

PROVIDENCE CHILDRENS HOME

PCH 2014 Year-End Newsletter

Texas Golf Tournament Benefits PCH

The Men's ministry of Sugar Land First United Methodist Church (SLFUMC) held their annual Ron Barker Memorial Golf Tournament on Monday, November 10 at Quail Valley Country Club in Missouri City, Texas. Nearly 100 golfers participated in the event and over 100 people attended the evening dinner and auction, with all net proceeds going toward the benefit of PCH. It was a beautiful day and a wonderful event that evening. The event raised nearly \$30,000! Thanks to the SLFUMC Men's ministry and to the hard workers of the SLFUMC support team for PCH, who worked very hard to make sure this would be an event for the record books.



Ken Ticer and Debbie Luhnau greeting attendees

First Convocation for High School Graduates

In late October, the first ever convocation was held on the PCH campus for all graduating seniors at the Joram GM Academy. The assembly was held in the school's dining hall and included all of the high school teachers and administration. The meal was catered from a local restaurant. Everyone had such a wonderful time that it was decided to make this an annual event.



Boys at Convocation



Girls & Teachers at Convocation



Guitars Rule The Day



In 2012, the mission teams that visited the PCH campus brought brand new guitars to teach the girls how to play as a pastime. The girls really enjoyed learning a few chords and instruction books were left behind to allow the girls to continue what they had learned. Unfortunately, without a teacher, the guitars did not get much use. In 2014, one of the people who had initiated guitar lessons previously, Megan Rasmussen, returned and re-kindled the desire in the girls to learn how to play. A guitar teacher was located nearby and weekly lessons began. Now, each of the orphans, from fourth grade on up through high school, is taking guitar lessons and thriving at it. The girls now regularly serenade local churches and all mission teams that visit. They have also played for the school and included their talent at the Christmas party.

Christmas Wish List 2014

Thanks to all who participated in our Christmas Wish List program in 2014. Several churches included the items on the list through Angel Tree or alternative Christmas offering programs. Through the generous donations of the church members and other donors to PCH, more money was raised than was requested. This enabled all of the girls and staff at the orphanage to enjoy a bountiful Christmas party and allowed each girl to have a Christmas dress, a new pair of shoes and a gift. The children also went on a Christmas outing to a nearby park. The donations that exceeded the requested amount have been put into the PCH general funds to help meet needs as they arise.



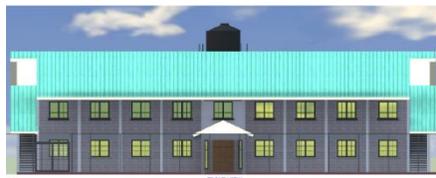
Update on Valentine

Valentine began her pursuit of a nursing degree this past September, enrolling in the African Inland Church (AIC) School of Nursing at the AIC Kijabe Hospital. This is about one and a half hours drive from the PCH campus. PCH US Executive Director Larry Watson was able to visit Valentine at her school in October to deliver a new laptop for her studies. Valentine has adjusted well to her new environment and was already leading the choir for the local church meeting at the school. She is very happy with her chosen field of study and wishes to thank all those in the US who helped make this a reality. There will be six more orphans graduating from high school at the end of 2015. A designated fund has been established for college or vocational training for the orphans. It is estimated to cost a average of \$4,000 per student per year for such training.



Plans Underway for New Girl's Dorm

The Board of Directors of PCH has decided to make building a new girls dorm as the focal capital project for 2015. A preliminary design has been established with a local designer and cost estimates are being prepared. In 2015, PCH will have 16 orphans attending Joram GM Academy High School on the campus. This means that all of these girls are now living in the school's dorm for girls rather than in the orphanage homes. This also means that more and more orphans, now and in the future, will be occupying beds that would otherwise be used by outside, paying students. Also, the condition of the girl's dorm compared with the recently rebuilt boy's dorm leaves a lot to be desired and gives a bad first impression to prospective students and their parents. So, an upgrade and expansion is needed. It is estimated to cost around \$150,000 to complete the building. A designated fund has been established for this project, which will not begin until most of the money is available. Please consider this project in your giving plans for 2015.



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