



CASA HOGAR JUAN PABLO II IMPACT REPORT

June 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020



Father Joseph Walijewski
Legacy Guild
Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II



Faith, Family, Future

DEAR CASA HOGAR FAMILY AND FRIENDS,



Each year as I sit to write this letter, I am home in the US visiting with many of you, sharing our stories of challenge and hope across Parishes and preparing for our annual benefactor dinner. This year, for all of us in many ways, the world is much different. We have just reached the eight-month mark of a State-of-Emergency in Peru due to the worldwide pandemic of Covid-19, with no end in sight. While it has been the most challenging year for us, it has also reminded us just how important our community and faith remain. We are so grateful to have you in our Casa Hogar family and the impact you make on our children and the community which we call home.

**WE ARE LIVING
THE MISSION AND
TRYING TO FOLLOW
THE VISION OF
FATHER JOE
WALIJEWski TO
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FAMILY, SO THAT
OUR CHILDREN
CAN HAVE A
FUTURE.**

I deeply admire the dedication of our limited staff who are living here 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is no real-time off between overseeing all virtual schooling, homework, faith formation, and the regular daily chores that keep our house running. Our 72 children, including 17 new children who joined us in February, have shown true resiliency. They are stepping up to help one another, managing the bakery to ensure we have enough bread, assisting in the kitchen, and learning new skills such as cutting hair and teaching. The Boys Town Program and Family model, which has always set our house apart, has shifted to an online system. Thanks to our team's remote work, this allows the program to be implemented in the best and most complete manner possible as we face a new way of life now and in the foreseeable future.

Peru has been hit incredibly hard by this pandemic, with one of the world's highest per capita death rates and hospitals overflowing. We have rigorous protocols, and only one person is permitted to leave to purchase food, medicines, and essentials. The children cannot see their families. Many of our staff have been unable to work, which causes much stress on both the children and the families, and is not easy for anyone. We do our best with phone calls and continue to work with the children in Mass and Holy Hour through songs, reading the Action Bible, the Rosary, and drawing pictures of their meditations. We know we are incredibly blessed to have access to continue our spiritual formation, while many across the world cannot and reflect upon this and those who are struggling through prayer intentions in every opportunity we can. It has been heartwarming to share in online adoration with many of you. We have also begun a Sunday Mass online to keep in contact with families, staff, and parishioners around the community and host a monthly zoom meeting for other orphanages to share strategies and updates on how to support one another.

We are living the mission and trying to follow the vision of Father Joe Walijewski to nurture faith and family so that our children can have a future. We are preparing the children to take their place on the front lines of life here in Peru. They will need to be strong and faithful. The time of formation they have here is essential now if they will be ready when their turn comes.

Thank you for all you do for our Casa Hogar Family—those who give financially, those who serve as volunteers, and to all who join us in prayer.

God bless you.

In Christ,
Msgr. Joseph Hirsch

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS ED, HOLY NAME PARISH, WAUSAU

NOEL FURGER



I will never forget June 9, 2013 when we drove through the gates at Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II. As the DRE and Youth Minister at Holy Name of Jesus in Wausau, I brought our first mission trip to Peru. We had no idea what to expect. What we saw just on the drive from the airport to Lurin was a shock to our privileged systems. But what we would come to know, and come to love, would prove to be so much more than any one could have anticipated, especially me.

Since 2013, I have led two more mission trips, joined a Casa Hogar Optical Mission and in November 2019 went individually to assist with Quinceanera preparations and computer training. Every time the truck drives through those gates, my stomach flips in anticipation of the upcoming days with the children and families at Casa, now knowing the joy that it will bring.

The Southern Districts of Lima are probably not places on the top of anyone's bucket list. And yet, where many people may see dirt and poverty, I see love and hope. I have grown to love the smells of Peru (and let me tell you, there are many!) because they all lead me to a memory of some of the best times of my life.

I was there when two of the little girls had just arrived Casa and now eagerly anticipate their Quinceanera. And I have witnessed the commitment and sacrifices that the family teachers, the staff and Fr. Hirsch have made for these children.

"How can I go home to a comfortable bed," Fr. Joseph

Walijewski would recall, "knowing there are thousands of children that are out there in the streets; sleeping outside in the cold, hungry, with no hope in their mind?" I have come to hold that quote as my own personal mission. How can I come back to Wisconsin and forget about the kids? I simply cannot!

Casa Hogar has changed my outlook and mission. Other than God and my family, Casa Hogar is the most important thing in my life. My husband has said if it wasn't for my grandchildren, he may never see me. He says that in jest, but it's not that far off. My passion is to spread the word about how impactful and special the work is at Casa and the way that it has changed the lives of the children, staff and community members.

No matter the reason for your trip, you never leave without a huge showing of appreciation and goodbye from everyone. Upon leaving on my most recent trip, I was given a send off that was far beyond anything I deserved. By the end the tears were running down my face because I saw such kindness, humility, courage, love and compassion in the children. They continually show me the person I want to be.

All 72 children deserve the world and a chance at a better future. I have adopted them as my family and they have a place in my heart that only they can fill. It is my mission to always work to make their lives better, one step closer to the lives they could have if they were born in one of our communities in the Diocese. After all, isn't that what God asks of us? Take care of your neighbor, your brother and sister, and the children.

MISSION PROJECTS

PROJECT MILK provides nutritious milk to thousands of people living in poverty, children in orphanages, and association members. This spring, we will receive and help distribute close to 800 bags of powdered milk from the Rural Life Committee. Every other year, doctors and volunteers from the United States give the gift of sight to 2000 people who need it most. This January, we are preparing to convert Casa Hogar into an eye clinic to host a team of 30 on the **OPTICAL MISSION**.

MEET THE OBRERO FAMILY

L to R Backrow: Alexis, Abraham, Frankie
Floeder-Seminarian and Volunteer, Maestro
Luis, Maestra Yuliana, Matias

L to R Frontrow: Reyco, Luis Angel, Edu, Aron,
Richard, Estafani (Couple's niece)



Our Maestros are the cornerstone of our program at Casa Hogar. They provide a family environment, love, skills, and encouragement for our children to build a better future. They work day and night to keep all eight children in the Family on task, in addition to their own children, and genuinely dedicate themselves to a life of service. We caught up with Maestro Luis and Maestra Yuliana, who have been at Casa for three years, to learn a little more about their journey from Venezuela to Peru and what it means to call Casa Hogar their home.

The Obrero Family is older boys, ages 12-17. They are the primary guitar players in Mass, help manage the bakery, have big appetites for Peruvian, Venezuelan, and American food and are always teasing one another and any visitors who come to Casa Hogar. They certainly have their adventures and challenges with boys who keep Luis and Yuliana on their toes!

1. Tell us about the Obrero Family.

Our family has many interesting things as we are the last family where the teenagers live before they leave Casa. It is our mission to prepare them to define what they want to be in life or what career they want to study, we are collaborators with household chores, and we try to be examples for the little ones at Casa. Also, of course...we are the arepa experts and eat a lot of them!!

2. Why do you work at Casa Hogar?

We are married in the Catholic Church and parents so it is important for us to live by those values. Here in Casa Hogar, we work to create and form the children with love and the opportunity to create a normal family environment in the best way possible for them. The development of the boys is the most important part of our work and we see this work as a part of our lives to serve.

3. What has changed at Casa prior to the Covid-19 pandemic and now?

Our work takes a lot of dedication because making a family is not an easy task. It takes 7 full days a week of effort, education and follow up on everything that happens in the family. When the government took mandatory measures of isolation and social distance, it was something new worldwide. We have taken quarantine since the first day and we are proud that there has not been any spread of the virus here at Casa.

4. What is the most rewarding part of working at Casa Hogar and living in the community?

In reality, there are many! It brings us joy to see how the children assimilate knowledge and what we teach them. We love watching them grow up in a healthy environment to overcome the wounds with which they carried when they first arrived. It is also rewarding to watch our own son grow up and develop within the Casa Hogar Community, we all learn to live together and help one another with God's hand.

5. What is the most challenging?

We ourselves are foreigners here in Peru and it is without a doubt the hardest thing to be away from our family. But it is also challenging to see when a child faces a crisis and we work together to guide them. We face challenges professionally and personally and try to overcome them one by one.

6. What would you like to share with benefactors, sponsors or those who may not know you?

Before coming to work and live at Casa Hogar, Luis and Yuliana held professional positions in Management and Education administration in Venezuela and have a 10 year old son, Aron. We love when visitors can come to our home and we engage in cultural exchanges. We want you to know that the effort you make for the children of the home is a blessing to them and to us, you help save lives. We as teachers work to help the children understand that so they can learn the value of what is given to them. You are always in the prayers of all of us here! Thank you!!

FAMILIA SIEMPRE

HOW TWO OF OUR CASA HOGAR GRADUATES ARE GIVING BACK.



When our children graduate from high school and our home, we tell them that although closing a chapter, they will forever be a part of our Family. Family, Future and Faith are the staples of our foundation at Casa Hogar.

Thanks to our Project of Life program, many Egresados (graduates) will be led into their next stage of life, educational studies, establishing jobs and setting up the foundation for their future with guidance and support from Casa Hogar and benefactors. For some, that road is not always an easy path. Family, Future and Faith have taken on a whole new meaning during the Covid-19 Pandemic for Pedro and Stefany.

The quick restrictions placed on the country of Peru and State-of-Emergency left Casa Hogar with family assistants and staff members bound to their homes and not permitted to work. 21-year-old volunteer assistant Pedro stepped right up. Raised at Casa much of his childhood, Pedro graduated in 2014 and had been balancing studying business administration and languages while working to make ends meet. Pedro fell into some troubling personal challenges and realized he needed help. He returned home to Casa around Christmas to volunteer and spend time with our community, where he was welcomed with open arms. The timing could not have been better.

In March, Pedro jumped right into serving as a maestro for a new family of boys. "I realize the enormous effort that is made in the house by everyone working, and it is a beautiful task. I am in charge of monitoring the boys and keeping

them responsible for their chores and schoolwork with the teachers' guidance who raised me. They are terrific kids, and I enjoy being with them." Pedro has been an incredible role model for these new children, helping them adjust to life at Casa Hogar and feel comfortable, safe, and secure in their new home. "They are learning to pray and are doing well. They have to learn that with God, all things are possible, and without him, nothing is possible."

Stefany saw the pandemic as an opportunity to give back to the place that has given her so much. Living and working nearby before the pandemic, Stefany moved into Casa and helped with the younger girls in early March. While her studies were on hold, Casa gave her a sense of security, something she has been striving for since she graduated. "I grew up here and can now understand the great work done by the teachers. You do not realize how hard the world is on you until after you leave Casa. Over the years, I had many obstacles but now know that Casa taught me how to face the challenges. For me, faith is a great gift that I have in my life, and I am grateful for having a large family, maestros, and my Madrina, who believed in me." It hasn't been an easy transition, but Stefany finds joy in working with the children. "They have taught me to be more patient, and although it is a great challenge, they have much empathy and joy." While Stefany plans to return to school full time when virtual classes are lifted, for now, the girls are keeping her quite busy, and she's making good use of the opportunity to keep up with English-practice in the volunteer house.

PROJECT OF LIFE

We work with children to develop an individualized plan after they graduate from Casa Hogar providing the tools necessary to succeed in the future. Assistance can include education, technical school, home improvements and emotional support.



Because of you...



Over 200 Visitors

from the Diocese of La Crosse
and around the world



1436 Donors (37% increase)

- 916 General Donors
- 180 Sponsorship Donors
- 340 Donors to Fr. Joe's Guild

Dual donors counted twice in totals



\$988,902 Total Raised (22% increase)

- Casa Hogar, Sponsorships
and Mission Coop: \$842,787
- Father Joseph Walijeski
Legacy Guild: \$146,115



17 New Arrivals

of children to our
Casa Hogar Family

Virtual School Hours



- Countless for our
72 children all learning
and staying academically
engaged from home!



1 Covid Wedding

1 Covid Baby Born!



15 Graduates

who received scholarship
funding, job training or
personal resources and
mentorship support in our
Project of Life Program

ASSOCIATION OF ORPHANAGES

We are the leader of a group of 19 other Catholic institutions including orphanages, nursing homes, soup kitchens, rehab centers and parishes that collaborate, share resources and provide legal assistance.



10 Volunteers

Wisconsin, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maryland, Poland, Germany, Spain



4 Partnerships

with Peruvian Institutions aiding in development for nutrition, psychology and education for our children



5 Mission Trips

Mission and Donor Trips who came to learn what it means to be a missionary and how to better serve their own community and 4 Groups who were unable to travel this year but engaged with Casa from afar



8 Children

enrolled in professional English classes through a partnership with the Lima South Diocesan Institute



800 Bags

of 50 lbs powdered milk from the Rural Committee of Wisconsin delivered to over 25 local homes, soup kitchens and shelters



5 Parishes

served by Msgr. Hirsch and the musical choirs of Casa Hogar



Prayers

Hundreds of prayers and intentions delivered to Fr. Joe's Tomb



12 Priests

served in Leadership Development Training Program through Viterbo University



REVERSE MISSION

Every year, Casa hosts over two hundred visitors from the Diocese of La Crosse and around the world who come to learn what it means to be a missionary and how to better serve their own community. Part of every visitor's experience in Peru is walking in the footsteps of Fr. Joe Walijewski's life and mission. Casa serves to promote and share the life and legacy of Fr. Joe. Casa also supports vocations by serving as a house of formation for visitors on the path of discernment.



Father Joseph Walijewski Legacy Guild

 Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II

Father Joe's legacy inspires us and lives on at Casa Hogar and the Diocese of La Crosse. We are excited to continue to introduce additional opportunities to join the Guild efforts in order to help advance his Cause and share in his mission spirit.

OUR MISSION

The Father Joseph Walijewski Guild serves as the guiding organization of Fr. Joe's Legacy. It promotes, funds, and conducts the beatification, canonization, and continued missionary works in the spirit and zeal of the Servant of God, Father Joseph Walijewski serving the people of God in the Diocese of La Crosse and around the world.

OUR VISION

To embody the entrepreneurial missionary spirit of Fr. Joe through the development efforts of the Casa

Hogar children's home in Peru and nurturing the concept of reverse mission, advancing his Cause for Canonization and increased awareness of Fr. Joe within our Diocese including parish life, evangelization, catholic education and charitable works.

Thank you for your continued support for Father Joe's legacy missions, prayers for intercession and promotion of his exemplary life. For more information about his Cause and the Guild, please visit www.frjoesguild.org

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

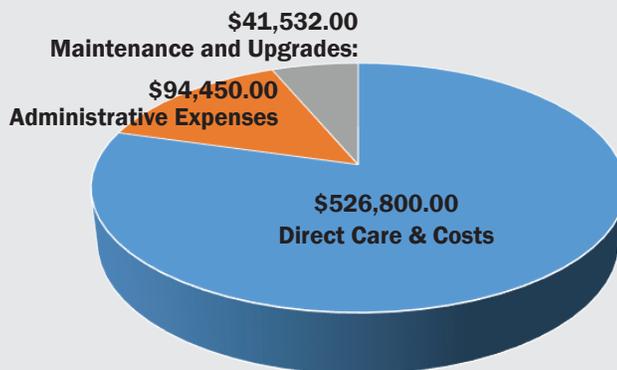
REVENUE

Donations: (Fundraising, Endowment, Appeals, Sponsorship, Grants, International Partnerships, etc.)	\$988,902.05
In-Kind Donations and Peruvian Revenue: (Christmas Fundraisers, Food, Supplies etc.)	\$26,268.00
	Total: \$1,015,170.05

EXPENSES

Direct Care and Costs: (Family Teachers, program staff, food, healthcare, education, social services, project of life, etc.)	\$526,800.00
Administrative Expenses: (Transportation, administrative staff, training, mission expenses, taxes, legal fees, etc.)	\$94,450.00
Maintenance and Upgrades: (Housing projects, general maintenance, lighting, security, etc.)	\$41,532.00
Canonization Costs and Guild Programming:	\$69,677.07
Other Expenses: (US administration, travel, marketing, printing, fundraising, etc. for the Guild and Casa Hogar)	\$85,127.65

Total: \$817,586.72



FR. JOSEPH WALIJEWSKI ORPHANAGE ENDOWMENT TRUST

The trust grows through the generosity of donors and through the strategy of value-investment. A donation to the Fr. Joe Walijewski Orphanage Endowment Trust ensures that Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II can continue serving the children of Peru for years to come.

Donations to the Endowment Trust in the form of cash, real estate, insurance policies, estates, etc. are greatly appreciated.

For more information, please contact **Fr. Woodrow Pace, Diocesan Mission Office, 3710 East Ave S., La Crosse, WI 54602. Phone 608-791-2676.**

Trust assets were reallocated to be held with Trust Point Investments as of 2020.





Father Joseph Walijewski Legacy Guild



Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II



Thank You

for all of your generous support!

The children pray each day for the benefactors that give them hope for a brighter future.



Casa Hogar
Juan Pablo II



www.homeajpm.org



development
@ajpm.org.pe



(608) 433-9304

