

# Reaching Children in Bolivia



March 7, 2025

This year has brought about many changes. Due to the fact that we have not yet found parents for Hogar Shalom, we are currently living in the girls' home, and Yasmine, a single Mom, is looking after the boys. However, she has been away for three weeks, so Jose has been looking after the boys' home while I look after the girls, many times I have to look after both homes. Thankfully Janessa is always willing to look after the girls when necessary. Grace enjoys having the other girls to play with, but sometimes finds it frustrating. We are looking forward to one of the NGO Shalom board members helping one day this month so that we can take a day trip together as a family. We enjoy working directly with the children, but it does keep me from some ministries like Teacher Training Classes.



Please pray that we find the right parents for the girls' home. There is a single woman in Argentina who is planning to come in June on a missions trip to meet us and see the home. There is also a young couple that is interested in working here, but are praying about the possibility of starting in July or next year. Pray that if it is the Lord's will their church family will agree, as it is their church family that is holding them back as they do not want to lose them.



Praise the Lord, we are now at half capacity with twelve children living in Hogar Shalom, 8 boys and 4 girls! Four year old Alexa, and her brother Freddy who just turned 6 (we all made his birthday cake together), witnessed their mother be electrocuted when she hung the laundry on an electrical wire they had put up to keep thieves out. Their father needs to work and has nobody to look after them and he has turned to alcohol. Alexa has gotten attached to me, and is sometimes jealous of Grace. She and her brother do not know any of the letters, numbers or colours, and have poor fine motor skills. Alexa has very poor pronunciation and at times it is impossible to understand what she says. This may be due to the trauma. Please pray that they will be able to learn. They have difficulties with lying and stealing as well.



Many of the children struggle with lying, and some of the younger boys have difficulties with urinating only in the bathroom. So pray for patience for us! We are enjoying the time working with the children as we get to know them better and also have the opportunity to set up discipline in the home that should make it easier for other parents when they come.

Praise the Lord that during the last three weeks, three children have prayed to receive Jesus as their Saviour! Pray for wisdom as we encourage them to grow in Christ. Also, while doing his high school courses online, Timothy has been taking a motorcycle mechanic course at a Technical Institute.

During the rainy season we were not able to visit the Yaminawa and Machineri, but we have been able to meet with them when they were in Cobija and encourage them in their faith. We are looking forward to having a wedding for Femin and Sarai!

We are also praising the Lord for one Yaminawa man, Daniel, who has decided to leave his alcoholism and turn to Christ. Pray that he remains faithful and for his family.

We are thankful for the twelve children at Hogar Shalom, and trust that God will supply increased funding so that we will be able to receive even more children. Thank you so much for your prayers and support!



Our financial support is sent through <https://msccanada.org/donee/melgar-jose-april/> while donations for Hogar Shalom orphanage are sent through <https://msccanada.org/donee/hogar-shalom/>.

“Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

2 Thessalonians 2:14

May God bless you richly!

In His service,

Jose, April, Janessa, Timothy and Grace Melgar



