

Learning Conference = Reunion

It felt like a reunion even though most of us had never met each other before! ICCM's Latin America team, composed of 17 women and two men, met for our first-ever Learning Conference in Chile. We met for four days of worship, equipping, learning, inspiration, prayer and fun!



We learned about the *4/14 Movement* and the importance of reaching children for Jesus between the ages of 4 and 14. Everyone presented a brief overview of ICCM's ministries in their country, complete with photos of kids. Regional Coordinator Kay Stotts-Godoy led us through discussions on ICCM policies and procedures as well as times of big-picture vision casting.



Teambuilding activities brought out the kid in all of us!

ICCM serves in these countries in Latin America: Brazil, Mexico, Nicaragua, Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and one Creative Access country. Our programs range from full-fledged schools (six schools with over 1,700 students), to "boutique" after-school and Saturday programs promoting holistic child development, to residential care for at-risk children in two countries.

As Director, I was thrilled to see the passion and commitment of each of these vivacious and hard-working team members. We have a lot to be proud of in Latin America! Pray for our movement to thrive and grow in these countries.

4/14 Movement

Research shows that 80% of people who come to faith in Christ do so between the ages of 4 and 14. Go to the web site 4to14window.com for more information.

The 4/14 Movement desires to reach children for Jesus and see them lifted from all forms of poverty. The movement recognizes children's need for empowerment in the context of their families and their communities. It aims to be a force for transformation of all three.



Sheltering Arms

The acronym “TLC” is often used in place of the words “tender, loving care”. About 14 girls, ranging in age from 5 to 17, are in the sheltering arms of the Free Methodist Church in Bogotá, Colombia, and most directly being nourished and protected



by a woman they all call Mama Ruth. Through her they receive the TLC they desperately need.

When I was young and came down with the flu, I wanted my mama more than ever.

When she held me close and stroked my hair after a bout of vomiting, when she offered me a cup of cold water to drink and a cool washcloth on my hot forehead, I knew I was loved and cherished. I was safe in my mother’s arms.

I witnessed an act of love and beauty as I watched Mama Ruth blow on spoonfuls of hot chicken soup to feed one of her girls. She was helping her to regain strength after two days of the flu. It was a priceless moment of TLC.

During our 2014 Freedom Sunday focus, we called this home “Findesin,” which is actually the name of the foundation run by the church in Bogotá. They call this girls home “Panal de Vida,” or, when using English, “The Beehive.” ICCM is one of several partners standing alongside the church for the essential and expensive work of sheltering at-risk girls. The girls’ mothers cannot care for them for a variety of

reasons, and the girls are fatherless. These girls are experiencing safety, community, family and the love of Christ in this home. They were made for love, and they respond beautifully to the loving community into which they’ve come.

ICCM National Coordinator for Colombia, Dolly Johanna Mora, assists with all aspects of financial management of the home, and with facilitating the girls’ letter-writing to their sponsors. She is pictured here along with Mama Ruth’s daughter Johanna and Dolly’s daughter Lina Gabriela and me. We have decided not to share photos of the girls to be especially careful of their protection.



Every year on Mother’s Day I miss my mom and my mother-in-law. Mother’s Day is sentimental and wonderful for many; for many others, it is a painful day, a time of acknowledging losses. Thanks to

the FMC in Colombia and many caring sponsors and donors, 14 girls in Bogotá are receiving a mother’s love and protection at Panal de Vida on Mother’s Day and every day.

Making the world a better place ... one child at a time.

Thank you for standing alongside ICCM in this and our five other anti-trafficking initiatives. They all continue; they all need our support long after their moment in the Freedom Sunday spotlight has ended. To continue to sustain support for this project and our other intensive efforts at protecting the most vulnerable children from those who would exploit them, donate to ICCM anti-trafficking initiatives.

