

Who are we:

We are a church belonging to the Venezuela's Federation of Missionary and Christian Alliance whose mission is "to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to every human being regardless of its race, ethnicity, political ideology, literacy, social status or cultural background with the purpose of creating group of believers in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela" For the past 30 years, we have been actively involved with our community located in a neighborhood called "La Esperanza", in addition to nearby communities of the Libertador County in the Carabobo State (Central region of Venezuela).

Fourteen year ago, our church decided to work with the Venezuelan's OANSA clubs. OANSA is an international and interdenominational organization with a Bible-based ministry dedicated to teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, reaching out children, adolescents, parents and relatives. Other goals, within our mission, include to train and to challenge boys and girls to serve our Lord Jesus Christ through leadership, service and testimony so that they can accept the responsibility of preaching the Gospel around the world" (Matero 278).

Our history,

As mentioned above, we are an OANSA club with 14 years of work in our communities. In general, these communities are formed by very low-income families coming from less-privileged location such as, "Comunidad Popular Nueva Valencia" and "Comunidad Popular Fundación Carlos Andres Perez", etc. When we started the OANSA club, our church gave us financial support to accomplish our mission and to this day it continuous to do so. Within the club activities, we have had a diverse Saturday schedule throughout the years. As established by OANSA, and in agreement with the Venezuelan's school calendar, we offer two hours of weekly activities on Saturday mornings (usually from 10 am to noon) from September to July. We don't have activities during school breaks (August and 3 weeks in December for Christmas and New Year).

Our activities include:

- 1) Reading and learning: National OANSA organization provides our club with copies of bibles and booklets for our students to read, learn and memorize verses. Most of the reading are based on the life of Jesus, Christian life and salvation. The complexity of the reading is according to the children's age and their content is related to the life of Jesus around children and his teachings.
- 2) General Sessions: This activity is held every 3 months. During this activity, Children pray, worship, and learn biblical stories, in addition to singing canticles. They are also taught biblical lessons.
- 3) Playing: These activities are organized by OANSA where children can play and have recreation.

Our reality today:

As you might be aware, for a long time Venezuela has been facing economic, political and social turmoil in which quality of life has continued to deteriorate. Our ministry does scape this reality. Inflation and shortages of food and medicines have made our existence very difficult. Our church has made enormous efforts to keep us going, but over time it has also been difficult for them to continue to provide financial aid.

Last year, we realized that most of the students, who were attending our club, were facing malnutrition. In many cases, and at most, many of the children would have no more than two innutritious meals per day. Knowing this situation, we decided to provide a nutritious lunch for the children and decided to include "lunch time" to our current schedule of activities. However, since we took this responsibility on our shoulders, we are facing a tremendous economic challenge. It is also very hard to teach of a loving God to children in hunger.

Despite of this, we continue to work within our communities and with our children because we believe that instilling in them God's love, providence and salvation at an early age will build the future leaders and generations of men and women capable of rebuilding our country. But, it is imperative and urgent that necessities of these children be met. We have had fundraising activities to help our desperate situation, but it is not enough. We are still struggling to obtain the financial resources to provide food for our students, we are also in need of clothing, personal hygiene items and school supplies. The crisis in this nation has many ramifications. Nevertheless, we have faith, and more than anything, we believe that this is the work that God has entrusted to us to do, we have the willingness to continue our work in the communities. We strongly believe that with help we will be able to continue providing for our children and communities.

Thanks and God Bless.