



NEIGHBORHOOD M I N I S T R I E S

Dear Friends:

June 2007



Families from within the Neighborhood Ministries community donated a total of \$550 toward our Isaiah 58 Campaign at the Spring Parent's Store. These are parents who are in the struggle to take care of their children and provide stability for their families. They know their contribution is valuable and needed. Who are these parents who are willing to give so much?

Six years ago the Parent Volunteer Program (PV) was developed to "give Christmas back" to the parents. Parents were able to volunteer their time, earn "parent bucks," and redeem them at a donor sponsored Parent Volunteer

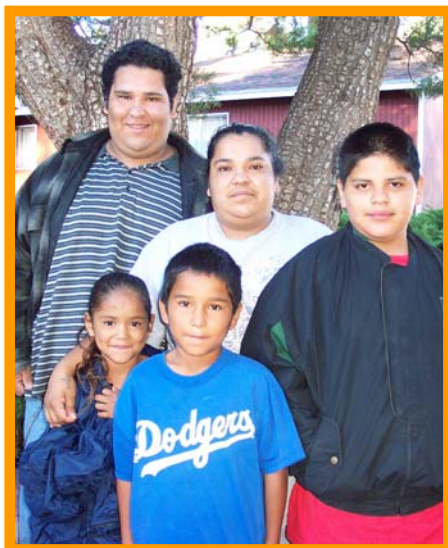
Christmas store. The vision of this program is: **To develop trusting relationships built on dignity with the parents of our kids that will lead to a growing personal relationship with Jesus, increasing participation in the church, and in the community.**

*God has been accomplishing
this vision in many ways.*

Our parents are serving in many significant and practical ways. They do the maintenance throughout our property. They also fold, stuff, and mail the newsletter you are now reading. They help cater lunches and dinners that we have throughout the week. They are becoming leaders in our youth programs.



Our parents are developing their community. They share life with each other. They gather in fellowship to celebrate Mothers' Day, b-days, baby showers, and quinceañeras. They help each other when one of them is sick. Our parents understand that we are more than a neighborhood; we are a community working together.



This vulnerable neighborhood is a community of hope – because Jesus lives here with us. Individual lives are being transformed. Rosalba (with family left photo) became a parent volunteer six years ago at the encouragement of her son to go to church. She got involved in the program and as a volunteer cook at the Junior High Camp gave her life to the Lord. Here is the way Rosalba says it: "____ is my role model, seeing the way she interacts with her children showed me another and a better way to have patience, tenderness, and understanding toward my own children. When I came to Neighborhood Ministries I felt appreciated. They showed

their love through words of wisdom or little post-it notes of encouragement. This was a new experience; my family never had such kind gestures.”

Passion for others is developing. Rosalba has developed into the Parent Volunteer Coordinator and is helping 100 other parents in the way she has been helped. She makes sure the parent volunteers can participate at the three seasonal stores. She has found God and grows in his word as she and other mothers conduct a Bible study every Monday. “I am changed because of the grace of God. I now have new hope and a true sense of who God is...I want to keep growing in Christ with my children. I give thanks to God that my son Ramon is not involved in drugs or violence when many of the teenagers around him are. My struggles I now share with God, I am not alone. ***Being here has opened my eyes.*** With the parent volunteers I am not their manager; I am their friend. They come to me for guidance. I try to help them from my own personal experience.”

Upcoming Events:

- Now Available: Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) make it easier to contribute to NM each month! Call Chris Somers for details.
- May 11: A Cord of Three Strands BBQ was a wonderful evening. 200 people attended the event hosted by 3 ministries.
- June 11 Jr. High Kids Club
- June 25 – July 6 Kids Club for 400+ kids in grades K-6
- December 7, 2007 Save the date for the NM 25th Anniversary Celebration!

Problems and challenges in the midst of hope can be daunting. You can imagine what it is like to get close to 100 people you care about in this community. Does everyone get along together ...? Are some angry or disappointed with God ...? How must it be to raise a teenager in the midst of the daily cycle of despair that many are feeling ...?

We thank God for these precious friends and families and their participation in the Isaiah 58 Campaign:

You will be called, repairers of broken walls and restorers of streets where people live.

Love,


Kit Danley
President

P.S. Please pray that all of our youth experience the love of Jesus this Summer.



NEIGHBORHOOD
M I N I S T R I E S

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