

Solidarity in Action at Hospital Collique

Every Saturday morning some of the children who graduated from the OSA after school program last year come to OSA for one hour of Bible study, followed by two hours of psychology class. Kees and Elizabett do the Bible study and, since Petry left, Julia takes care of the psychology class. At the moment, five dedicated teens come every Saturday to this program.

Recently, we taught them about solidarity. The biblical focus was on Galatians 5:14, "For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."" We had a good discussion on this topic. We also asked them for ideas on how to put solidarity in action. They had very good suggestions, but it was on a day a week later when Elizabett found out about three big boxes of baby clothes OSA had in storage. That's when the idea was born.

On a Wednesday night we invited the teenagers to sort the clothes and divide them in sets of the correct size.

On Saturday morning, November 12, we went with the five teenagers and some of the 6th graders to the Hospital of Collique. We had permission to visit the departments of pediatrics and neonatology, where we surprised the mothers and children with a little bag with clothes and blankets.

It turned out to be a great experience for all of us. Actually, this activity provided another real life teaching moment; several of the mothers—and mothers to be—whom we met were only a couple of years older than the girls in our group. When we addressed that after arriving back at OSA, it seemed that they all had recognized it.



Birthday Celebrations

Birthdays of the OSA children are celebrated quarterly. The 1st graders receive a gift and celebrate the birthdays with cake, games and/or a movie in the classroom.

The 6th graders who have their birthday during one of the three months celebrate their birthday on an afternoon. Two of the team members take these children to the movies, a restaurant, and a little theme park, which is part of the mall.

You can imagine that these birthday outings are something the children look forward to. That was certainly the case with the most recent one during the first week of November. Kees and Elizabett went for the first time, which was immediately an unforgettable one. The "combi" (minivans used as busses) they took to the shopping mall broke down, so they had to change busses.

For tall people like Kees a "combi" is an adventure in itself. The children had fun just watching him trying to find room for his long legs.

Well, if you want to get an idea of a trip in a mini bus in Lima, we suggest to go to the website of YouTube and search for "combi + Lima." You'll find several videos of this kind of busses and the traffic of Lima.



Introducing...

Teresa Pérez Linares

OSA is happy to introduce the most recent addition to our team. Teresa is a clinical psychologist. She started working at OSA in October, 2011. These last months of the year, she taught the same hours as Petry, both the 1st grade and 6th grade. For next year, we are looking for an educational psychologist, so Teresa can focus wholly on the diagnosis and counseling of the children and families during the three days she works at OSA.

We asked Teresa the following questions.
Tell a little bit about yourself

I am married to a missionary who is pastor of a church and I see how my profession complements my ministry. For this reason, I am very thankful to God.

How long have you worked in this area?

I have worked in my profession since 1988, the year of my graduation. It means 22 years working in different areas of psychology.

Why did you decide to come to OSA?

I believe that God guides our path. I didn't imagine working at OSA. I was working for the Peruvian Bible Society. That job required a lot of travel, which meant that I was away from home. I was speaker in many workshops, but I missed my work as clinical psychologist. This was the reason I left this job. One day, Meche told me about the needs for a psychologist at OSA. Then, Blanca talked with me. At that time, I prayed seeking God's will about my proposal to work for OSA three days per week. When OSA accepted this proposal, I felt that God had answered my prayer in a way that allows more time with my family and my husband and his ministry. I thank God and pray that He will continue to use me in His service.

How is your impression of your first week at OSA?

I see that the job at OSA is a vocation of service and love for others. If you want to



serve, you will give the best of yourself in order to achieve your objectives. I admire the staff and I see that they love what they do here at OSA.

What is your dream for the OSA children/families?

My dream is that these children of today can be good men and women for tomorrow. This is what society needs. In addition, I would like that families can have a good quality of life, not just in the material things, but in the emotional areas, because through a good emotional life they can give everything in their families, jobs, etc. Improved relationship between all family members: parents, children, grandparents, cousins, etc., results in improved family health.

OSA helps these families with physical needs (food), spiritual and psychological needs which helps the overall health of the children.

Anything else you want to share

I want to thank the donors. These people are anonymous for us, but without their donations we could not do anything, because this ministry needs to sustain staff, infrastructure, and the whole program. We pray that God can bless them for their love for others. We don't know them but we pray for them. May God bless you in everything.

Upcoming Events

November 30

- Last day of class at OSA

December 1-14

- Staff prepares for next year

December 3

- Buckner Christmas Celebration

December 8

- Paseo with the Scouts

December 10

- Christmas Musical performance in church 2nd zone of Collique

December 14

- OSA closing ceremony

Please, PRAY with us for

- Preparations for the Christmas musical
- Preparations for next year
- Gods guidance in all we do here at OSA
- 6th graders, as they prepare for secondary school
- A balance between home, work, and spiritual growth for the OSA team
- More children for the 1st grade (we can have 10 more)
- New teachers

Special Prayer Request

During the week of the OSA medical campaign in October, many people came to see the doctors. The physicians prescribed medications, which in most cases were handed out by the OSA pharmacy on location. In a few cases they recommended that the patients visit a local doctor or the hospital. Also during the

medical campaign, OSA OB/GYN, Dr. Sam Law took pap smears from most of the female patients he saw that week. At the end of the week all of these tests were sent to the laboratory of a local hospital. A couple of weeks ago, we received the results of the tests which were abnormal for five women. We ask you to pray for

these five women and for all the people who, for various reasons, came to see a doctor. Pray that the medications can give the desired results. Also, pray that others may have the financial resources they need to be seen by a local doctor or hospital. Again, we want to thank all those who came to Peru to share God's love with the people of Collique!

Operación San Andrés, 11918 Taylorcrest, Houston, TX 77024, USA; Phone (713) 464-8525, Fax (713) 464-2730

contactus@operacionsanandres.org - <http://operacionsanandres.org>

OSA Peru office: +511-558-2470

Kees and Elizabett Abbring - osa-peru@hotmail.com