

## RANCHO FELIZ "EXCHANGE PROGRAM"

ORPHANAGE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

COST: NO COST

(HOWEVER, DONATED ITEMS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED. PLEASE ASK OUR EXCHANGE PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR A LIST OF CURRENT NEEDS.)

Over the last two decades, hundreds of thousands of desperate people have flooded north towards America seeking livable wages. Some make it, but many don't. This has created a rebound effect resulting in thousands of people tumbling back into border towns like Agua Prieta (population 175,000).

With no education and few legal job opportunities, a sense of overwhelming hopelessness traps many. Children suffer the worst, and numerous are abandoned.

To care for these discarded souls, Rancho Feliz's Mexican associates, Queta & Demetrio Ibarrola, directed the construction of the "Queen of Angels" Orphanage.

The orphans range in age from newborn up to 18 years old and the facility's capacity fluctuates from 20 to 40 children. Many are abandoned on the Orphanage's doorstep or in local hospitals. Many are rescued from backgrounds of child abuse, sexual abuse and the nightmare of drug addicted parents.

For most of us, a single day of their lives is unimaginable. These little souls crave attention. They crave love and stability. An hour or two of playing games, coloring books, or simply holding an infant in your arms has far-reaching effects.

Volunteering at the "Queen of Angels" Orphanage is one of Rancho Feliz's most rewarding and enriching "Exchange Experiences."

A HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW IT WILL NOT MATTER WHAT MY BANK ACCOUNT WAS, THE SORT OF HOUSE I LIVED IN, OR THE KIND OF CAR I DROVE...BUT THE WORLD MAY BE DIFFERENT BECAUSE I WAS IMPORTANT IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD.



"I have come to realize more and more that the greatest disease and the greatest suffering is to be unwanted, unloved, uncared for, to just be nobody."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta