

At the end of a year, one often takes the opportunity to reflect on what has happened over the past twelve months. Here at OSA we have been in reflective mood after two years as a UK charity and once again find that we have much to be grateful for. As a Christian organisation we believe that we have been blessed, in that most of what we have set out to achieve has happened. We are so grateful to the many people who have supported us, particularly Aldridge Parish Church, and would like to place on record our thanks to you all. Please continue to pray, spread the word about us and support our work in Paraguay.

So what have we achieved?

- Recognition in Paraguay as an international charity and by the Ministry of Children & Adolescents as the best example of good practice in care for children in Paraguay. The Ministry has asked us to host visits from other homes to demonstrate how we operate.
- Osvaldo Recalde, our Director of Operations in Paraguay continues to amaze us with his dedication and inspiration, ably supported by his wife, Marie-Louisa
- Continued support for daily feeding program of up to 150 children in the Quyquyhó area
- Support for 18 children taken in by the Recaldes
- Development of our property in Quyquyhó, Paraguay, including:
 - Extension of the Volunteers' house and completion of the Caretaker's house
 - Extension of the Comedor (dining facility) with purpose-built seating and protective blinds
 - Building of a water tower to enable irrigation of crops in the dry season
 - Building of chicken runs and pig sties to subsidise food costs and develop children's farm skills
- Continued planting of crops to support the feeding programme
- Education of children in basic gardening methods
- Gifts of clothes, toys and other useful items from Aldridge to Paraguay by container
- A sponsorship programme for child education and support
- The establishment of a Toy Library to facilitate work in surrounding villages
- Visiting instructors in sewing and needlecraft
- English tuition and counselling support for the fostered children

What are the plans for the future?

Final decisions have yet to be made and will be determined by God's guidance and financial provision which has always been sufficient for our needs.

- A replacement 4x4 vehicle for everyday transport (Purchased last week)
- More land to extend the growing area and make room for further building
- A multi-purpose building for IT and other employability skills
- A playground for small children and basic childcare skills for young mums
- A coffee bar in the village for the young people

What do we want from you?

- Your continued interest
- Your prayers
- Your generosity as a regular or occasional giver
- Your skills as a volunteer, where appropriate