



October 2013

Being a "Parent" at Familia Feliz

My name is Hunter McKee, and I am a volunteer here at Familia Feliz. I have been here for about 2 months, since August 12 or so. When I first arrived, I moved into a house with all volunteers. But after the first 3 weeks, Chris (another volunteer here) and I moved into a house with three boys: Jhon, Choco, and Moises.

At first, the task seemed a little bit daunting, because I do not have kids and know very little about parenting. Chris and I had to be strict on them the first couple of weeks, so that they would take us seriously. It has proved to be very rewarding. It is such a blessing watching over and fathering these three boys. Sure, there are many challenges at times, but there are also lots of joys.



A typical day for us looks like this: We wake up the boys at 6 am. Then they have chores until 6:30. At 6:30 we have worship. The boys take turns doing worship, and I have been surprised by how well they participate. After worship they go to breakfast and then school. After that they are out of the house for most of the day until bed time. Chris and I make sure they shower and brush their teeth (which can be a challenge at times) and have one more worship before bedtime at 8:45.

Even though it is more work to live and take care of these boys, I wouldn't trade it for anything. The life that these boys have at Familia Feliz is 100 times better than the life they would have otherwise. Here, they have a Christian life filled with positive people and

positive influence. Familia Feliz is a wonderful place that makes a difference in these boys' lives, and that's why I choose to serve here.

-Hunter McKee

Crystal

El viernes 3 de agosto de 2013, comenzó una pesadilla con la niña Crystal la cual tenía solo un mes y dos semanas de nacida. Después de haberla llevado al médico de nuestra localidad (Rurrenabaque, Beni, Bolivia), se le diagnostico que tenía insuficiencia respiratoria. Sin saber que la causaba, regresaron a la niña otra vez a la casa. Luego se agravo y tuvieron que llevarla a la paz, para allí recibir mejor atención médica.

A menudo dejaba de respirar, pensaban que se les iba de las manos. Al llegar a la paz, inmediatamente el medico hizo la revisión y detecto que la niña tenía bronconeumonía, rotavirus, anemia, estaba extremadamente deshidratada y malnutrida. Recomendó que la

niña debía ser internada durante una semana en incubadora con oxígeno.

Mientras eso pasaba, yo estaba en el alto. Recibí una llamada para ir a ayudar, y fui cuanto antes pude.

Al llegar la niña ya estaba internada, fue una escena muy triste. Durante esos horribles días lo único que escuchaba, era el pi-pi-pi-pi de los aparatos. En muchos momentos pensamos que la perdíamos pero el señor ponía su mano y la niña mejoraba, al fin de la semana Crystal fue sacada de la incubadora y puesta en prueba por una noche, y si no presentaba problemas al siguiente día sería dada de alta. Y así fue. Pronto ya estábamos en casa felices.



Le doy muchas gracias a Dios, y a las personas que nos apoyaron en esos momentos difíciles.

-Samuel Jiménez

Reaping the Harvest

To date, we have erected four green houses in which to grow our vegetables and seasoning and, praise be to God, our efforts were not in vain. For the first time this year, we are reaping what we have sown. Our plates have been filled with bok choy,

broccoli, okra, beets, and green peppers, all organically grown in our garden.



Our goal is to erect a total of 10-12 green houses to produce enough food to not only sustain our campus kitchens, but to create an industry for the school. We

have begun to sell the bok choy to a group of Chinese immigrants working at a nearby sugar factory, and our sweet peppers, which are twice the size of those currently being sold, to a market vendor.

The lettuce, callou (Caribbean type of spinach), eggplant, pumpkin, and tomatoes should be ready to harvest soon. An irrigation system, water tower, and material to build the remaining green houses is needed. We solicit your prayers and support as we attempt to provide nutritious meals for our "Happy Family".

-Jodi McDaniels



Prayer Requests

- ❖ *Wisdom to provide each child with the care specifically needed*
- ❖ *Remove the scars and ease the pain of our abused children*
- ❖ *Funding for various projects*

Projects

- ❖ *Well*
- ❖ *Roof replacement*
- ❖ *Tractor (with bush hog/tiller)*
- ❖ *Work truck*
- ❖ *15 passenger van*