



kidsalive
INTERNATIONAL

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Ark Constanza Children's Home and School

The valley town of Constanza yields an abundance of fresh vegetables, but many children still suffer from hunger and malnutrition. Located on the same property as our school, our home cares for the most vulnerable children, offering them hope in otherwise hopeless situations.

More than 40 children live at Ark Constanza, where they are loved and cared for in family-style homes. These kids were either orphaned or abandoned and needed a safe, stable place to live. House parents lovingly care for their needs all day long, whether those needs are physical, emotional, or spiritual.

Originally started as a care center in a small building, the Constanza school grew quickly as more and more needy children arrived, and we are now a full-day school with more than 200 students. After basic education, we continue to provide middle and high school discipleship, tutoring, and sports programs, which are all effective ways to maintain contact and help our former school students.

We recently began intensive training for house parents and teachers to equip them to better reach children affected by serious trauma. New accomplishments include a cafeteria, kitchen, and multi-purpose building, as well as transitioning to a new school director. Future plans include hiring a staff psychologist and further developing plans for our middle and high school kids. Our growing staff and our emerging expertise in caring for vulnerable children are made possible by your gifts, offering the hope that changes everything!

Hope Changes Everything...

AT ARK CONSTANZA CHILDREN'S HOME AND SCHOOL!

At times there are stories that are hard for many of us to comprehend, stories that carry such pain, trauma, and hopelessness that it can be hard for us to relate. Sammy's* story is one of those. He spent the first ten years of his life in a terribly abusive situation, locked in a small shanty with his mother. Not only had Sammy never been to school, he could not read and did not even know how to run. Words cannot express the impact of the abuse and neglect during those critical, formative years.

But...hope changed everything! Within four months of coming to the Ark, Sammy had learned to read and was then able to begin formal schooling. Along with his consistent academic progress, he began to learn about God's great rescue plan, and chose to become a follower of Christ.

Now at age 21, he is close to finishing high school and is regularly teaching Bible classes at a local evangelical church. His goal is to attend seminary after graduation, and we rejoice along with him, marveling at the complete transformation in this amazing young man.

*name changed to
protect privacy



"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord."

Psalms 31:24 (NIV)

What's happening...

IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC?

Dominican Republic is a country mired in deep poverty and home to more than 10 million people. For over 25 years, Kids Alive has grown to serve nearly 2,000 children in family-style residential homes, care centers, and schools. Without intervention, most of our children would be unable to break the cycle of poverty that traps them in hopelessness.

Education is crucial to lifting people out of poverty and giving them hope for a better future, but the Dominican public school system is rated the worst of all Spanish-speaking countries*, with both poor quality and high drop-out rates. Several studies estimate that less than 20% of poor children graduate from high school, which perpetuates cyclical poverty in families.

Kids Alive remains steadfast in our mission to bring hope to those who feel trapped, and we have clearly seen

God's hand working to transform lives. Our ministries are experiencing success in breaking cycles of poverty and putting kids on the road to brighter futures. Most importantly, every child we serve hears about the God of hope who desperately loves them.

From the ashes of many societal problems, young, excited Christians are emerging, and we feel privileged to play a role in this process. This past year has been particularly exciting as we have had Christian weddings, record numbers of high school and university graduates, and increasing quality of our programs in several important areas. Through an inspired national staff, talented missionaries, dedicated church partners and Service Teams – and the many child sponsors who support transformation from afar – we see God's work filling hearts with hope.

*United Nations Study TERCE 2015

Partner with us in prayer...

God is working at Ark Constanza Children's Home and School! Please pray for:

- More child sponsors and site partners to support growing programming needs as children mature
- Spiritual and emotional growth for the many children in our care
- Strong unity among our wonderful school and residential care workers

