

PORTRAITS OF **PROMISE**



by Ellery Sadler,
staff writer

God has a “Plan A” for children. It’s called a family.

God specifically created families as safe, caring units that mirror His fatherly love and protection to ensure children have a place to grow into healthy, whole adults.

That’s why one of our biggest missions at Orphan’s Promise is supporting and strengthening family units—to help hurting families recover and let vulnerable children remain in their homes. Building strong families builds strong communities. That is world-changing—and very much worth celebrating!

These are the stories.

These are the souls.

These are the portraits of the lives we’re changing.



Solving the Orphan Crisis:

One Family at a Time



DID YOU KNOW THAT MANY OF THE ESTIMATED 146 MILLION ORPHANS IN THE WORLD TODAY HAVE AT LEAST **ONE LIVING PARENT?**

That's why we will never effectively address the global orphan crisis simply by creating better systems for orphan care, foster care, or adoption—as important as those are. **Because, at its heart, the orphan crisis is also a family crisis.**

Unfortunately alcoholism, drug abuse, generational trauma, violence, and economic oppression all wreak havoc on families, placing children in at-risk situations and rendering them effective orphans.

So we begin to sustainably solve the orphan crisis when we start one family at a time.

Practically, this looks like working to equip families with the support, skills, and resources they need to better connect and care for one another. We have to work within the foundation of the family—and that foundation starts with the parents. Monica's family is a beautiful example of this, here in our ministries in Mexico.



When we first met Monica, she was living with her parents and two younger siblings in a cramped, one-room home. The kids began attending “Back2Back” programming at their local community center, which is supported by Orphan’s Promise, and includes weekly Bible classes, academic tutoring, and life skills. The program utilizes a five-point child development plan designed to meet the unique spiritual, physical, educational, emotional, and social needs of every child we serve.

After attending for a few weeks, Monica and her little brother and sister were hooked. All week, the kids would count down the days to Saturday, becoming more and more excited to go to class.

“Saturday is coming soon! I can’t wait to go,” their mom would hear them saying to each other.

Before sending them off, she’d always ask, “What do you do there, that you love it so much and you’re always eager for Saturday to come?”

Then one day, their mom was invited to stay for a mother’s class, and she was able to see for herself. Afterward, she told Monica that when she saw how loving everyone was—the way they embraced, greeted one another, and showed real kindness—she knew she wanted to be involved, as well.



A TRANSFORMATION

Soon, Monica’s mother began accompanying her children regularly to the community center, where she attended parenting and life skills classes. It would prove to be deeply transformative for her and the entire family.

Without support, godly examples, and accountability, it can be incredibly difficult and lonely to try to break generational

**IN MEXICO, 7
OUT OF 10
CHILDREN
SUFFER SOME
TYPE OF
VIOLENCE**

patterns of distance, neglect, or abandonment all by yourself. And before joining the Back2Back classes, Monica’s mother hadn’t had many parenting tools—so she struggled to connect emotionally with her children.

Because of the time spent in Back2Back



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The most effective way to give and maximize your gift is to give a recurring monthly gift. If you'd like to become a monthly partner with Orphan's Promise, please fill out the enclosed "You Pledge, We Pledge" form and return it in the Business Reply Envelope. We'll count on you to ensure our commitment to these children is fulfilled!

If you'd like to give a special gift to Orphan's Promise, there are four easy ways you can give:

Give online by visiting OrphansPromise.org/Promise

Text **PROMISE** to **71777** and give from your mobile phone

Call **1-800-818-4016** to give by phone

You can **mail a check** made out to Orphan's Promise to:

Orphan's Promise
977 Centerville Turnpike
Virginia Beach, VA 23463

**Thanks for your generosity.
We look forward to making a difference together.**



orphan's**promise**

programs, Monica and her family have been able to learn more about God, themselves, and others. They have benefited from being able to come to a safe place with a strong network of people—who love and care for them and invest in their family.

Beyond spiritual and social support, they've also been equipped with practical tools to better provide for each other and secure their family's

10% of children are malnourished in Mexico, and 1 in 77 will die before their fifth birthday.

future. Through budgeting skills they have learned and with critical support from local social workers, the family saved enough money to add on additional rooms to their house, giving them space to grow and flourish. We're excited to see how this family continues to grow and how it will impact other families in their community!

After seeing the strength that comes from a supported and



stable family, Monica wants to be a teacher herself one day. When asked what family means to her, she replies: “You can be you.” Monica tells a deeply personal story about being bullied by other young people over her appearance. It got to the point where she started believing their words. She started feeling unattractive and unworthy. But when she voiced this, her mother would say, “No! You are beautiful.”

Those words, coming from her mother, meant everything to Monica. “My mother is always there, helping me,” she says. That’s the power of a loving mother or father. That’s the power of family.

Her message to you and to all who have supported Orphan’s Promise over the years is: “My family and I are so grateful for the opportunity to get to attend classes at the community center and are grateful to God for his many blessings to our family. Thank you for being a part!”



We echo her message to you, our donors, our heroes, our family. Thank you for helping to transform communities and countries as we address the entire orphan crisis, one family at a time. Thank you for believing that every family is worth investing in. That every family has the potential and power to be healthy and whole.

Thank you for being a part of this. Because when families love each other and stay together, that changes the world.

Prayer Requests for Monica and our Mexico Projects:

Pray for Monica as she continues her studies, that she would be encouraged to complete her high school education and continue on to college!

Lift her up to the Lord, that both she and her family would continue to grow spiritually and keep Christ at the center of their lives.

Praise the Father for His hand on Mexico and the many families He is strengthening and supporting there. We thank Him for the opportunity to partner in this work—what a joy!

Pray for the parents, that they would grow in love and understanding for their children. Bless the children, that they would have the safety and space they need to learn, play, grow, and develop.

Ask for continued blessing and favor over their work, their jobs, and their businesses, that they would be able to provide for their children even in these difficult times.





give us a call: 1-800-818-4016

orphanspromise.org

Orphan's Promise, a children's ministry of The Christian Broadcasting Network, Inc., serves orphans and other vulnerable children around the world, taking them from at-risk to thriving through the transforming power of God's love. CBN is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization and your contributions to our ministry are tax-deductible.

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