

Ramos Newsletter – November 2018



*“Doy gracias a mi Dios siempre que me acuerdo de vosotros, orando siempre con gozo en cada una de mis oraciones por todos vosotros...”
Filipenses 1:3-4*

“I give thanks to my God whenever I remember you, praying always with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you...” Philipians 1:3-4

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings from the Dominican Republic! May the blessings of our Lord be upon you.

We are grateful for each of you, our brothers and sisters in Christ, who bless our lives. It's a privilege to share how GOD has worked in our lives and ministry this year.

In our last newsletter, we explained the call God put in our hearts to reach the children of Monte Adentro, in Santiago. In response, we founded **Ministerio Esperanza y Gozo** or **Hope and Joy Ministry** dedicated to bringing the hope and joy of Jesus to this community known for its poverty, crime, and violence. God called us to focus on the children; to show them that God truly loves them and to help them have a personal encounter with Jesus.



Eddy with the kids at our Casa Blanca location.



“Esperanza y Gozo” means “Hope and Joy”

Our Own “Hope and Joy Ministry”

Our theme verse is **Romans 15:13** *“Now may the God of HOPE fill you with all JOY and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

Please pray with us that this ministry will be a safe place for children to learn about Jesus and that relational doors open to evangelize their families and neighbors



Precious children learning about Jesus

“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.” Proverbs 16:3

Now

Since founding Hope and Joy Ministry in January, we’ve focused on getting to know the kids and families, teaching the children about Jesus, building trust, and exploring the community’s needs. While we look for our own facility, two families opened their patios for our weekly activities. One in an area called “Casa Blanca” where we received about 30 children to each session, and the other in an area called “La Vereda” where we receive 50-60 children. We organize multiple activities with the children each week.



Carrie at one of our Thursday activities in Casa Blanca.



All of our groups of kids love to color!

We are so encouraged by the openness and excitement of the children and families we serve. We are also encouraged by the relationships with the mothers of the kids, especially the two moms who help out with our La Vereda activities.

Soon

Once in our own facility, we will continue our larger VBS type events and also host smaller activities like reading classes, homework club, English classes, Bible Study, etc. We are very excited about the many ways to serve the children and community.

Future

Eddy attends seminary with the goal of becoming a pastor. Our prayer is that God will bless Hope and Joy Ministry and work in the hearts of not just the children, but also their families and neighbors; and that one day He will open the door to plant a church in that neighborhood.



Eddy teaching at one of our Tuesday activities in La Vereda



Our friend Marissa helping with our Saturday group in La Vereda.

Visitors

We have been so blessed to have some of our friends here in the DR visit the ministry, help out with activities, and teach Bible lessons. In March, the “Grannies on a Mission” visited for an afternoon! The kids loved hanging out with Abuela Ruth, Abuela Jo, and Abuela Martha.

This summer we were also encouraged by visitors from the States. Our friend, Marissa, was in the DR interning for another ministry and helped with some of our activities in her spare time. We were so thankful and the kids absolutely loved her.

We also had our very first “Hope and Joy Team” this summer. Carrie's mom, Karen Hoekstra, and her friend, Cheryl Terpstra, came down for a ten day trip to provide backpacks and back-to-school supplies for the Hope and Joy Ministry kids.

They raised money, filled their suitcases with supplies, and purchased backpacks. They supplied 120 children in the neighborhood we serve with much needed back-to-school supplies. The children were so excited to receive their backpacks and were so proud to wear them home to show their families. What a blessing. Praise God!



Karen and Cheryl called their trip “Sprinkling Joy/Operation Backpack”



Carrie, Karen, and Cheryl with Omeyra, founder of Alcanzar De Dios

Also, because they exceeded their fundraising goal, they were able to bless our friend Omeyra's children's ministry in Haina as well (Fundacion Alcanzar De Dios). Thank you so much to everyone who donated to help provide backpacks to children who needed them.

“Therefore encourage and comfort one another and build up one another, just as you are doing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Financial Goals and Ministry Vision

As you can imagine, our costs have increased since founding Hope & Joy Ministry. Our immediate vision is to rent appropriate space in Monte Adentro to host our weekly activities and offer new opportunities to the children and their families.

To cover the increased expenses and continue toward our long-term vision of planting a church, we are excited to announce openings on our partnership team totaling \$700 per month!



These older boys help us unpack the car and set up each week.

Will you join us? We'd be honored to welcome you as a partner in this vision to transform the barrio into a beacon of Christ's hope and joy! It's easy to start planting seeds of eternity in lives in the DR today! Simply:

- Scan the QR code with your digital device to visit our partnership page.
- Complete the enclosed partnership slip and return it with the GOM return envelope.
- Visit: www.missiongo.org and click the "Donate" button on the menu bar
- Or call Global Outreach Mission direct at: 716-688-5048



The kids learning new songs with Carrie.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that God remains the center of Hope and Joy Ministry.
- Pray for each child and family to open their hearts and allow God to fill their lives with peace.
- Pray that God will provide our own facility.
- Pray for God's wisdom and discernment in our lives as we minister to the children and families.
- Pray that we will reach our fundraising goal of \$700 per month so that the ministry can continue to grow.

We thank our family members, friends, and each of you whom God has placed in our lives and our hearts, for the generosity shown to support us in this calling. Thank you for your prayers and for your interest in us. Our desire is that the love and mercy of God will continue to be with you and your families.

"Above all, have fervent and unflinching love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins [it overlooks unkindness and unselfishly seeks the best for others]." 1 Peter 4:8

Blessings,

Eddy and Carrie Ramos

Global Outreach Mission thanks you for financially supporting **Eddy and Carrie Ramos in the Dominican Republic**. All gifts are tax-deductible, and should be made payable to: **Global Outreach Mission**. On a separate note or on the enclosed response card indicate: **Ministry-Eddy & Carrie Ramos**. Donations can also be made on-line by accessing the QR code. Website: www.missiongo.org

