



Personal Energy Transportation

Tampa, FL

February 2009

PET Recipients = Changed Lives

Around the world the stories of PET recipients amaze us, inspire us, and at the same time break our hearts. We are so grateful for you and all those that partner with us in the entire process from the raw materials to the final distribution of the PET to a recipient. This month we share with you just a few of the numerous stories that continue to reach our door over and over. We hope that this will inspire and encourage you in your partnership with PET.

Darlien's Heart-breaking Story

In Leon, Nicaragua lives Darlien, a 22 year-old woman. She was born as part of a set of triplets. One child was born normal; one child was born with a brain tumor and died; and the third child, Darlien, was born like a mermaid with no kneecaps and her legs fused together from the knees down.

When she was 8 years old, her parents died and she was adopted by neighbors. Her sister was adopted by another family. The adopted parents assisted Darlien as much as they could. Eventually these parents were able to put her in contact with the group "Arco Iris," which facilitated getting her to the Shriner's Hospital in Chicago to have surgery and be fitted for prosthetic legs. At that time she was 17 years old.

Two years later she returned to Nicaragua and worked in a home doing cleaning and laundry. One evening on her way home from work she was brutally attacked and raped by three men. She was so severely beaten that she was taken unconscious to the hospital.

While she was still in the hospital she was told that she was pregnant. By this time the family that had adopted her had moved away. Alone, frightened, and confused she prayed for some guidance. In a dream she was told, "Do not have an abortion; have this child." This child is what gave her the strength to live.

Left to make it on her own, she slept on the streets and found what food she could in garbage cans. Eventually she found work again cleaning clothes. When she was almost full term in her pregnancy she developed preeclampsia (a deadly pregnancy complication). As a result, her child was born with epilepsy and is now three years old.

Recently she has been traveling three miles into town to sell fruit, water and homemade jewelry, supporting herself on her crutch and pushing her son in his stroller. She is so thankful for the gift of the PET because now she is able to get around so much better! She has also found that using it will strengthen her body and help with her osteoporosis.



Darlien of Nicaragua

Yulisa's New Found Freedom

Yulisa is a 10 year-old girl in Nicaragua with cerebral palsy. She cannot use her legs and has only partial use of her left arm. Although able to sit up well and fully use her right hand, she was unable to grip the left drive handle on the junior PET. Without this ability, she would not be able to use the PET.

Marlin Schmidt, one of Tampa PET workshop volunteers that visited Nicaragua on a mission trip this past November, took her to a prosthesis lab where she was measured for a wrist brace which will enable her to have full use of the PET. If necessary her hand can be tied to the handle until such time as she gains the necessary strength and coordination to propel herself.

She is all smiles now that she has a new found freedom!



Yulisa in Nicaragua

Gabi Goes for a Walk



Gabi on a "walk" with neighborhood children

Gabi is a nine-year-old orphan in Honduras. Her back was broken as an infant by her abusive mother. As a result she has never walked in her life. Now, with the PET she can go on "walks" in the neighborhood with the other kids!

Gabi now lives with Allison Alexander, a missionary, in Puerto Cortes, Honduras. We want to thank Allison's sister, Angela, for forwarding the photo to us and volunteering recently at the Tampa PET Workshop.



Gisel Calvo (left) of the Hispanic Engineers Association of USA; Angela (right), sister of missionary Allison Alexander

How Can You Help Promote PET?

You've read the stories. Now it's your turn to relay them, or perhaps even another story you have personally seen yourself. Whether you have come to the workshop, heard it from another person, or seen it on our web site, you know the message and how important it is to share.

If you have caught the passion of reaching out to those without mobility, who many times are without much hope, then you have what it takes to share the message. But we can help you as well! If you need assistance, we can send you a packet of information that includes brochures, newsletters, a DVD video showing a distribution in Vietnam, and even a miniature version of the PET. Just write us at director@pettampa.org and we will get these items off to you.

News Flash

New website: www.pettampa.org

We have a new website! Check out our new look and the information available online. **Please note:** workshop sign ups for individual and groups is now done on our website. Due to overwhelming demand for group volunteer activities such as PET, and the increased costs for production, we request groups to make a contribution (financial or supplies) as part of their participation. Please let us know if you wish to donate supplies such as paint (latex house paint or spray paint), wood, milk jugs (rinsed and dried), cardboard, parts, etc. A more complete list is provided on our website.

Give the Gift of PET

If you would like to sponsor a PET wheelchair in the amount of \$250 as a memorial, an honorarium, or a gift for a special occasion, we will gladly send a letter of recognition to that individual. It's the perfect gift for those that already have everything they need, and it's a gift that will change a life.

Estate Planning

As you do your estate planning, consider making the PET Project a part of those plans. The need for the GIFT OF MOBILITY is an ongoing need, with millions around the world awaiting it.

How You Can Help

- Pray for the 21 million people in the world who have lost the use of their legs through polio, landmines, war amputations, crocodiles, etc.
- Give/raise funds: It takes money to buy metal and parts, to weld, to package, to ship, and to distribute.
- Find people with welding, metalworking, or woodworking skills who can offer to help build PET parts. Help them with expenses — buy the metal, etc. Help them ship it to Tampa PET.
- Find businesses that sell or make "off the shelf" items needed for the PETs. Ask them to donate or sell to you at no profit. Send the items to The PET Place.
- Talk about the PET Project to others.
- Ask your company if it provides matching funds for donations, volunteer service, or group projects. Ask them if they would be interested in bringing a group to work at the PET workshop.

Volunteer information

The Tampa PET workshop is open every Saturday from 9 AM - 3 PM and Thursdays 1:30 - 4:30 PM. Volunteers are needed to assist with packing, sorting, painting, assembly, woodworking and metal work. No prior experience is necessary, training is provided, and volunteers of all ages are welcome. There is a particular need for experienced welders. The oldest volunteer is 92 years old, and teenagers can fulfill their community service hours as well! Please note that anyone under age 15 requires adult supervision.

For more information, visit our website or contact:

Jeff Sukup
director@pettampa.org
813-677-3709

George Frazer
gmilo2@yahoo.com

Workshop Location:

1109 E Osborne Ave, Tampa, FL 33603
East of Nebraska on 12th Street at Osborne (just off I-275 in Tampa at the MLK exit). See map below.

Workshop times:

Saturday 9 AM - 3 PM
Thursday 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Check the website for holiday hours.

Website: www.pettampa.org

Please note our mailing address has changed to:
P.O. Box 2688
Riverview, FL
33568-2688.



PET Project Donation Slip

February 2009

Your donation to the PET ministry will provide someone with a whole new way of life.

Help raise a child or adult from the dirt to dignity with your gift.

The cost of each PET, including materials, assembly and packing, is \$250.

Gifts of all amounts are accepted and appreciated! All donations are tax-deductible.

Please detach and return this form with your contribution.

Please accept my gift of \$_____ to the PET Workshop.

(Make checks payable to "PET Tampa, Florida" and mail to:

P.O. Box 2688, Riverview, FL 33568-2688)

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Prayer & Praise

- Pray that even through this time of economic recession we would all continue to give to those less fortunate than ourselves.
- Praise for the continued flow of volunteers that show up to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We had 401 volunteer hours in January, which is a great start to the new year!
- Pray for the planned shipments in February from Tampa to Calcutta, India, and to the Campus Crusade for Christ national warehouse in Pennsylvania. These will then be sent to various countries around the world.
- Continue to pray for the protection and safety of all those who come to serve at the Tampa workshop and all the PET workshop affiliates around the nation.
- Continue to pray for the electrical connections to be arranged for the newly donated wood planner.
- Pray for the new start up of workshops in Michigan, Ohio, and Texas.

Volunteer Spotlight



Armand Schmaltz

Armand is a retired tool and die machinist from Michigan. He set up a small shop in his back yard. When he was presented with the possibility to produce PET parts he jumped right on board! He spends winters in Florida and assists at the Penney Farms workshop when necessary. Armand trained his wife, Mary, to cut the metal on the band saw and they work together as a team.



Mary Schmaltz



PET Project
P.O. Box 2688
Riverview, FL 33568-2688