



## Projects, Hugs and Hope

Dear Friends,

So, why does it take so long to build a school, or a church or any large project for that matter?

The answer, at least partially, is in the first picture.



At the Father's House Church and Christian School, a lot of the work has gone on underground: putting in waste water systems, drainage for rain water, etc, but now we are really starting to see the school take shape.

Over the last few weeks the Primary School rooms (that will double as Sunday School rooms) have really taken shape. Soon, we will start on the preschool with the high school to come later - as funds allow.



And the permanent sanctuary? The sanctuary will be a gymnasium with seating for several hundred, much larger than the 220 seat tent that Pastor German is using now, but we may be able to start on it early next year.



Darren & Pastor German

**Please pray for Pastors German & Maria Isabel as they lead this absolutely huge undertaking!**

## One Hug Into The Night

Darien is now about a third of the way through his YWAM training school in Cartagena. In that time he has been immersed in some really good teaching, good friendships and he himself stepped into the waters of Baptism.



But before they finish their classroom phase and then head off on their two month outreach in Europe, they have a one week mini outreach here, in the city of Barranquilla.

A few nights ago, while on that outreach, he and his team were returning from a grocery run and encountered a man in deep despair. He was **STANDING ON THE RAIL** of a foot bridge, looking at the highway below, waiting for a large vehicle to pass by so that he could jump in front of it.

Darien, caught by surprise, managed to ask him if he was ok and he said no, with tears running down his face. Darien and a teammate then continued the conversation and asked him to come down off of the rail so that they could talk.



Edwin is married and a father of 3 girls ages 11, 6 and 1 year. They are refugees, living on the streets of Colombia. In desperation they fled their native Venezuela because of the poverty and political strife, looking for a better life here.

But life has not been easy, they often go hungry and sleep wherever they can find shelter, in a doorway, under a bridge, wherever. And Edwin, trying to be a provider, had come to the point of hopelessness, where he could not take living another day. Then a group of students from a YWAM DTS **just "happened" to come by** at the critical moment... >>>

Darien and one of his teammate preceded to chat with Edwin, hug him and share God's love with a desperate man. They spent time praying for him and a local church leader, who was with the team, gave him indications on where Edwin could find their church.

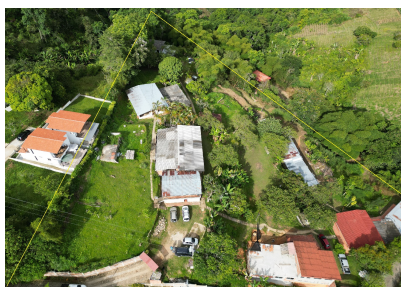
Edwin was greatly impacted, but I know that Darien was also hugely affected (in a very good way) by how God had used him and his team to save a man's life and to spare 3 little girls from losing their father.

And after all the tears and prayers Darien sent him off with a little money for food and **one last hug, into the night.**

## Housing The Nations

More than big projects, we always have some little ones as well. Small for us, but large to the people they touch.

In July, Patty and I travelled 9 hours by land to visit the YWAM base in Bucaramanga. This base is home to many coworkers from over the years. They train missionary students that will serve in countries all around the world - including some incredibly closed nations.



However, one of the biggest needs on missions bases is for housing, both for their staff and to host visiting teachers and teams. It was for the latter that we were visiting.

The YWAM property is on a mountain outside of the city and while they have land, building is a challenge.

We felt that God was asking us to help them get started in a new building, the 1<sup>st</sup> floor being an apartment for long term staff and the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to be designated to hospitality for teachers and teams. Thanks to a couple large gifts, both from our donors and some from the base's YWAM friends, we were able to get started.

In just the last few weeks the 1<sup>st</sup> floor structure is up and the slab is about to be poured. Soon the new building will be fulfilling a high purpose, providing a stable home for some long term missionaries and a temporary home for the teachers that come to help raise up a new generation of young missionaries to reach the world.



## "Summer" Camp

We don't really have summer here, just rainy and dry season, but for 9 of the oldest guys from The Refuge, they had their 1<sup>st</sup> opportunity to go to church camp. Led by people from our church, the boys were sponsored to join with some 200 youth.

Over the weekend, all of the kids were divided into teams and the guys decided to call their group "**Hamburgers with No Potatoes.**" In Spanish, with no "Papas," the same word that you would use to say "**Without Fathers**" or **parents**. They were declaring themselves as being alone in the world. 😞



However, the camp leaders took that name and used it to teach the boys a simple, yet profound truth, that God is their Father. That He would never leave them and that He would always be there with a

hug & a declaration, "I love you and I am proud of you - just as you are." So, soon after, they changed their team name to "**Hamburgers with Papa.**" With God (Papa) as Father.

We really want to honour those volunteers from our congregation. Over the last 10 years or so we have been able to help provide the boys with a good home, a decent place to live, but in the last 1 ½ years of service, YOU, each one of you; have given them a family.

**Much Love!**

*Darren, Patty, James & Darien*

Just as Jesus had a group of people who sustained Him (Luke 8z:1-3), we also depend on God's provision as expressed through the Body of Christ. *Please partner with us through your giving!*

**Canada:** Cheques made out to the: PAOC. With a note mentioning Darren & Patricia McCrea. PAOC, 2450 Milltower Court, Mississauga, ON, L5N 5Z6

For online donations - [www.paoc.org/donate/darrenmccrea](http://www.paoc.org/donate/darrenmccrea)

Memo should include: Designation of gift, donor's name, address and phone number to ensure receipt is correct.

**USA:** Make your check out to: "RPEC." Please enclose a note mentioning the ministry of Darren & Patricia McCrea.

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