



CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN AND AGING

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***A note from CFCA:** We are always trying to reduce costs and improve efficiencies. To help with this, some projects are now sending annual photos in a digital format to CFCA headquarters in Kansas City, Kan., for printing and mailing to sponsors. You are receiving this photo with a letter about your friend's project, written by the project coordinator. You will still receive a spring letter from your friend. If you have not received it already, it will come in the mail separately.*

Dear Sponsors,

On behalf of the Valparaiso, Chile, project board of directors and our staff members, we send you greetings and our best wishes for the future.

In 1979, I met Robert Hentzen, co-founder and president of CFCA, when he came to the University of Chile. He shared his dream to create a foundation in which people in need could be heard and served with respect and dignity. He talked to us about solidarity and the need to help those less fortunate. In September 1982 our first child was sponsored and today we are serving more than 4,574 children and 624 elderly.

We have formed a good team of people committed to defeating extreme poverty. Our team works with the unemployed or underemployed, whose self-esteem is low, and who have low levels of education. Because of their situation, they do not picture themselves as having a future. Reversing this reality is a slow process. But it is important to realize what has been achieved thanks to your generous monthly support.



To fight the cycle of poverty, we have programs focused on training the mothers in a trade such as dress making, self-support training, weaving and hair styling. The mothers feel part of CFCA through these programs. At the same time, mothers with family problems are helped in our self-support programs. Children with learning problems are referred to educational psychology professionals. We also offer training for women so they know their rights within our society. The learning materials and costs are covered for all mothers as is the care of their children while learning.

Offering hope. Restoring dignity. Worldwide.

We have a rotating livelihood loan program, with zero percent interest, for the purchase of sewing machines and tools. With this program we teach that loans are to be paid back, even if it takes a long time. If a mother or a group of mothers have an idea for a productive project, we talk about it and, if viable, we can finance that project with a loan from the livelihood program.

We provide support and academic tutoring for the children. Psychologists, psychology students and teachers offer these workshops.

CFCA organizes workshops that offer attention and understanding to those suffering from family violence and to women who have been mistreated or sexually abused. We hope to help them improve their self-esteem and overcome their problems with dignity.

The sponsored elderly have a day home where they can stay from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. They receive breakfast, lunch and a snack. All elderly participate in different workshops and courses. We offer them classes in theater, singing, folklore, physical education, guitar and more. We also teach painting, weaving, handicraft and dress making, and offer courses in literacy and reading.



Since 2001 we have worked with rural communities in areas where CFCA is the only support. We work with other institutions in health, education, housing and justice services, trying to incorporate our sponsored in the overall childhood support network of Valparaiso.

Each family in our project receives direct support. Our first objective is education. We offer school supplies, shoes and clothing. Our second objective is housing. We encourage savings and help members apply for government housing programs. We also offer support in home improvements and repair. We make sure every family member has enough beds and proper accommodations. Finally, we offer the food and clothing provisions that each family needs.

Thanks to your support we are slowly changing the extreme poverty that is affecting our families. We invite you to offer your ideas and suggestions, and to visit us in our country. We are open to new ideas that will enrich our work.

Truly yours,

Luis Moscoso
Coordinator, Valparaiso project