



NPH USA
Raising Children. Supporting Families.
Transforming Lives.

OUR IMPACT: NUTRITION

Nutrition Issues in Latin America

Over half the children in the developing world are severely deprived of basic necessities, including proper nutrition, adequate shelter, safe water and quality health care. They beg and scavenge to survive. These vulnerable children are often malnourished and are more likely to die from preventable diseases. For millions of children, the idea of three meals a day is only a dream.

In Latin America, it is estimated that 60% of all children under 12 years old live in poverty. As a result, approximately 27-28% of all children are estimated to be underweight or stunted resulting from not eating enough food, consuming a vitamin-and mineral-poor diet, and/or having a disease. As growth slows, brain development lags and children have trouble learning.

Country Facts

- **BOLIVIA:** 23% of households are food insecure.
- **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:** 33% of children under 5 are anemic.
- **EL SALVADOR:** Almost 40% of children born to mothers with no education are stunted.
- **GUATEMALA:** Has the third highest rate of chronic malnutrition (stunting) in the world (54.5%).
- **HAITI:** 73% of children 6–24 months have anemia.
- **HONDURAS:** 29% of children under the age of five are stunted.
- **MEXICO:** 50% of children are anemic.
- **NICARAGUA:** In the regions where most indigenous people live, the chronic malnutrition rate exceeds 50%.
- **PERU:** 30% of children under the age of five are stunted and 18% are underweight.

Sources: The CIA World Factbook, The World Bank, and UNICEF



Making an Impact

Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) means “Our Little Brothers and Sisters” in Spanish. Founded in 1954 by Father William Wasson, NPH has transformed the lives of tens of thousands of the most vulnerable children and young adults, providing a nurturing family environment, education, health care, and vocational and life skills training.

NPH USA helps children in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru achieve their full potential, becoming productive, caring leaders in their communities and breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

NPH also fills a vital, lifesaving role with its operation of St. Damien Pediatric Hospital, the only hospital wholly dedicated to pediatric and high-risk maternity care in Haiti, and the only Haitian hospital equipped to provide pediatric oncology care.



Nutrition at NPH

Improving the children's health and keeping them healthy is a priority of NPH. Children who are sick or malnourished are less likely to learn, grow, advance developmentally or succeed in school. Upon arrival, each child is evaluated by the NPH medical team and treated for any medical conditions they have, including malnutrition.

Our homes strive to be as self-sufficient as possible. Each one grows fruit and vegetables, and some raise cattle, poultry and even fish. In addition, many homes run their own bakeries. The children participate in the food production and learn valuable skills on how to raise and prepare their own food.

The global economic crisis has impacted funding at the same time that food prices have dramatically increased. Our homes struggle to continue to provide the children with the nutritious meals that are vital to their growth and development. Higher cost protein sources, such as meat and poultry, have been replaced with beans or eggs. In some homes, the children are now only eating meat once per week.

By the Numbers

The children receive three meals and up to two snacks a day. The typical meal consists of rice, beans and some form of protein. Each month, the homes use an average of:

14,000 pounds of rice

15,000 pounds of beans

63,000 eggs



NPH USA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, Federal Tax ID# 65-1229309. Donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. All donated funds are diligently appropriated and an audited financial statement is available upon request.

How You Can Help

By maximizing resources, the homes are able to feed each child for around \$2.50 per day. However, with thousands of children in our homes and assisted through outreach programs, it costs over \$3 million per year to feed everyone. Your gift can help provide life-saving nourishment to our children, allowing them to grow into healthy and productive adults.

\$504 provides fruit/vegetables for 60 children for 1 year

\$1,158 provides chicken for 80 children for 1 year

\$2,648 provides beans for 400 children for 1 year

\$5,045 delivers milk for 235 children for 1 year

\$10,075 buys rice for 2,500 children for 1 year

Costs listed are samples from the NPH homes. Each gift represents a contribution to the entire program of NPH USA and will be used where most needed.

Give Now

To help children in need, please scan code or visit nphusa.org/donate

