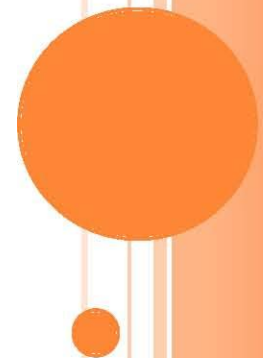


# 2010 REPORT

*Paper Houses Across the Border, Inc.*

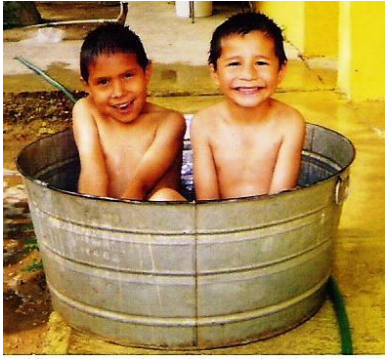
Bob Decker  
1/15/2010



# 2009 REPORT

*Paper Houses Across the Border, Inc.*

BOARD MEMBERS



Robert Decker





10827 Colt Chase  
San Antonio, Texas 78254

Shelters  
28%  
Medical  
39%  
Family  
Assistance8%  
Construction1%  
Meals  
at  
Schools  
18%  
Educational  
Support  
2%  
Mission  
Trips  
(self-funded)2%  
Administrative  
(paid by  
board  
and  
volunteers)2%

# **Exp ens es**

210-232 15 Larkwood Ave  
-3897 Del Rio, Texas 78840  
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uses@sb  
cglobal.  
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Jennife  
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18941  
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Tomball  
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Del Rio,  
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78840

Mary  
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Winters  
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Austin,  
Texas  
78475

Jesus  
Suday

# CON MONTHLY SUPPORT TINU ING

The following shelters and programs received minimum monthly support and additional money as needed for repairs, equipment, special situations, etc.

Casa Hogar del Nino      Minimum Monthly Support \$1,500  
Ciudad Acuña

Casa Esperanza      Minimum Monthly Support \$1,000  
Ciudad Acuña

Casa Emmaus      Minimum Monthly Support \$1,000  
Ciudad Acuña

Centro Rehabilitacion (New Life Drug Treatment) Minimum Monthly Support \$500  
Ciudad Acuña

Special Needs Program      Minimum Monthly Support \$1,000  
(mentally and physically challenged)  
Gilberto Sanchez  
Ciudad Acuña

Casa Santa Rita      Minimum Monthly Support \$1,000  
San Carlos (30-minutes from Acuña)

## ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2009

### **Casa Hogar del Nino**

We continued our monthly support at Casa Hogar del Nino, where 18-children received food, shelter, clothing and other necessities. We've seen several of the children literally grow up since 2002. Several will graduate in the 2009-2010 school year. When we first arrived, these children were in the 1st and 2nd year of school!

### **Casa Esperanza,**

**ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2009**  
This is another shelter for children that continued to receive monthly support from Paper Houses Across the Border. Most of the children at this shelter have relatives working in the maquilas. The take-home pay is so low that it is impossible for the parents to feed, shelter and clothe their children. We've seen several of the children literally grow up since 2002. Several will graduate in the 2009-2010 school year. When we first arrived, these children were in the 1st and 2nd year of school. However, with the factory lay-offs it is difficult to predict what will happen in the coming summer.

### **Casa Esperanza,**

In addition to our regular monthly support, we also provided assistance with building repairs and plumbing.  
This is another shelter for children that continued to receive monthly support from Paper Houses Across the Border. Most of the children at this shelter have relatives working in the maquilas. The take-home pay is so low that it is impossible for the parents to feed, shelter and clothe their children. Normally, these parents will visit their children on Sundays and will take their children during vacation. However, with the factory lay-offs it is difficult to predict what will happen in the coming summer because there are no nearby factories or large businesses.

In addition to our regular monthly support, we also provided assistance with building repairs and plumbing.

### **Casa Emmaus**

Casa Emmaus also received \$1,000 per month. This migrant shelter provided food, clothing, medicine, and temporary shelter to returning migrants. After the economic slow-down in the United States, many people returned to Mexico. Typically, these people arrive in Acuña without money and often are sick. They are all hungry. The shelter provides food, medicine, clothing and a temporary place to rest. The shelter works closely with the Mexican government to help these men, women and children return to their villages.

### **Casa Emmaus**

Casa Emmaus also received \$1,000 per month. This migrant shelter provided food, clothing, medicine, and temporary shelter to returning migrants. After the economic slow-down in the United States, many people after a half-dozen law enforcement officers

### **Centro Rehabilitacion**

This is one of two drug recovery centers in Acuña. We provided \$1,000 per month to support this drug recovery shelter/program

## FINANCIAL

We began 2009 with \$47,743.50 in our account. This money remains from the large number of donations we received in 2006<sup>1</sup>. Our intent in 2009 was to continue to put that money to good use. For this reason, we intentionally spent more money than we received in 2009.

<sup>1</sup> Media (i.e. People Magazine, FOX, etc.) resulted in a large number of donors during that year.

The yearly financials are included in the appendix of this report.

## INCOME AND EXPENSES

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Casa Hogar del Nino**

We continued our monthly support of Hogar del Nino, where 10 children receive food, shelter, clothing and education. We've seen several of the children we've supported grow up since 2002. Several of the children from the 2009-2010 school year have graduated. When the 2010-2011 school year arrived, these children were in their 2nd year of school!

### **Casa Esperanza,**

This is another shelter for children. We continued to receive monthly support from Paper Houses Across the World. The children at this shelter have parents working in the maquilas. The wages are so low that it is impossible for them to feed, shelter and clothe their children. Normally, these parents can only support their children on Sundays and holidays. During factory lay-offs it is difficult to support their children during vacation. This situation will happen in the coming year.

In addition to our regular support of Casa Esperanza,

Our expenses exceeded our income as we 'spent down' the remaining contributions received during 2006 because of the continual media exposure. During 2010 we will either reduce services or increase our donor base.

We remain committed to remaining an all volunteer organization. Towards the end of 2009, Paper Houses Across the Border and the University of St. Thomas began working closer together and the University's Communication Department sent volunteers to produce a public service announcement (PSA) about Paper Houses that will air in Houston. UST also hopes to provide volunteer support for our publications and material on the Internet.

During the first half of 2010 we will restructure our website and build links to blogs, Twitter and Facebook so that our Internet presence is interactive.

## WHY MEXICO?

A frequently asked question is, "Why establish a charity to help Mexico?" People also question U.S. charities helping in Africa, China, and charities that help A.I.D.S. victims. Many people say that 'charity starts at home' and that I should be helping the poor in the United States.

Charity begins at home, but it does not end there. (Most people seem to forget the second part of that often repeated saying). Charity at home is certainly something I do. Our board members are all involved in local charity work that ranges from volunteering at church to helping Autistic children. In addition to our physical volunteer work, we all contribute personally to local charities.

We also volunteer to form and do the work of Paper Houses Across the Border, which does its work in the colonias of Mexico. In the colonias, there are few safety nets available. The people flocked to the border-cities in search of jobs at the foreign owned factories. Although the jobs were available, the migration of hundreds of thousands of people to the border-city resulted in a cost of living that is equal to Houston. The most common paycheck we see is for \$65 a week.

Many U.S. companies (i.e. Cadillac, Ford, and Alcoa) own or depend upon these factories. The end result is that the factories are not held to our environmental laws, worker safety, workers compensation and we benefit from lower prices. Global trading and outsourcing of jobs guarantees that if workers in Mexico push hard for fair wages, the factories will simply move to other countries where people work at slave wages to barely survive. The thousands of people we've personally met in the colonias are hard working people. They do not ask for charity and are often reluctant to talk about their needs. Unlike many Americans who clamor for welfare and are 'too discouraged to seek employment' these people take any job and are proud of their accomplishments. Although deeply mired in poverty, they sent money and volunteers to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina struck. (This was in addition to the Mexican hospital ship and the Mexican Army's help in New Orleans). When tornadoes struck Eagle Pass, Texas - the people from Piedras Negras, including the mayor, crossed the International Bridge to lend a hand.

Former Mexican President Fox told me in a private conversation at his home, that the mark of a nation emerging from poverty is that they reach out to other nations touched by tragedy. My observation is that the people and the country of Mexico reach out to help.

Why doesn't everybody just stay home and help their own country? I can only speak for Paper Houses. We humbly try to imitate Jesus as he reached out to foreigners and those despised by His own people. He said to go forth to all nations. He did not say, "Stay at home and only help yourself, your family and your country." If we are wrong, that He was wrong.

Lastly, it is easier to help people that are the same color, speak the same language and are members of our own community. It is good to do so and we do so often. However, the challenge of helping the 'least of these' and the people that are often treated as outcasts seems to require us to dig deeper into our souls to try to become the people we were made to be.