



Care for Kids La Paz



Care for Kids La Paz Newsletter

March, 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

[From the President's Desk](#)

[The Face of Angels](#)

[How Can You Help?](#)

[Mission Statement](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

QUICK LINKS

[Care for Kids La Paz Website](#)

[Email Address](#)

From the President's Desk

Sandra and Don Robben, (a.k.a.) Mono Sucio, are an answer to many fundraising prayers. They live in a condo in Paraiso del Mar (Paradise of the Sea) beachfront resort in La Paz. A few weeks back, Sandra and Don contacted me to talk about their fundraising ideas for our charity.

I had never heard of "Mono Sucio" but I was intrigued. Don's grandfather, a very generous man, lived in Cabo San Lucas in the 30's, where he would bring food to the locals' homes, throw pesos in the air for the children to pick up and take home to their families, and party hard with the señoritas. The local villagers called him "Mono Sucio" or Dirty Monkey. Perhaps 'Party Animal' might be more fitting??

One night, after partying and falling asleep on the beach, Mono Sudio disappeared and was never seen again. On that day, the only thing that was found was Mono Sudio's good luck medallion. It was then given to his grandson, Don Robben, as a young boy by his grandmother. When Don grew up, he became the next Mono Sudio, first in Cabo, and then in La Paz, where he and Sandra now live.

Don has taken over his grandfather's legend of helping the poor. This is where the charity comes in. Don has a line of Mono Sudio shirts and ball caps that he sells at the pool bar and El Mogote golf course. Part of the proceeds from the sale of these items will go to Care for Kids La Paz.

Please support their endeavours to help our precious children who have so little. For more information, write Don directly at donaldrobben@msn.com or check out their website [here](#). When you click on the ball caps or T-shirt, you'll read more information about the fundraiser. Thank you Sandra and Don for your generosity.

On another upbeat note, a mission team from Calvary Baptist Church in Delaware was in La Paz earlier this month and visited with the scholarship student they're sponsoring. During the visit, they learned about the family's circumstances.

Two years ago, the family had been living in another Mexican state, when their lives suddenly changed after being threatened by a drug cartel who moved into town. Delfino, the grandfather, was a successful businessman until the cartel began to extort money, threatening kidnappings and murder if he didn't cooperate. Eventually his son was kidnapped and the ransom they demanded, exorbitant. He managed to escape, although badly beaten, and the family fled to La Paz, where relatives reside. They left behind all their belongings - their home, their business, everything and arrived with only the clothes on their backs. Little by little they have been trying to make a life for themselves here, however, with little work available, it hasn't been easy. The scholarship has become a huge financial help.

I'll let the mission team complete the story of their visit:

"Recently a team of seven people from Calvary Baptist Church in Newark, Delaware came to La Paz on their fourth mission trip. Calvary supports a young girl, Yera, in the Care for Kids La Paz scholarship program. The team met Yera and her family: Delfino, her grandfather, Evencio, her grandmother, and Yaretzi, her younger sister. It is always very special for a sponsoring church or individual to meet their sponsored child face to face. Barbara brought along an interpreter, Jael, and through him, we and the family could converse with each other. We learned a lot about Yera and she about us. The family had prepared corn tamales so everyone sat around getting to know each other, laughing and eating the delicious food prepared for them. The highlight of the evening was when the team found out that Delfino could not find any work to support the family. Since the mission team was working at a local seminary, the team asked Delfino if he would like to work with them since they had extra money in their budget. Delfino happily agreed and worked along side the Calvary team all week. What a blessing it was for everyone to not only

meet their sponsor child but to personally get to know her grandfather by working with him all week. The team left after ten days to go back to Delaware but with their hearts and minds on this lovely family. As a result of working with Delfino, word spread through different Mexican church congregations that have now offered to use Delfino when they have specific construction work."

For more photos of Yera, her family and the mission team, click [here](#).

God bless.
Barbara

The Face of Angels: Profile of Children of Vista Hermosa



Stephanie - 15 yr

Translator: Peggy Rodriguez

CFKLP: You have a big day tomorrow (March 25). Are you excited? How are you going to celebrate your quinceañera (celebration of a girl's fifteenth birthday in Latin America)?

S: I'm very excited. On April 5, I'm having a party at our church. I have my dress and everything.

CFKLP: Congratulations. I remember you way back in 2004 when I threw a Christmas fiesta in this community. You were five then. I remember your mom giving me a thank you note she wrote, which I still have.

S: (Her mom, who was at the interview interjected, "It was because of Stephanie I wrote the thank you. She asked me to.")

CFKLP: I was very touched by that gesture. Thank you. Tell us a little about your family.

S: I love my family, I have a lot of confidence in them, and everyone gets along. There are five of us. My dad works as a security guard, my mom cleans houses and I have a younger brother and sister.

CFKLP: Where did you live before you moved to Vista Hermosa?

S: We've been here for 10 yr. Before we were renting a place in La Paz but moved here when the land was opened up so my parents wouldn't have to pay rent. Originally we're from Acapulco. We came to La Paz because my father heard there was work but that wasn't true. So, he joined the military. He stayed with them for three years but left because he didn't like it and he couldn't be with us much. He then took jobs wherever he could find them. Finally he got steady work as a security guard five years ago and he's at home a lot more.

CFKLP: What is the most important thing your parents have taught you?

S: To have confidence in them and to be able to talk to them about anything. I have the most confidence in my mom because she's a woman and I talk with her about my feelings or things that happen in school.

CFKLP: Do you think education is important and why?

S: Yes, because it guides you. It's guides you about what's right and wrong and how you conduct yourself. In my civic formation class, we talk a lot about that. It's my favourite class. It teaches us about what might happen in the future and how to be prepared and how not to be pressured by relationships.

CFKLP: How refreshing to hear about a class on morals. What are your dreams for your future?

S: To be happy. To be happy with my future family and to have good relations with my family now. I'd like to teach kindergarten children. I know I have to keep studying hard and get good grades.

CFKLP: How much effort do you put into getting good grades? I know you have some medical problems that affect your schoolwork but I see you as a serious girl who does her best.

S: I have to work harder. The teachers encourage me and my parents help me with homework when I'm struggling. I try really hard not to miss school and I keep up with homework.

CFKLP: How has the scholarship helped you and your family?

S: Without it I would still work hard but it's a relief to have it as it gives me confidence. The money is a big help because it helps me continue with school.

CFKLP: What have your parents taught you about education?

S: That it's important and that it will help me to know more.

CFKLP: If for some reason you couldn't get to school, how would your life change?

S: I'd have to go to work. I couldn't continue learning and work wouldn't be as good because I wouldn't have a certificate from school.

CFKLP: What do you do in your free time?

S: I help at home. I sweep, do the dishes, wash clothes, feed the dog. I go to an adolescent group at church, I read the Bible and talk about its significance. I also teach children how to play the tambourine.

CFKLP: Tell us about your community service?

S: I help in the library. I read books to little kids and ask questions about the story. The children get very enthusiastic about things and we make finger puppets.

CFKLP: If you had all the time and money in the world, what would you do?

S: I'd help my family and friends with whatever they need or don't have like food or clothing.

CFKLP: If you were President of Mexico, what would you change to make this a better country?

S: (She laughs) Everything. Schools lack computers, I'd put in electricity, give people building material for houses, put in schools nearby to where kids live and stop the violence in the country.

CFKLP: Tell us about a personal achievement that makes you proud?

S: Even though I have medical challenges, I continue to study and make good grades so I can finish junior high. Even though I feel tired and discouraged sometimes, I don't let it interfere with my schoolwork.

CFKLP: You are such an inspiration to others. Don't ever think no one notices your efforts. Is there anything else you'd like to say to our readers?

S: Thank you for helping us and helping with what we need. I also want to continue to help this program like I do at the Christmas fiestas.

How Can You Help?

Please remember to use the search engine GoodSearch.com and GoodShop.com so that our charity can earn money every time you search the internet or shop on-line. Go to their website and select Care for Kids La Paz (Dilworth, MN) as your designated charity. It doesn't cost users a thing and those pennies can really add up! [GoodSearch](http://GoodSearch.com)
[GoodShop](http://GoodShop.com)

We are now on Facebook! If you already have a Facebook account, go to the Care for Kids La Paz Facebook page. If you'd like to receive updates on your newsfeed such as photos or events, please 'Like' us and 'Share' us. Liking and sharing us helps us get around. [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CareforKidsLaPaz)

Help spread the word about Care for Kids La Paz. Do you belong to a group or a school who would like to hear more about us? We'd love to come and talk about our work. Better yet. Visit us in beautiful La Paz and you can give your own presentation.

If you have any children's books in Spanish you'd like to donate, please contact me at: careforkidslapaz@yahoo.com [Email address](#)

There are a number of students with good grades who would like to have a scholarship. If you would like to share in a special relationship with a student and their family, please drop me a line for more details at careforkidslapaz@yahoo.com [Email](#)



[address](#)

If you're travelling to La Paz, please keep a little space in your luggage for books, toothpaste, toothbrushes, pencils and children's vitamins.

Please keep our charity in your prayers!

May your hearts be continually filled with the love and peace of God.

Mission Statement

Care for Kids La Paz is a non-profit charity dedicated to improving the lives of impoverished children and families in La Paz, BCS, Mexico. We provide long-term support by guaranteeing access to food, health care and education to children.

Through our commitment, Care for Kids La Paz strives to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of underprivileged children giving them the opportunity to become healthy, self-reliant individuals.