

Contact

PUBLISHED BY



Editor-in-Chief James Trapp
Supervising Editor Lisa Wittman
Managing Editor Barb Quinn
Production Editor Cheryl Vestal

WRITERS AND STAFF

Bets Kirby
Barb Quinn
Bernadette Swanson
Lisa Wittman

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Joanna Carrell
Cheryl Vestal
Sally Falk, Staff Photographer

ADVERTISING

Advertisements will be considered that are affiliated with Unity ministers or ministries, or from vendors who provide items for Unity ministers or ministries. All advertising is subject to the publisher's approval. *Contact* is not responsible for claims or performance related to the products and services of our advertisers. Please direct any questions to the advertiser.

For more information about advertising in *Contact* magazine, contact Cheryl Vestal at the Association of Unity Churches International: graph@unity.org or 816.524.7414 ext. 357.

EDITORIAL PURPOSE

To support thriving ministries by providing timely, practical information for ministries and individuals.

For a free subscription, contact Cheryl Vestal at the Association of Unity Churches International: graph@unity.org.

Contents

December 2008/January 2009

Features

5 Genesis of Spiritual Social Action

by John Strickland / Flying Doctors of America

7 Spiritual Trailblazers Carry Unity Principles Into Service

by Robin Goff / Creating a new style of doing "missionary" work in the HIV/AIDS pandemic in South America

8 Blessed Are the Peacemakers

by Christine Elliott / Department of Peace movement

10 CODENI in Guadalajara, Mexico

Danielle Strickland is living her Unity principles in Mexico.





CODENI in Guadalajara, Mexico

Danielle Strickland is living her Unity principles in Mexico. CODENI children's rights cooperative, founded in 2004, is directed by Danielle, 1997-1998 YOU President for Unity of Roanoke Valley in Roanoke, Virginia. Here is Danielle's story:

When I was 9 years old, my parents took us on vacation to Cancun. One day they rented a car and took us out of the tourist district. I have a clear memory of children my age, shoeless, dressed in rags, "cleaning" the rental car's windshield with dirty newspapers and asking for change. I had never seen poverty before and was completely moved looking into the eyes of a boy about my age and realizing how different our lives were.

My Life Changed

It was clearly a life-changing experience for me. From that day forward I became interested in learning Spanish and knew that my calling in life was directly linked to impoverished children in Latin America. Many people praise and admire what I've been doing since I graduated college and moved to Guadalajara in 2002, but that usually makes me chuckle. I consider myself to have one of the most amazing occupations in the world, for truly the more you give, the more you receive, and the gratification I receive from helping street children and their families is much more valuable than any paycheck. My heart has been filled by an illiterate mother hugging me and telling me through tears that I am an angel for giving her son the opportunity to attend school; a little girl having a "light bulb moment" and finally understanding long division at which point she turns to me and says, "It's all thanks to you, because you were the only one patient enough to teach



Danielle Strickland (center) with students



Danielle Strickland (right back row) lives her Unity principles in Mexico

me to subtract and multiply—if it weren't for you, I'd only ever have learned how to add;" and the opportunity to arrange a trip for indigenous migrants to return to their village for the first time in ten years and see them reunited with family.

What I do day-to-day is no more impressive than other *Contact* magazine readers. The difference is the opportunities which come into my life. I have been blessed with the opportunity to live in Guadalajara, learn Spanish, and develop relationships with genuinely needy and gracious families. I simply give what I can, try to teach by example, and follow my calling in life to spread the abundance of God's good to those less fortunate.

CODENI

To learn more about CODENI see www.CODENI.org.mx or AHALA (American Hands Aiding Latin American Youth) at www.AHALA.org or contact Danielle Strickland at dmstrick@cox.net.

When Your Journey
Points You Toward
Fulfillment and
Purpose, Will You
Know Which Path Will
Take You There?

LIFE
POTENTIALS
TRAINING

A 3-Day Experience that just may Change Your Life...

People like you -- who want to develop themselves personally, spiritually and professionally -- are taking iPEC's groundbreaking Life Potentials Training. For some this is an entrée into becoming a professional life coach; for ALL, it's a life-altering experience that equips you with the most powerful tools and principles available that have transformed thousands of lives.

"Life Potentials Training gave me tools that enable me to be a better human being and to live at a high level of consciousness. I am a better person in both my personal and business life because of it."

— Margie L.

Go to www.LifePotentialsTraining.com today to register for one of iPEC's live telephone weekly information sessions, *Discover Life's Potential*. You'll learn about iPEC's Life Potentials Training, our full coach training program, what it takes to become a part-time or full-time coach earning \$150-\$300 per hour, and the #1 secret that will bring your potential to life once you know and apply it.

To learn more about iPEC Coaching and our live trainings, now offered in 12 major cities nationwide, call 1-866-72COACH today to speak to the iPEC Director in your region.

