

Kids Camp for All!

March 2019

As I walked into the orphanage the reception I received was split right down the middle. The lines were drawn. Boys had one reaction when they saw me and girls quite the opposite. The boys were cheering and giving me high fives. I felt like a celebrity. The girls, however, with hands on their hips, peppered me with questions as to why they weren't invited. It was as if I was being scolded by a mob of little moms!

It was the week after our annual Spectrum boys' camp last year. Boys were telling tall tales, laughing, and reminiscing about all the fun they had had. All the girls could do was listen, and understandably they were tired of hearing about it. Why couldn't they go? While my head swirled with all the logistics of extra vans, finding women counselors and separate cabins, not to mention double the funds to raise, in the end, it was a question I had a hard time answering. Thankfully I had brought some candy with me which I quickly used to dig myself out of trouble!



Caleb enjoying some popcorn after the pool



Eyeing up the competition

Camp is scheduled for May 3rd-5th and I'm happy to say that this year it's open to both boys and girls! The kids

who come from our neighborhoods and orphanages will get to experience all that camp has to offer: the swimming pool, water slide, games, BB guns, archery, crafts, ziplines and the list goes on. They will also take part in four camp sessions. There they will learn how God sets them free from sin through Christ's death on the cross. Through creative skits, energetic teaching, worship and videos, we want to use this precious time we have to engage them with God's Word. It's in these times, away from all the challenges of their regular lives in Tijuana, that kids are open to hearing what God wants to say to them!

Depending on the number of kids we have, the average cost for camp is around fifty dollars per child. However, we are only asking each child for fifty pesos, which is a little less than three dollars. Of course this means Spectrum is funding most of the camp, but this allows families to invest in the experience at a rate they can afford.

Please be in prayer for us with all of the preparation and the unfamiliar challenges we will face trying something new. We ask also that you prayerfully consider giving for this year's camp. We rely on generous people who help us fund Spectrum's camp every year. With the added costs, now more than ever we need people to help us reach our goal of providing spots for 150 kids!

We are so thankful for each of you who take the time to read our letters, stay caught up, give and pray for the special things God is doing here at Spectrum. It's with your help that He allows us to love and reach those we work with every day with hope and the good news of His salvation! We're grateful!



Geared up for games

From all of us at Spectrum,

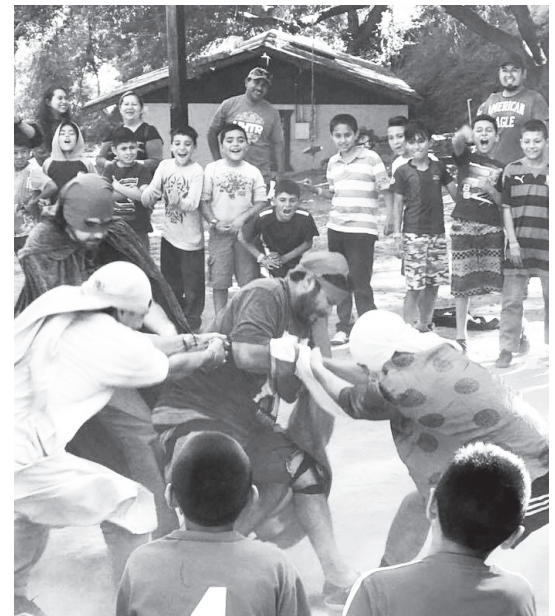
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Kooi".

Matt Kooi
Director of Spectrum Ministries

*"...making the most of every opportunity,
because the days are evil."
Ephesians 5:16*



Ices are a big hit at camp when it's hot outside!



The boys love to see their counselors getting in on the action