

Dear friends of Shalom,

Looking back on 2018, we are amazed of your generosity and the huge support we have received. The achievement of 34 children being sponsored and the success of the two mission trips has been only possible with your contributions.

1. - **In June**, Daniel and Ignacio visited Shalom to get information needed for the Solar Panel and Rain Water Collection Projects. We are expectant to see how these develop during 2019. Daniel's soccer team in Germany, FC Walldorf Astoria, donated soccer outfits and shoes, which the children love! We were also provided with a laptop and a stove we much needed.

2. - **"Christmas"-Mission trip** (Nov. 14th to Dec.19th):

We had 6 volunteers coming for different periods of time, during these 5 weeks. The children received the team with joy and sang and danced till late in the evening. The mission team felt at home immediately, and thanks to the help and love & care received, the hard and dusty work was more than worth it!

- **Purchase of wardrobes and renovations of girl's and boy's dressing rooms:** enough money was raised for 30 wardrobes and were ordered to a carpenter. While they were being build, we were challenged a couple days emptying the rooms and searching for tools and materials needed to start renovation works. Thankfully, everyone in Shalom was eager to learn and help. This job was a big challenge for the carpenter, that due to his small workshop and shortage of electricity hours, couldn't finish on time and is still working on them.



- **Renovation of Mama's office and visitor's room:** Since the children's old drawers and shelves were not needed for clothes anymore, they were restored to be reused in these rooms. Thanks to the children's help repairing walls, sanding, and varnishing, the furniture and rooms look like new and the mess of files and papers is history now!



Before During After

- Activities and experiences with the children:

Besides working, we enjoyed spending time with the children and loving them! We played cards and soccer; studied English with flashcards; did physical exercises; wrote Christmas letters; took hundreds of pictures; and put together a Sponsor-Child-Album to create a more personal relationship; the children absolutely love it! Every evening, they included us in their daily worship, where they talk about the day, pray, sing and dance, and every day our hearts were captured by their loving hugs. We truly learn so much from them!



"for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14).

We are very grateful to Ana for the outcome of her 60th birthday benefit party for Shalom, and to all that helped organizing in anyway. The funds raised are being used for renovation works. Other donors bought us land where we are now growing our own corn. There is still a lot to do in the house and the roof will be fixed shortly thanks to a High School's class donation in Walldorf (Germany). It takes lots of work and time to find resources, and get things done..., but we rejoice in every step made! The next mission team is coming in February 2019 to plan the installation of solar panels and other improvements in the house. Wardrobes will be finished and we will make sure clothes and shoes are finally sorted out and in its place!

If you would like to join a mission trip, sponsor a child or support any of the projects, you will find more information in the website (www.shalomkaratu.org) and Instagram (@shalomorphanage); or please contact us (mcgpp@online.de).

We thank God for His love, provision and blessings throughout the year; and we also thank you for loving Shalom and investing in the future of our 80 wonderful children. *Happy greetings from Mama Shalom 1 & 2 & children*

