

A refuge where children reach  
their full potential



REFUGIO MAZATLÁN  
Tu futuro, nuestro proyecto

# Quarterly Newsletter

| Issue 17 | REFUGIO MAZATLÁN NEWSLETTER – December 2020

## ISA FOUNDATION GRANT



We are extremely excited to announce that our partnership with ISA Foundation will continue as we have received a new grant for 2021. We thank Laurie for all her hard work and expertise – this would not have happened without her.

The grant will cover costs to teach our staff and boys (as well as their families once the pandemic is over) how to eat and live healthily. It will also contribute to the purchase of nutritious foods for the boys, exercise classes to keep them fit and healthy and trips outside of the Refugio. Many thanks to ISA Foundation which is helping to change the lives of our young men. We look forward to continuing our important relationship.



## Inside This Issue

### PG. 2

Goodbye 2020 and hello 2021

See how our boys celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas

### PG. 3

The latest outings and activities despite COVID19

### PG. 4

News about our volunteers and donors

## GOODBYE 2020 AND HELLO 2021



As 2020 has finally drawn to a close, we think of those who lost loved ones and those who are still suffering the side-effects of COVID-19. The economic hardship and chaotic world events of 2020 have made this a year we will never forget. The future holds nothing but uncertainty, but we are facing it with optimism. Face masks, social distancing, lockdowns, quarantine, and hand sanitizer are all a way of life now.

We look forward to the days when we can hug the ones we love, something which is so much a part of the culture in Mexico. We long to see our friends from Canada and the US who are unable to visit Mexico this winter. We are hopeful that things will improve soon, and we wish you all a happy and healthy 2021.



“It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken adults.”

F. Douglas

## THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS

Thanks to the immense kindness of Chris and Kim Sullivan, the boys had an incredibly special Thanksgiving



celebration this year. They enjoyed a delicious dinner in a private section of the Panama Restaurant. They have a lot to be thankful for.



Our donors did not forget the boys this Christmas either. Tres Islas provided funds for the boys to go shopping for their gifts. Not only did they get some nice clothes, but they also enjoyed a rare outing to the mall to select them.

Tres Islas also contributed towards the cost of Christmas dinner. Thank you to Eloisa who kindly donated funds to help cover the costs of the celebrations.



Linda, “The Quilt Lady”, and her incredible team outdid themselves with beautiful Christmas stockings stuffed with



all kinds of goodies. San Francisco Quilt Shop also has a number of quilts for sale – 100% of the proceeds will be donated to the charity chosen by the purchaser, and Refugio is one of the options. Thanks for your ongoing kindness, Linda.



Over Christmas itself, Chris and Kim Sullivan generously covered the cost of a two-night trip to Teacapán where the boys had a great break from the monotony of the home. The Sullivans also purchased new gym equipment and recreational items for the boys – a Christmas gift that will be appreciated all year long by all the boys. Thank you, Kim, and Chris!



## OUTINGS AND ACTIVITIES



COVID-19 has of course created

challenges for our staff in terms of keeping our boys busy and active. The boys have continued with their online studies and homework and we are so proud of the results

– each boy has significantly improved his grades. This is likely because of the individual support provided by our staff and



more focused attention by the boys.

Eduardo, our gym expert from Mi Futuro, provides classes to the boys every weekday afternoon.

To get out of the home for a change of



scenery, the boys have also undertaken several outings. They climb up El Faro regularly, observing the pandemic safety precautions of course. They have also been to local beaches where they exercise and play at a safe distance from other beach goers.

Ciudad de Los Niños invited the boys to use their outdoor facilities and take advantage of the large open space at

the home. They had a great time, happy to return to Refugio for a nap.



## DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

As it has not been possible to hold pantry parties at people's homes, Tracy planned and organized a drop-off pantry party at Refugio on October 31. He and Linda H. threw a Halloween party for the kids at the same time. Linda's decorations were incredible, and the boys greatly enjoyed the feast and games that were



planned for them. Huge thanks to Tracy and Linda as well as all those who made treats for the boys, dropped off pantry items or donated money.



Tracy has also put into place a "Food Warrior" program. Donors sign up for a particular week and bring over much-needed grocery items. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact Tracy.

In December, Chris and the Venados Booster Club organized a fundraising event at



Friends Diner. It was a great success, and we are most grateful to Chris, Peggie and the Beachseekers band. Funds were raised via raffles and attendees brought food donations. The band also donated all their tips for the afternoon. Thank you to all involved.



Our boys look forward to the scrumptious meals provided by Linda, "The Quilt Lady" and Richard and Lawrence on Sundays. It is no small undertaking to cook for so many boys.

Lawrence celebrated his birthday in December and treated the boys to lunch on Stone Island. The Sullivans made it possible for the boys to also choose a beach activity each (banana boat, kayaking etc.).



This year again, Chavita (Rosy) at Gaby's Salon and her customers brought over Christmas gifts and dinner for the boys. The evening is an annual highlight that the boys greatly appreciate.



Once again, Debbie at Tippy Toes Salon put up the "Angel Tree". A photo and brief profile of each boy was hung on the tree and her customers generously donated funds to purchase tennis shoes for "their" boy. Thank you to Debbie and to all those who participated and brought smiles to the boys' faces.

Que Pasa Cantina in the Golden Zone has kindly offered to be a drop-off location for food and supplies. Donations



can also be dropped off at Refugio itself. Our "Needs List" is updated regularly on our website: <https://www.refugiomazatlan.org/current-needs>. Thank you to all our generous donors and volunteers. We cannot do this with you.



Website: [www.refugiomazatlan.org](http://www.refugiomazatlan.org)



Email: [refugiomazatlan@gmail.com](mailto:refugiomazatlan@gmail.com)



Facebook: Refugio Mazatlán



Phone: +52 669 146 4173 (Eng.) or  
+1 303-770-4749 (Eng.)  
+52 669 193 23 01 (Esp.)



Address: Calle Rosales #1105. Col. Centro, Mazatlán

