

BIG HEART ORPHANAGE



ROBERT "GATOR" AND DEANNA CARTER ALONG WITH THEIR CHILDREN LEAD BIG HEART.

About Big Heart Orphanage...

Big Heart is located in Reynosa, Tamaulipas MX, right across from Pharr, Texas U.S. They opened their doors October of 2000 and have been blessed to be a part of some amazing kids lives. Currently Big Heart houses 18 children. Big Heart has 10 beds for

girls and 10 beds for boys along with 3 mini apartments for teenagers.

Big Heart's main purpose is to supply a loving home for kids and orphans including food, clothing, and education. They do have a few "true orphans" but many of the children are from Mexican

single-parent families that do not have consistent work in order to supply the needs of their children. A majority of the parents are still involved in their children's lives and the children do get to go home to their families every other weekend.



While the children's age vary between 6-10, they do have some children who are older and younger. Once a child turns 18 the government requires them to leave the orphanage.

There are many orphanages that house over a 100 children. However, Big Heart's facility is smaller.

THEY STRIVE TO PROVIDE MORE OF A HOME RATHER THAN JUST A SHELTER.

They call Gator, dad, and Deanna, mom. They are working hard to disciple the children that are entrusted with for the time that they have with them. Some children have grown up in the orphanage and graduated. Others, the parents take back as their finances become stable. The deep relationships that they form with the children creates a relationship that lasts long after they are no longer at the orphanage.

They are not caring for these children in hopes that they will be adopted or go to the U.S. Big Heart Orphanage makes it a priority to help raise up a generation of Mexican people who love God, lead their homes and eventually lead the nation of Mexico.

Safety

God has provided Big Heart with the finances to do some amazing ministry within their community on top of providing a home for children in recent years. When the economy was strong and support was plentiful they would give out their leftovers once a week and the people of the community would line up to receive it. Gator has tremendous influence within the community because of all the good that he and his family have done in Christ's name.



ORPHAN EVENT

Take the orphans and leadership to a local water park and grill out. The purpose of this event is for the orphans to have a great time and for us to get to know them. This would serve as a great opportunity right that the start of the trip to develop relationships with the staff and orphans at Big Heart.



SCHOOL

An important part of the orphanage is their private school that is a few blocks away from the orphanage. All the kids at the orphanage attend the school and it is open to the public to pay for their child to go there as well. It is a K-8 school. This last year there were 30 children in the kindergarten class. Each year the school is continues to grow.

Big Heart Orphanage is vital to the community and the people of the community have great respect for them.

With every mission trip there is a need for training to be wise and intentional

about making provisions for safety. Gator would let us know if he felt that it would not be safe for us to go. He would not put our leaders or students in a situation that was violent.

Big Heart Community Center

Big Heart does have a Community Center across the street from the orphanage. The goal for this place is to be a safe place for their kids and community to play and get together. They host community Bible studies. They have an eventual goal of a food pantry and clothing facility for the community. The Community Center has 15' walls and is gated. Micah and Jenny live on the top of the community center.

Orphan Event

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Accommodations:

- Twin Bunkbeds
- 1 Guy's dorm & 1 Girl's dorm
- 3 rooms that sleep 4 each
- 3 bathrooms in girl's dorm w/hot water
- 2 bathrooms in guy's dorm w/hot water
- 7 stand-alone bathrooms w/hot water
- Air conditioned rooms at night.
- All water is filtered and safe for drinking within the orphanage.
- Food is outstanding!
- 53 Beds within the orphanage for us.
- 40 more beds at the school
- Linens and towels provided.
- 10' wall surrounds the orphanage with glass shards on top or spikes on metal gates for safety

BIG HEART COMMUNITY CENTER



GATED ENTRANCE



FUTURE CLOTHING AND FOOD PANTRY



MICAH AND JENNY'S COMPLETED HOUSE



SPORTS OUTREACH



Local Economic Impact

Two small snack stores are one block from the orphanage that would be available for adult-supervised trips to get a drink or a snack throughout the week.

WORK/MINISTRY



The work depends on the finances available, the work we want to do, and what that needs done when the time comes for us to go. Below is a list of opportunities available to our team.

- There is always typical construction work to be done (Concrete, painting, building, etc.). Gator can provide all of the tools that we need.
- Could put a metal roof over the Community Center.
- Could build a house along the canal. (Approximately \$10,000)
- We can partner with the local church for an outreach event. What has worked in the past is giving away food, clothing and cleaning supplies while there is live music and a gospel presentation.
- Street evangelism.
- Food, clothing and cleaning supplies for people along the canal.

Individual Cost of Trip

\$850 Cost (amount that can be fundraised)

Includes the Following:

Housing and food at the orphanage

Flight

1st checked bag one way (we will be leaving the bag and clothing supplies)

2nd checked bag one way (we will be leaving the bag and clothing supplies)

Transportation cost

Trip Insurance

Misc. Expenses

Vision Trip

Joseph and Ryan will go on a three day vision trip in December. The purpose of the vision trip is to see and experience the ministry firsthand, establish a construction plan, ministry plan and make preparations with the local church for outreach events.

Transportation

Big Heart Orphanage has one 12-passenger van and one 15-passenger van along with several other 5 passenger vehicles. Combining with their vehicles, we will rent vans to for the week to be able to travel as needed.



Passport

Every team member will be required to have a passport. Please visit <http://travel.state.gov/passport/> to begin the process.

ITINERARY

- SATURDAY - FLY FROM CHARLOTTE TO MCALLEN, TX, CROSS THE BORDER, GET SETTLED, PLAN WORK/MINISTRY WEEK.
- SUNDAY - CHURCH, FUN AFTERNOON WITH THE ORPHANS A LOCAL WATER PARK.
- MONDAY - WORK/MINISTRY
- TUESDAY - WORK/MINISTRY
- WEDNESDAY - WORK/MINISTRY
- THURSDAY - WORK/MINISTRY (POTENTIALLY OUTREACH EVENT)
- FRIDAY - WORK/MINISTRY (POTENTIALLY OUTREACH EVENT)
- SATURDAY - FLY FROM MCALLEN, TX TO CHARLOTTE

DETAILS

Trip Dates: June 14-21, 2014

People: 40 people (5 Adults & 35 students)

Flight: Roundtrip via United Airlines from Charlotte to McAllen, TX.

Housing/Food: Housing will be at the orphanage and all meals will be included.

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