

COUNTRY FACTS

Area: 8,124 square miles – slightly smaller than Massachusetts

Population: 6,528,135 (July 2021 est.)

Languages: Spanish, Nawat (among some Amerindians)

Issues: A 12-year civil war ended in 1992; very high rate of violence and crime; deforestation, soil erosion, water pollution;

hurricanes and earthquakes

DISCOVER NPH EL SALVADOR

In 1999, Father Wasson founded the sixth NPH home in Santa Ana, El Salvador. As with the other NPH homes, his decision was based on the needs of the many neglected and abandoned children. In December 2004, the last of the buildings in Texistepeque were completed and the family moved into their new home, Casa Sagrada Familia ("Holy Family").

NPH EL SALVADOR FACTS

Opened: June 29, 1999

Location: Near the border of Guatemala in Texistepeque, about 30

miles from San Salvador, the capital

Features: School (grades K-9); vocational workshops; clinic; chapel; basketball court; soccer field; farm; independent water

well; waste water treatment plant







^{*}Total services provided includes fully supported children and youth; community children and adults who attend our onsite schools, have scholarships to other schools, and/or receive in-kind donations and/or medical/social services; and support for *Hermanos Mayores* who grew up at the home.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Dora Serrano, the National Director is an Hermana Mayor ("older sister"), who was raised at the home. ▶
- The *Groupo Musical y Danza* performs traditional music and dances locally and in the U.S.
- Since opening in 1999, the main purpose of the home has changed in response to national legislation around child welfare. Once a home solely for orphaned and abandoned children, NPH El Salvador evolved to serve two different populations: children who live inside the home and community students. These students, some of whom are sons and daughters of *Hermanos Mayores*, people who were raised in NPH and are now independent adults, receive scholarships spanning from early education to university. They come from low income families that cannot afford to support their children's education, which is the case for most Salvadorans.
- The school features modern, well-equipped classes, and offers kindergarten through grade 9. The curriculum includes math, social science, science, language, spelling, English, computer science and physical education.
- All students begin vocational studies during the 7th grade and may choose from carpentry, tailoring, welding, and baking.
- A cooking workshop for children and youth with neurological problems and learning difficulties was launched in 2016, teaching them valuable skills for their future.
- A daycare center, *Centro de Atención Infantil*, was opened in 2017 for children ages 1 to 7. Many are the children of *Hermanos Mayores*.





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