and what kind of help did the government provide to meet the needs of these children.

The answers left us all at Little Pebbles with aching hearts. Directors did not know where the next delivery of supplies would come from. “God always provides through the generosity of people like you,” the director answered. “The government demands that we follow all regulations, but they do not provide any help.”

The challenges for Guatemalan orphanages are many. At Little Pebbles Ministries we are conscious that we cannot eradicate their problems, but we can help to alleviate them by continuing to send clothing, provide food, and bring them our love.

“Like the old hymn says, little is much when God is in it, we recognize the value of every effort no matter how big or small,” Verena Brooks says. “A drop of water can ultimately fill a glass, a grain of sand can contribute to build a mountain, and the efforts of a generous community like Fishers Island can make possible that a child doesn’t go to bed hungry.”



A WORD OF THANKS

The Board of Directors at Little Pebbles Ministries would like to thank each and every one of you who has generously contributed to our ministry. A hearty thanks goes to Paul Skinner, Judy Imbriglio, Union Chapel, Our Lady of Grace, and the Fishers Island Community Center. Without your continuing support, this ministry would not be possible.

DONATIONS

We happily receive clothing for children and adolescents (K-12). Donations can be dropped off at our box located at the Community Center.

If you are interested in making a monetary donation, you can write a check to Little Pebbles Ministries, LLC. One hundred percent of all donations go to further our charitable purpose.

CONTACT US

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Children at Mana de Vida Orphanage wait to enter the dining room. With a pantry almost bare, directors worry about the lack of food and supplies for the months to come. Relying in God's goodness and mercy is the only hope.

Your support helps to feed these children and provides clothing for them. Please keep them in your prayers.

OUR MISSION

We exist to provide, through the donations of generous men and women, articles of clothing for orphan and poor children in Latin America and other free world countries.

We strive to educate our community about the plight of orphan children.

We provide opportunities for our community to get involved in our ministry.



Donation Box located at the Community Center