



A.K.A.
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It is a mystical moment in a surreal setting when a Mexican girl becomes a señorita. They call it the quinceañera; their fairytale 15th birthday party. The ceremony is packed with symbolic rites of passage, one of them being the moment when the father takes off his daughter's school shoes and places an elegant ballroom heels on her feet that are in step with her princess gown and tiara. The father then takes his daughter by the arm and struts around the assembly like a peacock in a presentation. The metamorphosis is taking place; Daddy's little girl has blossomed into a young woman now. He then dances with her hand in hand, cheek to cheek. Family and friends then take their turn waltzing her into womanhood.

I was honored to be invited to just such an event the first weekend of December, when Cristi, a young girl from our neighborhood, celebrated her special day. They transformed the dusty dirt street in front of their unfinished home into a wonderland to celebrate their special day. I remember when we began the Center, how Christi expressed how much she loved the program, and was glad for the opportunity to be a part of something so special. I couldn't help feeling as I watched her with her father, that I was the privileged one, to be invited into the lives of the children in the neighborhood, being able to celebrate with them, and share their special days. Life is made up of such times as these. Thank you for making this possible.

Together We are Lifesavers;
in the Dominican Republic,
Mexico, and beyond!

Lee & Carol



They transformed the dirt street in front of their home into a wonderland.



Photo on left: Lee teaching the first group of children attending the Vida Internacional center in Oviedo, Dominican Republic.

Currently the kitchen and bathrooms are under construction there. Once that is completed, we are going to close in the sides of the building and will need to buy tables, chairs and kitchen equipment. We deeply appreciate your help as we minister to these children.

Thank you for helping us in our mission:
Feeding Children Body, Soul & Spirit!

GIVE ONLINE:

<http://www.lsmi.org/donating.html>

For Canadians:

[Donate NOW Through CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org)

(In Canada, we operate under the covering of The Great Commission Foundation, You will be taken to their page. Be sure to select **Lee Short Ministries** from the drop down menu that says Fund/designation)

All contributions are tax deductible.

Donations for specific projects shall be applied to those projects. If the need has been met for a designated project, the funds will be used where needed most.

Make checks payable to L.S.M.I.

(Lee Short Ministries International)

The Changing of *The Shoes!*

Mezcales, Mexico



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