

Update on Amaratteca



El Hogar Projects now has full access to the property at Amaratteca and construction has begun. We plan to make temporary modifications to the building currently on the land, for use as offices, dorms, kitchen and bathroom facilities. Additionally, we

plan to construct the permanent workshops this summer. This will allow us to move the Institute in November 2004, while further construction takes place on permanent buildings. Our capital campaign is currently in the quiet phase, as we partner with donors who are able to help us get started on this project with significant gifts. If you, or your church, are moved to participate in our campaign, we welcome your support as we reach out in faith in this expanded ministry. Please contact us at: elhogar@3crowns.org, or call Liz Kinchen at 781-729-7600.

Photo above: Work teams are helping with construction at Amaratteca.



El Hogar Ministries, Inc.
70 Church Street
Winchester, MA 01890

Yes, I have decided
to get involved...

- q Use my gift where it is most needed.
- q A full sponsorship (\$1500/yr or \$125/mo)
- q A food and housing sponsorship (\$900/yr or \$75/mo)
- q An educational sponsorship (\$600/yr or \$50/mo)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Prov _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Celebrate Our 25th!

2004 marks the 25th anniversary
of El Hogar Projects!
Look for news about this special
milestone in our Fall Newsletter



The Home of Love and Hope
The Episcopal Agricultural
School and Farm
St. Mary's Technical Institute

El Hogar Projects
Apartado Postal 764
Tegucigalpa, DC, Honduras

Incoming Executive Director
The Rev. Richard Kunz
Director,
St. Mary's Technical Institute
and Interim Executive Director
Lazaro Juarez

Director Agricultural
School and Farm
Balbino Andino

Director El Hogar de
Amor y Esperanza
Claudia de Castro

El Hogar Ministries, Inc.
70 Church Street
Winchester, MA 01890
781-729-7600
elhogar@3crowns.org

Board of Directors
The Rt. Rev. Rob O'Neill,
President and Bishop of Colorado
The Rev. Richard Kunz
Jane White, Treasurer
Jocelyn Rohde, Clerk
Bunny Frey
The Rev. Steve Muncie
Jane Nies
Perry Nies
Paul Rank
The Rev. Mark Wastler

Ex-officio
The Rt. Rev Lloyd Allen
Bishop of Honduras

Executive Director in
North American
Liz Kinchen

Canadian Advisors
Margo Mingay

El Hogar S P R I N G 2 0 0 4



Jorge Daniel Cruz Begins Third Grade

Jorge Cruz came to El Hogar two years ago. At one point in his young life he lived under a bridge with his pregnant mother and his twin two-year old

brothers. The transition to life at El Hogar was a big leap for Jorge. When he first came to El Hogar, he was asking for food every hour and when he finished his meal, he would try to eat the food of the boys near him at the table. This is not unusual among the newest boys at El Hogar; hunger has left a deep a mark on these young souls. Jorge was amazed that he would not only have food every day but also a bed and would not have to sleep on the floor. All this was beyond his wildest dreams.

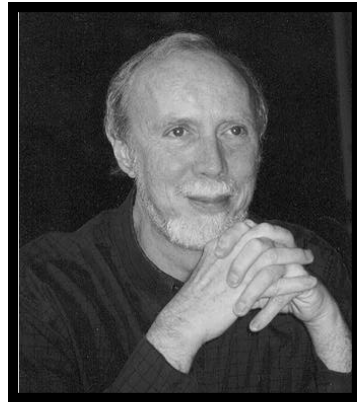
Now, two years later, he is getting good grades in his classes and finally beginning to feel safe and have faith that he will have food each day. With El Hogar's help, his mother and his younger siblings have found a place to live and he knows they are safe as well. Now he can relax, be a little boy with friends, and have the energy to play.

He even feels safe enough to get into mischief every once in a while. **Gracias a Dios!**

El Hogar's Mission

The purpose of El Hogar is to provide a loving home and education in a Christian environment for abandoned, orphaned and hopelessly poor boys, enabling them to fulfill their ultimate potential as productive human beings in Honduras.

Meet the New Executive Director of El Hogar Projects



We are very pleased and honored to report that the Rt. Rev. Lloyd Allen, Bishop of Honduras, has hired a new Executive Director of El Hogar Projects, the Rev. Richard Kunz. Rich has been a parish priest for the past 24 years, serving in

parishes in Pennsylvania and for the past ten years, at All Saints in Princeton, New Jersey. He has long been interested in mission work with children, and has recently been involved in diocesan mission work in El Salvador. Rich will begin this June, spending the summer in Honduras, then coming to the states to speak to churches in the Fall. We welcome Rich with open and grateful arms and look forward to working together in this ministry of love and transformation. Until Rich starts this summer, we are blessed to have Lazaro Juarez act as our Interim Executive Director.

Over the next 12 months, Rich is planning to travel to the following areas to speak about El Hogar. If you would like to arrange a visit to your church, please contact Liz Kinchen at elhogar@3crowns.org or call 781-729-7600.

Fall 2004

Colorado, Ohio and New York metropolitan area

Winter 2004

Maryland, Virginia, Carolinas, Georgia and Florida

Spring 2005

Arizona, California, Wyoming and Chicago

A LETTER FROM

Richard Kunz

I am pleased to be able to introduce myself to the community of generous people who, in many different ways, support the ministry of El Hogar. I look forward to getting to know many of you personally during the next few years.

There are many problems in the world, and often trying to address them is far more difficult than it appears at first. It is actually hard to do discernable good. Therefore, when a group has a record of being able to respond to need effectively, it is worth noting. El Hogar Projects has a long record of making a significant difference in the lives of boys in Honduras who would literally be hopeless and on the street without the efforts of this ministry. The positive influence on future generations of breaking the cycle of poverty for these young men is incalculable. In a time when so much seems ambiguous and uncertain, El Hogar shines like a clear beacon of love and hope.

I feel blessed to be able to be part of this ministry. I am currently rector of All Saints' in Princeton, New Jersey, a lively and caring parish. It is not a light thing to step down from that position. But the opportunity to work with a visionary bishop, a dedicated and competent staff, a supportive board, and a community of compassionate and generous supporters to minister in the name of Christ to children in dire need, is a very compelling and attractive call.

As Executive Director, I will do my best to care for the boys whose welfare is being entrusted to me. They are, of course, God's children, and we are blessed to be able to receive them by opening our lives and hearts to respond to both their needs and their hopes.

Richard Kunz

Incoming Executive Director of El Hogar Projects

Famous Guests Visit El Hogar



Ambassador to Honduras, Larry L. Palmer, makes friends with the boys

El Hogar was recently treated to visits from some very special people. First, Mr. Sean O'Keefe, the Administrative Director of NASA, came to El Hogar as part of the work team from St. David's Episcopal Church in Ashburn, Virginia. This team came to El Hogar to begin work on the new Technical School in the Amarateca Valley outside Tegucigalpa. While staying at El Hogar, Mr. O'Keefe talked with the boys about NASA, showed videos in Spanish about space, and even arranged for a NASA astronaut to visit El Hogar.

The boys were thrilled to actually meet a real astronaut that had been in space. They asked wonderful questions like "How do you sleep if there's no gravity to keep you in bed?" and "What kind of fuel do you use to launch the space shuttle?". All of the boys received an autographed photo of the astronaut, which is still proudly hung above many of their beds.

While Sean was at El Hogar, he was visited by the US Ambassador to Honduras, Larry L. Palmer. Ambassador Palmer spent the evening with the boys at El Hogar, lining up with them before dinner, sharing a meal in the dining hall, and spending time to get to know them.

As if that wasn't enough excitement for one week, twenty-five of the boys received the privilege of going to the National Museum in Tegucigalpa to witness Sean O'Keefe, acting on behalf of the President of the United States, as he presented a moon rock to the President of Honduras. The moon rock is now part of the Museum's permanent collection. How many boys can say they spent time with the Director of NASA, a real astronaut, the Ambassador to Honduras, and the President of Honduras, all in one week - much less ever in their lives? Our special boys are honored and grateful for the attention of these special people, and were given wonderful memories that will stay with them for a lifetime.



NASA Director, Sean O'Keefe introduces astronaut to El Hogar boys