

Casa Guatemala News

Rio Dulce August 2008

Dear Friends,

Casa Guatemala is a nonprofit organization founded in September of 1977 for the care and protection of children. There are currently 250 children who are placed in our care by the Guatemalan Ministry of Child Welfare because of abuse, abandonment and extreme poverty. By providing good nutrition, medical care, education and adoption services, Casa Guatemala has made a positive impact on the lives of thousands of children who would otherwise be faced with abuse, exploitation, starvation and even death.

A Children's Village situated in Las Brisas, Rio Dulce was created to achieve our goal of providing an atmosphere filled with love, learning and laughter. It is a paradise spanning over 100 acres of tropical jungle peppered with eco-friendly structures which make up the community. These include separate dormitories for the girls, boys, volunteers and local staff. In addition, there is a school, medical clinic, library, carpentry shop, outdoor playing fields and a dining hall. The village attempts to be self-sustaining through farming and much of the produce such as eggs, meat, fresh fruits, and vegetables are consumed in the daily diet.



We are in the midst of the horror movie. There has been a rash of vampire bats biting the children at night. We have had a relatively peaceful existence in the jungle up until the last couple of months when eighteen of our children were bitten by the bats. They gain access to the children's dorms through openings in the roof which are used for ventilation. All the children have mosquito nets, but because they move about during sleep, their exposed limbs are frequently targets for the bats. Our children are being vaccinated for rabies, but in the meantime, we are taking measures to safeguard everyone at night by sealing off the openings on the roofs.

from the Police Department of Tallahassee, responded to our plight by coming to Rio on sealing the roofs. They were off to a unfortunately due to circumstances out of they were unable to complete the job within temperatures were so high that three very sick and had to return.

Despite the setbacks, one quarter of the complete. We still have to seal off all the structures and put screens on all the We are once again appealing to you for support. While Sam, the leader of the

organizing another team, Kathy Price from Ohio is organizing man power to help repair the green houses. We are hoping to use Kathy's team to instead complete the work of sealing of the roofs of the dormitories, as the children's safety is our TOP PRIORITY. We are looking for a miracle at this point.



A SWAT team Florida Dulce to work great start, but our control, a week as the members got

work is other windows. your financial SWAT team is

We trust that God is with us and will help us provide for all of the children in our care. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity and for making a difference in our world. May your days be filled with love and peace.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Angie", written in black ink.

Angie and the children

Casa Guatemala.