



HOGAR INFANTIL
MARSH
CHILDREN'S HOME





LOVE

Love is the guiding principle at the Marsh Children's Home. Many of the children arrive at the Marsh Home from small towns near Acapulco and the surrounding areas in the mountain regions of the state of Guerrero - the poorest area in Mexico. Some have been abused. Others have been neglected or simply abandoned. We believe that the only way to mend a broken heart is through an abundance of love. "Mamá Jovita", our founder and director, is a source of inspiration to all of us who get involved in this incredible institution. More importantly, Jovita provides an endless source of love to these wonderful children. With the love of Jovita, her daughter Nelly, her son Cesar and all of our volunteers and sponsors, the children are given the opportunity to do what all children should be doing - enjoying childhood. This provides the foundation for the children to learn responsibility, discipline and a hard work ethic so that they can enjoy the magical days of youth - and thus developing into outstanding and productive members of our community.





DIGNITY



Half of the world's poorest people are children and there are more babies born into poverty than ever before. Despite major advances in medicine, science and technology, one out of four babies is born into extreme poverty and adverse conditions. The Marsh Children's Home understands that poverty is a complex problem. We have more than 25 years of experience in identifying and helping abused, beaten and abandoned children using developing models of intervention to help alleviate child poverty, vulnerability and deprivation. At the Marsh Children's Home, we believe that all children have an innate right to live a dignified life. This includes the right to live in a safe, nurturing and loving environment where all of the basic necessities are provided. With your help, we can continue to provide the basic necessities for these children and help to end the cycle of poverty that permeates this region of southern Mexico. Not only is the Marsh Children's Home an example of excellence in child care and development in Acapulco - we raise the bar!





ACHIEVEMENT



At the Marsh Children's Home, we teach the children that success in life is the result of hard work, dedication and achievement. We provide the children with the basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter and a safe and loving environment — so that they can focus on their studies. We realize the importance of education in helping to end the cycle of poverty. All children are required to go to school and complete their studies before “playtime” or completing their chores. We recently opened a state-of-the-art computer center and theater, where the children can learn vital computer skills to help them compete in the world after graduation. Additionally, our theater boasts an ever growing collection of educational DVD's, allowing the children to learn about the world around them in an entertaining setting. We also have many volunteers from around the globe who visit the Marsh Children's Home and generously donate their time and talents to teach the children English, arts & crafts and computer skills to assist them with their education outside of school.







RESPECT

At the Marsh Children's Home, we believe that all children deserve to be respected and loved. We teach the children that respect is not something that is earned, but an inalienable right of all human beings. Our Founder and Director, Jovita Godínez de Castañón, was raised in the Latin American Orphanage in Acapulco, run by Lawrence and Alice Marsh. Here she met her future husband, Eduardo Castañón, or "Lalo", as his friends and family called him. After raising four children of their own, Eduardo and Jovita decided to open a space to help needy children and to dedicate the rest of their lives to giving love and protection to the next generation of orphans. They named the "Marsh Home" in memory of the couple who lovingly raised them. On February 4, 2006, Eduardo passed away peacefully. Eduardo's dream of helping children in need will continue at the Marsh Children's Home as a testament to his unselfish dedication to this ideal. "Mamá Jovita", her daughter Nelly, her son Cesar and the Board of Directors are dedicated to fulfilling his dream and improving upon his legacy.



