



To the Friends & Stakeholders of Open Arms...

Seneca Bowers, Educational Coordinator



This spring, as summer vacation becomes the light at the end of the tunnel for the students, we can see a change in energy at tutoring! Engaging students this time of the year means coming up with lots of unique and entertaining ways to captivate the students' attention.

The Orrville library has provided a

fun space to facilitate learning for the large majority of our students, and we are always so grateful for everything they offer us. Our students light up at the opportunities to learn in new and exciting ways.

Another partnership we're extremely grateful for is that with Central Christian. This spring break, we were happy to welcome their 4th

graders to our group for a day of camp activities! Several volunteers from Central planned and lead activities for the united group of Central and Open Arms students. These activities included a Bible study, a Spanish-centered activity, interactive games, and a reading/story telling station. With our event being near Easter, we also got to do an egg hunt with the kids, as well as an educational session on the Solar Eclipse that happened a few days later.



As school wraps up, we're looking ahead to summer vacation and our camp days that come along with that! Planning is in progress for our weekly activity days with the students, and we have exciting events lined up this year!

Pablo Delgado, Executive Director

A large part of the last months was spent planning our fundraiser in addition to the normal responsibilities. It was a joy to see so much support, people enjoyed the comedy show and we were able to introduce Open Arms to new people as well as update current supporters to see our mission come true. Thank you everyone that came and participated.



Welcome Galilee Estér Delgado, born 4/2/2024!

While we were planning the fundraiser, we had an unexpected blessing. The 7th grade class at Central Christian planned their own fundraiser benefiting Open Arms. The event went very well and helped more families learn about Open Arms. We are so thankful for this new generation that believes the foreigners among us are to be treated equally, and taking the extra steps to do what they can to help.

Open Arms also had a table with information at a fundraiser benefiting many non-profits at a local church. I really enjoy getting to represent Open Arms in this way and meet people who may not be aware of the mission.

Brian is a new student who came to the area from Guatemala. His dad has been living here for a few years and was finally able to bring Brian here. Brian is 17 years old, the last grade he completed was 6th grade as that is the last year of school available in the indigenous tribe he grew up in. It is always a challenge to find them a place in the American education system, with many additional appointments with school staff and visits to the health department. We are very glad that Brian is now enrolled in school here.



We truly have a desire to see not only adults but our group of Hispanic kids thrive in our community, I'm looking forward to this summer camp, we have great plans and activities.

Thank you for caring for the foreigner that lives in your land, thank you for loving them, for treating them according to LEV 19:33.

Galen Lehman, OA Board Vice Chair

Twenty years ago, I did short-term missions with my daughter in the high desert of northern Mexico. Water is plentiful during the short wet season, but crops burn under a cloudless, brilliant sky for most of the year. We built a 20,000 gallon concrete cistern, and I got to know the village mason well.



He told me the only way to keep his family fed and clothed was to find work north of the border. He left home on foot, carrying an extra pair of shoes and two gallons of water. He arrived in Texas with only the shoes on his feet, after walking through the desert for nearly week.

"I will never go back," he told me. His face sagged as he remembered a bottomless well of loneliness. He had provided for a home filled with love only by the aching sacrifice of spending more than a year away from it.

In that moment, I saw reality with sharp-eyed clarity. I imagined him walking for days, wearing out his shoes and rationing his water, dodging bandits and the border patrol under a brutal desert sun. He did this because it was his only path to a living income. I understood then why immigrants are inexorably drawn to America. The truth is, that with an aging workforce and less than 4% unemployment, we need them, too.

As Christians, our only calling is to welcome them with the love of Christ. That's why I've supported Open Arms financially for decades. It's why I serve on the board today. It's an honor and a privilege to work alongside Pablo, Jennifer and Seneca. My dream is that we can together make the presence of God as clear "on earth, as it is in Heaven."

Bob Mortimer & Brett Hollis Comedy Show

by Jennifer Hicks, Administrative Assistant

Every year we have a series of fundraisers to make sure we can continue to serve our Latino community. On the 26th of April we had the first of our fundraisers and it was a hit! Between the wonderful act and the amazing assortment of desserts, it was an amazing evening of cheer for everyone.



Brett Hollis and Bob Mortimer, who graced us with a phenomenal comedy show, clearly have a deep bond of friendship and joy that is contagious to anyone who watches them. Their message of perseverance and trust in the Lord was inspiring, especially peppered with witty jokes and good natured teasing. I was especially charmed by their marionette skit. It was impossible to leave that auditorium without

being bolstered by a message of hope. If you ever have the opportunity to see them in person, I highly recommend taking the time to do so.



We reached out to churches and businesses to see if people would be interested in donating desserts. We have been completely overwhelmed by the response of our community. We had an assortment fit for a king. We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to everyone who was involved in the success of this event. Thank you also to the staff and board members of Open Arms, together they brought life to this event.

Our fundraiser was a success! With the funds we will continue to reach out to our Latino brothers and sisters to share with them the Love of Christ. Your continued support will help us to achieve our goal. To God be all of the glory and honor.



We need Volunteers for our Summer Kids Camp!!

each Wednesday from June 12th - August 7th, 9AM - 2:30PM.

These days will be full of fun activities for the kids, including field trips to local organizations, games, gardening, dancing, cooking/baking, VBS, and many more. To make these events possible, we welcome volunteers to lead or assist with activities, provide transportation to and from the event, prepare lunch, etc. Each year we look forward to this camp creating a welcoming environment and fun-filled day for the students involved in our tutoring program. If you are interested in helping this summer, please contact Education Coordinator:

Seneca Bowers 234-521-4956 seneca@open-arms.us

Ways to Support our Ministry:

Mail checks to:

Open Arms
1305 W Market St
Orrville, OH 44667

Online: Visit our website:
open-arms.us/donate

Phone: 330-765-9955 | Email: info@open-arms.us | Website: open-arms.us



Open Arms
Brazos Abiertos
1305 W. Market St.
Orrville, OH 44667