

# FOUNDATION FOR HIS MINISTRY

Transforming communities starting with kids

# HIS BANNER OVER ME IS LOVE:

**JILL SMITH** 

DIRECTOR OF MEXICO OPERATIONS

"His banner over me is love." This was a song I remember singing from when I was a little girl. I never thought that I would have the privilege of seeing and experiencing God's love the way I have through His Ministry.

In 2007, I decided to serve for a year in Oaxaca. I really thought I was just pausing my life in the U.S. for a year to be a missionary in Mexico. However, that year turned into 14 years. During this time in Mexico, I watched God's love transform lives. He took a handful of teenage girls under my care and set them apart for His work. Estela Cristobal now serves at our Tijuana girl's home, Keila Hernandez teaches our youngest children at the Baja mission, and Zenaida Ambrosio serves the least of these at our base in Sinaloa.

These young women experienced the love of God as they were cared for at our children's home in Oaxaca, and today, they are sharing that love with other girls coming from similar situations like theirs. I know they are just a few of the children who have grown up with FFHM that can say, "The Lord is mine and I am His...His banner over me is love."



What surprised me the most was the way I've personally experienced God's love during these years. I moved to Oaxaca as a single woman in my early 30's. I remember thinking that my life would be dedicated to watching others experience God's love in tangible ways. I never imagined what God would do in my own life, but over the next 10 years, God gave me two children through adoption, Celina and Nathan, and then in 2018, God brought me my husband, Tim, who has become a partner in life and ministry. My family was formed through the work of His Ministry. His banner over you, His banner over me, His banner over us is LOVE, LOVE, LOVE!!







# **HIS LOVE:**

"How have you experienced God's love in His Ministry?"





"When I think of God's love in this Ministry, I think of the word "restoration." God is restoring these beautiful children to abundant lives, restoring those with addictions to a life of peace, and even to visitors He often restores Hope. God's loving hand is so visible on every corner of this place."

**Julia Carter** Secretary, FFHM Board

"... I don't have just one word, because there aren't adequate words to explain it. I have seen the love of God when a small child says "thank you for the beautiful class, teacher." Or when we see a one year old child learning how to pray. I have seen the love of God in the middle of a word shared with the mothers of the children. But more than anything I have seen the love of God in our team, because even though we are a small team, with different gifts, perspectives, dreams, desires – God still makes us feel in harmony and we know we can continue improving. I am able to say that the love of God is present among us because even though we are different we complement each other each day."

# **Isis Villavicencio** Outreach, Sinaloa



"In His ministry, I have had the opportunity to receive children in their most vulnerable moments, when they are scared and have deep hurts. But God has allowed me to experience His great love as He transforms tears into laughter, and heals broken hearts with His perfect love."

**Sarah Vandyk** Director, Baja Children's Home

"I have experienced God's love here in many ways, like getting a new family in this home and being able to study. It has been such a great opportunity for me to be able to learn new things. I've also had the opportunity to form a relationship with God, because I never knew anything about Him before. I've experienced God's love through my sponsors as they have been a great help to me, and through the people here at the home who have supported me and love me."

# **Julian**Child, Oaxaca Children's Home

"I have seen God's love in my time at the children's home as He has provided me with an education, clothing, and a home. And I have experienced His love through my relationship with my house mom and with the girl's in my house as we have grown into a family."

# **Norma**Child, Baja Children's Home





"The love that never ends and will always be enough to cover all areas of our life, is the precious love of God. His love has covered the minds of our college students -- three of them finished their Bachelor's degree this year. His love has met the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of these young adults, helping them to make wise decisions, build healthy friendships, to have perseverance, and be encouraged. God has shown His love in His ministry through faithful sponsors, investing in the young adults through prayer, encouraging letters, visits, finances, and considering them part of their family.

The only one who can perfectly love me is Jesus."

**Lude Rodriguez**Director, Tijuana Apartments

"My name is Daniel -- a man that God is restoring at the ranch. I have been here for three months and I am experiencing God's love through His mercy. In His infinite goodness, I am changing my life."

**Daniel**Resident, Rancho de Cristo





"... It has been so tangible that I feel like I'm being spoiled by Him. Since we arrived to serve in Oaxaca, I could see how God was showing me His love through the ability to serve in His ministry with my family. This has been wonderful! And, getting to know each little one -- I can see God's love and care ... Feeling their arms around me and hearing their little voices telling me: "I love you" makes my heart feel God's embrace and His sweet voice saying to me, "I love you, daughter!"

**Alejandra Gaytan**Caregiver, Oaxaca Children's Home

"I have experienced God's love in many ways. One of them has been through the change that happens in the children received in this place. Another, is the fidelity of those who donate so that this ministry continues to work."

**Estela Cristobal** 

Caregiver, Tijuana Girls' Home





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By George and Lopez

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