



April 2023

Dear Friends,

I am sure you have never heard of Laura Sanchez. Very few people have. But this unknown woman should be named Teacher of the Year. Or Hero of the Year. She is just that special. Let me tell you her amazing story.

### **A struggling, divorced woman raising two children on her own**

In 2014, Laura Sanchez was a school teacher in a small town in Mexico, some 650 miles south of San Diego in Baja California. She was a divorced mother raising two children while working full time as a public-school teacher. She didn't have a minute of free time for herself and she didn't have a single extra peso to splurge on a new dress or a fancy dinner out. But what she did have was a very big heart for children.

Laura noticed that one of her students – a teenage boy – kept coming to school in the same dirty clothes, and he seemed listless and inattentive. She suspected that perhaps he wasn't getting enough to eat at home. Taking the boy aside she learned that he had recently become a street kid. He had no father, he told Laura, and his mother was in a lengthy drug rehabilitation program. He was alone in the world, going to school in the daytime and scavenging for food at night. Laura took the boy home that evening and he stayed with her until his mother was released from her rehab program.

Laura wondered if any of her other students were in the same situation. For the next several weeks she took one student after another aside and privately asked how they were doing at home. She was stunned to learn that several other students were on their own because one or both of their parents were in jail or in a drug treatment program. All these children came home with her.

### **At first no one would support her, not even her own father**

As her home bulged with lost children, Laura's father learned what was happening. He sternly warned his daughter that what she was doing was foolish and advised her to send the children packing. "I can't do that," she told her father.

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*I promised each of them that I would take care of  
them as long as they needed me. —Laura Sanchez*

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And then, to make matters worse, Laura was in an accident and had a serious head injury. To this day she still has occasional seizures. But through it all she kept her promise to the children. Seeing how earnest his daughter was, Laura's father relented and donated a house he owned to serve as her children's home, which Laura named Casa Hogar. For the past nine years Laura has kept her promise to provide a home to any child who needed one.

## **World's Children staff visit Casa Hogar**

In early February of this year Jean and I visited Casa Hogar and met Laura Sanchez. We asked how she covered the needs of the 16 children in her care. She said that previously she had a benefactor in the U.S. who sent an amount monthly that helped her cover the essentials. But that donor had to stop donating and Laura said finances have become hit and miss.

A number of tourists from the U.S. know about Casa Hogar and donate whatever they can. When Laura has no money, she uses her teacher's salary or charges her personal credit card in order to buy food for the children. Because the local child welfare office will reunite children with their families if they determine the child will be safe and cared for, not all the children stay for a long time. But more always come because there is no other orphanage in the area and sometimes she cares for 20 or more children.

## **Let's agree we won't let Laura's children go hungry**

If World's Children can raise enough money to pay for food and other essential items every month, it will help Laura and the children survive. Can you donate to keep her orphanage running? Our visit raised Laura's hopes that maybe World's Children can provide the financial assistance she needs. Will you help this truly heroic woman? Imagine what your house would be like with 16 children living with you. How many of us could do what she has done? That would be too much for most of us. But Laura Sanchez just can't say no to children who have no home or no responsible adult in their lives. Maybe we can't start an orphanage in our own home like Laura Sanchez has done, but what we can do is give her the help she needs.

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**If 106 World's Children donors give \$25 a month,  
the kids will always be fed.**

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The amount for Casa Hogar food and essential expenses is \$2,665 per month. Together let's tell Laura that she will always have enough food for the kids. That would be a huge burden lifted from this saintly woman.

Please consider either making a one-time gift or monthly donations to ensure food security for 16 vulnerable Mexican children. If just 106 people give \$25 a month, we can assure Laura that her kids will always have enough food. Thank you for doing whatever you can.

With gratitude,



David Purviance  
Executive Director

P.S. Please see our website to learn more about Casa Hogar:

[www.worldschildren.org/projects/casa-hogar/](http://www.worldschildren.org/projects/casa-hogar/)





# World's Children

April 2023

## *Casa Hogar Children's Home*



*Casa Hogar is a well-run, loving children's home in Mexico. Currently 16 children reside there. When we visited this orphanage, we found out that they desperately need help to buy food.*

*Meet Laura Sanchez, mother extraordinaire. In 2014, she started taking in children who had no place to go—no one to care for them.*



*The Casa Hogar children enjoy their lunch.  
On behalf of these beautiful children, we ask for your kind support.*





*A volunteer helps out in the kitchen.  
Let's keep their pantry full of nutritious food and essential supplies.*

**If 106 donors give \$25 a month,  
Casa Hogar will always have enough food and essentials for the children.  
To give online, visit: [www.worldschildren.org/projects/casa-hogar](http://www.worldschildren.org/projects/casa-hogar)**

***Together we can bring food security to the Casa Hogar children. Thank you!***



*It's play time.*



*David has the children's rapt attention with a magic trick.*

**World's Children PO Box 2345 Sisters, OR 97759 541-904-0789 [info@worldschildren.org](mailto:info@worldschildren.org)**





REMINDER

## Sponsorship rates have increased to \$39/month!

Many of our sponsors have agreed to increase their sponsorship to \$39/month. If you are using your **bank's bill pay**, don't forget to increase your rate. And if you let us know you need to stay at your current rate, we've got you covered. Contact us if you need to discuss your sponsorship donation.

*On behalf of all the children, we thank you!*

NEW !



### Communicating with your child has never been easier

We now have a special email address for sponsors to email their children. It will be faster, easier and less expensive than mailing cards and letters overseas.

*Put your name and your child's name in the subject line and write your email message using this email address:*

**[kids@worldschildren.org](mailto:kids@worldschildren.org)**

You can attach photos or a letter. We will forward your email to the children's home where your child lives. If you have any questions, please contact us.



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