

# ANNUAL REPORT TO OUR SUPPORTERS

## 2008 - 2009



Whoever welcomes a child such as this for my sake welcomes me, And whoever welcomes me, welcomes not me, but Him who sent me.

—Mark 9:37

Dear Friends of the Farm,

The Farm of the Child has been truly blessed with God's love. We are fortunate to have been called to provide help and create hope for those in need. There are so many in our community who are struggling to live without even the most basic of necessities. We stand at their sides, helping each to cling to the promise of faith and hope in the midst of adversity.

We are all familiar with the current economic state. What does this mean for the Farm of the Child?

We are so fortunate to be served by volunteers and donors that exemplify God's love. It is through this genuine charity that we teach the children of the Farm. They learn from each one of you. Those who visit, volunteer, share their time, expertise, and wealth, truly live God's word and I thank you.

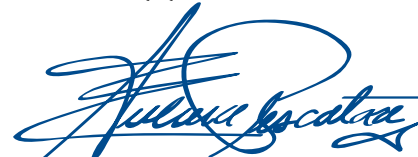
Earlier this year we called on each of you to continue your support in the face of economic adversity and you answered. Your generosity and support in these tough times have enabled the Farm to continue to thrive.

My hope is that you will again answer our humble request and continue to support the Farm in the upcoming year and achieve our goal of making a sustainable difference in the lives of the children. As this hope is realized, it speaks of greater things, inviting all to become more firmly rooted in the love of God.

As you review this annual report of our programs and activities at the Farm, I humbly ask that you pray for all of those who touch the Farm of the Child and consider making a donation to help us continue God's work.

With your prayers and financial support, you help us continue to be a vehicle of God's everlasting love. We are making a real difference in the lives of children.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Zulena Pescatore  
Co-Founder, Farm of the Child



*With the Holy Family as the model,*

our Honduran house parents lovingly raise six to eight children in each orphan home. Each home is dedicated to children of the same age, gender and developmental stage. There are six family-style homes, each named for a patron saint, that make up the Farm of the Child community. In FY 2008, we welcomed ten new children to the Farm of the Child family. Through the love and care they receive, our children begin to heal both physically and emotionally.

## *Farm of the Child hosted a week-long education mission from Espiritu Santo Catholic School in Safety Harbor, FL.*

Seven professional educators spent one week training the elementary and middle school teachers at Farm of the Child, implementing a new language arts curriculum, and sharing teaching methodologies to strengthen reading and writing within our education programs. Espiritu Santo provided new Spanish language textbooks for grades 1 through 6 at St. Peter's Catholic School at Farm of the Child.



## *Vocational Programs*

In efforts to continually improve our programs to prepare our children for success beyond the gates of Farm of the Child, our vocational and life skills trainings have continued to grow. In FY 2008, the PAVI (Puente a la Vida Independiente) program was kicked into high gear, with all children ages 12 and older participating in work hours, vocational skills training and money management activities. Children learn practical skills such as sewing, carpentry, maintenance and construction, cooking and cleaning. The children earn "Pescadores" based on the quality of their work, which they can then spend on goods and privileges at the end of each evaluation period.

*Dalila, is learning vocational sewing skills.*



## *Independent Living*

In FY 2008, we celebrated the graduation of one of our most talented students, Fany, from our Independent Living Program. She has gone on to study Psychology at the Christian university in San Pedro Sula, receiving a full academic scholarship from Farm of the Child. Our two independent living homes in La Ceiba have flourished, with six young men and two young women continuing their high school studies, while working and preparing to live as independent adults. Adolescents living in La Ceiba complete their high school education at one of the two Catholic high schools in town, participate in the local parish, and hold part-time or full-time jobs according to their academic schedule.



*Jorge participating in vocational training.*

*Fany, proud graduate of Farm of the Child.*



**ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS**

**Sacred Heart Clinic**

Sacred Heart Clinic at Farm of the Child got a makeover in FY 2008, with a new roof, electrical rewiring, and a fresh coat of paint. Our nursing staff continues to care for the entire Farm community and the 100+ neighboring families in the surrounding villages. The Farm also enjoyed another annual dental mission by Dr. John Nei and his wife, Barb, of Alexandria, MN.



**Construction Projects**

In FY 2008, Farm of the Child completed the following projects:

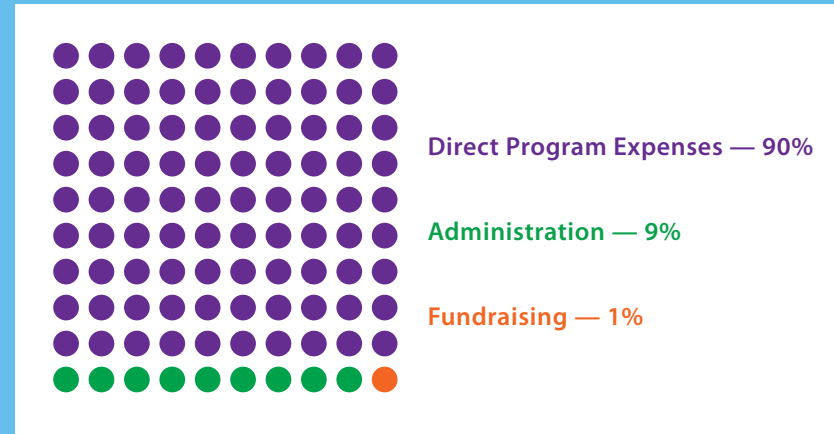
- Prayer Garden—  
*Espiritu Santo Catholic Church of Safety Harbor, FL*
- Reroofing maintenance workshops—  
*Espiritu Santo Catholic Church of Safety Harbor, FL*
- Painting/sealing of convent roof—  
*Espiritu Santo Catholic Church of Safety Harbor, FL*
- Painting/sealing roof of the Chapel of the Holy Family—  
*Arriba Corp. of Norfolk, VA*
- Reroofing of Sacred Heart Clinic—  
*Arriba Corp. of Norfolk, VA*
- Painting Interior of six orphan homes—  
*Riley's Raiders of Burlington, WI*



**Community Outreach**

In FY 2008, Farm of the Child community outreach staff provided support to the neighboring community of Playas del Mojaguay to achieve their electrification project. The main focus of our outreach activities remains on spiritual support and as a ministry of presence. Farm of the Child staff continue to share the Word of God and Holy Communion in the surrounding villages through monthly Communion Services and other prayer activities.

**EXPENSES**

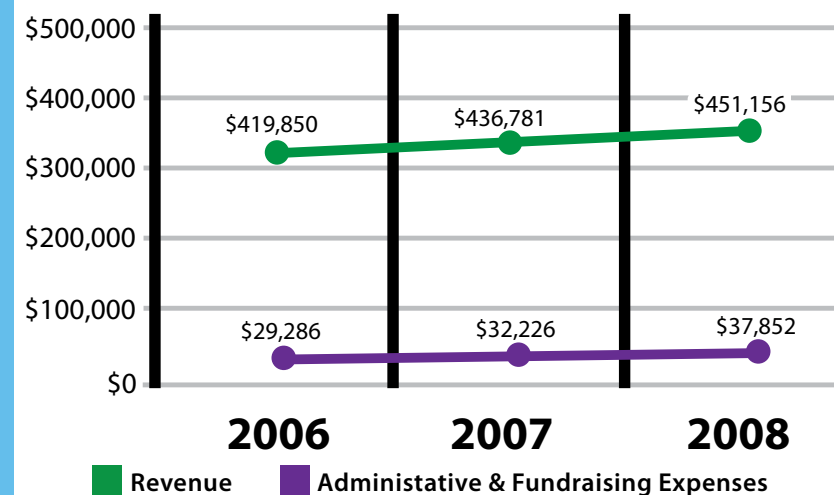


**DONATIONS & INCOME**



Although faced with a challenging economic climate, your generosity and dedication helped to increase revenue by 3% in 2008. Thanks to the response of our supporters in this time of need, Farm of the Child has steadily increased revenues at a rate of 3.5% over the past three years. Thanks to the dedicated work of volunteers, both in Honduras and the United States, we are able to continually increase revenues while keeping administrative costs at a minimum.

**REVENUE & ADMINISTRATIVE & FUNDRAISING EXPENSES TRENDS**



Thanks to the tireless efforts of our volunteers, Farm of the Child is able to commit the majority of resources to directly serving the children and poor of Honduras.



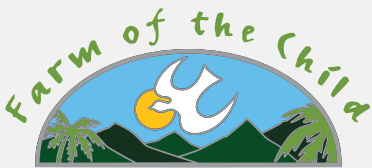
## 10 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE FARM OF THE CHILD:

- 1 Pray the Finca Prayer daily with us. It can be found at [www.farmofthechild.org](http://www.farmofthechild.org).
- 2 Sponsor-a-child or Sponsor-a-student.
- 3 Volunteer to work on a committee in the US (the work is done by email and phone).
- 4 Speak at your parish to raise awareness of Farm of the Child.
- 5 Hold a fundraiser in your parish or parish school for Farm of the Child.
- 6 Visit the Finca and be inspired.
- 7 Give a Farm of the Child gift card instead of flowers or a bottle of wine at your next dinner party.
- 8 Donate online at [www.farmofthechild.org/donate.php](http://www.farmofthechild.org/donate.php) or by mail.
- 9 Pass a newsletter on to someone who ought to know about the Farm of the Child.
- 10 Talk to a college student or speak at a college about volunteer opportunities.

Contact Andrea McMerty-Brummer at [farmofthechild\\_usa@yahoo.com](mailto:farmofthechild_usa@yahoo.com) for helpful materials and information for your Farm of the Child fundraiser.



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SPIRITUALITY

SERVICE

COMMUNITY

SIMPLICITY

*The production and printing of this  
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*Farm of the Child is an  
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