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*From the Dump to La Esperanza*

*2018*

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**Newsletter 2018**

In 2016 we completed our 10-year vision plan, so we entered into a new phase in 2017 and adopted a 5-year plan which focuses on Housing, Health, Education and Nutrition (HHEN). With assistance from donors – individual, corporate, community and municipal – we have been able to implement new programming to begin to meet some of our 5-year goals.

**HOUSING**

We now have sixteen families living in our residence and ten more families have been interviewed and prepared to move in. Each family is expected to care for their unit and cover expenses (i.e. electricity) associated with living there.

**HEALTH**

In 2017 we started and completed our new medical center and have two doctors on staff who are helping us address the medical needs of our families. We now have better medical records for each family so can follow up on identified problems or issues.

**EDUCATION**

Our school sponsorship program continues to ensure that our children are registered and provided with all they need for each school year. A new data-base helps ensure that records are complete and up to date. Thank you to our sponsors for the commitment that you make to individual students to enable us to help break the cycle of poverty with education. A new adult education program, with government assistance, began this year with 30 adult students enrolled. Donations for the sponsored children need to be received in June to ensure they have all they need when the school year begins in early August.

**NUTRITION**

Our mid-day meal program continues to provide a nutritious lunch to 100-150 children daily and the community kitchen helps us train mothers in better, more nutritious meal planning and preparation. Donations to our general fund ensure that we can provide nutritious meals to our children.

Let us share a brief story of one of our families.

**MARIA**

Maria is a 50-year-old single mother who has always lived on the street. She has twelve children, ten of whom are in the care of other family members or DIF (social services). In 2017 she qualified to move into one of our units with two of her children. With more secure housing she has also been able to have two other children join her on weekends. During a

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monthly maintenance check her unit was declared the “most well cared for”, a designation she was extremely proud to receive! We are so happy to able to provide people like Maria the opportunity to make a better life for herself and her family and to see her positive response to the opportunity she has been given.



Please visit our website [www.familiesofhope.org](http://www.familiesofhope.org) and see our new video about the history of the foundation!

We thank each of you for your support over the years. Without you, our work would be severely limited and the families we love and care for would not receive what they need to break the cycle of poverty in which they live. You are helping us bring hope to families who for so long had no hope.

**Note:** If you received this newsletter by traditional mail and would like to help us save on postage please email us at [familiasdelaesperanza@gmail.com](mailto:familiasdelaesperanza@gmail.com) and we will add you to our distribution list. Please advise us if you have a change of address or have not received your 2017 tax receipt.

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