



# NEWSLETTER | LAS ALAS

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## Our Mission

Casa de los Angeles is a community of caring people who gather to nurture children, serving the needs of the less fortunate, treating each person with dignity and respect as they work to make a better life for themselves. It is located in San Miguel de Alende, Guanajuato, Mexico, and was founded on September 18, 2000.



Use **GoodSearch** as your search engine and you can help Casa de los Angeles. Go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and type in Casa de los Angeles as your charity. The pennies will add up! **GoodSearch** can also be used to earn money for Casa de los Angeles when you shop online. What a great and easy way to help!



Join us on FACEBOOK.

## Graduation 2009

What's better than a graduation? **TWO GRADUATIONS!** Now that we have two centers we were able to have twice as much graduation fun. On August 19 and 20 we celebrated the despedida of twenty of our little ones as they moved on to kindergarten. The farewell parties at each of our centers included dancing, poems, singing, lots of food, cake, and, of course, diplomas. Some of those who took the big step to kindergarten have been with us since they were infants. What a special honor it has been to be a part of these important years. As the founder said to the mothers, "This is the first graduation of many to come. Remember the importance of education for your children. Keep celebrating every step they take into adulthood."



## Trinity Aurora makes its way to Casa once again

This is the fifth year that **Trinity Aurora Anglican Church** of Aurora, Ontario has sent volunteers to us. Leaders Kathy, Anne, Michelle and Kelly along with 8 great young people have served our children well for the last two weeks. They understand that they have a special gift to offer . . . their presence. They willingly jumped in wherever needed, whether it be in a classroom wiping tears, helping hold those scissors just right, or reading a book. Sometimes just sitting on the patio to let one of our little ones sit on their lap is a big deal . . . giving attention to children who don't always have it. And, then there were a few housekeeping items that kept the Aurora group busy . . . folding our new t-shirts, painting, stocking supplies, picking up food donations. The great thing about these volunteers is that whatever they were doing, it was being done with a smile.



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## Meet Rosalba

by Maggie Davis

**Rosalba Ramirez Ramirez** works as a domestic in San Miguel. She lives with her four children in the Rancho de Banda. Her three daughters are Joanna, 10, Marlen (one of our recent graduates), 4 and Carla, 2. Rosalba also has a 6 year old son.

Casa de los Angeles helps to care for Carla and Marlen, two quiet, beautiful little girls. Carla prefers to play with the little boys in her class and Marlen is always well behaved and sweet.

Rosalba had a nice childhood living in Rancho de Valle with her parents, 3 brothers and 4 sisters. Her parents couldn't afford to send her to school. Rosalba now makes the 1 ½ hour commute to San Miguel everyday to clean houses. Jose Luis, the father of Marlen and Carla works as a plumber and gives some support to the girls but doesn't live with them.

Rosalba's wish is that her daughters grow into happy women. She has other dreams for them too, but with her family's limited resources, she isn't sure that will happen. Rosalba appreciates the daycare as a good place for her daughters to benefit from the preschool curriculum. She says that through Casa de los Angeles, Marlen has learned to be more assertive and confident.

## Sponsor a Runner!

Casa de los Angeles is once again an official charity of the **Bank of America Chicago Marathon** which will take place on Sunday, October 11. The runners who make up Team Casa have made a commitment, not just to run on marathon day, but to train for the big event. We are grateful to all of them for being so generous to Casa de los Angeles. Visit our marathon website at [www.marathon.casadelosangeles.org](http://www.marathon.casadelosangeles.org) for information about how you can support our runners.



## UNDER THE PEPPER TREE:

Stories of Casa de los Angeles  
By Donna Quathamer

You can order your copy online at  
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