



HEART OF HOPE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

A SUMMER WITH THE PRESENCE OF HOPE AT CAMP OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A SPECIAL NOTE FROM DEBBIE...



Last spring as I was contemplating the theme for this year's annual fundraiser I tried to boil down what it is we bring to each and every program. Of course, 'hope' is right out front in bold in our logo...but it is so much more. The children and families we serve are truly in the Biblical sense 'the least of these', in the humanitarian world they are 'the marginalized', the invisible; up close and personal they are precious individuals - Maria, Victor, Rebeca, Gheorge, Daniela, Vasile and the list goes on.



This summer was a greater challenge for us in so many ways. We had what looked like a rainy spring rather than summer. Of the first 6 weeks only 2 Friday nights could enjoy a campfire that wasn't rained out! It's August 7th and summer has finally arrived! Normal operating challenges of broken washing machines, flat tires, mid-way through the loss of our beloved cook whose husband was diagnosed with terminal cancer, a one week notice of a loss of a Romanian camp leader, inspection after inspection.

Beyond the weather and challenges though were hurting children with early unspeakable trauma and tragedies in their short histories of childhood. A girl whose virginity was sold at the age of 10 by her parents for the equivalent of \$125.00, a boy at the age of 7 gang raped by one of his male relatives and others, a girl tortured by other girls in the Placement Center to the point she decided it better to run to prostitution and trafficking at the age of 13, child after child abandoned first by biological parents and then over and over by foster families until the Placement Center or the street their last resort; and so many more heartbreaking stories each week.



"The Presence of Hope" was so desperately needed at Camp this summer; for the children the Lord brought to us but also for each volunteer and even myself to be able to share the love of Christ and not be overwhelmed by the pervasive hurt and loss that also accompanied each child to camp.

If you wonder if 'hope' was on display and 'ease of suffering' was accomplished somewhere in this world ~ I assure you it was! Please enjoy these joyful pictures that are just a small sampling of all that was given by so many AND made possible by YOU our home team, our donors, our partners for the orphans and children that attended Camp of the Good Shepherd! May God bless you and continue to grow the seeds of His love and Word that were given.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE "PRESENCE OF HOPE" ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AND DINNER THIS FALL

Please join us for the annual The Presence of Hope Benefit Auction and Dinner! Mark your calendars for the following dates and locations to join us for a remarkable evening of testimony, update, and encouragement for each and every one of our friends and partners. We encourage you to invite friends or family that may want to learn about how they too can minister to an orphan or marginalized person in this big world. Be prepared to be encouraged and meet those that have traveled this very year to provide hope and healing to the hurting.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME!

PORTLAND, OR
OCTOBER 20TH, 2018
WORLD FORESTRY CENTER

CAMARILLO, CA
NOVEMBER 3RD, 2018
LAS POSAS COUNTRY CLUB

One of the things I enjoy each week of camp is getting to know the attendants from each Center that come to camp with the kids. I know what a difficult, under-

valued and over-whelming job they have on a day to day basis. My prayer is always that each will be encouraged by the respite at camp.

This year, week after week, I heard the same unusual story over and over. For the past year there has been 'something wrong' in the system. Tale after tale of Centers going without their basic needs –

lack of funding for shoes and socks, lack of laundry detergent, lack of hygiene supplies, lack of anti-bacterial cleaning supplies, lack of toilet paper and in some cases even lack of fresh vegetables. It was like I stepped in a time machine and traveled back to the '90's and early 2,000's when we were regularly providing these types of necessities. But, here we are in 2018 and faced with the identical humanitarian problems? Hmm, while we all know something is amiss, there is not time for the children to go without while we figure out where the back-log is or who has screwed this up. Can you imagine caring for 50 or 100 children per day without toilet paper? Thank YOU to each and everyone who has contributed to Heart of Hope this year, we have generously provided needed cleaning supplies and toilet paper to the Centers this summer and they ARE grateful! Bless you.

**TOILET PAPER
(YES, TOILET PAPER)
NEEDED IN 2018!**



Yours in Partnership,

Debbie and your
HHMI Board